

JOURNAL OF VECTOR BORNE DISEASES

Instructions to Authors

(This information sheet can also be downloaded from www.mrcindia.org/journal)

The *Journal of Vector Borne Diseases* (formerly known as *Indian Journal of Malariology*) is a quarterly journal devoted to the publication of original research contributions in the field of vector borne diseases such as malaria, filaria, Japanese encephalitis, dengue, dengue haemorrhagic fever, leishmaniasis, trypanosomiasis and other vector borne diseases and their control.

Scope of articles

The journal publishes review articles on latest advances in the field of vector borne diseases, original research contributions, short research communications, case study reports of prime importance, special communications, randomised controlled trials, intervention studies, studies of screening and evaluation of diagnostic tests, cost-effective analyses, correspondences on published articles, *etc.* Papers of routine nature which are merely records of interesting cases as also those dealing with modifications of routine methodology will not be encouraged. The JVBD strongly discourages duplication/reduplication of data already published in other journals (even when cosmetic changes/additions are made). If and when duplication is detected after publishing in JVBD, the journal will be forced to retract such articles. All papers submitted for publication in JVBD are subject to double blind peer review process. All accepted papers will be suitably edited before publication.

(i) Research articles: Manuscripts under this category should clearly state an objective or hypothesis, the research design and methodology (including the study design, time period, inclusion and exclusion criteria of participants/patients/animals), data sources and their selection for the study, statistical methods, the main results of the study, a comments section placing the results in the context of published literature and the conclusions drawn from the study with latest references and structured abstract.

(ii) Short research communications: Short research communications of original studies or evaluations are also encouraged. Manuscripts should be prepared in a manner similar to the research articles without abstract and division of text into separate headings with one or two tables/figures and 10–12 references.

(iii) Case study reports: Case study reports of health impact assessment, clinical reports, epidemiological reports (individual or series), *etc.* are also encouraged for publication provided they should contribute significantly to the existing knowledge. Manuscripts should be prepared in the manner similar to short research communications.

(iv) Review articles: Manuscripts describing systematic, critical assessment of literature and data sources pertaining to the topic(s), emphasising factors such as causes, diagnosis, prognosis, therapy, study analysis, population intervention, exposure tests, basic and applied aspects of vector biology, vector genetics, bionomics, vector/parasite resistance, entomology, epidemiology, *etc.* are encouraged for publication.

Manuscript preparation

The whole text, references, tables and figure legends should be typed in 12 pt Times New Roman font and be fully double-spaced throughout. All pages should be numbered consecutively starting with title page. While preparing the manuscripts the authors should strictly follow the general format of the journal. The manuscript can be typed in MS Word/Adobe Page Maker. Authors are advised to see a recent issue of the journal to get familiar with the format adopted on various elements of a paper.

Title page should contain an appropriate title not exceeding 80 characters or 10–15 words yet sufficiently descriptive and informative, a short running title of 3–4 words, Author(s) name(s), address of the Institute(s)/Organisation(s), corresponding author address with phone, e-mail and fax number. Subsequent pages should contain—Title, Structured Abstract, Key words, Introduction, Material & Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgement, References, Tables, Figures and figure legends.

Guidelines for preparing structured abstract: The structured abstract should not be more than 250 words as per “Vancouver” style and be divided into the following heads for easy understanding: (a) context; (b) objective; (c) study design; (d) description of the subjects, patients/participants; (e) interventions; (f) main outcome measures; and (g) results and conclusion. The information presented here and in the article should be same.

Remaining text may be typed continuously in the following heads.

Introduction should be pertinent to the context and contain literature review related to the scope of the study, reasons for undertaking the study, properly explained objectives, the work already done in the area of the study and the knowledge to be added to the existing knowledge with essential background.

Material & Methods should contain nomenclature, source of procurement of materials, study design, selection of experimental subjects, equipments and methodology. Statistical treatment of the data should be clearly mentioned. New methods adopted for the first time should be explicated. If the authors are involved in DNA/protein sequencing, the source of obtaining such sequences should clearly be indicated. If the authors are reporting new sequence information, the accession numbers of such sequences after deposition in public domain should be provided. For enzymes only, the trivial names recommended by the IUPAC-IUB Commission, should be used. At its first citation in the text of the paper its code number and systematic name should be indicated.

Ethical guidelines: Research papers dealing with experiments on human or animal subjects **must state** in the Material & Methods section that: (i) informed and free consent was obtained from the participants/patients/relatives of the patients/parents or legal guardians of minors and should attach the ethical clearance certificate from the institution/organisation or similar committee/agency; and (ii) the maintenance and care of the experimental animals is as per the guidelines for use of laboratory animals in research specified by the Animal Ethics Committee of the Institute/Organisation or ethical standards of the country or agency.

Registration of Clinical Trials: We urge to all those who are either conducting and/or planning to conduct clinical trials involving human subjects, to register their trials in CTRI (www.ctri.in) or in any primary clinical trial register (WHO ICTRP: <http://www.who.int/ictcp/en/>). From January 2010 onwards, we will consider publication of a trial only if it has been registered prospectively if started in or after June 2008; trials undertaken before June 2008 need to be registered retrospectively. Clinical trial has been defined by International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (http://www.icmje.org/clin_trial07.pdf).

Results should be presented in concise, focussed and coherent manner highlighting the principal findings without loose endings referring to tables/figures and illustrations. Only important observations need to be emphasised or summarised. Systeme International measurements should be used (Ref. The SI for Health Professional WHO, Geneva 1977). Use of the 24 hr time system e.g. 0830 hrs but not 8.30 A.M. should be followed. Abbreviations as per the list printed at the end should be followed. Numbers less than 1 should contain zero before decimal point.

Tables and figures should be numbered in the order of their citation in the text. Captions/legends should be self-explanatory and be typed on separate sheets. Graphs/Illustrations should be glossy prints with sharp focus and good contrast and the captions/legends should not appear on the face of the photographs/figures. Author(s) should mention their identity on the back of the graph/figure—their name, title in brief, number and caption/legend. Their sizes should

conform to single (8.5 × 21 cm) or double (17.5 × 21 cm) column sizes. Photographs in original should be supplied. For electronic submission, graphs should be prepared in MS-Excel/CorelDraw, photographs, gel photographs, pictures, *etc.* should be submitted in JPEG/TIFF formats with more than 300 dpi resolution as separate files.

Discussion should deal with interpretation and comparison of results without repetition of results already present in the results section, hypotheses with supporting evidences and literature, and logical conclusions drawn from the study.

Acknowledgement should be made only to scientific, financial and technical assistance and not for routine departmental and typing/secretarial assistance. This section should be typed on a separate sheet.

References should be presented as per the order cited in the text. Providing correct and complete references is the sole responsibility of the author(s). Only published references or papers in the press (accepted for publication) should be given. References should be given in numbers as superscripts in the text. As far as possible mentioning name(s) of author(s) under references should be avoided in the text. Citations of unpublished work and personal communication should be cited in the text only. Titles of periodicals cited in the references are to be abbreviated as in the World List of Scientific Periodicals. Complete reference—(i) Author(s) name(s) with full initials, (ii) title of the paper in full and subtitle (if any), (iii) name of the journal, (iv) year of publication, (v) volume and issue number, and (vi) page number should be given. The references should strictly be as per the format of the journal. The references should normally be restricted to a maximum of 30. Few examples are provided below.

Examples

Standard journal article

Sharma Indu, Sharma YD. Malarial mitochondrial genome: the 6 kb element. *Indian J Malariol* 2001; 37: 45–6.

More than six authors

Rose ME, Huerbin MB, Melick J, Marion DW, Palmer AM, Schiding JK, *et al.* Regulation of interstitial excitatory amino acid concentrations after cortical contusion injury. *Brain Res* 2002; 935: 40–6.

Volume with part

Abend SM, Kulish N. The psychoanalytic method from an epistemological view point. *Int J Psychoanal* 2002; 83 (pt 2): 491–5.

Book/Monograph/Proceedings

Kondrashin AV, Jung RK, Akiyama J. Ecological aspects of forest malaria in southeast Asia. In : Sharma VP, Kondrashin AV, editors. *Forest malaria in southeast Asia: proceedings of an informal consultative meeting*. WHO/MRC, 18–22 February 1991. New Delhi: World Health Organization 1991; p. 1–28.

Electronic material

CD-ROM

Anderson SE, Poulsen KB. Anderson's electronic atlas of haematology [CD-ROM]. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins 2002.

Journal article on the Internet

Abbood S. Quality improvement initiative in nursing homes: the ANA acts in an advisory role. *Am J Nurs* [serial on the Internet] 2002 Jun [cited 2002 Aug 12]; 102(6): [about 3 p.]. Available from <http://www.nursingworld.org/AJN/2002/june/Wawatch.htm>

Monograph on the Internet

Foley KM, Gelband H, editors. Improving palliative care for cancer [monograph on the Internet]. Washington: National Academic Press 2001 [cited 2002 July 9]. Available from <http://www.nap.edu/books/0309074029/html/>.

Homepage/Website

Cancer-pain.org [homepage on the Internet]. New York : Association of Cancer Online Resources, Inc. c2000-01 [updated 2002 May 16; cited 2002 Jul 9]. Available from <http://www.cancer-pain.org/>.

Submission of manuscript: The manuscript in triplicate along with floppy/compact disc containing the complete research article along with graphs, scanned pictures (if any) should be sent to the: Editor, *Journal of Vector Borne Diseases*, National Institute of Malaria Research (ICMR), Sector 8, Dwarka, New Delhi-110 077.
e-mail: editor.jvbd@mrcindia.org, jvbd.nimr@yahoo.co.in.

Submission in electronic format: The authors are strongly encouraged to send their manuscript through e-mail as an attachment as Original/Zip files in MSWord/Page Maker. Photographs, pictures, gel photographs, *etc.* should be in MSExcel/CorelDraw/Adobe Photoshop file formats.

Editorial review and publication: All manuscripts are reviewed by a panel of subject experts in each discipline and also by the Editorial Board. Peer reviewer and author identities are kept confidential to solicit unbiased comments. The articles are accepted only after the recommendation by the reviewers and the Editorial Board. Accepted manuscripts are copy edited and galley proof/page proof are sent to the corresponding author through e-mail or by post. Authors are advised to check the galley proof thoroughly and return the corrected copy within the stipulated time period mentioned. Major corrections should be avoided. The corresponding author is responsible for scientific accuracy and statements expressed in the article.

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JOURNAL OF VECTOR BORNE DISEASES

Authorship Undertaking Form

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I/We, the undersigned, give an undertaking to the following effect with regard to our research article entitled
"....."
"....."

submitted for publication in *Journal of Vector Borne Diseases*

1. I/We certify/agree hereby that the manuscript represents original and authentic scientific work; and that neither this manuscript nor one with substantially similar content under my/our authorship has been published or is being considered for publication elsewhere.
2. I/ We agree to allow the corresponding author to serve as the primary correspondent with the editorial office of *JVBD*, to review the edited typescript and proof, and to make decisions regarding release of information in the manuscript to the media or if I am the only author.
3. I/We will provide the data or will cooperate fully in obtaining and providing the data on which the manuscript is based for examination by the Editor(s) or their assignees, if requested by the Editor.
4. I/We have given the final approval of the submitted manuscript for publication.
5. I/We certify that all financial and material support for this research and work are clearly identified in the manuscript.
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Important

All the authors are required to sign the form independently. In case an author has left the institution/country and whose whereabouts are not known, the corresponding author may sign on his/her behalf taking the responsibility. No addition/deletion in the sequence of authorship will be permitted at later stage, without valid reasons and permission of the Editor. If the author is contested at any stage, the article will be either returned or will not be processed for publication till the issue is resolved.

Abbreviations

The abbreviations should be used in the text, tables and illustrations without a period (full stop)

molar	M	intraperitoneal	ip
milli molar (mole/litre)	mM	intravenous	iv
micromolar (mole/litre)	μ M	intramuscular	im
mole (quantity of substance)	mol	subcutaneous	sc
normal (normality)	<i>N</i>	oral	po
metre	m	ampere	A
centimetre	cm	milli Ampere	mA
square centimetre	cm ²	watt	W
millimetre	mm	Angstrom	Å
micrometre	μ m	volume ratio (volume per volume)	vol/vol
nanometre	nm	volume	vol
picometre	pm	weight	wt
hectare	ha	mg/100 ml	mg/dl
foot or feet	ft	weight per volume	wt/vol
cubic centimetre	cc	weight ratio (weight per weight)	wt/wt
litre	L	Confidence Interval (Statistics)	CI
millilitre	ml	chi square	χ^2
microlitre	μ l	significant at 1% level	**
gallon	gal	significant at 5% level	*
gram	g	standard deviation	s
milligram	mg	standard error	$S_{\bar{x}}$
kilogram	kg	probability	<i>p</i>
figure	Fig.	ultra low volume	ULV
hour(s)	h	active ingredient	AI
minute(s)	min	emulsifiable concentrate	EC
second(s)	sec	lethal dose-50	LD ₅₀
weeks	wk	diameter	diam
mean	\bar{x}	revolutions per minute	rpm
year(s)	yr	counts per minute	cpm
number	No.	relative humidity	RH
number (statistical)	<i>n</i>	<i>sensu stricto</i>	s.s.
ortho	<i>o</i>	<i>sensu lato</i>	s.l.
meta	<i>m</i>	curie	Ci
para	<i>p</i>	gravity	g

Author Check List

It is strongly recommended that the authors should check the following before submitting a manuscript for publication in the *Journal of Vector Borne Diseases*.

1. Covering letter
2. Three copies of manuscript and electronic copy in floppy or compatible disc containing the complete article, table(s) and figure(s) along with corresponding author mailing address, e-mail, fax and phone number
3. Authorship undertaking form
4. Separate pages for acknowledgement, tables & figures
5. Complete set of photograph(s)/figure(s)/picture(s) in triplicate
6. Ethical committee clearance certificate, informed consent from the patients/participants (if applicable for the study)
7. Written permission from Publisher(s) (or other copyright owner) to reproduce or adapt previously published illustration(s) and table(s) in print and online edition(s)
8. Short running title with key words
9. Structured abstract as per "Vancouver style"
10. Abbreviations as per *Journal of Vector Borne Diseases* format
11. References as per *JVBD* format
12. Figure legends on separate sheets