

EDITORIAL GOALS: The *Journal of the National Medical Association* is the primary source for specialized clinical research activities related to the health problems of African Americans and other minority groups in the inner cities. Special emphasis is placed on the application of medical science to improve the healthcare of underserved populations both in the United States and abroad. The journal has the following objectives: to expand the base of original peer-reviewed literature, recognizing the need for greater dissemination of information; to offer appropriate and timely recognition of the significant contributions that physicians who serve the underserved populations are making in the quest by medical science to improve the health of all people; and to sustain interest by member and nonmember physicians in the overall goals and objectives of the National Medical Association. The journal features on a regular basis: **Original Communications**—Review articles and research work in progress, fully documented and referenced; **Case Reports; Briefs**—Articles of general medical, economic, political, legal, or social interest to physicians; **Guest Editorials** by invitation; **Medical History**—Recognition of the significant contributions to medical research and healthcare by past black physicians and others; **Professional News and NMA Activities; Letters to the Editor; Book Reviews; Continuing Medical Education** manuscripts; **NMA President** column; **NMA Health Policy** columns; **Law in Medicine; Art in Medicine; NMA Consensus Statement**.

These guidelines are in accordance with the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals.” (The complete document appears in *N Engl J Med*. 1997;336:309–315.) Go to <http://content.nejm.org/cgi/reprint/336/4/309.pdf>

PERMISSIONS: Permissions must be obtained for use of illustrations and tables taken from previously published works. Permission must be obtained from the copyright holder before an article is submitted, and the letters of permission should accompany the manuscript. The source of the material should be mentioned in the figure legend or table footnote.

CASE REPORTS: Case Reports are accepted if indeed they present a rare and unusual disease entity or if the authors are presenting a new treatment modality for a rare lesion. Patient encounters that are merely graphic in nature or sensational/exaggerated in appearance or presentation are not encouraged. Case Reports are limited to 1,500 words, two illustrations, five authors and 10 references.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR: Authors must refer to the LTE in the first sentence or paragraph and list that article in the references.

INTERNATIONAL MANUSCRIPTS: Manuscripts from outside the United States should have some relevance to the generic population base under discussion so as to be applicable to a worldwide readership. Except for Case Reports, descriptions of public health issues or presentations of disease entities that are solely applicable to a single geographic region, unless being presented to acquaint the world with a new disease entity with worldwide implications, will not be favorably reviewed.

If English is not a strong second language, it is strongly recommended that the authors seek professional assistance in the form of a professional copyeditor before submitting the manuscript. Many reviewers will tend to reject a manuscript that they have difficulty getting through as the central theme or message may become lost in the process. A listing of such vendors follows this section.

STATISTICAL METHODOLOGY: Authors are encouraged to utilize professional statisticians when dealing with multiple variables, confounding variables, disparate numbers in-group comparisons and when analyzing heterogeneous groupings based upon race/ethnicity and gender. The Editorial Board does not provide assistance with data management and manuscripts with apparent Type I or Type II errors will be returned.

REFERENCES: References are critically examined at the time of editorial review and must be verified by the author(s) against the original sources prior to submission of the manuscript. Number references consecutively in the order in which they appear in the text. Identify reference citations by arabic numerals in superscript. Personal communications, unpublished data and manuscripts either in preparation or submitted but not accepted should not be included as

references, but should be incorporated parenthetically in the text with full name of source and complete date. The style of Index Medicus should be followed in citing publication titles. Please find the Index Medicus Style Guide for publication abbreviations at <http://locator-plus.gov/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?DB=local&PAGE=First>. Listed below, respectively, are references to a journal, a chapter in a book and a government publication in correct style. **List the first three authors then “, et al.” Note the punctuation and use of spaces in the publication names and numbers. In the body of the manuscript, wherever footnote numbers appear next to punctuation, the footnote should appear after the punctuation.**

1. Perlin E, Taylor RE, Peck CC. Clinical pharmacokinetics: a simplified approach, part 2. *J Natl Med Assoc*. 1986;78:835-842.
2. Bell CC, Bland I, Houston E, et al. Enhancement of knowledge and skills for psychiatric treatment of black populations. In: Chun JC, Dunstan PJ, Ross-Sheriff F, eds. *Mental Health and People of Color*. Washington, DC: Howard University Press; 1983:205-237.
3. The 1984 Report of the Joint National Committee on Detection, Evaluation and Treatment of High Blood Pressure. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office; 1984. U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services publication NIH 84-1088.

TABLES: Tables should be self-explanatory, clearly organized and supplemental to the text. **Each table should include a title, be typed on a separate sheet and numbered in order of its citation in the text.** Tables should be used to compare or classify information for easier understanding and should not duplicate data included in the text or figures.

FIGURES: Figures should be used if they clearly increase understanding of the text and include all material that cannot be set in type, such as photographs, graphs, charts, line drawings and tracings. **Drawings and graphs should be professionally prepared and submitted as clean printouts or supplied at 300 dpi or higher in EPS, TIFF, PDF or JPG format.** Meaningful use of color is encouraged. All illustrations should be unmounted. Each should have a gummed label on the back listing the figure number, title of manuscript, author(s) and arrow indicating the top. Illustrations should be numbered, cited in sequential order in the text and have a legend.

DISCLOSURE: You must disclose all financial support related to your submission. This statement must appear on your title page.

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION: Contributions will be considered for publication with the understanding that they are solely contributed to the *Journal of the National Medical Association* and have not

been previously published elsewhere. The transmittal letter should designate one author as correspondent. Authors are responsible for all statements made in their work. Accepted manuscripts become the permanent property of the journal and will not be published until the copyright transmittal forms sent to the authors on acceptance of the manuscript have been signed by all authors and returned to *JNMA*. **Color figures, charts and photos are encouraged.** Submit your manuscript and electronic visual aids (2,400 dpi), when possible, by e-mail to shaynes@nmanet.org. When it is not possible to e-mail your entire submission, mail one copy of your manuscript, four copies of your visual aids plus an electronic copy of your manuscript on disc. Also submit three suggested reviewers who have expertise in the area of your manuscript's subject. Please give their full names, designations, specialties, addresses, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail addresses. Send all to the editor-in-chief: Eddie L. Hoover, MD, *Journal of the National Medical Association*, 1012 Tenth St. NW, Washington, DC 20001.

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Margins: Top and bottom: 1 inch; left and right: 1½ inches

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- Title of the article (short, specific, clear and not to exceed 200 characters). Do not list location or country here and do not put title in the form of a question.
- Manuscript type (Original Communication, Case Report, Brief, Guest Editorial, History, Letter to Editor, Book Review, CME, Law, Art)
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- **Generic names must be used for drugs.** If it is necessary to use brand names, include reasoning for inclusion of brand names in your cover letter and insert product name and manufacturer in parentheses after the generic name in your manuscript.
- Abbreviations should be kept to a minimum and must be spelled out at first mention with the abbreviation or acronym following in parentheses.
- For a listing of standard medical abbreviations, consult the *AMA Stylebook/Editorial Manual*, 9th ed. Baltimore, MD: Williams & Wilkins; 1998.

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