



Morphologie Guide for authors

Morphologie is the peer-reviewed official and academic journal of “Association des Morphologistes”, the French speaking society of Morphology. The journal has a medical focus for teachers, students, researchers and clinicians in anatomy and morphology. It analyses the most current developments in these specialities, both in France and internationally. The objective of *Morphologie* is to offer privileged readings in the form of general reviews, original articles, didactic updates, and book reviews, which will allow teachers to optimise their courses and specialists to enrich their knowledge.

The journal aims an international dimension, publishing peer-reviewed clinical and research articles, reviews articles, epidemiological studies, guidelines, consensus statements. The journal also publishes abstracts of the annual sessions from the national congress of the French speaking society of Morphology : “Association des Morphologistes” and from the national French congress of the Histologists, Embryologists and Cytogeneticists.

INTRODUCTION

Indexation

PubMed/Medline

SCImago Journal Rank (SJR)

Scopus

ScienceDirect

Hinari Embase

Pascal Francis

Language

English

Manuscript categories

The authors should indicate the category of their manuscript, submitted as a numbered Word file (PDF format is not allowed for text and tables). However, the Editorial Board may decide to publish the manuscript in a different category. The authors are advised to read previous issues of the journal to choose their manuscript category. The categories are listed below.

Editorial

Editorials expound opinions, describe noteworthy facts, summarize prominent studies, report news, or provide perspective. The authors are free to choose the outline. There is no abstract. Although editorials are often commissioned by the Editorial Board, spontaneous submissions are welcome, with or without a pre-submission inquiry to the editors.

Maximum number of words : 1500

Maximum number of references: 15

Maximum number of figures or tables : 2

Research paper (Original article)

Research papers or Original articles report new and original work that has not been published elsewhere (except as an abstract at a conference).

The abstract must be structured (see below) and in English only.

The last paragraph of the introduction should state the question or questions of the study, whose answers are found in the results section.

The results should be described concisely, with no redundancies between the text and the tables or figures.

The discussion should start with a brief summary of the results and an explanation of how the results contribute to answer the study question or questions. The discussion should be brief; in general, onethird of the total manuscript length is appropriate.

The manuscript should not exceed 3000 words (word count do not need to include the abstract, references, tables and figure captions), counting the title page and all other pages except tables.

Maximum number of authors: 20

Maximum number of references: 50

Maximum number of figures/tables: 8

[Review article](#)

The manuscript should not exceed 5000 words (word count do not need to include the abstract, references, tables and figure captions), counting the title page and all other pages except tables.

It requires an unstructured or not abstract (250 words maximum).

The number of references should not exceed 75.

The maximum number of figures/tables/illustrations should not exceed 5.

[Short communication](#)

This article presents concise and important new information on study results.

No abstract - 1200 words

Maximum references number: 15

Maximum number of figures or tables: 2

Maximum number of authors: 10

[Letters to editors](#)

This article presents preliminary studies or short reports.

No abstract.

Headings : 1200 words

Maximum references number : 15

Maximum number of figure: 1

Maximum number of table: 1

Maximum number of authors: 6

[Anatomic variations](#)

This article presents an interesting observation or a case series.

No abstract.

Headings: 1200 words

Maximum references number: 15

Maximum number of figure: 1

Maximum number of table: 1

Maximum number of authors: 6

[Recommendations, Guidelines](#)

The article format may not allow the publication of all the data and the authors are therefore asked to prepare a condensed summary. Heading: 8000 words, 250 references.

The abstract is particularly important, specially for the recommendations whom main database should be cited.

The abstract must be in English only.

[Correspondence](#)

The contents refer to an article published recently in the journal. The author or authors of that article may then submit a reply, which is usually published.

Headings: 800 words, 5 references.

Maximum number of authors: 5

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Ensure that the following items are present:

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address
- Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:

Manuscript:

- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print
- Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)
- Supplemental files (where applicable)

Further considerations

- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
- A competing interest's statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
- Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing

Please see our information on [Ethics in publishing](#).

Studies in humans and animals

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Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

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1. A summary declaration of interest statement in the title page file (if double anonymized) or the manuscript file (if single anonymized).

If there are no interests to declare then please state this: '[Declarations of interest: none](#)'.

If they are interests to declare, every co-author must declare them at the end of the article, before References.

For example:

Competing interest:

C.R. Occasional involvements: advisory services: Company X

E.L. Financial interests in a company: Company Y

J.-J.E. Clinical trials: as main investigator or study coordinator

2. Detailed disclosures as part of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches.

[More information](#).

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ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition; and use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, stereotypes, slang, reference to dominant culture and/or cultural assumptions. We advise to seek gender neutrality by using plural nouns ("clinicians, patients/clients") as default/wherever possible to avoid using "he, she," or "he/she." We recommend avoiding the use of descriptors that refer to personal attributes such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition unless they are relevant and valid. When coding terminology is used, we recommend avoiding offensive or exclusionary terms such as "master", "slave", "blacklist" and "whitelist". We suggest using alternatives that are more appropriate and (self-) explanatory such as "primary", "secondary", "blocklist" and "allowlist". These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

[Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses](#)

Reporting guidance

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the [Sex and Gender Equity in Research \(SAGER\) guidelines](#) and the [SAGER guidelines checklist](#). These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

Definitions

Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the way they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, [the resources on this page](#) offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

Contributors

Each author is required to declare his or her individual contribution to the article: all authors must have materially participated in the research and/or article preparation, so roles for all authors should be described. The statement that all authors have approved the final article should be true and included in the disclosure.

Authorship

All authors should have made substantial contributions to all the following: (1) the conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, (3) final approval of the version to be submitted.

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This journal follows the [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors \(ICMJE\) clinical trials registration guidelines](#).

Registration

Clinical Trials must be registered in a public trials registry. Purely observational studies, in which the assignment of the medical intervention is not at the discretion of the investigator, do not require registration.

Some important points:

- Trials must be registered at or before the onset of patient enrolment.
- The clinical trial registration number must be included at the end of the article abstract.
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PREPARATION

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To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

Article structure (for research articles)

Subdivision - numbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

Introduction

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

Material and methods

Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

Results

Results should be clear and concise.

Discussion

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Conclusions

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may be standalone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

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Please supply, as a separate list, the definitions of field-specific terms used in your article.

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If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

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- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.
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Highlights are optional yet highly encouraged for this journal, as they increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the examples here: [example Highlights](#).

Highlights should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point).

Abstract

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Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

Abbreviations

Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

Acknowledgements

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proofreading the article, etc.).

Formatting of funding sources

List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

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Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors can build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Otherwise, please indicate the position of footnotes in the text and list the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

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References

Citation in text

Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list, they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

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