

Authors prescriptions

The African Journal of Cancer (JAC) publishes original articles, synthesis articles (focused articles and general reviews) and clinical cases. The texts must be written in French and include a summary in English. The editors reserve, however, the option of publishing some of the work issued from non-Francophone countries directly in English. The manuscripts submitted to the JAC may not have already been published or have been sent at the same time to another medical journal.

Manuscripts received are subject to an evaluation (refereeing) by two independent readers who agree to return the text and their comments within 30 days. The comments are collected by the editor, who in turn forwards them to the authors.

Sending manuscripts

Manuscripts should be sent directly to the editor in chief, Doctor Adama Ly, at the following address : adamaly@gmail.com

Manuscripts submitted must be accompanied by the full contact information (name, address, telephone numbers and fax numbers, e-mail address) of the author, which the editor will use for all correspondence. A statement that the text was read and approved by all authors is necessary, if applicable.

It is explicitly agreed that any manuscript submitted to the African Journal of Cancer (JAC) has not been published elsewhere nor submitted simultaneously to another journal (except in summary form). All manuscripts submitted to the journal will be subjected to an evaluation process (refereeing). The computer file of the article submitted to the African Journal of Cancer (JAC) should observe the following rules:

- the submission should contain only the file(s) of the article chosen for publication, and all the text (without pictures) must be included in a single file;
- while creating the file, never use the advanced features of the software such as automatic insertions of characters, fields, footnotes or images;
- figures and tables should be saved in separate files (preferably in the format «EPS» or «TIF» for illustrations).

Specifications for manuscripts

Original article. The length of the manuscript (except where otherwise stated) should not exceed 10 typed pages double interline including references, tables and figures with legends. The number of references is not to exceed 30. The provisions for the manuscript are consistent with the use of original articles: title, names and authors' addresses, abstract and keywords in French and English, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusion, references, tables, legends for the figures, figures.

The clinical observations, radiological cases, articles imaging. The length of the manuscript is not to exceed 5 pages typed double-spaced including references, tables and figures with legends. The introduction should be brief, specifying the interest of the case; the discussion should be

focused on the methodology. A short literature review is acceptable in clinical observations. The presentation of the manuscript is: title, names and addresses of the authors, abstract and keywords in French and English, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusion, references, tables, legends for the figures, figures.

Synthesis articles or focused articles. These are part of the record book. Each will highlight 5 points for the processing, 5 points of the EBM and 5 references with a rating from 1 to 4 stars, depending on the weight of the scientific article. Each will also include 3 figures or tables.

14 typed pages maximum (12 point Times font or 30,000 characters without illustrations)

Technique

These are detailed and very practical sheets of the «How do I...?» type. They cover practical techniques for both diagnosis and treatment, as well as clear descriptions of useful techniques / technologies and tools (small equipment, trademarks and instrumentation). Particular attention must be paid to the indications but also to false indications, major mistakes and «tips and tricks». Illustrations desired.

12 typed pages maximum (or 22,000 characters)

Care practice

These are articles analysing the practices and care sectors in the field considered within a certain discipline. They are based on the experience of expert centres approached either by sending a questionnaire or through a structured telephone interview. The standard article consists of 5 to 6 questions concerning the practice conducted in at least two French or foreign expert centres. The use of production tools (monitoring sheets, questionnaires on symptoms or quality of life) is encouraged.

14 typed pages maximum (or 30,000 characters)

Image in question. This is an imagery quiz. One to three demonstrative photos of an original, special or rare pathology are shown. Three to four lines are intended to describe the clinical context of its occurrence. A question is posed to the reader (reply at the end of page). No abstract or bibliography.

1 journal page (3,000 characters without the illustrations)

Commented article. These consist of commentary on a key article which has made a mark or even transformed a care practice. It is not necessarily a recent article. The abstract is reproduced in extenso, along with its French translation, comments put it into perspective and essential references are made. Two text boxes accompany the commentary: one deals with the state of knowledge before the publication of the study, the other with the new contributions this publication has made.

12 typed pages maximum (or 22,000 characters)

Scientific alert. Reports and commentary on recent scientific data extremely likely to change practices in the short or medium term. These may include oral statements made during a congress which have not been published or recent publications which need to be analysed and put into perspective. The English abstract and French translation are reproduced in full. A text box summarises the main innovative points of the study.

8 typed pages maximum (or 12,000 characters)

Press review. Read original major scientific publications in the field of colorectal disease. The abstract is included in extenso in English, followed by 3 to 5 lines of critical comments on the publication and a rating from 1 to 4 stars based on the scientific and practical interest of the publication.

12 comments maximum, roughly 2,000 characters per comment.

Presentation of manuscripts

Manuscripts are composed of a title in French and its English translation, the names of the authors, a French summary with keywords, a summary in English with keywords in English, the text itself, tables (and their legends), figures (and their legends), and bibliographical references. They are presented on consecutively numbered pages with left justified alignment. The tables and illustrations should not be included in the text, but submitted as printouts or separate files.

Title of the article

Titles must be concise and must indicate the subject addressed in the article. They must consist of no more than 120 characters and should not contain abbreviations. The translation of the title in the English language should be proposed by the author.

Names of the authors

The authors' surnames and first initials must be listed on the front page of the article. The first letter of the surname should be upper case, the remaining letters lower case. The names and addresses of departments, services and agencies regarding the authors' backgrounds, as well as the e-mail address of the author to whom correspondence and the proofs are to be sent, are also listed.

The abstract

Abstracts are only included for original articles, synthesis articles and focused articles. They must state the purpose, method and the results of the work. As a general rule, the summary should not exceed 250 words. The summary in French (abstract) is the translation of the English abstract and includes the same elements.

The text

Texts are written according to the conventional structure: introduction, subject of the study, methods and description of work, conclusions. A section of thanks may be added at the end of the article, before the list of bibliographical references. The abbreviations are given in parentheses after their first appearance in the text. They are then repeated in the

same form throughout the article. Their use is prohibited in the title and, if possible, should be avoided in the summaries. If a large number of non-standard abbreviations are utilised, their meanings should be listed in the appendix. Drugs are to be identified by their international non-proprietary names (without capital letters), possibly followed in brackets by the brand name (with the first letter upper case) followed by the symbol ® and the name of the pharmaceutical company for their first appearance in the text. Similarly, the names of devices should include the symbol ® and, in parentheses, the name of the manufacturer or distributor.

The tables

Each table is presented separately (as a printout or separate file). The tables are numbered using Roman numerals and each should include a brief title and if desired a concise legend at the bottom of the table, including explanations of the abbreviations used. Given the dimensions of the journal, they must not be longer than six columns of figures for printing a half-page (81 mm wide) or more than 15 columns of three figures for printing the full width of the page (170 mm).

The figures

Figures must be provided as electronic files. A minimum resolution of 300 dpi is needed (or alternatively provide a high-contrast original figure and include your telephone number in the text in case there are questions and, if necessary, an arrow indicating the top of the figure and an indication of the framing). Drawings should preferably be made using graphics software and printed on a white background with a laser printer. The name of the patient must be removed or concealed and, as an absolute rule, a patient should not be recognisable in a photograph, unless he or she has given his or her agreement in writing. Charts or tables borrowed from another article or book chapter cannot be reproduced without the prior written consent of the authors and the publisher.

The bibliographical references

They are indicated using [brackets] and numbered in their order of appearance in the text. All authors are listed if there are four or less. If there are more than four, only three are listed first, followed by a comma and the words "et al.:" The references to various chapters of a book are designated by distinct numbers. Wherever possible, the numbers of references are to be placed at the end of the sentence. Sample references:

1. Dahan L, Seitz JF. (2004) Cancer of the colon. *Oncology* 6: 326-328.
2. Greenberg DB (1984). The measurement of sexual dysfunction. *Cancer* 53 Suppl 5: 2281-5.
3. Zukowski ML (2005) Endoscopic Intracorporeal Abdominoplasty. In: MA Shiffman, Mirrafati S (eds) *Aesthetic Surgery of the Abdominal Wall*. Springer Verlag France, pp 138-41

Proofs

Fundamental changes cannot be made once the proofs have been printed; corrections are limited to typographical errors. The authors will be asked to return the tests with the comment "ready for print" within 48 hours of their receipt. In case of delay, the publisher and editors reserve the right to print without the corrections of the author(s).