

Hong Kong Dental Journal (HKDJ) is the official peer-reviewed publication of the Hong Kong Dental Association (HKDA). The Journal publishes original contributions and reviews of all aspects of dentistry and dental-related disciplines, including:

Original Research articles which should not exceed 4000 words, and references not more than 40. Tables and figures should not exceed eight.

Review Articles addressing an important and timely clinical question. The review should be based on a critical assessment of the literature, and may include data or examples from the research or clinical experience of the author(s). Number of words should not exceed 5000, and references not more than 60. Tables and figures should not exceed 10.

Dental Practice articles presenting overviews of current dental practice which may include clinical experience of the author(s). The length restrictions are the same as those for Original Research articles, and references not more than 60.

Case Reports highlighting unique features of the case(s) or treatment method employed, and conclusions drawn. Number of words should not exceed 1500, and references not more than 15. Tables and figures should not exceed six.

Short Communications which must be based on work that is of special importance or having the potential for great impact, or a body of work that is complete but of insufficient scope to warrant a full-length paper. Number of words should not exceed 1000, and references not more than 10. Tables and figures should be limited in number.

Other categories including clinicopathology reports, dental education, notes on dental techniques and dental material profiles, and Letters to the Editor are also welcomed.

Submission of Manuscripts

- Manuscripts should be typed on A4-size paper, double-spaced, and on one side only. Page should have at least one-inch margins.
- **THREE** copies of all elements of the manuscript (refer to Manuscript Formats below), with a CD-ROM containing the manuscript, should be sent to:
Professor Stephen Wei, Editor-in-Chief,
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c/o Hong Kong Academy of Medicine Press
Room 901, 99 Wong Chuk Hang Road, Aberdeen, Hong Kong
- E-mail submission <hkj@hkam.org.hk> of manuscript is acceptable, provided that a separate covering letter and **ONE** copy of all elements of the manuscript are sent to the above address.

Manuscript Formats

- The format of a manuscript should be as follows: Title page (page 1), Abstract (page 2), Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements (if any), References, Figure legends, and Tables (on separate sheets). Illustrations and tables should be cited in text in numerical order.
- Title page (page 1) should contain (i) a concise and descriptive title, (ii) full names of authors, with their degrees and affiliations, (iii) the full address, phone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the corresponding author, and (iv) a short running title of no more than 40 characters.
- The abstract (page 2) should not exceed 250 words for structured abstracts (Original articles, Review articles) or 150 for unstructured abstracts (Dental practice, Case reports, Short communications). A structured abstract should be divided into four sections: Objective, Methods, Results, and Conclusion.
- References should follow the Vancouver style <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html> and should be numbered consecutively in the order they are first mentioned in the text. Abbreviate journal names according to *Index Medicus*. List all authors up to 6; if more than 6, list the first 3 and then 'et al'.
- Tables should be numbered and prepared on separate sheets. Tables require a heading and Figures a legend, also prepared on separate sheets. Figures must be good drawings or original photographs no larger than 5" x 7". Color black/white is acceptable. For photomicrographs, magnification and stain should be specified.
- Each figure should have a label pasted on its back indicating the figure number, and top of the figure. Do not write authors' names on the back of figures. High-resolution digital illustrations (JPEG or TIFF files) are also acceptable. Explain in footnotes all nonstandard abbreviations that are used in each table and figure. *Patient confidentiality: Where illustration must include recognizable individuals, a great care must be taken to ensure that consent for publication has been given.*
- Use Fédération Dentaire Internationale (FDI), Système International

(SI) units and standard abbreviations only. Avoid abbreviations in the title and abstract. Full term for an abbreviation stands should precede its first use in the text unless it is a standard unit of measurement.

- In general, all products (drugs, dental materials, instruments, etc.) should be referred to the generic names.
- The code of ethics for authors is based on the FDI policy statement <http://www.fdiworldental.org/federation/assets/statements/ENGLISH/Ethics/Code_Ethics_Publications.pdf>.

Ethics in Science

In all reports of original studies with humans, authors should specifically state the nature of the ethical review and clearance of the study protocol. Informed consent must be obtained from human subjects participating in research studies conducted in full accordance with ethical principles, including the World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki (version VI, 2002) <<http://www.wma.net/e/policy/b3.htm>> and the additional requirements, if any, of the country where the research has been carried out. Some reports, such as those dealing with institutionalized children or mentally retarded persons, may need additional details of the ethical clearance obtained.

The methods section of each experiment must clearly indicate that adequate measures were taken to ensure responsible use of animals by embracing the principles of replacement, reduction and refinement. Experiments carried out in Hong Kong, should be conducted in accordance with the relevant sections of legislation, see <<http://www.legislation.gov.hk>>, government guidelines <http://www.afcd.gov.hk/quarantine/animals_e.htm>, and also the rulings of the animal ethics committee of the host institution/university to ensure humane use of animals. Experiments carried out elsewhere should be carried out in accordance with the latest guidelines laid down by the National Institute of Health (NIH) in the USA regarding the care and use of animals for experimental procedures see <<http://www.nap.edu/readingroom/books/abrats/>> or with the European Communities Council Directive of 24 November 1986 (86/609/EEC), see <<http://conventions.coe.int/Treaty/en/Treaties/Html/123.htm>>.

All studies using human or animal subjects should include an explicit statement in the Material and Methods section identifying the review and ethics committee approval for each study, if applicable. Editors reserve the right to reject papers if there is doubt as to whether appropriate procedures have been followed.

Specific Instruction for Clinical Trials

The HKDJ subscribes to the CONSORT statement for reporting the results of clinical trials <<http://www.consort-statement.org>>.

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