# Journal of Neurosurgery Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine

Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics



# INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

# Table of Contents

Introduction

**Files for Submission** 

**Cover Letter and Submission Statement** 

**Manuscript Preparation** 

Title Page **Abstract Key Words** Text

Introduction Methods Results Discussion Conclusions Acknowledgments Disclosure Figure Legends

**Formatting for Other Types of Articles** 

> Case Reports Case Illustrations Technical Notes, Literature Reviews, Historical Vignettes, Obituaries, Etc.

**References** 

Verification **Examples of Appropriate** Reference Styling

**Tables** 

Literature Review Tables

**Figures** 

File Requirements Peer-Review Submission **Publication Submission** Resolution Color Mode Charge for Printing Color **Figures Fonts** Letters

Figures (continued) Graphs

**Photographs** Electron Micrographs and **Photomicrographs Cover Illustrations Original Figures** 

Original Artwork

**Videos** 

Video Clips Accompanying an Article Video Article Video Clip Preparation Previously Published Figures, Tables, and Videos

**Additional Forms for Submission** 

Copyright Assignment Conflict of Interest Form **Patient Consent Color Payment Agreement** 

**Additional Submissions** 

Continuing Medical Education Questions Additional Material for Reviewers Letters to the Editor **Notices** 

**After Manuscript Acceptance** 

**Podcast Synopsis** Page Proofs Reprints

**Special Considerations** 

**Authors and Contributors Authorship Group Authorship** Authors of Manuscripts on **Clinical Trials** Corresponding Author Other Contributors Originality of Work and **Attribution to Other Works** Quoted or Paraphrased

Special Considerations (continued) Suspicion of Scientific

Misconduct Sharing of Resources and Data

Methods **Materials** Data

Studies Involving Humans **IRB** Approval Informed Consent Clinical Trials Confidentiality of Patient Identity

> Names and Identifiers Photographs, Imaging Studies, and Videos

**Pedigrees Exceptions** Studies Involving Animals

Other Considerations Studies Involving Microarrays Studies Involving High-**Resolution Structural** Data and Nucleotide Se**quences** 

Studies Involving Embryonic **Human Stem Cells** Studies Involving Recombinant DNA

Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses

**Press Releases** 

**Embargo Policy JNSPG Disclaimer Contact Information** 

**Figure and Table Examples** 

**Common Errors in Manuscript Preparation** 

**Quick Reference Guide for Submitting a Manuscript** 

Click on any item in blue throughout these instructions to link to a section or website.

**Symbols** 

The Journal of Neurosurgery, Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics, Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine, and Neurosurgical Focus are dedicated to the publication of original works relating to neurosurgery, including studies in clinical neurophysiology, organic neurology, ophthalmology, radiology, pathology, and molecular biology. The Editors and Editorial Boards encourage submission of clinical and laboratory studies. Other manuscripts accepted for review include technical notes on instruments or equipment that are innovative or useful to clinicians and researchers in the field of neuroscience, papers describing unusual cases, manuscripts on historical persons or events related to neurosurgery, and reviews. Letters to the Editor should reference the title and publication date of the article discussed. Editorials are solicited by the Editors; unsolicited editorials will be returned without consideration.

Submitted manuscripts must be original and not published previously. Publication of the abstract alone (such as in meeting proceedings) does not preclude submission of a manuscript. Deposit of manuscripts on a preprint server is considered prior paper publication and disallows submission of a manuscript. All submissions are screened by iThenticate® Professional Plagiarism Prevention.

All submitted manuscripts undergo vigorous peer review by experts in the field.

Manuscripts and Letters to the Editor must be submitted online through one of our electronic submission websites. The following submission websites are available 24 hours a day.

> Journal of Neurosurgery http://jns.msubmit.net

Journal of Neurosurgery: Pediatrics http://jnspeds.msubmit.net

Journal of Neurosurgery: Spine http://jnsspine.msubmit.net

Neurosurgical Focus http://focus.msubmit.net

Separate accounts are not required for each submission site; the login name and password will work for all Journal of Neurosurgery Publishing Group (JNSPG) submission sites. Authors should submit their manuscript to the submission site of the intended journal.

A **Manuscript Template** is available for formatting guidance. Manuscripts must be submitted as **Microsoft Word** files. Please upload the entire manuscript as 1 file (title page, abstract, text, reference section, and figure legends).

SUBMISSIONS THAT DO NOT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OUTLINED IN THESE INSTRUCTIONS WILL BE RETURNED TO THE CORRESPONDING AUTHOR FOR CORRECTION.

Please see Common Errors in Manuscript Preparation on page 14.

#### FILES FOR SUBMISSION

#### Initial Submission

- Cover letter
- Manuscript Microsoft Word document
- Figures each figure should be submitted as a

separate file (acceptable formats: TIFF, JPEG, GIF [new submissions only])

• TABLES — all tables should be created in Microsoft Word using the Table function. Save all tables in a single file.

In addition to the required files, the submitting author must be able to provide the following information at submission of all manuscript versions:

- Authors: first and last names, middle initial(s), degrees, postal addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and valid email addresses
- *Manuscript detail information:* title, abstract, running title, and key words (these can be copied and pasted from your manuscript file)

as well as the following if appropriate:

- name of institutional review board (IRB)/ethics committee and the human subjects assurance number or equivalent identifier
  - name of clinical trial registry and registration number
- name of local institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC) and the approval number or equivalent assigned to the study
- name and type of database repository (microarray, highresolution structural data, nucleotide sequences) as well as accession number

# Submission of Revised Manuscript or at the Request of the Editor

• COVER LETTER (with detailed responses to reviewers) and REVISED MANUSCRIPT (with tracked changes), FIGURES, and TABLES. In addition to the required files, each author of the manuscript will be required to complete the Copyright Assignment and Conflict of Interest forms. A link to complete these forms electronically will be emailed to each author at the time that a revision is requested. Each author must complete and submit the forms before the revised manuscript will be considered for publication. **Note:** The corresponding author should verify that all of the coauthors' emails are valid in the submission site.

**New submission and revision checklists** are available for authors. These forms can be downloaded from the "Instructions & Forms" section on the "Author Instructions" page. The forms are for authors' personal use and should not be submitted with the manuscript.

#### COVER LETTER AND SUBMISSION STATEMENT

A cover letter must be included with each submission stating that the manuscript has not been previously published in whole or in part or submitted elsewhere for review. Manuscripts may not be submitted to more than 1 JNSPG journal at 1 time and cannot be published in more than 1 of our journals.

#### MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION

Authors are encouraged to review guidelines for writing medical/scientific articles before they prepare manuscripts for any scholarly journal. Two valuable guidelines are the *Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals* (http://www.icmje.org/urm\_main.html) by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) and the *EASE Guidelines for Authors* 

and Translators of Scientific Articles to be Published in English (http://www.ease.org.uk/guidelines/index.shtml) by the European Association of Science Editors (EASE).

Various types of manuscripts may be submitted to the JNSPG: clinical articles, laboratory investigations, case reports, case illustrations, technical notes, literature reviews, editorials (solicited only), special topics (such as historical vignettes or obituaries), and special articles (solicited only). The following sections contain formatting rules for clinical articles and laboratory investigations; many of these rules are applicable to other types of articles as well. Exceptions to these rules that are specific to other types of articles format can be found in the section Formatting for Other Types of Articles.

*Title Page:* The first page of the manuscript must contain the following:

- manuscript title
- complete names of all coauthors with each author's name followed by his/her highest academic degree(s) (see *Authors and Contributors* in **Special Considerations** to determine if all coauthors meet the criteria for authorship of the manuscript). If 2 or more authors contributed equally to the study/manuscript, note this and place an asterisk after the name of each of these authors.
- department and institution to which each author belongs (use superscripted numbers to identify which author belongs to which department and institution) as well as the city, state or province, and country in which the institution resides
- designated corresponding author's name, mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address (see *Authors and Contributors* in **Special Considerations** for a description of the responsibilities of the corresponding author)
  - 3 to 6 key words identifying the work
- running head consisting of no more than 65 characters/ spaces
- *all* sources of financial and material support including the following: 1) names of the granting organizations; 2) applicable grant or contract numbers; 3) names of each author who received specific funding; and 4) specific material support given
- a note stating where and when any portion of the contents of the paper may have been presented (not published) previously

example: Portions of this work were presented in abstract form/in poster form/as proceedings at the First International Conference on Neurosurgical Rehabilitation, World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies, Münster, Germany, July 8, 1999.

Abstract: The manuscript must contain an abstract comprising a maximum of 450 words. Abstracts for clinical and laboratory studies should contain separate sections entitled Object (the goals of the study), Methods (methods used to achieve the study goals), Results (results/findings of the study), and Conclusions (conclusions drawn from the work). Abstracts for case reports, technical notes, historical vignettes, and other manuscripts should not be separated into sections. These abstracts should begin with a simple and clear statement of the paper's purpose followed by appropriate details that support the authors' conclusions. If your paper involves a clinical trial, provide the registration number of the clinical trial and the nameand URL of the registry where it can be found at the end of the Abstract.

*Key Words:* Key Words should include 3 to 6 words or phrases to assist indexing and retrieval of the work.

**Text:** Most articles should be divided in order into *Introduction*, *Methods*, *Results* (or *Summary of Cases*), *Discussion*, and *Conclusions*. Use subheadings within these sections if they improve the organization of the report and its readability.

*Introduction:* In this untitled section state the purpose of the study reported and, when appropriate, concisely summarize the rationale for the undertaking. Reference major background reports but do not review in detail the pertinent literature; such a review belongs in the *Discussion* section.

Methods: Enough details should be furnished for the reader to understand the method(s) used in the study described. It is appropriate to refer to a previous work if the methods have been reported there in detail; however, this section should include enough information for the reader to gain an understanding of the method(s) without reference to another work.

If you are reporting a study involving humans, document approval of the study by the local institutional review board (IRB) and state that informed consent was obtained. If the study is an interventional clinical trial (see the section on studies involving humans in Special Considerations), provide the registration number of the clinical trial and the name and URL of the registry where it can be found in which it is listed. In general, no data or images leading to the identification of patients or healthy volunteers should be presented in the manuscript. If identifying data or images are deemed essential to the manuscript and included, the manuscript must be accompanied by a signed release form from the patient/volunteer or person authorized to give consent, which permits publication in both print and electronic versions of the specific journal to which you are submitting your manuscript. The form can be downloaded from the "Instructions & Forms" section on the "Author Instructions" page.

The standards to which animal studies must adhere are detailed in *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* (Institute for Laboratory Animal Research, National Research Council. Washington, DC: National Academy Press, 1996). When reporting experiments on animals, indicate that the study was performed in accordance with those standards and provide enough information to show clearly that the animals were handled in a humane fashion.

Editorial Board members reserve the right to judge the appropriateness of studies involving humans and animals. See **Special Considerations** for additional information on submitting manuscripts on experiments involving animals, studies involving humans, and patient confidentiality.

As a condition of publication, authors must agree to share the methods, materials, and data necessary to reproduce laboratory experiments and clinical trials and to verify their study's results. See *Sharing of Resources and Data* in **Special Considerations**.

**Results:** In the **Results** section concisely summarize the study findings, listing them in the order established in the **Methods** section. The **Results** section should be devoted solely to the findings of the current report and not refer to previous investigations.

**Discussion:** In the *Discussion* section concisely emphasize major findings of the study and their significance. Do not repeat information presented in the *Methods* and *Results* 

sections. It is important in the *Discussion* section to use subheadings so that the reader can follow the authors' train of thought.

**Conclusions:** In the *Conclusions* section restate the major findings of the study and address these findings' potential clinical implications and/or applications.

Acknowledgments: This section provides a place to acknowledge people who have contributed to the study but do not fulfill all the criteria for authorship (see Authors and Contributors in Special Considerations). Examples include lab technicians, data collectors, and medical editors. It is particularly important to include any employees from sponsoring agencies or industries who have contributed to the work. Specify what type of contribution each person made to the study. The corresponding author must obtain written permission from contributors prior to including their names in this section AND must be able to furnish the Editorial Office with this permission if requested.

**Disclosure:** Include a section in the paper in which you state whether a potential **conflict of interest**—financial, personal, or professional—exists or could be construed as existing. If no conflict of interest exists or is specified, a *Disclosure* section will be added to the manuscript with the following statement: "The authors report no conflict of interest concerning the materials or methods used in this study or the findings specified in this paper."

Figure Legends: Authors must include figure legends to accompany their figures. These legends should not repeat information found within the text. Instead, legends should state what type of figure is shown (for example, magnetic resonance image, Northern blot, photomicrograph, or bar graph), important features or findings in the figure, and definitions of abbreviations and/or labels. Descriptions of the figure should be given in the present tense. Legends accompanying photomicrographs must list the staining technique used and the original magnification (for example, "Masson trichrome, original magnification × 200"). Figures containing electron micrographs should contain a bar and a legend that indicates the distance that bar represents (for example, "Bar = 5 μm.") or a statement specifying the original magnification. The figure legends should be placed at the end of the manuscript following the Reference section.

#### FORMATTING FOR OTHER TYPES OF ARTICLES

Case Reports: These articles focus on 5 cases or fewer. Major sections include Introduction (not titled), Case Report(s), and Discussion. There is generally no Conclusions section. Inclusion of subheadings in the Case Report(s) section (such as History, Examination, Operation, Pathological Findings, and Postoperative Course) are encouraged. All other submission and formatting requirements apply.

Case Illustrations: These short (250 word limit), 1-page articles focus on interesting aspects of a case and generally do not include a discussion of the literature. Case illustrations are limited to the following: 1) a title not to exceed 55 characters including spaces; 2) a concise statement/paragraph outlining the purpose of the investigation and the principal findings or conclusions (a total of 250 words or

fewer); an abstract, tables, and subheadings are **not** acceptable; 3) a maximum of 5 references; and 4) a maximum of 4 figure parts. All other submission and formatting requirements apply. **Note:** Do not exceed the word and figure part limitations.

Technical Notes, Literature Reviews, Historical Vignettes, Obituaries, Etc.: Authors should supply an Abstract, Introduction, Methods section (if appropriate), and additional sections as needed. All other submission and formatting requirements apply, and there is no word limit for these article types. Note: The JNSPG only publishes obituaries for former Editors and Editorial Board members.

#### REFERENCES

All references must be alphabetized by the first author's last name and cited in text in superscripted numbers. The first six author names should be listed and followed by "et al" if appropriate. Abbreviations should conform to the style of MEDLINE. Acceptable references are those published and considered "widely available." If the references are not properly formatted, the manuscript will be returned to you for correction.

The following items should **not** be included in the *Reference* section:

- software
- equipment manuals/drug information
- secondary citations

Items that are **not** acceptable in the *Reference* section and must be cited in the text as unpublished data include:

• proceedings, posters, and presentations from meetings unless they have been published in a journal or book of abstracts — cite in parentheses in text with meeting information

example: (Gilbertson S, Ischebeck W: Music therapy in neurosurgical rehabilitation. Paper presented at the First International Conference on Neurosurgical Rehabilitation, World Federation of Neurosurgical Societies, Münster, Germany, July 8, 1999)

• personal communications — cite the name of the person in parentheses along with the year in which the communication occurred (Note: The corresponding author must obtain written permission from persons listed here AND must be able to furnish the Editorial Office with this permission if requested.)

example: (T Jones, personal communication, 2012)

• manuscripts or a portion of the data therein that have been submitted to a journal, but not yet accepted

example: (T Jones et al., unpublished data)

#### Verification

Although authors are responsible for the content of their references, it is our policy to verify the completeness and accuracy of all references. This occurs during the editing process. If a reference is unavailable to us, we will contact you and request a copy for verification. To avoid delays in the publication of a manuscript, these requests must be answered in a timely manner. If you cannot provide the requested verification, the reference will be removed. **Note:** Please ensure that **ALL** references cited in the paper are included in the *Reference* section, including references that are cited only in tables.

#### Examples of Appropriate Reference Styling

*Journal:* Coubes P, Cif L, El Fertit H, Hemm S, Vayssiere S, Picot MC, et al: Electrical stimulation of the globus pallidus internus in patients with primary generalized dystonia: long-term results. **J Neurosurg 101:**189–194, 2004

<u>Abstract:</u> Maldaun MV, Suki D, Lang FF, Prabhu S, Shi W, Fuller GN, et al: Cystic glioblastoma multiforme: survival outcomes in 22 cases. **J Neurosurg 100:**61–67, 2004 (Abstract)

<u>Letter:</u> King JT Jr: Doppler ultrasound prediction of ischemic deficit. **J Neurosurg 81:**503, 1994 (Letter)

Foreign Language Journal: Tomita H, Urui S, Kokunai T, Tamaki N: [A case of metastatic tumor of the pituitary gland presenting as a subarachnoid hemorrhage.] No Shinkei Geka 28:1117–1120, 2000 (Jpn)

<u>Authored Book:</u> Jefferson G: **The Invasive Adenomas of the Anterior Pituitary.** Springfield, IL: Charles C Thomas, 1995, pp 56–60

Article or Chapter in an Edited Book: Bloodworth JMB Jr, Kovacs K, Horvath E: Light and electron microscopy of pituitary tumors, in Linfoot JA (ed): **Recent Advances in the Diagnosis and Treatment of Pituitary Tumors.** New York: Raven Press, 1979, pp 141–159

*Article in an Edited Book With Volume:* Crocker DW: The pituitary gland, in Coulson WF (ed): **Surgical Pathology.** Philadelphia: JB Lippincott, 1978, Vol 2, pp 879–898

Article in an Edited Book With Edition and Volume: Day AL, Rhoton AL Jr: Aneurysms and arteriovenous fistulae of the intracavernous carotid artery and its branches, in Youmans JR (ed): **Neurological Surgery, ed 2.** Philadelphia: WB Saunders, 1982, Vol 3, pp 1764–1785

Article in an Edited Book Within a Series: Worth RM, Markand ON, DeRosa GP, Warren GH: Intraoperative somatosensory evoked response monitoring during spinal cord surgery, in Courjon J, Mauguière F, Revol M (eds): Clinical Applications of Evoked Potentials in Neurology. Advances in Neurology, Vol 22. New York: Raven Press, 1982, pp 367–373

Entire Edited Book: Suzuki J (ed): Cerebral Aneurysms. Experiences with 1000 Directly Operated Cases. Tokyo: Neuron, 1979

Website Article: Office for National Statistics (UK): **Health** expectancy: living longer, more years in poor health. Newport, UK: Office for National Statistics, 2004 (http://www.statistics.gov.uk/CCI/nugget.asp?ID=934&Pos=3&ColRank=2&Rank=512) [Accessed January 11, 2013]

Neurosurgical Focus: Cohen DB: Infectious origins of cauda equina syndrome. Neurosurg Focus 16(6):E2, 2004

Journal in which article was published online ahead of print: Albanese E, Russo A, Quiroga M, Willis RN Jr, Mericle RA, Ulm AJ: Ultrahigh-dose intraarterial infusion of verapamil through an indwelling microcatheter for medically refractory severe vasospasm: initial experience. Clinical article. J Neurosurg [epub ahead of print October 30, 2009. DOI: 10.3171/2009.9.JNS0997]

<u>Podcast:</u> Minimally Invasive Spinal Surgery. Paul Park interviewed by Praveen Mummaneni. **Neurosurg Focus** August 2008: http://thejns.org/action/showNews?type=podcast

#### **TABLES**

Tables should be created using the table formatting and editing feature of Microsoft Word (using "Insert Table"). Tables must be editable; graphic objects cannot

be edited in Word and will not be accepted. The data in tables should be presented as cell-based, with the appropriate number of columns and rows. Tabs should not be used within cells, or in place of columns. **Note:** We are unable to format tables imported into Microsoft Word as PICT files. We are also unable to accept tables created in Excel or other spreadsheet programs, or tables created in PowerPoint or other presentation programs.

Tables should be grouped into 1 file with each table on its own page; **do not** submit tables as separate files or as part of the manuscript file. Cite all tables in text and number them accordingly. Each table must have a title, and any abbreviations used (including symbols) should be defined in the table legend and listed in alphabetical order. Correct scientific notation should be used for all numerical data.

Literature Review Tables: For tables that provide a review of the literature, references should be listed in the first (left) column by first author's last name, et al. (if necessary), and the year of publication. Do not use numbers to cite references in the table. All references listed in a literature review table must also be listed in the *Reference* section of the manuscript. See the literature review example table on page 14.

#### **FIGURES**

To ensure the highest-quality reproduction of your figures, please carefully follow these instructions. Examples of publication-quality figures are given on pages 12–13. **Note:** It is the responsibility of the authors to provide publication-quality, high-resolution images with their revision submission or at the request of the Editorial Office. The JNSPG is not responsible for the quality of images in print if the figures do not meet our requirements. If you have questions, please consult a graphics specialist.

File Requirements: Acceptable formats include TIFF, JPEG, and GIF (GIF files are low resolution and should be used for peer-review submissions only). If saving as JPEG, ensure that compression has been set for maximum quality (minimal compression). Each figure should be submitted as a separate file, with the figure number as the file name (i.e. Fig1.jpg). Figures with more than 1 part should be combined by the authors in the correct orientation. Letters should only be used to designate figure parts for figures with more than 2 parts.

The submission website will not accept certain file types; please verify that the PDF conversion of your digital figures is identical to the uploaded images.

*Peer-Review Submission:* Low-resolution images (no greater than 150 DPI) should be uploaded for initial review purposes.

Publication Submission: High-resolution images should be submitted *only* if the Editor requests them after the initial peer review. Please submit full-size files that conform to the following specifications. **Note:** If the original figures are low resolution, changing the DPI to a higher resolution **will not** improve the quality of the image. Original figures should be created or scanned by the author at a publication-quality resolution.

**Resolution:** The quality of resolution is essential in the reproduction of your figures. Please submit full-size files at the following resolutions: line art at 1200 DPI; color,

grayscale with type, or color/grayscale with type combination at 600 DPI; and grayscale without type at 300 DPI. Images should be at least 6.5 inches in width (40 picas/16 cm). **Note:** When creating or scanning original figures, the figures should be publication size and meet the resolution requirements for publication. The DPI should be lowered for new submissions only; authors should retain the original high-resolution images for publication if the manuscript is accepted.

Color Mode: Color files should be supplied in CMYK color. Images supplied in RGB color mode will also be accepted, but authors should note that the RGB color space is significantly larger than the process CMYK color space. Therefore, depending on the content of the image, color shifts may occur during conversion if colors in the original image are outside the process CMYK gamut. Whenever possible, all images, whether RGB or CMYK, should have an ICC profile applied. If RGB figures are submitted, they will be converted to CMYK.

Charge for Printing Color Figures: There is no charge for inclusion of black and white figures in the print version of the paper or for inclusion of color figures in the online version. The charge for inclusion of color figures in the print version of the paper is \$400 per figure. Authors who wish to include color figures in the print version of their paper should complete and sign the Color Payment Agreement form.

**Note:** An invoice for the inclusion of color figures in print will be sent to the corresponding author before publication of the article. Payment is due upon receipt of the invoice and publication of the article will not proceed until the JNSPG has received payment.

*Fonts:* Acceptable fonts are Arial, Helvetica, Times/Times New Roman, Symbol (for mathematical symbols & Greek letters only), and Mathematical Pi (for mathematical symbols & Greek letters only).

Please check all figures carefully for spelling errors. If there are spelling errors that the production department cannot correct, the figure will be returned to the author for correction.

Letters: Capitalized letters should be used to designate figure parts in images that have more than 2 panels. The letters should be placed in the lower left corner of each panel. If there are only 2 panels, please use "upper" and "lower" or "left" and "right" to designate figure parts in the figure legend. Note: If letters designating each part are the only text in the figure and the figure is a grayscale image, the DPI does not need to be 600 (300 is sufficient).

*Symbols:* Any symbol used in a figure, including arrows or arrowheads, should be explained or defined in the legend. If abbreviations are used in a figure, the abbreviation should be defined in the legend.

*Graphs:* Please label the x and y axes.

Photographs: In general remove all information that can lead to identification of study participants. If a photograph can lead to the identification of a participant, the person must sign the Patient Consent form (available on the submission websites' "Author Instructions" page in the "Instructions & Forms" section). If the person is younger than 18 years of age, infirm, or dead, an authorized person must sign the form. See Studies Involving

*Humans* in **Special Considerations** for more information. Signed consent forms should be faxed or emailed to the Editorial Office, or uploaded with submission files.

Electron Micrographs and Photomicrographs: Electron micrographs should contain measurement bars that indicate the original magnification. Photomicrographs must be accompanied by a legend stating their original magnification and the type of staining method used.

Cover Illustrations: Submissions of art to be considered as a cover illustration must be labeled as such and should be rendered using the same criteria as figures used in the article. Please include a short legend for the cover submission. If the cover illustration is in color and is chosen, there is a \$500 charge. The Editor-in-Chief chooses the cover image and the corresponding author will be notified at a later date.

*Original Figures:* As a condition of acceptance of a paper in a JNSPG journal, authors are required to assign, transfer, and convey all copyright ownership of previously unpublished figures (photographs, flowcharts, and other images) to the AANS by completing and signing the Copyright Assignment form.

*Original Artwork:* If an author wishes to include with his or her submission original artwork produced by an independent medical illustrator, a visual arts company, or an art division of the author's institution, the author must first obtain permission from the copyright holder by using the Original Artwork Agreement form (found in the "Instructions & Forms" section of the "Author Instructions" page).

#### **VIDEOS**

Video Clips Accompanying an Article: Short video clips may take the place of a figure in an article. These clips are treated similarly to original artwork: the copyright holder is allowed to retain copyright and should sign and return the Short Video Clip Permission Request form (found in the "Instructions & Forms" section of the "Author Instructions" page). Video clips must be a minimum of 10 seconds in length, and should not be longer than 5 minutes.

#### Specifications for videos\*

file formats	mov or mp4
running time	minimum 10 sec; maximum 5 min†
video codec	H.264
resolution	max 480 × 360
frame rate	30 fps
video bitrate	500 Kbps
audio codec	AAC-LC
audio channels	2 (stereo)
audio bitrate	128 Kbps

<sup>\*</sup> The JNSPG is not responsible for the quality of videos that do not meet these requirements and does not guarantee that videos will play on all mobile devices, especially Android version 3.0 and older.

<sup>†</sup> The running time applies to videos that accompany articles. Video articles published in *Neurosurgical Focus* have a maximum running time of 15 minutes.

*Video Article:* Occasionally *Neurosurgical Focus* offers issues composed in part or in whole of longer videos, which serve as stand-alone articles. In this case, the videos are treated as articles and as such, copyright to them must be transferred to the AANS. A special Copyright Assignment for Videos can be found in the "Instructions & Forms" section of the "Author Instructions" page. The maximum time limit is 15 minutes for these videos. Video articles must be new work and not published elsewhere.

Patient consent must be obtained for *all* videos. Please use the Patient Consent form found in the "Instructions & Forms" section of the "Author Instructions" page.

Video Clip Preparation: Preferred file formats are mov or mp4. If no audio track exists in the video, please create a blank track for production purposes; this simplifies conversion to all streaming formats. Please include a legend and citation in the text for each video clip. Note: file size limit is 35 MB due to server capacity. If you have questions, please consult an audiovisual professional for assistance.

#### Previously Published Figures, Tables, and Videos

If a figure or table has been published earlier in a non-JNSPG journal or book or a video has been distributed, the authors must obtain signed permission from the copyright owner (if a copyright is in effect) to reproduce the figure, table, or video in the appropriate JNSPG journal. (A reference chart showing copyright terms in the US can be found at <a href="http://www.copyright.cornell.edu/resources/public domain.cfm">http://www.copyright.cornell.edu/resources/public domain.cfm</a>.) The copyright owner must be asked to grant nonexclusive worldwide rights for all languages and media and for all future editions. Signed permission forms must be forwarded to the JNSPG office before the manuscript can be accepted. A Permission Request–Previously Published form, found in the "Instructions & Forms" section of the "Author Instructions" page, can be used to obtain permission from other publishers.

Permission to include figures, tables, or videos previously published in a JNSPG journal *and* copyrighted by the AANS will be granted without need for a formal request on manuscript acceptance.

#### ADDITIONAL FORMS FOR SUBMISSION

Copies of these forms may be accessed from the "Instructions & Forms" section on the "Author Instructions" page on the submission websites. Completed forms must include the manuscript number and title. The signed forms can be submitted to the JNSPG Editorial Office by mail, fax, email, or uploaded with submission files.

The Copyright Assignment and Conflict of Interest forms will be available in electronic form on the submission sites. If the Editor has requested a revision of your manuscript, each manuscript author will receive a link to these forms. **Note:** It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to verify that all of the coauthors' emails are valid in the submission site.

If an author is deceased prior to publication of the manuscript, we require that next of kin complete the Copyright Assignment and Conflict of Interest forms on behalf of the deceased author.

*Copyright Assignment:* All authors should read this form carefully. Authors who are not employed by the US govern-

ment are required to assign copyright for their work (manuscript, tables, and images) to the American Association of Neurosurgeons (AANS), publisher of the JNSPG journals. Authors employed by the US government at the time of the study described in the manuscript are not required to transfer copyright but are required to sign their agreement to other statements on the US Federal Government Employee Copyright Assignment form. A link to this electronic form is emailed to each author upon the Editor's decision.

Conflict of Interest Form: Authors are required to read the JNSPG Policy on Conflict of Interest and to complete the Conflict of Interest form. A link to this electronic form is emailed to each author upon the Editor's decision.

Patient Consent: In situations in which images or data included with a submission can lead to the identification of a study participant (patient or healthy volunteer), signed permission must be obtained from the study participant or responsible parent or guardian/next of kin (if the patient/volunteer is under the age of 18 years). Signed permission forms must also be obtained for all video clips and video articles in which a patient appears, regardless of whether the patient can be identified. **Note:** These forms must be received in the Editorial Office with the initial manuscript submission.

Color Payment Agreement: Black and white figures are printed without charge. Authors wishing to include color figures in the **print version** of their paper must complete and sign the Color Payment Agreement form. The JNSPG will email you an invoice well in advance of publication. Please note that payment for color figures is due on receipt of the invoice and must be received before publication of your article. If an author wants figures to appear in color in the online version and black and white in the print version, this will be done without charge.

#### ADDITIONAL SUBMISSIONS

#### **Continuing Medical Education Questions**

Authors are required to send in Continuing Medical Education (CME) questions with their submission for *Neurosurgical Focus* only. Please provide 4 CME questions (either true/false or multiple choice) in a separate Microsoft Word document. Be sure to include the correct answer to each question.

#### Additional Material for Reviewers

Authors are allowed to upload additional material for reviewers or the Editor that is not considered part of the manuscript. Additional material may include figures (low-resolution files [< 150 DPI]), prepress copies of articles cited in the *Reference* section, or previously published articles related to the submitted manuscript. Only 1 additional file for reviewers or the Editor is allowed per submission.

#### Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor commenting on articles recently published in the *Journal of Neurosurgery*, *Journal of Neurosurgery*: *Pediatrics*, and *Journal of Neurosurgery*: *Spine* are welcome. Letters should be submitted as a Microsoft Word document and refer to the title and authors of the published article. Figures and tables are permitted; please follow the previous instructions for proper formatting. References should also be formatted according to the instruc-

tions for manuscripts. **Note:** Please include the article that you are commenting on in the *Reference* section as well as in the opening paragraph of your letter.

The authors' names and affiliations should be listed at the foot of the letter, with 1 author designated as the corresponding author. Please include the complete mailing address, phone and fax numbers, and email address of the corresponding author.

Letters and any accompanying figures or tables should be submitted on the manuscript submission website. Letters to the Editor and Responses are printed at the Editor's discretion in the *Neurosurgical Forum* section of the appropriate JNSPG journal.

#### Notices

Items to be considered for inclusion in the *Notices* section of the JNSPG website should be emailed to the Editorial Office (jneuro@thejns.org) for the Editor's approval. Items published in this section include meetings, courses and symposia, and fellowship and grant opportunities.

#### AFTER MANUSCRIPT ACCEPTANCE

After the manuscript has been accepted, the corresponding author must be available to respond to questions that may arise during editing and composition. Please make sure that your email address is correct and that you check your email regularly. Advise the Editorial Office of any changes in your email address or phone and fax numbers.

#### **Podcast Synopsis**

The JNSPG publishes a podcast that accompanies the weekly publication of online ahead-of-print articles for the *Journal of Neurosurgery* and *Journal of Neurosurgery*: *Spine*. The podcast consists of a synopsis of some of the articles that are included in this weekly online publication.

After acceptance of your manuscript, you will receive an email solicting a synopsis for the podcast. Participation is optional. Each synopsis is edited and read aloud by a JNSPG staff member.

Tips for writing your synopsis: The synopsis should be written in the third person, should not exceed 200 words, and should not simply be your abstract. The goal is to provide a succinct summary of the important points of your manuscript that will interest the listener in reading the article. Keep in mind that people will be listening to the podcast, so keep symbols and abbreviations to a minimum. It will also help if you read the synopsis aloud to yourself (or have someone read it to you).

#### Page Proofs

Page proofs in a PDF file will be available to authors for review and correction. Corrections or approval of the proofs must be returned by email within 48 hours of receipt. We cannot guarantee the inclusion of corrections received after the 48-hour deadline. **Note:** It is our policy that your manuscript is substantively edited and complies with JNSPG style. Stylistic changes cannot be made at this time. In addition, last-minute rewrites or substantial alterations to the *Results* and *Conclusions* sections may require an additional review by the Editor and the Editorial Board, and thereby cause a significant delay in the publication of the manuscript.

#### Reprints

The reprint order form is available on the JNSPG homepage by clicking on the "Reprints and Permissions" link and on the "Author Instructions" page of the submission websites in the "Instructions & Forms" section. This form will also be made available to authors when they receive an email notification for accessing their page proofs.

The Editorial Office does not accept reprint orders; all inquires regarding reprints should be directed to Lori Laughman at Sheridan Reprints (phone: 800-352-2210 ext. 8134; email: llaughman@tsp.sheridan.com).

#### SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

#### **Authors and Contributors**

Authorship: The JNSPG agrees with the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) that authorship should reflect all 3 of the following criteria:

- "substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data"
- "drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content"
- "final approval of the version to be published" (Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publication (http://www.icmje.org). Listed authors are held responsible for their contributions to the paper and must sign the Copyright Assignment form.

Membership of an author in the AANS has no bearing on whether the review of a manuscript will be favorable or unfavorable. No author receives preferential treatment.

Addition or removal of an author's name during peer review or manuscript production must be approved in writing by **all** authors. Any change in the order of authors listed should also be approved in this manner. Forms for the addition and removal of an author and a change in author order may be accessed on the submission websites' "Author Information" page in the "Instructions & Forms" section.

If an author is deceased at the time of submission, this should be noted and the person who inherited copyright (usually the author's next of kin) should complete the Copyright Assignment and Conflict of Interest forms on the deceased author's behalf.

Excessive authorship is not viewed favorably by the Editor-in-Chief or the Editorial Board members.

*Group Authorship:* For very large studies (for example, multisite or multinational clinical trials) involving numerous researchers/clinicians, 1 or more investigators should be selected to represent the group, write the manuscript, and take responsibility for the contents of the manuscript. These authors should fulfill all three criteria for authorship listed earlier and must sign the Copyright Assignment form. Their names should be listed according to the authors' preference and followed by the phrase "on behalf of the [name of the study group]." The other researchers/clinicians in the group should be listed with their affiliations in an *Appendix*.

Authors of Manuscripts on Clinical Trials: Authors describing the results of clinical trials must report all pertinent data related to the trials. Authors of studies sponsored by the manufacturer of a drug or surgical device must state in their submission letter that they were

given total access to all data and data analyses, and that the manufacturer had no influence on what material is reported in the manuscript.

Corresponding Author: The corresponding author is guarantor for the integrity of the study and manuscript and represents all authors when dealing with the Editor and staff members of the JNSPG. During the peer-review process, this person is responsible for communicating to all authors the reviewers' comments and, if revised text is requested, ensuring that all authors approve all revised versions of the manuscript prior to resubmission. If the manuscript is accepted, the corresponding author will be asked to respond to questions arising during the editing and composition of the manuscript, and to approve page proofs prior to publication. All correspondence from the Editorial Office is sent via email; it is imperative that the accurate email addresses are provided for all authors.

Other Contributors: Some persons contribute to a study or to writing the results but do not fulfill all the criteria for authorship. Examples include lab technicians, data collectors, and medical editors. These individuals and the part they played in the project should be mentioned in the Acknowledgments section. The corresponding author must obtain written permission from contributors before including their names in the Acknowledgments section and be ready to provide this if requested by the Editorial Office.

#### Originality of Work and Attribution to Other Works Quoted or Paraphrased

The JNSPG encourages submission of work that has not been previously published in whole or in part. Although we recognize that often a study is built upon work done in a previous project, duplicate publication (publication of material that **substantially overlaps** material already published in print or electronically) must be avoided. Authors must notify the Editor-in-Chief at the time of submission if some of the manuscript's content may be considered duplicate publication. All such content should display clear reference to the previous work and any text that is identical to that in the previous work should be surrounded by quotation marks. Authors must upload a copy of the previous work at the time of submission or at the request of the reviewers (see *Additional Material for Reviewers* in **Additional Submissions**).

Work published in a brief abstract or presented at a scientific meeting or in a webcast is not considered duplicate publication and may be submitted to JNSPG journals. The JNSPG considers deposit of a manuscript on a preprint server (such as *Nature Precedings*) to be prior publication and will not allow submission of such papers.

Material from works of others may be paraphrased or quoted as long as the original work is referenced. If a long quote (more than 200 words) is included, the author should seek permission from the copyright owner to include the quote. If you paraphrase, check with a writing style book to ensure that the paraphrasing is sufficient to avoid copyright infringement.

#### Suspicion of Scientific Misconduct

If scientific misconduct is suspected or alleged in connection with an unpublished or published manuscript, the JNSPG reserves the right to forward that manuscript to an

appropriate authority (such as the authors' institution[s] or the study's funding agency[ies]) for investigation. The JNSPG will not take an active part in the investigation but may take action after the investigation has been closed (such as retraction of a published article if scientific misconduct is proven).

#### Sharing of Resources and Data

As a condition of publication, authors must agree to share the methods and materials necessary to reproduce laboratory experiments and clinical trials described in JNSPG journals. Also required is sharing of data necessary to verify and build on the results of these studies. As far as possible, free access to methods, materials, and data must be given to interested parties who wish to use them for academic, noncommercial research.

Methods: Manuscripts should provide the reader with a sufficient description of the methods used in the study to replicate the study. If the methods have previously been published in another article or book, that publication must be cited and a brief description of the methods provided in the manuscript. This brief description should contain enough information for the reader to understand the methods used. If additional information on methods would be beneficial to replicate the experiment and is too vast for a Methods section or Appendix, the author should make it available for use by other researchers via an accessible database, personal/professional website, email, or other means.

*Materials:* Authors are expected to freely share materials generated in their laboratories, such as cell lines, reagents, and other items that are not readily available, to persons involved in academic, noncommercial research. If the authors do not have direct access to materials used in their studies, they should identify the source in the paper so that the reader can contact the provider directly.

**Data:** Authors must make their data available to other academic, noncommercial researchers insofar as possible, taking into account that special consideration may be required when patient confidentiality is involved.

Authors must make high-resolution structural data and nucleotide sequences available. See *Other Considerations*.

Clinical trials and studies involving microarrays must be registered and the registry name and number must be specified in the manuscript and in the appropriate place in the manuscript submission site. See *Studies Involving Humans* for additional information.

#### Studies Involving Humans

Studies involving patients or healthy volunteers described in manuscripts submitted to the JNSPG must adhere to the principles set forth in the *US Code of Federal Regulations, Title 45, Part 46, Protection of Human Subjects, revised January 15, 2009* (http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/humansubjects/guidance/45cfr46.html) and the World Medical Association *Declaration of Helsinki* (http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/index.html). Authors should insert a statement in the *Methods* section of the manuscript that the protocol followed adheres to these principles.

*IRB Approval*: A statement must be included in the *Methods* section of the manuscript showing that the rel-

evant institutional review board (IRB) or ethics committee approved the study protocol. The human subjects assurance number or equivalent identifier must be entered into the JNSPG manuscript submission site when preparing to upload the manuscript.

Informed Consent: A statement must be included in the Methods section of the manuscript showing that informed consent was obtained from the study participant (patient or healthy volunteer) or, in the case of an underage (younger than 18 years of age) or incapacitated participant, from the person authorized to give consent (for example, the guardian or next of kin).

Clinical Trials: The JNSPG agrees with the ICMJE that all interventional clinical trials should be registered. A study is considered an interventional clinical trial if it is a prospective study involving at least 1 treatment group and 1 comparison group receiving another treatment or no treatment. The registration number of the clinical trial and the name and URL of the registry where it can be found should be included in the Methods section of the manuscript and at the end of the Abstract. Effective January 1, 2008, all such clinical trials must be registered before patient enrollment or the JNSPG cannot accept manuscripts for review. For studies begun before that date, we will accept retrospective registration (registration after patient enrollment) prior to manuscript submission. We do not endorse a particular trial registry, but the one chosen should provide the minimal registration data set outlined by the ICMJE (http://www. icmje.org/publishing\_10register.html).

Authors must specify sources of funding for the clinical trial in their manuscripts. To assist in reporting the results of randomized trials, we suggest that authors refer to the Revised CONSORT Statement and follow the design of the CONSORT flow chart and the checklist of items to include in such a report (http://www.consort-statement.org/consort-statement/).

#### Confidentiality of Patient Identity

Names and Identifiers: No names, initials, dates of birth, social security numbers, or other coding numbers that could lead the reader to identify patients or healthy volunteers should be included in the manuscript's text, figures, and tables, and in any material submitted for ancillary publication online. In addition, specific dates of hospital stay should be deleted prior to manuscript submission; month and year are allowed when showing the time course of a disease or treatment.

Photographs, Imaging Studies, and Videos: Do not include a photograph or imaging data that could lead to the identification of a study participant (patient or healthy volunteer). Masking out eyes in a photograph is not sufficient without the patient's consent; the rule of thumb is that participants viewing photographs should not be able to readily identify themselves. Patient/volunteer names, identifying numbers, and dates of imaging studies should be blackened on all images. In videos every attempt should be made to avoid any video shot or data that could be used to identify the patient, regardless of the fact that patient consent for filming has been obtained.

**Pedigrees:** Unique pedigrees should be disguised (by reporting less specific data) if there is a possibility that family members could be identified. However, less specific

data should only be reported if it does not compromise the scientific integrity of the report. The authors should state in their paper that some specific data have been omitted to protect patient confidentiality, but this omission does not compromise the scientific integrity of the report.

Exceptions—When Use of Identifiers Is Necessary: Occasionally, recognizable images or other identifiable data are integral components of an article. In such cases, before manuscript submission, written approval of publication (in print and electronic forms) of identifiable information in a JNSPG journal must be obtained from the study participant or, in the case of a participant who is younger than 18 years of age or incapacitated or deceased, the guardian or next of kin, respectively.

#### **Studies Involving Animals**

The care and use of animals in laboratory investigations reported in JNSPG journals must be humane and comply with the guidelines established in Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (Institute for Laboratory Animal Research, National Research Council. Washington, DC: National Academy Press, 1996; available online at http://www.nap.edu/openbook.php?record\_id=5140) and with federal, state/province, and local laws and regulations. Investigators should clearly state in the *Methods* section of the manuscript how many animals were used; how they were housed, fed, and treated during the procedure(s); what kind and amount of sedation- or anesthesia-inducing agent was used; and how the animals were killed if applicable. Approval of the study protocol by the local institutional animal care and use committee (IACUC) or equivalent must be obtained before commencement of all experiments, and the IACUC approval number or equivalent must be entered into the JNSPG manuscript submission site.

#### Other Considerations

Studies Involving Microarrays: Accession numbers and repository names must be clearly stated in the manuscript. Publications involving microarray experiments should conform to MIAME (minimum information about a microarray experiment) standards (http://www.mged.org/Workgroups/MIAME/miame.html).

Studies Involving High-Resolution Structural Data and Nucleotide Sequences: Authors are required to make high-resolution structural data and nucleotide sequences available through accessible databases such as the Protein Data Bank (http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/home/home.do) and database members of the International Nucleotide Sequence Database Collaboration (GenBank, the European Molecular Biology Laboratory [EMBL], and the DNA DataBank of Japan [DDBJ]; http://www.insdc.org/). Accession numbers and repository names must be clearly stated in the manuscript.

Studies Involving Embryonic Human Stem Cells: Research involving embryonic human stem cells will be included in JNSPG publications if the studies were conducted in accordance with applicable national, state/province, and local laws and regulations regarding such activities. A statement should be made in the Methods section of the manuscript showing adherence to such laws and regulations.

Studies Involving Recombinant DNA: Studies involving the use of recombinant DNA/gene transfer must adhere

to the principles set forth in the *Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules* issued from the US National Institutes of Health (http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-02-052.html) and abide by all local laws and regulations. Authors should insert statements in the *Methods* section of the manuscript that clearly show that the protocols followed adhere to these principles and regulations.

*Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses:* If you are writing a systematic review or meta-analysis, we suggest that you review the PRISMA Statement (http://www.prismastatement.org/statement.htm) beforehand.

#### PRESS RELEASES

At times an article is selected for a press release from the JNSPG. The corresponding author will be approached and asked if the authors would like the JNSPG to publicize their work.

Press releases are posted under embargo (see *Embargo Policy*) on websites available to scientific/medical reporters. Press releases may also be sent to specialty groups, blogs, or websites at the request of the author or at the discretion of the JNSPG after the embargo has been lifted.

Authors must be willing to speak with reporters if asked and should provide contact information that can be passed on to reporters. Authors should also provide contact information for their institution's public relations or communications department.

A press release from the JNSPG does not preclude publicity generated by the authors' institution. Ideally, the communications manager at the JNSPG will work in conjunction with personnel at the authors' institution to publicize the article. If the institution or author prefers to publicize the work alone, the JNSPG will not issue a press release.

#### **EMBARGO POLICY**

All contents of accepted manuscripts and the proposed dates of their publication are strictly confidential. Authors may not release this information to news media and none of the information may appear in print or electronic form, or on television or radio, before articles appear online on the JNSPG website or are mailed in print form in a JNSPG

journal. Presentation of data from manuscripts may be presented to and discussed with other clinicians/researchers as long as the preceding conditions are met. For additional information, please email <a href="mailto:jneuro@thejns.org">jneuro@thejns.org</a> using the subject heading "Embargo Policy."

In addition to embargoes imposed by the JNSPG, authors should adhere to any external embargoes on the contents of their manuscripts or data used to produce the manuscript. A manuscript should not be submitted to a JNSPG journal unless all contents of the manuscript are free from a restriction that would prohibit the manuscript's prompt publication if accepted.

#### JNSPG DISCLAIMER

The AANS, JNSPG, and Editors cannot be held responsible for the views and opinions expressed by individual authors of articles published in print in JNSPG journals or online at <a href="http://thejns.org">http://thejns.org</a>. The publication of advertisements does not constitute any endorsement of products by the AANS, JNSPG, or Editors.

By submitting your manuscript for review by the JNSPG you acknowledge that the JNSPG has the right to check the manuscript for plagiarism and, at our discretion, to refer any detected infractions that we deem appropriate. All submissions are screened by iThenticate® Professional Plagiarism Prevention.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Editorial Office

Journal of Neurosurgery Publishing Group One Morton Drive, Suite 200 Charlottesville, VA 22903

phone: 434-924-5503; fax: 434-924-2702

email: jneuro@thejns.org (for inquiries regarding submis-

sion or a manuscript under review)

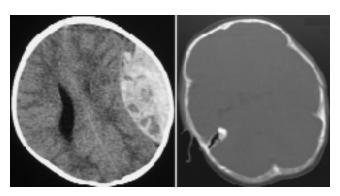
production@thejns.org (for inquiries regarding an accepted or published manuscript)

Permissions

contact: Gillian Shasby email: permissions@thejns.org https://thejns.org/action/permissions

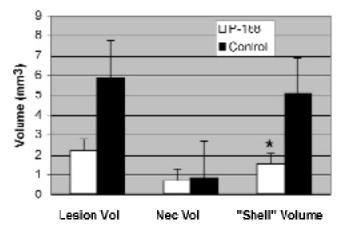
#### FIGURE AND TABLE EXAMPLES

## 2-PART GRAYSCALE FIGURE. DPI: 300.



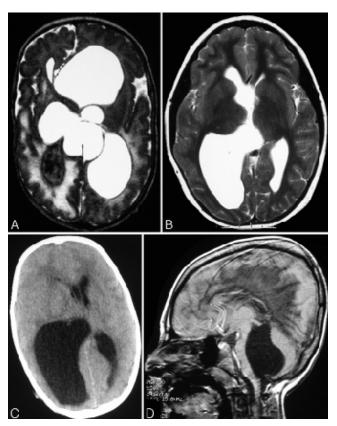
This figure does not need letters to designate each part because it only has 2 parts, which will be referred to in the text and legend as *Left* and *Right*.

# GRAYSCALE GRAPH. DPI: 600.

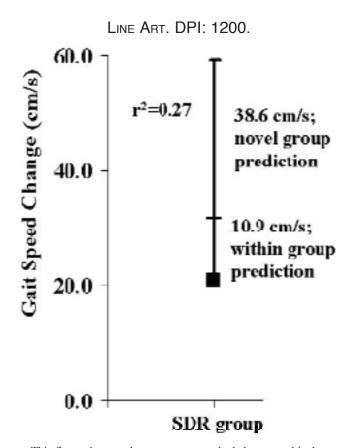


This figure is considered grayscale and **not** line art because of the gray shaded area. The DPI is 600 because of the text in the figure.

#### 4-PART GRAYSCALE FIGURE. DPI: 300.



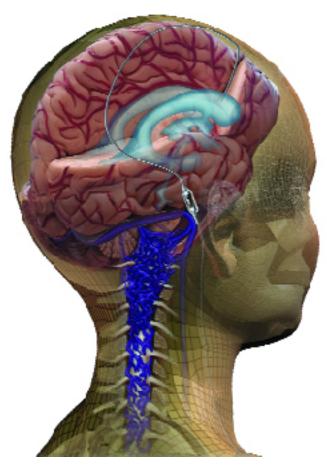
This figure needs letters to designate each part because there are more than 2 parts. Letters should be placed in the lower left corner of each panel (if possible) and should be in one of the permissable fonts. A DPI of 300 is sufficient because designating letters are the only text in the image.



This figure does not have any gray or shaded areas and is therefore considered line art.

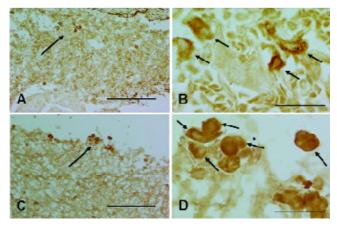
## FIGURE AND TABLE EXAMPLES

## COLOR FIGURE. DPI: 600.



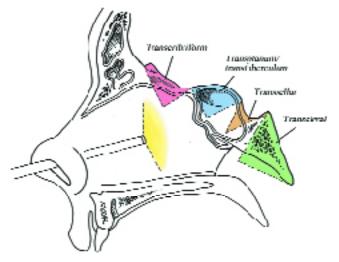
This is a color figure.

# COLOR PHOTOMICROGRAPH. DPI: 600.



This is a 4-part photomicrograph in color. Note the *arrows* and *scale bars*; both should be explained in the figure legend. If bars had not been provided the original magnification would also need to be stated. Authors will need to provide the staining technique(s) used.

# COLOR FIGURE WITH TYPE. DPI: 600.



This figure has both color and text. It is not considered line art because of the color.

## FIGURE AND TABLE EXAMPLES

TABLE: Literature review example

Authors & Year	Age (yrs), Sex	Supra- sellar Extension	Symptoms	MRI Characteristics	Time to Regression (mos)	Pituitary Function at Cyst Discovery
Igarashi et al., 1999	25, F	yes	visual field defect	T1: iso, T2: high thin wall enhancement	NA	NA
	46, M	yes	visual field defect	T1: iso, T2: high thin wall enhancement	NA	NA
	34, M	yes	visual field defect	T1: iso, T2: high thin wall enhancement	NA	NA
Maruyama et al., 2008	81, M	yes	headache	T1: iso, no wall enhancement	0.5	panhypopituitarism
Nishio et al., 2001	14, M	yes	headache	T1: hyper, T2: hyper, w/ iso small nod- ule, thick wall enhancement	3	normal
	31, F	no	headache, nau- sea, vertigo	T1: mixed intensity, T2: hypo thin wall enhancement	6	normal
Nishioka et al., 2006	NA	no	NA	T1: hyperintense	NA	hypopituitarism
	NA	yes	visual field defect	T1: isointense	NA	NA
Saeki et al., 1999	59, F	yes	visual field defect	T1: iso, T2: high thin wall enhancement	1	normal
	30, M	yes	visual field defect	T1: iso, T2: high thin wall enhancement	0.5	low LH, FSH, GH
Simmons & Simmons, 1999	15, F	no	amenorrhea	T1: hypo, no wall enhancement	3	low LH, FSH, estradiol

**Common Errors in Manuscript Preparation:** Below are some common problems with manuscript preparation. These errors may result in a delay in the review or official acceptance of your manuscript, or in the manuscript's return to the corresponding author for correction.

1. Improperly formatted manuscript	Manuscript formatting problems often include an incorrectly formatted title page, information missing from the title page (e.g. author academic degrees, corresponding author's complete mailing address), and missing figure legends. We recommend using the <i>Manuscript Template</i> (available on the "Author Instructions" page of the submission sites) as a guide for formatting your manuscript.
2. Improperly formatted or cited references	References must be formatted according to our instructions, including listing the first 6 authors of the reference. In addition, the reference section must be alphabetized by the first author's last name, and the references must be cited in the text with superscripted numbers.
3. Incomplete or missing forms‡	All authors of a revised manuscript must complete the required forms. The Copyright Assignment and Conflict of Interest forms are electronic forms, and a link will be sent to each author to complete the forms at the time a revision is requested. <b>Note:</b> It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to make sure that each coauthor's email address is accurate in the submission site.
4. Tables submitted in wrong format	Tables must be submitted as Microsoft Word files and must be editable in Word. Tables that have been created in another program and imported into Word as graphics are not editable and will not be accepted. Excel files and PDFs of tables will also not be accepted.
5. Figures do not meet publication requirements†	Figures must meet size and resolution requirements for publication in all JNSPG journals. Failure to provide figures that meet our minimum requirements can result in poor-quality figures published in print.
6. Incomplete figure legends	Figure legends should describe the significance of any arrows or letters on the figure, including any abbreviations used. The original magnification and staining method used for any photomicrographs must be stated.
7. Obtaining permission for publication of previously published material	Submitting authors are responsible for obtaining permission from the copyright owner to reprint material (figures, tables, and videos) that have been previously published.
8. Inconsistent or undefined statistical data	Statistical data presented in the manuscript should be defined (standard deviations, standard error of the mean, etc.). Data should be consistent throughout the manuscript; values provided in the abstract, text, and tables should match.
9. Incorrectly tracked changes‡	For revised manuscripts, authors must use the Track Changes feature in Microsoft Word to mark the changes made to their manuscript. Marking changes with bold type, underlining, or strikethrough in the text will not be accepted. We recommend reading the <i>Track Changes Tutorial</i> to use this feature.

<sup>†</sup> Applies to figures for a revised manuscript only. Low-resolution images are permissible for new submissions.

<sup>‡</sup> For revised manuscripts only.

# Quick Reference Guide for Submitting a Manuscript\*

New Submission		Refer to New Submission Checklist for guidance†
Cover letter	State that the manuscript has not been previously published or submitted elsewhere for review	
Manuscript	Microsoft Word file	Refer to the Manuscript Template for formatting guidance†
Title page	Includes all required elements in proper format	
References	Cited in the text with superscript numbers only	
	Alphabetized by the first author's last name	
	First 6 authors are listed before et al is used (when applicable)	
Figure legends	Provide a legend for each figure	
Tables	Microsoft Word file (tables must be editable in Word)	
	Created using the "Insert Table" feature in Microsoft Word	
Figures	Width: ≥ 6.5 in	
	TIFF, JPEG, or GIF	Low-resolution is acceptable for new submissions only

Revised Manuscript		Refer to Revision Checklist for guidance†
Cover letter	Includes a detailed response to each reviewer's comments	
Manuscript	Changes marked using the Track Changes feature in Microsoft Word	Refer to Track Changes Tutorial for guidance†
	Unacceptable methods of marking changes: <b>bold</b> , <u>underlined</u> , or <del>strikethrough</del> text formatting; changing text color; using Comments feature in Microsoft Word	
Figures	TIFF or JPEG only; width: ≥ 6.5 in	
Resolution	Grayscale: 300 DPI	
	Color: 600 DPI	
	Line art: 1200 DPI	

		Forms
Required from each author	Copyright Assignment	e-form submitted via online submission site
	Conflict of Interest	e-form submitted via online submission site
If applicable†	Color Payment Agreement	For figures (including cover images) that are to be published in color in print.
	Patient Consent	For images (including video) or data in which a participant (patient/volunteer) is identifiable. Must be completed by the individual if ≥ 18 yrs of age or parent/guardian if < 18 yrs of age.
	Author Removal	For removal of an author from the manuscript; must be signed by all coauthors. Submit 1 form for each removed author.
	Additional Author	For addition of an author to the manuscript; must be signed by all coauthors. Submit 1 form for each additional author.
	Change in Author Order	If the order of the authors has changed on the title page, each author must sign this form.

	Permission Forms†	
Permission Request– Previously Published	For obtaining permission from the copyright holder for a previously published figure, table, or video	
Original Artwork Agreement	For obtaining permission from the copyright holder for original artwork to be published	Copyright holder: Independent medical illustrator, visual arts company, or art division of the author's institution

<sup>\*</sup> Detailed information can be found in the *Instructions for Authors*.
† Available in the "Instructions & Forms" section of the "Author Instructions" page.