



TURKISH JOURNAL OF

Gastroenterology

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE TURKISH SOCIETY OF GASTROENTEROLOGY

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Aims and Scope

Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology (*Turk J Gastroenterol*) is the double-blind peer-reviewed, open access, international publication organ of the Turkish Society of Gastroenterology. The journal is a bimonthly publication, published on January, March, May, July, September, November and its publication language is English.

Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology aims to publish international at the highest clinical and scientific level on original issues of gastroenterology and hepatology. The journal publishes original papers, review articles, and letters to the editor on clinical and experimental gastroenterology and hepatology.

The editorial and publication processes of the journal are shaped in accordance with the guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), Council of Science Editors (CSE), Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), European Association of Science Editors (EASE), and National Information Standards Organization (NISO). The journal is in conformity with the Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing (doaj.org/bestpractice).

The Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology is indexed in Science Citation Index Expanded, PubMed/MEDLINE, Scopus, and TUBITAK ULAKBIM TR Index.

Processing and publication are free of charge with the journal. No fees are requested from the authors at any point throughout the evaluation and publication process. All manuscripts must be submitted via the online submission system, which is available at turkjgastroenterol.org. The journal guidelines, technical information, and the required forms are available on the journal's web page.

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Instructions to Authors

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Originality, high scientific quality, and citation potential are the most important criteria for a manuscript to be accepted for publication. Manuscripts submitted for evaluation should not have been previously presented or already published in an electronic or printed medium. The journal should be informed of manuscripts that have been submitted to another journal for evaluation and rejected for publication. The submission of previous reviewer reports will expedite the evaluation process. Manuscripts that have been presented in a meeting should be submitted with detailed information on the organization, including the name, date, and location of the organization.

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An approval of research protocols by the Ethics Committee in accordance with international agreements (*World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki "Ethical Principles for Medical Research In-*

volving Human Subjects," amended in October 2013, www.wma.net) is required for experimental, clinical, and drug studies and for some case reports. If required, ethics committee reports or an equivalent official document will be requested from the authors. For manuscripts concerning experimental research on humans, a statement should be included that shows that written informed consent of patients and volunteers was obtained following a detailed explanation of the procedures that they may undergo. For studies carried out on animals, the measures taken to prevent pain and suffering of the animals should be stated clearly. Information on patient consent, the name of the ethics committee, and the ethics committee approval number should also be stated in the Materials and Methods section of the manuscript. It is the authors' responsibility to carefully protect the patients' anonymity. For photographs that may reveal the identity of the patients, releases signed by the patient or their legal representative should be enclosed.

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All those designated as authors should meet all four criteria for authorship, and all who meet the four criteria should be identified as authors. Those who do not meet all four criteria should be acknowledged in the title page of the manuscript.

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- Author Contributions Form, and
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Title page: A separate title page should be submitted with all submissions and this page should include:

- The full title of the manuscript as well as a short title (running head) of no more than 50 characters,
- Name(s), affiliations, and highest academic degree(s) of the author(s),
- Grant information and detailed information on the other sources of support,
- Name, address, telephone (including the mobile phone number) and fax numbers, and email address of the corresponding author,
- Acknowledgment of the individuals who contributed to the preparation of the manuscript but who do not fulfill the authorship criteria.

Abstract

An English abstract should be submitted with all submissions except for Letters to the Editor. Submitting a Turkish abstract is not compulsory for international authors. The abstract of Original Articles should be structured with subheadings (*Background/Aims, Materials and Methods, Results, and Conclusion*). Please check Table 1 below for word count specifications.

Table 1. Limitations for each manuscript type

Type of manuscript	Word limit	Abstract word limit	Reference limit	Table limit	Figure limit
Original Article	3500	250 (Structured)	30	6	7 or total of 15 images
Review Article	5000	250	50	6	10 or total of 20 images
Letter to the Editor	1000	No abstract	5	No tables	2 or total of 4 images
Diagnostic Challenge	1200	No abstract	5	No tables	7 or total of 15 images

Keywords: Each submission must be accompanied by a minimum of three to a maximum of six keywords for subject indexing at the end of the abstract. The keywords should be listed in full without abbreviations. The keywords should be selected from the National Library of Medicine, Medical Subject Headings database (<https://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html>).

Manuscript Types

Original Articles: This is the most important type of article since it provides new information based on original research. The main text of original articles should be structured with Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, and Discussion subheadings. Please check Table 1 for the limitations for Original Articles.

Statistical analysis to support conclusions is usually necessary. Statistical analyses must be conducted in accordance with international statistical reporting standards (Altman DG, Gore SM, Gardner MJ, Pocock SJ. Statistical guidelines for contributors to medical journals. *Br Med J* 1983; 7; 1489-93). Information on statistical analyses should be provided with a separate subheading under the Materials and Methods section and the statistical software that was used during the process must be specified.

Units should be prepared in accordance with the International System of Units (SI).

Editorial Comments

Editorial comments aim to provide a brief critical commentary by reviewers with expertise or with high reputation in the topic of the research article published in the journal. Authors are selected and invited by the journal to provide such comments. Abstract, Keywords, and Tables, Figures, Images, and other media are not included.

Review Articles

Reviews prepared by authors who have extensive knowledge on a particular field and whose scientific background has been translated into a high volume of publications with a high citation potential are welcomed. These authors may even be invited by the journal. Reviews should describe, discuss, and evaluate the current level of knowledge of a topic in clinical practice and should guide future studies. The main text should contain Introduction, Clinical and Research Consequences, and Conclusion sections. Please check Table 1 for the limitations for Review Articles.

Letters to the Editor

This type of manuscript discusses important parts, overlooked aspects, or lacking parts of a previously published article. Articles on subjects within the scope of the journal that might attract the readers' attention, particularly educative and rare cases, may also be submitted in the form of a "Letter to the Editor." Readers can also present their comments on the published manuscripts in the form of a "Letter to the Editor." Abstract, Keywords, and Tables, Figures, Images, and other media should not be included. The text should be unstructured. The manuscript that is being commented on must be properly cited within this manuscript.

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Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology encourages authors to submit their striking clinical images that may challenge and inform readers and contribute to their education. This type of submissions



should present the image as an “unknown” and should encourage the readers to interpret and diagnose the image. The answer will be presented on a separate page of the issue so the main text or the title should not reveal the answer. The case should be described in the first part; the answer should discuss the image findings and the diagnosis. The article should not be longer than 1200 words.

Quick look to guidelines

These manuscripts are summaries of published guidelines. Abstract, Keywords, and Tables, Figures, Images, and other media should not be included. The text should be unstructured. The guideline that is being summarized must be properly cited within the manuscript.

Tables

Tables should be included in the main document, presented after the reference list, and they should be numbered consecutively in the order they are referred to within the main text. A descriptive title must be placed above the tables. Abbreviations used in the tables should be defined below the tables by footnotes (*even if they are defined within the main text*). Tables should be created using the “insert table” command of the word processing software and they should be arranged clearly to provide easy reading. Data presented in the tables should not be a repetition of the data presented within the main text but should be supporting the main text.

Figures and Figure Legends

Figures, graphics, and photographs should be submitted as separate files (*in TIFF or JPEG format*) through the submission system. The files should not be embedded in a Word document or the main document. When there are figure subunits, the subunits should not be merged to form a single image. Each subunit should be submitted separately through the submission system. Images should not be labeled (*a, b, c, etc.*) to indicate figure subunits. Thick and thin arrows, arrowheads, stars, asterisks, and similar marks can be used on the images to support figure legends. Like the rest of the submission, the figures too should be blind. Any information within the images that may indicate an individual or institution should be blinded. The minimum resolution of each submitted figure should be 300 DPI. To prevent delays in the evaluation process, all submitted figures should be clear in resolution and large in size (*minimum dimensions: 100×100 mm*). Figure legends should be listed at the end of the main document.

All acronyms and abbreviations used in the manuscript should be defined at first use, both in the abstract and in the main text. The abbreviation should be provided in parentheses following the definition.

When a drug, product, hardware, or software program is mentioned within the main text, product information, including the name of the product, the producer of the product, and city and the country of the company (*including the state if in USA*), should be provided in parentheses in the following format: “Discovery St PET/CT scanner (*General Electric, Milwaukee, WI, USA*)”

All references, tables, and figures should be referred to within the main text, and they should be numbered consecutively in the order they are referred to within the main text. Limitations, drawbacks, and the shortcomings of original articles should be mentioned in the Discussion section before the conclusion paragraph.

References

While citing publications, preference should be given to the latest, most up-to-date publications. If an ahead-of-print publication is cited, the DOI number should be provided. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of references. Journal titles should be abbreviated in accordance with the journal abbreviations in Index Medicus/ MEDLINE/PubMed. When there are six or fewer authors, all authors should be listed. If there are seven or more authors, the first three authors should be listed followed by “et al.” In the main text of the manuscript, references should be cited using Arabic numbers in parentheses. The reference styles for different types of publications are presented in the following examples.

Journal Article

Rankovic A, Rancic N, Jovanovic M, et al. Impact of imaging diagnostics on the budget - Are we spending too much? *Vojnosanit Pregl* 2013; 70: 709-11.

Book Section

Suh KN, Keystone JS. Malaria and babesiosis. Gorbach SL, Barlett JG, Blacklow NR, editors. *Infectious Diseases*. Philadelphia: Lippincott Williams; 2004.p.2290-308.

Books with a Single Author

Sweetman SC. *Martindale the Complete Drug Reference*. 34th ed. London: Pharmaceutical Press; 2005.

Editor(s) as Author

Huizing EH, de Groot JAM, editors. *Functional reconstructive nasal surgery*. Stuttgart-New York: Thieme; 2003.

Conference Proceedings

Bengjsson S, Sothemin BG. Enforcement of data protection, privacy and security in medical informatics. In: Lun KC, Degoulet P, Piemme TE, Rienhoff O, editors. *MEDINFO 92. Proceedings of the 7th World*

Congress on Medical Informatics; 1992 Sept 6-10; Geneva, Switzerland. Amsterdam: North-Holland; 1992. pp.1561-5.

Scientific or Technical Report

Cusick M, Chew EY, Hoogwerf B, Agrón E, Wu L, Lindley A, et al. Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study Research Group. Risk factors for renal replacement therapy in the Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study (ETDRS), Early Treatment Diabetic Retinopathy Study Kidney Int. 2004. Report No: 26.

Thesis

Yılmaz B. Ankara Üniversitesindeki Öğrencilerin Beslenme Durumları, Fiziksel Aktiviteleri ve Beden Kitle İndeksleri Kan Lipidleri Arasındaki İlişkiler. H.Ü. Sağlık Bilimleri Enstitüsü, Doktora Tezi. 2007.

Manuscripts Accepted for Publication, Not Published Yet

Slots J. The microflora of black stain on human primary teeth. Scand J Dent Res. 1974.

Epub Ahead of Print Articles

Cai L, Yeh BM, Westphalen AC, Roberts JP, Wang ZJ. Adult living donor liver imaging. Diagn Interv Radiol. 2016 Feb 24. doi: 10.5152/dir.2016.15323. [Epub ahead of print].

Manuscripts Published in Electronic Format

Morse SS. Factors in the emergence of infectious diseases. Emerg Infect Dis (serial online) 1995 Jan-Mar (cited 1996 June 5): 1(1): (24 screens). Available from: URL: <http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/EID/cid.htm>.

Revisions

When submitting a revised version of a paper, the author must submit a detailed "Response to the reviewers" that states point

by point how each issue raised by the reviewers has been covered and where it can be found (*each reviewer's comment, followed by the author's reply and line numbers where the changes have been made*) as well as an annotated copy of the main document. Revised manuscripts must be submitted within 30 days from the date of the decision letter. If the revised version of the manuscript is not submitted within the allocated time, the revision option may be canceled. If the submitting author(s) believe that additional time is required, they should request this extension before the initial 30-day period is over.

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From the Editor

Dear Colleagues,

As we come to the end of 2018, I would like to share some up-to-date information regarding the Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology and provide an overview of the year we left behind.

To begin with, Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology will cease print as of January 2019 and become an online-only publication. This environment-friendly decision will also help us cut the overall publication costs of the journal.

International community's interest in the Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology is increasing. During 2018, the Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology received more than 800 submissions, 75% of which was original research articles. The overall acceptance rate was 28% in the same period.

As in 2017, Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology participated in the United European Gastroenterology Week (UEG) in Vienna this year. We have also participated in Digestive Disease Week (DDW) for the first time in 2018 in Washington D.C. and we have already booked our booth for DDW 2019 in San Diego. As we promoted our journal in these meetings to our international colleagues, the

ones that already knew the journal had a chance to meet up with our editors.

As you all know, peer-review is in the core of the scholarly publishing. Despite great efforts, our editors occasionally struggle to find specialized reviewers for certain manuscripts. Thus the evaluation processes of some papers may have taken longer than usual. We invite our authors and readers to contribute to the peer review process as reviewers. Please directly contact our editorial office if you are interested.

We would appreciate hearing your thoughts and suggestions regarding the Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology for our future collaborations.

As the Editor-in-Chief of the Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology, I wish you all a happy new year and continued success.

Sincerely,

Osman Cavit Özdoğan, MD
Editor in Chief

Turkish Journal of Gastroenterology