

JOURNAL POLICY AND GUIDELINES

Vision Statement

The *East and Central Africa Medical Journal* is a general medical peer-reviewed journal providing a communication forum of research results in clinical medicine, health sciences in public health, biomedical research, pharmaceutical sciences and related disciplines and a continuing medical education to those involved in medical research and related professions through publishing current scientific medical research findings and review articles and updates necessary for development, improvement and promotion of health in Africa.

Mission Statement

A commitment to publishing scholarly articles in the promotion and development of medical research and achieving new horizons in medicine, drug development and delivery and general improvement in community health.

AUTHORS GUIDELINES

Manuscript: Original research papers in clinical case reports, health and related biomedical research science findings, technical reports, comprehensive and authoritative reviews, diagnosis exercises, short reports, letters to the editor and book reviews written in English will be considered for publication.

The E&C.A.M.J. peer review process: All manuscripts submitted to E&C.A.M.J will be peer reviewed. Upon reception, the articles will be reviewed in-house by the editors. The manuscript may be rejected at this stage due to several reasons including lack of originality and lack of scientific message. The manuscript passing in-house review will be sent to at least two external peer reviewers selected from database of medical experts and scientists. Peer reviewers, after reading the manuscript will have four possible options: accept; accept after minor revision; ask author(s) to make major revisions and resubmit; or reject. Once all the reviews are obtained, the Editor assigned to the manuscript will make a preliminary decision on the manuscript, and will then forward the manuscript, the reviewer feedback and his/her preliminary decision to the Editor-in-Chief for the final decision. *E&C.A.M.J* aims at reaching a final decision on publication within three months after manuscript submission.

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All manuscripts must be typed in double line spacing on numbered pages. All authors should provide their full 'names, address, and e-mail for ease of correspondence. All materials submitted for publication will be edited.

Original research articles should be between two and three thousand and not more than 30 references. The number of tables and other illustrations should not exceed eight. The message carried in the manuscript should be clear and relevant to the promotion and development of health sciences and practice of medicine especially in Africa. Reviews which should be contributed by authorities and experts in their respective fields and must be a critical analysis of the subject reviewed and balanced. Reviews should not exceed 4000 words and 40 references.

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Conflict of interest

Authors of original articles, reviews etc. should declare "no conflict of interest" capable of influencing their judgment, where applicable.

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When reporting experiments on human subjects, authors should indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional and national) and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 2008. Evidence of ethical approval from the relevant ethics committee will be required.

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Acknowledgement

The journal is partially funded by the PRIME-K project, grant number IR24TW008889 of National Institute of Health, U.S.A