

For Authors and Reviewers

1. Criteria for Publication

Manuscripts should represent a substantial advance in the area of Health Studies in terms of

- ▶ Originality
- ▶ Importance to researchers or practitioners in the field
- ▶ Interest for researchers or practitioners outside the field
- ▶ Rigorous methodology
- ▶ Adherence to the highest ethical standards.

2. Pre submission Inquiries

Authors may submit pre submission queries to the editors at jhsindia@gmail.com

3. Time Frame

JHS appears only three times a year. Accepted articles will appear in JHS no later than 8 months (two issues) . The process of reviewing articles may take upto a month.

4. The Paper

The **Research Paper** should not ordinarily be more than 8000 words long. However, the preferred length of the paper would be 6000 words. Papers longer than 8000 words will be returned to the author requesting an adherence to the length norms. In exceptional cases, if the author's explanation in the matter is accepted by the editors, they may consider a longer paper.

- ▶ General considerations: JHS encourages innovations in writing style and does not require authors to adhere to conventional structure and style of scientific papers.
- ▶ Please include a cover page with author details. The **author names should not appear in any of the other pages of the manuscript.**
- ▶ On the second page provide the first names or initials (if used), middle names or initials(if used), surnames, and affiliations—department, university or organization, city, state/province (if applicable), and country—for all authors. One of the authors should be designated as the corresponding author, but email addresses of all authors must be provided.
- ▶ The title should be a clear description of the paper's content. The title should be specific to the study yet concise, and should allow sensitive and specific electronic retrieval of the article. It should be comprehensible to readers outside your field. Avoid specialist abbreviations if possible. Titles should be presented in title case, meaning that all words except for prepositions, articles, and conjunctions should be capitalized.
- ▶ The abstract should be a clear representation of the findings or main arguments and purpose of the paper. It should not report the results. It should not be more than 150 words.

- ▶ The background section should describe clearly the rationale for the study being done. It should end with a statement of the specific study hypothesis and/or study objectives.
- ▶ Core of the paper: Describes the participants, the study contours, what was studied. Describe the study design/intervention/main methods used. Describe what was primarily being assessed e.g. primary outcome measure and, if appropriate, over what period. Please keep in mind that JHS is a multidisciplinary journal. If critical to the understanding of the paper, describe how results were analyzed, giving information on the specific statistical tests used. For the main outcomes provide a numerical result if appropriate and a measure of its precision (where necessary). Describe any adverse events/outcomes. Describe the main limitations of the study.
- ▶ Conclusions --Provide a general interpretation of the results with any important recommendations for future research.
- ▶ References and Endnotes: The citation and referencing style will depend on the disciplinary base of the article. Whatever the style used it should be consistent throughout the paper.
- ▶ Text files can be submitted for review in any widely used word processing format. Graphics files can be submitted in Excel. If possible, please label all figures using a sans serif font. If the paper has a number of figures and more than five mid-sized tables, please check with the editors. All figures and graphs should be on separate sheets. The text should indicate the preferred location of table or graph.

Research Notes/Field Notes/ Discussions on Methodology may be upto 3000 words.

Essays:

JHS encourages experimentation in writing modes in reporting social sciences research. We will consider research writing that is presented as essays or short stories provided that all the research material is duly cited and no distortions take place. These may be 3000 words. Please send queries to jhsindia@gmail.com.

Topical Commentaries may be upto 2000 words and written in a lively style.

Datasets:

JHS welcomes the sharing of datasets with explanatory notes. Authorship will remain with the author in all cases.

Policy Conclave:

JHS might from time to time commission policy analysis/comments. These will be published together with appropriate bibliographic lists of policy documents and access details. These may also take the form of symposia. Readers are welcome to suggest and organise such conclaves.

Discussion:

Contributions should not be more than 2000 words. Most often these will be concerned with papers published in JHS. But JHS may consider discussion papers published elsewhere with the intention of broadening the base of discussion.

5. Consent Requirements:

Participants of a study have a right to privacy that should not be infringed without informed consent. Identifying information should not be published in written descriptions, photographs, and pedigrees unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and the participants have given written informed consent for publication. Complete anonymity is difficult to achieve, and informed consent for publication should be obtained if there is any doubt. If data are changed to protect anonymity, authors should provide assurance that alterations of the data do not distort scientific meaning. When informed consent has been obtained it should be indicated in the published article.

6. Author Status:

All authors will be contacted via e-mail at submission to ensure that they are aware of and approve the submission of the manuscript, its content, authorship, and order of authorship. Articles will not be published unless all authors have provided their assent to publication.

7. Overview of Editorial Process:

Our aim is to provide all authors with an efficient, courteous, and constructive editorial process. To ensure the fairest and most objective decision-making, the editorial process is run as a partnership between the editors, the consulting editors and the reviewers.

Submitted manuscripts will be assigned to one of the editors. If the paper is deemed to be within the scope of the journal with regard to content and of a minimum quality standard the editor will send it out for peer review. Expert reviewers will be asked to assess the technical and scientific merits of the work. JHS has currently adopted a blind review process and the names of the reviewers will not be revealed to the author, nor will the author's name/s be known to the reviewer.

Once all reviews have been received and considered by the professional and academic editors, a decision letter to the author will be sent. There are several types of decision possible: accept the manuscript as submitted; accept it with minor revision; invite the authors to submit a major revision of the manuscript before a final decision is reached; reject, typically because it does not fit the criteria outlined above of originality, importance to the field, cross-discipline interest, or sound methodology. Revised manuscripts will be assessed by an editor. Sometimes, re-review will be required, but in general we aim to make decisions without involving multiple rounds of review.

