

GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS

Philosophy, Objectives & Scope

NURTURE is planned to be an international and trans-disciplinary research journal. Research papers and other articles from any field of physical or social sciences social having direct or indirect relevance to the betterment of individual, family or community are welcome. Nurture provides an international forum for academia for publishing their research work having implications for individual, family or community as consumers and social units. It aims at supporting the creation and accumulation of knowledge that can be used for empowering individual, family or community so that they can optimize their quality of their life. Thus the spectrum of variety of professionals who may send articles for this journal is very wide. However when any article fulfills the criteria of having implications for individual, family or community as consumers and social units it would ultimately fall within any of the following domains of Home Economics. A brief description of each area is given though a much wider variety of topics could be included in each area.

Family dynamics & Human Development

Social and Psychological aspects of Human Development and role of care takers and social groups particularly parents, teachers and family in empowering human being; family studies and family dynamics

Home Economics & Human Ecology

General and multidisciplinary articles about Home Economics education, home economics research, practices of families and households and quality of life of individual and families.

Home Management & Consumerism

Managing; handling, supervision, or control of family affairs and resources so as to hold family values, maintain standards and achieve goals; Production, distribution, and consumption of goods and services for the family; Consumerism

Food, Nutrition & Wellness

Wellness, Protection or restoration of health through selecting/producing, preparing and consuming healthy food; maintain of personal and food hygiene; Food and nutrition security for individual and households.

Design and Visual Studies:

Basic and universal theories and issues regarding use of resistant and complaint materials and techniques for creating structural and decorative design;

Housing and Interior Designing:

Particular theories and issues regarding designing house and interiors constructing household furniture, furnishing and equipment;

Textile and Clothing:

Particular theories and issues regarding designing and selecting apparel and constructing garments and furnishing; Textile sciences

Method of Submission:

Authors wishing to be considered for publication in NURTURE should send a covering letter and the manuscript by email to: nurture2007@gmail.com or by post to

Ms Farzana Asar

3/P Block 2 P.E.C.H.S Karachi, Pakistan.

Article must be at least Microsoft Word 2000, and XP. Articles sent via regular mail should include a printed copy and an electronic version on disk or CD.

The cover letter should state that the submitted manuscript is original and that no part has been published, simultaneously submitted, or already accepted for publication elsewhere, other than in abstract form. Contributions of various authors and conflict of interests and funding sources if any should also be mentioned. Sender's full address and email must also be given.

Include copies of any documents granting permission needed to reproduce material in print and electronic form or to use illustrations of identifiable subjects. Authors should keep copies of everything submitted. Rejected manuscripts will not be returned to authors.

Manuscript Checklist

1. Original double-spaced typed manuscript. Mention type of submission in your cover letter with a word count. Provide a soft copy (CD) along with two hard copies.
2. Two sets of unmounted glossy Figures (no smaller than 3-1/2x5 inches and not larger than 8x10 inches).
3. Title page with title, authors' names and complete affiliations;
4. corresponding author, complete address, telephone number and email address (necessary), author for reprint requests and complete address.
5. References in consecutive numerical order. Reference list typed double space.
6. Figures and Tables in consecutive numerical order.
7. Legends for all figures typed double spaced.
8. Consent forms for patient photographs. Written permission from the publisher to reprint previously published figures and tables.

Submission Formats and accepted length for various types of articles:

Review article: Maximum 4000 words excluding title page and an unstructured abstract of 150 words and

references with no more than five tables or figures and 35 references.

Original article: Maximum 3000 words excluding title page and a structured abstract of 250 words and references with no more than three tables or figures and 25 references.

Short Reports / Students reports: Maximum 1250 words excluding title page and an unstructured abstract of 150 words and references with no more than two tables or figures and 10 references. It should not be signed by more than six authors

Case Report: Abstract; Introduction; Case Report; Discussion and Conclusion.

Short Report: Abstract; Introduction; Patients Methods and Result; and Conclusion.

Special Communication: Abstract; Introduction; Methods and Result; and Conclusion.

Letters to the Editor: maximum 250 words if it is in reference to a recent journal article, or 400 words in all other cases. It must have no more than five references and one figure or Table. It must not be signed by any more than three authors. Letters referring to a recent journal article must be received within four weeks of its publication.

The reviewing process:

Submitted Manuscript will be initially over viewed by editorial review board to determine whether they broadly meet the requirement of the Journal and this process will be completed within 10 days. Papers may be rejected after initial editorial review if they are not considered appropriate or of sufficient scientific quality

or priority for publication in Nurture. All other papers will undergo complete blind review by 3 or more peer reviewers selected for their familiarity with the field and this process will be completed within 2-3 months. At this stage the author will be informed that his/her paper has been selected and sent for review. The criteria for acceptability by the nurture include originality, validity of data, clarity of writing, strength of the conclusions, and potential importance of the work

Copyright

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Galley Proofs

Uncorrected galley proofs will be sent to the corresponding author for return within 72 hours. It is the author's responsibility to ensure the accuracy of these proofs. Correction other than printing errors should be kept to a bare minimum. Rewriting is totally unacceptable.

Preparation of Manuscripts

A. General Requirements

Language & text:

1. Manuscript must be written in English. Whenever there is any doubt, authors should seek the assistance of experienced, English-speaking editors.
2. The size of the type font should be "12 points". Fonts type to be used is Times Roman.
3. Use active voice whenever possible.
4. Use past tense when describing and discussing the experimental work on which the paper is based.
5. Reserve present tense for reference to existing knowledge or prevailing concepts and for stating conclusions from the experimental work; use past tense for reporting results of the present study.
6. Clearly differentiate previous knowledge and new contributions.
7. Explain what an abbreviation means the first time it occurs.
8. In general, avoid anything that causes offense. Be sensitive to labels. Avoid equating people with their conditions, for example, do not say "schizophrenics," say "people diagnosed with schizophrenia."
9. Use the following styles for within text headings.

- Level A Headings are Centered and Set in Heading Caps
- Level B: Flush with Left Margin, Italicized, Set in Heading Caps
- Level C headings: Indented, italicized, sentence caps.

Pages format:

Type the manuscript on A4 size white bond paper, 8-1/2x11 inches (21.6x27 cm) with margins of at least 1.5 inches (4 cm). Type on one side of the paper only double spacing every page. Begin each of the following section on separate page and in the following order: title page, abstract, introduction, materials / subjects / patients and methods, results, discussion, acknowledgements, references, tables and figures (each on a separate page) and legends. Number pages consecutively, beginning with the title page. Type the page number in the upper right-hand corner of each page.

Each manuscript component should begin on a new page in the following sequence:

Title page

- Abstract and Keywords
- Text

- Acknowledgments
- References

Tables: Each Table on a separate page, complete with titles and footnotes
Legends for figures

Figures: Figures must be good-quality, unmounted glossy prints or high-quality laser-printed copies, usually 127 by 173 mm but no larger than 203 by 254 mm. Lettering should be large enough to be readable when reduced to 1 column width (<85 mm) or, in rare cases, to 2 column widths. If color illustrations are included, a statement that the author(s) is (are) willing to bear the cost of color separation and reproduction is requested.

B. Title Page

The title page of the manuscript should include: (1) concise and informative title (less than 200 characters); (2) complete by line, with first, middle initial and last name of each author up to ten authors may be cited; (3) complete affiliation for each author, with the name of department (s) and institution (s) to which the work should be attributed; (4) disclaimer, if any; (5) name, address and telephone number and email address (necessary) of one author responsible for correspondence about the manuscript; (6) name and address of author to whom reprint request should be directed, or statement that reprints are not available from the author; (7) source(s) of support in the form of grants equipment, drugs, or all of these; (8) word count.

Authorship

1. All persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship.
2. Each author must have participated sufficiently, intellectually or practically, in the work to take public responsibility for the content of the article, including the conception, design, and conduct of the experiment, and for the data interpretation.
3. Editors may require authors to justify the assignment of authorship.
4. A paper with corporate (collective) authorship must specify the key persons responsible for the article; others contributing to the work should be recognized separately.
5. Authors should disclose whether they have any advisory board affiliation or financial interest in any organization sponsoring the research.
6. All authors must sign a statement agreeing to these requirements for authorship with the transfer of copyright.

C. Abstract

Provide on a separate page a structured abstract of not more than 250 words for original article and an unstructured abstract of no more than 150 words for other submission types. The structured abstract should consist of four paragraphs, labeled Objective, Methods,

Results and Conclusion. They should briefly describe, respectively, the problem being addressed in the study, how the study was performed, the salient result and what the authors conclude from the results. The unstructured abstract is in the form of one paragraph covering these headings.

D. Introduction

State the purpose of the article and summarize the rationale for the study or observation. Give only strictly pertinent references and do not include data or conclusions from the work being reported. Clearly mention the objective(s) of the study in this section without adding any sub-heading. The introduction should be limited to 500 words.

E. Methods

Describe your selection of the observational or experimental subjects (patients or laboratory animals, including controls) clearly identify the age, sex and other important characteristics of the subjects. The definition and relevance of race and ethnicity are ambiguous. Authors should be particularly careful about using these categories.

In methodology, identify the methods, apparatus and producers in sufficient detail to allow other researcher to reproduce the results. Give references for established methods, including statistical methods, provide references and brief description of methods that have been published but are not well known. Describe new or substantially modified methods, give reasons for using them and evaluate their limitations. Mention setting, study design, sampling method, sample size, inclusion/exclusion criteria wherever applicable without adding any sub-headings. Describe statistical methods with enough detail to enable a knowledgeable reader with access to the original data to verify the reported results. Report the number of observations.

References for study design and statistical methods should be to standard works when possible rather than to articles in which designs or methods were originally reported.

Indicate whether variables were transformed for analysis. Provide details about hypothesis were tested, what statistical tests were used, and what are the outcome were. Indicate the level of significance used in test.

Reports of randomized clinical trials should present information on all major study elements including the protocol (study population, interventions or exposures, outcomes and the rationale for statistical analysis), assignment of interventions (methods of randomization, concealment of allocation to treatment groups) and the method of masking (blinding).

Authors submitting review manuscripts should include a section describing the methods used for locating, selecting, extracting and synthesizing data. These methods should also be summarized in the abstract.

F. Ethics

When reporting experiments on human subjects, indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional or regional) and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 1983. Do not use patients' names, initials, or hospital numbers, especially in illustrative material. When reporting experiments on animals, indicate whether the institutions or a national research council's guide for or any national law on the care and use of laboratory animals was followed.

G. Statistics

Describe statistical methods with enough detail to enable a knowledgeable reader with access to the original data to verify the reported results. When possible, quantify findings and present them with appropriate indicators of measurements error or uncertainty (such as standard deviation when mentioning mean values of quantitative variables, or confidence intervals where odds ratio is mentioned, etc.). Mention the statistical test used for analysis to obtain the P values. Discuss the eligibility of experimental subjects. Give details about randomization. Describe the method for and success of any blinding of observations. Report complications of treatment. Give numbers of observations. Report losses to observation (such as dropouts from a clinical trial). References (if necessary) for the design of the study and statistical methods should be to standard works when possible (with pages stated) rather than to papers in which the designs or methods were originally reported. Specify any general use computer programs used.

Put a general description of methods in the methods section. When data are summarized in the results section, specify the statistical methods used to analyze them. Restrict tables and figures to those needed to explain the argument of the paper and to assess its support. Use graphs as an alternative to tables with many entries; do not duplicate data in graphs and tables. Avoid non-technical uses of technical terms in statistics, such as "random", (which implies a randomizing device), "normal", "significant", "correlations" and "samples". Define statistical terms, abbreviations and most symbols.

H. Results

Present your results in logical sequence in the text, tables and illustrations. Do not repeat in the text all data in the tables or illustrations emphasize or summarize important observations.

I. Discussion

Emphasize the new and important aspects of the study and conclusions that follow from them. Do not repeat in detail data or other material given in the introduction or the results section. Include in discussion section the implications of the findings and their limitations including

implications for future research. Relate the observations to other relevant studies. The discussion should not exceed 1200 words except in unusual circumstances. Link the conclusions with the goals of the study but avoid unqualified statements and conclusions not completely supported by data. In particular, authors should avoid making statements on economic benefits and costs unless their manuscript includes economics data and analyses. Avoid claiming priority and alluding to work that has not been completed. State new hypothesis when warranted. But clearly label them such recommendations, when appropriate, may be included.

J. Acknowledgements

Persons who have contributed intellectually to the paper but whose contributions do not justify authorship may be named and the function or contribution is described - for example, "scientific advisor critical review of study proposal, "data collection," or "participation clinical trial". Such persons must have given their permission to be named. Authors are responsible for obtaining written permission from person acknowledged by name, because readers may infer their endorsement the data and conclusions. Technical help should be acknowledged in a paragraph separate from those acknowledging other contributions.

K. References

Reference Citations (In-Text)

Use the author-date format

Reference List

APA reference style is to be followed. Here are a few examples of the most commonly used reference types:

Journal Article:

Farooqi, A. & Gibson, T. (1998). Prevalence of the major rheumatic disorders in the adult population of north Pakistan. *Br.J Rheumatol.*, 37, 491-495.

Waheed, A., Hameed, K., Khan, A. M., Syed, J. A., & Mirza, A. I. (2006). The burden of anxiety and depression among patients with chronic rheumatologic disorders at a tertiary care hospital clinic in Karachi, Pakistan. *J Pak Med Assoc*, 56, 243-247.

Books (Group author, 3-5 authors, reprint/translation, edition other than first):

Booth, W. C., Colomb, G. G., & Williams, J. M. (1995). *The craft of research*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Web page:

Dewey, R. A. (2002). *Psych Web* by Russ Dewey. Retrieved January 25, 2003 from <http://www.psywww.com>

