

Articles for Diplomate Exams

The International Board of Examiners (IBE) of the ICAK requires the fulfilling of certain norms and guidelines regarding the structure and quality of the article submitted for the Diplomate exam. The candidate must presubmit the articles to the literature committee of his local chapter, who will forward the articles to the secretary of the IBE after approval. The necessary structure is described below.

Concise Guidelines for Manuscript Requirements

These guidelines are to be followed preparing a manuscript for publication in the context of the Diplomate exam of the ICAK

A. Original article, reviews and informational articles

should not exceed 23000 letters (incl. blank spaces) or 5 printed pages

1. Title in English

This contains the full names of all authors with academic degrees and titles as well as their academic institutions, address, tel., fax, e-mail. -
Name the author for contacts.

2. Abstract

For original research, reviews and meta analysis, a structured abstract is required:
Background (objectives), **methods** (design, setting and patients or subjects, interventions, main outcome measures), **results, conclusions**.

3. Key words

Use three to ten key words, specifically ones that will be appropriate for the search in international data banks like Medline and Index Medicus.

4. Title in German

(s. above, No. 1)

5. Zusammenfassung (Abstract) in German

6. Key words in German

Abstract and key words in English and German should not comprise more than 3500 letters (incl. blank spaces)

7. Text

7.1 Introduction

A short description of the objectives and the published research up to present. No data and results of the research presented in the actual article.

7.2 Methods

Describe the study design, the applied trial- and research methods as well as the choice of patients or subjects. New methods ought to be described in a sufficiently detailed manner so that others may reproduce the procedure.. In reviews and meta analysis it should be described how the presented data were found and by which criteria they were selected and compared.

7.3 Statistics

Describe statistical methods used and significance level required to reject the null hypothesis.

7.4 Results

Describe results in form of text and/or graphs including the results of statistical measures.

7.5 Discussion

Present the new and important results of your study and give theoretical explanations and comparative considerations.

7.6 Conclusion

Brief statement of the results of the study and their implications and limitations regarding clinical practice. What do the results of the study mean for future research?

Same as conclusion 7.8 Acknowledgements

Appropriate **acknowledgements** to all the persons who supported the study.

7.9 References

Quotation follows „uniform requirements“ (www.icmje.com). All statements in text (studies, books, articles etc.) must be referenced. Mark the reference in the text with a number, which refers to the reference list in order of occurrence at the end of the text.

Examples

1. Davidoff F for the CSE Task Force on Authorship. . Who's the Author? Problems with Biomedical Authorship, and Some Possible Solutions. Science Editor. July-August 2000: Volume 23 - Number 4: 111-119.
2. Yank V, Rennie D. Disclosure of researcher contributions: a study of original research articles in The Lancet. Ann Intern Med. 1999 Apr 20;130(8):661-70.
3. Flanagan A, Fontanarosa PB, DeAngelis CD. Authorship for research groups. JAMA. 2002;288:3166-68.
4. Peer Review in Health Sciences. F Godlee, T Jefferson. London: BMJ Books, 1999.
5. World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki: ethical principles for medical research involving human subjects. JAMA. 2000 Dec 20;284(23):3043-5.
6. Pitkin RM, Branagan MA, Burmeister LF. Accuracy of data in abstracts of published research articles. JAMA. 1999 Mar 24-31;281(12):1110-1.

The fourth and more names may be substituted by *et al*.

Personal communications are to be placed at the specific location in the text, mentioning if it was in oral or written form. State that the communicating person authorized the quote.

7.10 Tables and Figures/Photos

Submit tables and figures separately, not integrated in the text.

Use jpg format with 300dpi.

Attribute sequential numbers and a legend to all tables and figures and identify the separate data with these numbers and legends.

For all tables and figures from other publications the author must supply the original authorization. The publisher of the text will suppose that you achieved the authorization of the original author.

B. Case reports

They should be written in the following format:

Title

author(s), institution

Abstract

Keywords

Introduction

The author describes the health problem and its individual and social relevance. What literature there is regarding the topic. Relevance of the case study for health care. Purpose of the case study.

Method (Case study)

History and examination (positive and negative findings), differential diagnosis, Clear description of the therapeutic techniques including literature on the technique.

Results

Treatment results documented with objective measurable data (ex.: range of motion, lab) and subjective data (visual analogous scale), short term and long term effects.

Discussion

Interpretation of the results, model of the mechanisms of the treatment results, description of unclear effects, failures, differential therapy, limitation of the treatment method, relevance for similar cases.

Conclusion

Was the thesis (null hypothesis) confirmed or not? Proposals for future studies.

References (see above for format requirements)