Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery publishes Original Articles, Review Articles, How I Do It articles (technique articles), Gastrointestinal Images, and other special categories of articles relevant to surgery of the digestive tract. Manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with the "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals" developed by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (N Engl J Med 1991;324:424-428). Manuscripts submitted must not be under consideration for publication elsewhere. Material accepted for publication is subject to copyediting.

INFORMATION ABOUT ARTICLE TYPES

ORIGINAL ARTICLES
REVIEW ARTICLES
HOW I DO IT ARTICLES
GASTROINTESTINAL (GI) IMAGES
CASE REPORTS
MULTI-MEDIA ARTICLES
EVIDENCE-BASED SURGICAL PRACTICE
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Original Articles

Original Articles are full-length reports of original research, either clinical or basic science. They most typically discuss topics relevant to the gastrointestinal tract (alimentary tract) and most commonly include organs such as the esophagus, stomach, duodenum, jejunum, colon, rectum, anus, appendix, liver, spleen, pancreas, peritoneal cavity, etc. Both adult and pediatric issues are considered. To be published, the work presented in the manuscript should be original, should include appropriate scientific content and should be appropriately analyzed with statistics. Considerations for acceptability of a submitted manuscript by the Editors and the Editorial Board will include its importance, the soundness and appropriateness of the experimental design, the validity of the methods, the appropriateness of the conclusions, and the overall quality of the presentation.

Original Articles submitted to the Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery should not exceed 6,000 words, including the abstract, text, figure and table legends, and references. The editors reserve the right to publish excessively long tables as “on-line only” material.

Review Articles

Each issue of the Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery may contain one or more Review Articles. Review Articles must not exceed a total of 6,000 words, and should typically have a maximum of 100 references or less. Review Articles will be considered if they deal with relevant topics in either the clinical or the bench research realm, and provide an up-to-date synthesis of previously published material. Preference is given to reviews that are scholarly, systematic and critical (e.g. evaluation of quality and levels of evidence). Liberal use of illustrations, figures, or tables is encouraged.
**How I Do It Articles**

The *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery* will publish How I Do It articles that focus upon specific operations, interventions, or techniques. These articles should clearly describe an intervention in a step-by-step fashion, and provide appropriate illustrations (best not intraoperative photographs) that depict the intervention described in the text. Strong consideration will be given to How I Do It articles written by experts in the field, describing a technique used on large numbers of patients, with successful outcomes. Submissions as How I Do It manuscripts of single cases or novel interventions in small numbers of patients are discouraged. How I Do It articles should include some comment about the number of patients treated via the intervention, specific preoperative evaluation and postoperative care, and outcomes. If appropriate, a reference list should be provided.

**Gastrointestinal (GI) Images**

The *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery* will be pleased to publish GI Images that provide a striking clinical image meant to challenge and inform readers. This section is intended to illustrate and teach important medical or surgical points. Manuscripts in this section should be limited to no more than two (2) double-spaced manuscript pages, with no more than three (3) references. The GI Image submission should include no more than three [3] images, but no abstract. The images can be pathologic, endoscopic, or radiographic. Images should be of high quality and illustrate the diagnosis well. The case should be described in brief, with a short history and physical exam, with pertinent laboratory findings and clinical course. The images submitted should be described in a figure legend, with relevant structures labeled and explained. Figures should be in either TIFF (Tag ImageFile Format) or EPS (Encapsulated PostScript) format. The JPEG format is acceptable if the image is saved at the highest quality (without or with lossless compression). Images created in slide presentation programs, such as Microsoft PowerPoint, are not recommended. Charts created with Microsoft Excel are not acceptable in any circumstances.

**Case Reports**

**Multi-Media Articles**

The *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery* is pleased to consider multi-media articles, where the heart of the article is the video. As with Case Reports, simple anecdotal “interesting case” videos are usually not competitive. At a minimum an abstract and references should be included. Multi-media components to an Original Article, Review or How I Do It article may also be submitted, where supplementary electronic material is added to the normal text.

For those individuals interested in submitting multi-media or dynamic articles, please note that all submissions must be in English, and that additional information and requirements for submission are included subsequently in the “Instructions for Authors” section.

**Evidence-Based Surgical Practice**

The Journal, in collaboration with the Society for Surgery of the Alimentary Tract publishes an article type designated “Evidence-Based Current Surgical Practice” which represents an expert review of a gastrointestinal surgical topic identified through the annual SSAT Maintenance of Certification course or through its Continuing Medical Education Committee. Unsolicited manuscripts of this sort will NOT be considered outside of the work of a SSAT committee, and should instead be submitted as Review Articles.”

**Letters to the Editor**

The editors of the *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery* invite comments in the form of Letters to the Editor that express differences of opinion or supporting views of previously published editorials or recently published papers in the *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery*. Each letter should not exceed 750 words, should be typed with double-spacing, and should include complete references. The editors reserve the right to accept, reject, or excerpt letters without changing the views expressed by the writers. Such correspondence is evaluated only for articles published within three months of submission of the Letter to the Editor. Those letters deemed of interest to the Journal are, if appropriate, sent to the authors of the original article for a response. The authors of the original article are given a short period of time to reply. A decision will then be made by the editors whether to publish the letter with or without its corresponding reply.

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  - Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
  - Final approval of the version to be published; AND
  - Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Those who do not meet all 4 criteria should not be listed as an author, but rather should be listed in the Acknowledgements section.

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Video is subject to Editorial review and approval.

*Multimedia Article (Streaming Videos)*

Multimedia articles are papers where the heart of the article is the video and, generally, only an abstract and references are included. Dynamic articles are regular articles with video(s) included as electronically supplementary material.
Upon submission of multimedia or dynamic articles, the author(s) will be required to submit the video in the following format:

- The video should not exceed 9 minutes.
- An audio narration in English must accompany the video.
- The maximum size for all files (including videos) in the submission is 350 MB. Videos must be in one of the following formats: MPEG-1, QuickTime (not mp4) or Windows Media video (WMV). The video file must be playable on a Windows-based computer.
- No music soundtracks.
- Avoid "fancy" video transitions.
- Annotation of anatomic structures is encouraged.
- No authored DVDs.

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