Journal of Gerontology: BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

THE JOURNAL OF GERONTOLOGY: BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES publishes articles on the biological aspects of aging in areas such as biochemistry, genetics, molecular biology, morphology, neuroscience, nutrition, pathology, pharmacology, and physiology. All submissions are peer-reviewed. Manuscripts should be addressed to Jay Roberts, PhD, Editor, Department of Pharmacology, Allegheny University of the Health Sciences, MCP Hahnemann School of Medicine, 2900 Queen Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19129.

1. Submission and Acceptance of Manuscripts

Submission of a manuscript to the Journal implies that it has not been published or is not under consideration elsewhere. If accepted for this Journal, it is not to be published elsewhere without permission. As a further condition of publication, the corresponding author will be responsible, where appropriate, for certifying that permission has been received to use copyrighted instruments or software employed in the research and that human or animal subjects approval has been obtained. In the case of co-authored manuscripts, the corresponding author will also be responsible for submitting a letter signed by all authors, indicating that they actively participated in the collaborative work leading to the publication and agree to be listed as an author on the paper. These assurances will be requested at the time a paper has been formally accepted for publication.

2. Manuscript Preparation for Articles Describing Original Research

a. Preparing the manuscript. Print out pages double spaced, including references and tables, on 8½" x 11" white paper using 1" margins. Number pages consecutively, beginning with the title page and including all pages of the submission. A total of five copies must be submitted. Conciseness of expression is imperative. The Journal follows the abbreviations and other conventions of the American Medical Association (AMA) Manual of Style, 8th ed. (1989), which is available at many academic and technical bookstores. A summary of some style aspects is presented below. Use of IBM-compatible software is encouraged to facilitate electronic typesetting, and a disk will be requested upon acceptance.

b. Title page. A title page should include the title of the manuscript and the author's full name(s) and affiliations. A short running page headline not to exceed 40 letters and spaces should be provided.

c. Abstract. An abstract of not more than 150 words should be typed, double spaced, on a separate page. It should state the purpose of the study, basic procedures (study participants or experimental animals and observational and analytical methods), main findings, and conclusions.

d. Text. The text of observational and experimental articles is usually (but not necessarily) divided into sections with the following headings: Introduction, Method, Results, and Discussion. Articles may need subsections within some sections to clarify their content. The Discussion should not merely restate the results but should interpret the results.

e. Text references. Number references in the text in the order in which they appear. Use Arabic numbers in parentheses, not superscripts.

f. Reference list. Type double spaced. List references by number in the order in which they were first cited in the text. The reference style should conform to that given in the AMA Manual of Style. For periodicals, utilize the title abbreviation as given in Index Medicus and list all authors when six or fewer; when seven or more, list only the first three and add et al. Examples are shown below.

Journal article


Books and other monographs


Part of a book


4. Other publications

j. Illustrations. For a graph or drawing, one glossy or laser print and four photocopies must be included. If photomicrographs are submitted, five glossy prints should be supplied for review purposes. Color photos are published at the expense of the author. Sharp, glossy prints are required for high-quality reproduction. Figures must be professionally lettered in a sans-serif type (e.g., Univers or Helvetica) or from a laser printer. Typewritten/dot matrix lettering will not be acceptable. Letters should be of sufficient size that, when reduced for publication, they will be legible.

k. Captions for illustrations. Type captions double spaced on a separate page with numbers corresponding to the illustrations. Explain symbols, arrows, numbers, or letters used in illustrations. Explain internal scale and identify staining method in photomicrographs. Captions for Tables and Illustrations should be adequate to interpret the content of the table or figure without reference to the text.

3. Brief Reports

Manuscripts (including references) must be no longer than six double spaced typewritten pages, including no more than one table, graph, or illustration. Five copies should be submitted.

4. Rapid Communications

If findings are considered to be of immediate, significant importance, the author may request consideration as a rapid communication. Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with Sections 2 and 3.

5. Letters to the Editor

Letters must be typewritten, double spaced, approximately 500 to 750 words. Submit five copies. If appropriate, a copy will be sent to the author of the original article to provide an opportunity for rebuttal. Letters and rebuttals will be reviewed and are subject to editing. Usually both letter and rebuttal will be published in the same issue.

6. Review Articles

Review articles and mini-reviews are usually invited by the Editor. However, unsolicited review articles may be submitted for publication. Manuscripts should be prepared as in Section 2. These will be reviewed and the decision to publish will be made by the Editor.

7. Guest Editorials

Guest editorials may be invited but unsolicited editorials may also be submitted. These should not exceed one printed page. Manuscript preparation should follow the guidelines of Section 2. The decision to publish will be exclusively the Editor's.