

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:

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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, ileum, 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.

Manuscripts of this type should be limited to no more than seven hundred and fifty [750] words, and no more than three (3) references. The images submitted should be described in a figure legend of no more than 250 words per legend, with relevant structures labeled and explained. GI Images should include no more than three (3) images, and no abstract. 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 short history and physical exam, with pertinent laboratory findings and clinical course.

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

Effective October 5th, 2017, The *Journal of Gastrointestinal Surgery* no longer accepts 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.

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 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)

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

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.

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.

Please note: If you have already registered on Editorial Manager, please use your provided username and password and log in as 'Author' to track your manuscript or to submit a NEW manuscript. (Do not register again as you will then be unable to track your manuscript).

Otherwise, if you are a new author, please click the 'Register' button and enter the requested information. Upon successful registration you will be sent an e-mail with instructions to verify your registration. Keep copies of your word-processing and figure files. You may want to revise the manuscript during the review process and you will need the original files if your manuscript requires revisions.

If you are unable to submit your manuscript via Editorial Manager, please contact the editorial office:

Andrea Schaffeler, Managing Editor Email: jogs@rogers.com

MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

Authors are required to upload their manuscripts online via Editorial Manager. 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:

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, fax number, and e-mail address of corresponding author.

Twitter handle(s) of author(s) [if applicable] so JOGS Twitter account @JournalofGISurg 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.

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

ALL PAGES MUST BE NUMBERED:

Use the automatic page numbering function [In Microsoft Word: 'Insert'tab then 'Page Number']

ALL LINES MUST BE NUMBERED:

Use the automatic line numbering function [In Microsoft Word: 'Page Layout' tab then 'Line Numbers']

Do not use field functions

Use tab stops or other commands for indents, not the space bar

Use the table function, not spreadsheets, to make tables.

Tables are to be numbered using Arabic numerals (Table 1, Table 2, etc.) and are to appear after the References.

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

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.

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.

Journal article (list all authors): 13. Meltzer SJ, Ahnen DJ, Battifour H, Yokokota J, Clinie MJ. Protooncogene abnormalities in colon cancers and adenomatous polyps. *Gastroenterology* 1987;92:1174-1180.

Book: 18. Day RA. *How to Write and Publish a Scientific Paper*. Philadelphia: Institute for Scientific Information, 1979.

Chapter in book: 22. Costa M, Furness JB, Llewellyn-Smith IF. Histochemistry of the enteric nervous system. In Johnson LR, ed. *Physiology of the Gastrointestinal Tract*, vol. 1, 2nd ed. New York: Raven, 1987, pp 1-40.

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.

Identify any previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference at the end of the caption. Photographs of identifiable patients must be accompanied by a signed release to publish from the patient.

Permissions: Previously published material (figures, tables, or direct quotations of 50 words or more) must be accompanied by written permission for their use in both the print and online format from the copyright holder. Please be informed that we will not be able to refund any costs that may have occurred in order to receive these permissions from other publishers.

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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 the following formats: MPEG-1, QuickTime (not mpg4) or Window 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.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Upon acceptance of your article you will receive a link to the special Springer web page with questions related to:

Offprints/Reprints: can be ordered.

Color illustrations: Color art is free of charge for online publication. For color images in print, authors will be expected to cover the extra reproduction costs: \$1150 per article. If black and white will be shown in the print version, make sure that the main information will still be visible. Many colors are not distinguishable from one another when converted to black and white. A simple way to check this is to make a xerographic copy to see if the necessary distinctions between the different colors are still apparent.

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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AUTHORPROOFS

After a submission is accepted and processed through production, a proof of the article is made available to the author. The purpose of the proof is to check for typesetting errors and the completeness and accuracy of the text, tables and figures. Substantial changes in content, e.g., new results, corrected values, title and authorship, are not allowed without the approval of the Editor.

The article will be published online after receipt of the corrected proofs. This is the official first publication citable with the DOI. After release of the printed version, the paper can also be cited by issue and page numbers. After online publication, further changes can only be made in the form of an Erratum, which will be hyperlinked to the article.

REPORTING OF RANDOMIZED TRIALS (CONSORT AGREEMENT)

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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