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
Manuscript Preparation
Manuscript Submission

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, jejunooileum, 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 short ‘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.

How I Do It articles submitted to Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery should not exceed 1,000 words including body text and figure / table legends. Abstracts are not allowed for this article type. A maximum of three authors are allowed for How I Do It items. Up to six images may be included. If appropriate, a reference list limited to no more than three (3) references may 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. Images may 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 maximum of seven hundred and fifty (750) words in the body text, with a short history and physical exam, with pertinent laboratory findings and clinical course. A maximum of three (3) figures is allowed, each with a maximum per-image description / legend limited to two hundred and fifty (250) words per legend.

GI Images should include no abstract.

Manuscripts of this type should be limited to a maximum of three (3) references, a maximum of three (3) authors, with the maximum of three (3) total images.

Figures should be in either TIFF (Tag Image File 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.

MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

Authors are required to upload their manuscripts online via Editorial Manager [notes on submission here]. Prior to submission online, please organize the manuscript in the order indicated below. Cite references, tables, and illustrations consecutively as they appear in the text. Arrange manuscript as follows:

- Title page
- (2) abstract
- (3) body of paper (i.e., text of manuscript)
- (4) acknowledgments
- References
- (6) tables
- (7) figure legends
- (8) figures
- (9) permissions

Title Page: Please provide:

CONFLICT OF INTEREST FORM
Effective July 2012: Every contributing author must complete the official ICMJE Conflict of Interest (COI) form, which is available at [http://www.icmje.org/coi_disclosure.pdf](http://www.icmje.org/coi_disclosure.pdf). Manuscripts will not be sent to production until all the forms are completed. It is recommended that each author save and rename the ICMJE form as the author’s name. Each listed author MUST complete the form and the Corresponding author must submit all forms on behalf of each author to the Editorial office ([jogs@rogers.com](mailto:jogs@rogers.com)).

Each author must complete the form even if no conflict of interest exist.

Note: Details provided in the ICMJE COI forms must correspond with the required COI Statement that the authors have included within the manuscript text.

DEFINITION OF AUTHORSHIP
Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content. Allowing one’s name to appear as an author without having contributed significantly to the study, adding the name of an individual who has not contributed, or including an individual as a co-author who has not agreed to the work in its final form is considered a breach of appropriate authorship.

As per the guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), authors must meet all of the following criteria:

- Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- 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.

Special Notes on Cover Letter Submission

- Complete title (limit: 120 characters)
- A short title for use as a running head (not to exceed 30 characters in length, including spaces between words)
- List complete names of all authors and name and full location of department and institution where work was performed
- Name, complete mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address of corresponding author.
- Twitter handle(s) of author(s) [if applicable] so JOGS Twitter account @JournalofGI Surg can reference you when Tweeting a link to published work.
- List grant support and other assistance (Acknowledgments are listed at the end of the text)
- A statement for each author in the manuscript must be included declaring whether there are any conflicts of interest in the research presented. Even if there is no conflict of interest, this should also be explicitly stated as “None Declared” on the title page.
- If paper was presented at a scientific meeting, provide a footnote giving name of meeting, date, and location
- List a statement of Author Contribution of each author as per the Definition of Authorship described above.

ETHICAL STANDARDS

Describe ethical guidelines followed (for human or animal studies); cite approval of institutional human research review committee or animal welfare committee; describe in detail hazardous procedures or chemicals involved, including precautions observed. Outline statistical methods used. Identify drugs and chemicals used by generic name. If trademarks of instruments and other devices are mentioned, list manufacturer and city. Type footnotes on the manuscript page on which they occur.

SEX INCLUSIVE REPORTING

The National Institutes of Health has now asked that sex be considered as a biologic variable in all National Institutes of Health-funded research. As such, Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery supports uniform, defined reporting of the sex used for human, animal, tissue, and cell research in ALL manuscripts published in the Journal. If only one sex is studied, authors must include a justification statement as to why a single-sex study was conducted. Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery also requires sex-based reporting and analysis of data for all human, animal, tissue, and cell research.

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION

Manuscripts are submitted to Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery online via Editorial Manager. This will allow for quick and efficient processing of your manuscript. Please log directly onto the Editorial Manager site at: http://www.editorialmanager.com/jgsu/ and upload your manuscript files following the instructions provided on the screen.

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Abstract: Each Original, Multi-Media, Evidence-Based Surgical Practice and Review Article manuscript must include a structured abstract
of no more than 250 words, divided into the following subheadings: (1) Background or Purpose, (2) Methods, (3) Results, and (4) Discussion or Conclusions. Do not use abbreviations, footnotes, or references. Submit 3 to 5 key words using standard Index Medicus terminology at the bottom of the abstract.

**Body of Manuscript:** Organize in the following manner: (1) introduction, (2) materials and methods, (3) results, (4) discussion, (5) conclusion.

Use a normal, plain font (e.g., 12-point Times Roman) for text Double-space the text. Use italics for emphasis.

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Figures are to be numbered using Arabic numerals (Figure 1, Figure 2, etc.) and are to appear after the Figure Legends.

**Acknowledgments:** Limit to those persons who have contributed to the scientific development or production of the manuscript.

**References:** Cite references in order of appearance in text using Arabic numbers. Reference citations in the text should be identified by numbers in square brackets (e.g., [1]). Double check that the numbered references at the end of the article correspond. Cite personal communications and unpublished data in text, not in references. Journal abbreviations must conform to those used in Cumulated Index Medicus.


For references where there are two or more authors who share first authorship, the *Journal of Gastrointestinal of Surgery* requires those authors’ names to be in **bold** type.

It is the corresponding and first authors’ responsibility to ensure that these names appear in **bold** in the reference section when each draft of the manuscript is submitted. This allows giving due credit to joint first authors. Also, please include the phrase “author names in **bold** designate shared co-first authorship” at the end of the References section if you have citations that have joint first authors.

Example: *(Smith T, Jones R, et al. Article title...) and make sure that Smith T and Jones R are both **bolded.**

The author is responsible for the accuracy and completeness of the references.

**TABLES:**

All tables are to be numbered using Arabic numerals.

Tables should always be cited in the text in consecutive numerical order.

For each table, please supply a table heading. The table title should explain clearly and concisely the components of the table.
Identify any previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference at the end of the table heading.

Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data) and included beneath the table body.

FIGURES (ILLUSTRATIONS)

All figures are to be numbered using Arabic numerals. Figure parts should be denoted by lowercase letters.

Figures should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.

For each figure, include the figure legends at the end of the manuscript text.

Make sure to identify all elements found in the figure in the caption. Provide enough information to permit interpretation of data without reference to text.

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ARTWORK INSTRUCTIONS

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 350 MB. Videos must be in one of the following formats: MPEG-1, QuickTime (not mpg4) 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.

REVISED SUBMISSIONS

All revised submissions must include the following:

1) A full response to all of the reviewers’ comments
2) A copy of the revised manuscript with all changes tracked throughout the text
3) A clean copy of the revised manuscript

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If the figures will be printed in black and white, do not refer to color in the captions. Color illustrations should be submitted as RGB (8 bits per channel).

All lettering in the figures should be large enough to permit legible reduction. Axes should be labeled clearly. Magnifications should be shown with scale bars. Suggested figure formats: TIFF, GIF, EPS, PPT, and Postscript. Files should be at least 300 dpi.

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For information on the Consort and to download the Consort E-Checklist and the E-Flowchart, go to: www.consort-statement.org

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