

journal of kidney care JKC

The *Journal of Renal Nursing (JRN)* is a bi-monthly journal for renal nurses and other renal professionals who wish to keep up to date and fully informed about the clinical, practical, educational, research and policy aspects of renal nursing.

We welcome submissions from both first time and experienced authors. If you have never written for publication before, please contact the editor, Natasha Devan (jkc@markallengroup.com) tel: 020 7501 6749. We can offer practical help on how to write an article and get it published.

Please note that all articles submitted are subject to a double-blind peer review. Publication cannot be guaranteed.

Articles published in the journal will normally fall into the following categories. Any necessity for shorter or longer articles should be discussed with the editor.

Editorial—opinion pieces to discuss or report on current issues in renal medicine. You may use it as a platform to debate or highlight change or controversial issues. Word count: 350–400 words. Reference limit: 5

Clinical articles—evidence-based essays, which allow the author(s) to discuss and raise awareness of important topics relating to renal medicine. A clinical article should include the latest evidence-based guidelines/ research relating to the topic. Articles should contain key words, introduction, conclusions and key points. The main body of the article should include use of sub-headings and make use of figures and tables as appropriate. Key statements and information must be supported by references to appropriate research. The references are listed at the end of the article to support proposed arguments. Word count: 2000–2500 words. Reference limit: 50

Assessments/case studies—articles on how to conduct different types of assessments. Please include key words, introduction, background and guidance on how to do the assessment and what equipment may be needed. Finish with conclusions, references and key points.

Case studies should focus on the care of an individual patient with a renal disease. Please

include as much information about the patient (ensuring confidentiality) as succinctly as possible. Key words, introduction, conclusions, key points and references need to be included in this type of article. Word count: 1500–2000 words. Reference limit: 30

Practice—educational, back to basics, step by step articles for the nurses who are new to renal care or experienced nurses who need a refresher or want to be kept up-to-date. Key words, introduction, conclusions, key points and references need to be included. Word count: 1500–2000 words. Reference limit: 30

The team—the aim of these articles is to give the reader an understanding of a particular role in the multidisciplinary team. The author may wish to describe the route he/she followed and the qualifications needed, a description of the day-to-day tasks and skills that are required to do the job. Key words, introduction, conclusions, key points and references need to be included. Word count: 1500–2000 words. Reference limit: 30

Spotlight—the aim of this section is to provide the nurse administering, monitoring or prescribing medications a sound background knowledge about a specific drug or class of drugs, to ensure safe use. It should contain a discussion of the background physiology/pathophysiology, the pharmacology of the drug, indications for use, any licensing issues (e.g. only available on a named patient basis) the side effects, contraindications and nursing considerations, particularly with regard to patient information. Key words, introduction, conclusions, key points and references need to be included.

The same principle applies to articles about renal products or technical processes which can also fall into this category. Word count: 1500–2500 words. Reference limit: 50

Professional—articles relating to career, renal guidelines (NICE) or protocols, patient group direction (PGD). Key words, introduction, conclusions, key points and references need to be included. Word count: 1500–2000 words. Reference limit: 30

Letters to the editor—these can provide comment on previous articles in the journal or on any relevant topic to therapy and rehabilitation. The editor reserves the right to shorten letters. Word count: 150–300 words. Reference limit: 5

General presentation guidance

All articles should be submitted in 12-point font and at least 1.5 or double line spacing, formatted for A4 paper, and all pages should be numbered. All articles should be submitted online at: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/jkoc>

A separate page for author details

This page contains: nnThe names of the authors nnInstitutional affiliation of each author nnFull details of each author's current appointment. nn Name, postal and e-mail address and contact telephone number of the author responsible for correspondence.

Article pages

The article should contain the following key elements:

Title—a descriptive and interest-provoking heading for the article.

Summary—a stand-alone paragraph of no more than 150 words giving a brief outline of the content of the article.

Key words—please supply 4–5 suitable key words, which give an overview of the article giving consideration to how this article could be accessed via a literature search.

Introduction—designed to develop readers' interest in the article and tell them something about the way it is handled. It should also state the main question or questions that the article sets out to answer where applicable.

Body of text—headings can help to provide structure to your article and guide the reader to particular sections. See specific information related to different types of articles for suggested headings.

Conclusions and recommendations—

these should be succinct and logically ordered. Identify gaps in knowledge and suggest future initiatives.

Key point sentences—please supply 5–8 key bullet point sentences that summarize the major themes of your article. These will appear at the end of the article.

Tables and figures—appropriate and clear tables and figures can be a great help to readers. Indicate clearly which point they illustrate in the main text but insert them separately at the end of your article. It is the author's responsibility to obtain written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce figures, tables, or artwork from other journals or books before submitting the article. It is usually the publisher, not the author, who owns copyright. Permission will be acknowledged at the end of the printed article.

References

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The sequence for a standard journal article is: author(s); year; title; journal; volume number; issue number; first and last page numbers.

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Young A, Abel BH (2001) Preventing transmission of infections among chronic hemodialysis patients. *J Ren Care* 1(4): 40–6

The sequence, layout and punctuation for books are: Personal author: Laidler P (1994) *Renal Rehabilitation: Structure and Strategy*. Chapman & Hall, London

Editors: Cusack L, Singh S eds. (2003) *HIV and renal disease: Practical Approaches*. Chapman & Hall, London: 125–6

Chapter in book: Samuels B (1999) Pulmonary complications in renal patients. In: Rand A, Long B, eds. *Management of Renal Patients*. Butterworths, London: 387–95 Book titles are italicized, chapter titles are not.

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All articles will undergo double-blind peer review where the article will be sent anonymously to two people who specialise in the subject area of the article. Reviewers are asked to return constructive comments within two to three weeks. Feedback is returned to authors and a decision made about how to proceed in the following categories: accept, accept with minor revisions, revise and resubmit, reject. Where an article receives two conflicting reviews, the editor will make the final decision.

Proofs

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