THIS TEMPLATE IS MEANT AS A GUIDE TO OUTLINE EACH SECTION OF THE MANUSCRIPT – FOLLOW THE GUIDELINES INSTRUCTED BY EACH INDIVIDUAL JOURNAL FOR ACCURATE INFORMATION.

The red text explains each element.

REVIEW ORIGINAL RESEARCH CASE REPORT CASE SERIES RAPID COMMUNICATION METHODOLOGY PERSPECTIVES EXPERT OPINION SHORT REPORT COMMENTARY HYPOTHESIS MINI-REVIEW [These are paper types. Please choose one and delete the rest.]

[First author] et al

Manuscript title in sentence case [Insert FULL TITLE here]

Author name [Please list all authors here and do not include abbreviated qualifications][1]

Author name[2]

[1]Author affiliations [list all author affiliations in the form of department, institution, city, state, country]; [2]Author affiliations

Correspondence: [Full name of corresponding author.]

[Include full postal address here.]

Email: [Include email address here.]

Abstract

[There are two types of abstracts. One is structured and the other is not. Check word count within the author guidelines of the journal you selected (abstracts are usually between 200-300 words). Unstructured abstracts should be given in one paragraph and outline the purpose of the paper, results obtained, and conclusions. Review articles commonly have unstructured abstracts. Original research articles commonly have a structure as follows in the below example.

- Use active voice but avoid "we did" or "we found"
- Spell out an acronym the first time you use it
- Numbers over 10 do not need spelling out at the start of sentences
- Sentences starting with a number do not require a capital letter
- p-values should always be accompanied by supporting data
- Denominators should be given for percentages
- Abstracts do not need references

Background:

Objective:

Results:

Conclusion:

Keywords: [Choose four to six keywords. They should not repeat words given in the title. Try to select MeSH terms for ease of searching once published.]

[Alternate Subheadings: Objectives; Design; Setting; Participants; Interventions; Main outcome measures; Results; Conclusions; Trial registration: (if applicable)]

[Scientific manuscript format of an original article includes IMRaD format:

I = Introduction, M = Methods, R = Results, D = Discussion

For further guidance, consult established reporting guidelines depending on your study type, such as the CONSORT Statement for randomized trials or STROBE for observational studies or PRISMA for systematic reviews and meta-analyses.

Abbreviations are defined in full at their first instance. Again, check with author guidelines within the journal you selected for submission. Generally, each major section of your manuscript should have a heading. The most common breakdown of a paper is given below. Please delete or include as needed.]

Introduction

[Insert TEXT here; a succinct introduction of no more than 2-3 paragraphs presenting the background to the research question, including the elements below; use references throughout this section.]

- **Broad Context & Burden:** Define the disease, condition, or clinical problem and outline its global or local health impact.
- **What is Currently Known:** Synthesize the most relevant, recent literature to establish the baseline of current medical understanding.
- **The "Gap" in Knowledge:** Explicitly state what remains unknown, unresolved, or unaddressed in previous studies.
- **Rationale:** Explain *why* this study is needed and how it adds value to existing clinical practice or medical literature.
- **Study Objective & Hypothesis:** State the primary and secondary objectives clearly. In interventional trials, this should include the precise testable hypothesis (e.g., PICOT elements).

Methods

[Include a statement that identifiable patients have provided consent, where applicable; a statement that the study received appropriate ethical approval, where appropriate; include a concise description of study procedures and analysis. Example information to include in methods section below:]

- **Study Design**
  - **Design Type:** Specify the research design (e.g., randomized controlled trial, cohort study, case-control, cross-sectional, or qualitative study).
  - **Timeline:** State the study duration, including exact start and end dates for data collection.
  - **Setting:** Describe the location(s) where the study took place (e.g., single-center vs. multi-center, specific hospitals, or clinics).
- **Study Population**
  - **Inclusion/Exclusion Criteria:** Define the precise eligibility rules for participants.
  - **Recruitment:** Explain how participants were identified and enrolled (e.g., consecutive patients from a database, public advertisements).
- **Interventions & Materials (If Applicable)**
  - **Interventions:** Detail any drugs, devices, therapies, or behavioral interventions tested, including exact dosages, administration routes, and manufacturers.
  - **Materials:** List the specific laboratory equipment, biological assays, or standardized questionnaires used.
- **Outcome Measures**

- **Primary Outcomes:** The main clinical endpoints the study was designed to measure.
- **Secondary Outcomes:** Any additional, supporting clinical endpoints assessed.

- **Data Collection & Procedures**
  - **Procedures:** Outline the chronological steps of the study, such as when and how biological samples were collected, examinations were performed, or surveys were administered.
  - **Variables:** Define all independent and dependent variables.
- **Statistical Analysis**
  - **Software:** State the exact statistical software used (e.g., SPSS, R, SAS) and version numbers. Provide reference for any statistical software packages used.
  - **Methods:** Describe the tests used to analyze the data (e.g., t-tests, Chi-square, regression models) and how missing data or outliers were handled.
  - **Power Analysis:** Include the methods and parameters used to determine the necessary sample size.
- **Ethical Considerations**
  - **Approvals:** State that the study was approved by the institutional review board (IRB) or independent ethics committee.
  - **Consent:** Confirm whether informed consent or assent was obtained from participants.
  - **Trial Registration:** Provide the clinical trial registry name and registration number (e.g., ClinicalTrials.gov identifier).

Results

[For statistical reporting see Statistical Analyses and Methods in the Published Literature (SAMPL) Guidelines]

Discussion

[Insert DISCUSSION here; this should be structured (although not necessarily with subheadings):

- Statement of principal findings
- Strengths and weaknesses of the study
- Strengths and weaknesses in relation to other studies, discussing important differences in results
- Meaning of the study: possible explanations and implications for clinicians and policymakers
- Unanswered questions and future research]

Acknowledgements

[Insert here – All contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in the Acknowledgments section. For more guidance on the types of contributors and their role in research outputs (including authors and other types of contributions: Contributor Role Taxonomy. Examples of who might be acknowledged include those who provided only technical help, writing assistance, or a department chairperson who provided only general support. Authors should declare whether they had assistance with the study design, data collection, data analysis, or manuscript preparation. If such assistance was provided, the authors should disclose the identity

of the individuals who provided this assistance, with their permission, in the published article. Financial and material support should also be acknowledged.]

Authors' Contributions

[Insert author initials and their contributions.Use the IMCJE authorship guidelines for authorship credit and should be based on the following criteria:

1. Made a significant contribution to the work reported, whether that is in the conception, study design, execution, acquisition of data, analysis and interpretation, or in all these areas.
2. Have drafted or written or substantially revised or critically reviewed the article.
3. Have agreed on the journal to which the article will be submitted.
4. Reviewed and agreed on all versions of the article before submission, during revision, the final version accepted for publication, and any significant changes introduced at the proofing stage.
5. Agree to take responsibility and be accountable for the contents of the article.

All authors must meet conditions 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 and appropriate credit for each author's contribution should be given. *Acquisition of funding, data collection or analysis, or general team supervision alone does not constitute authorship*. More information on how to format Authors' Contributions section. This is an example of how author contributions should be listed:]

Drs XXXX and YYYY had full access to all data in the study and take responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis.

Concept and design: List names.

Acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data: List names.

Drafting of the manuscript: List names.

Critical revision of the manuscript for important intellectual content: List names.

Statistical analysis: List names.

Obtained funding: List names.

Administrative, technical, or material support: List names.

Supervision: List names.

Disclosure: The author reports no conflicts of interest in this work. [Each manuscript needs to include a disclosure of financial interest or other conflict of interest statement. This is where these statements go].

Role of Study Sponsors: [In design or in the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data, where applicable]

Other Declarations: [Example language, if applicable: *The investigators were independent from the funders; all authors had full access to the data and can take responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis; the lead author (the manuscript's guarantor) affirms that the manuscript is an honest, accurate, and transparent account of the study being reported; that no important aspects of the study have been omitted; and that any discrepancies from the study as planned (and, if relevant, registered) have been explained; Data sharing: no additional data available (if appropriate).*]

References

[We recommend using citation management software, such as Zotero or Endnote; for managing references and citations. See selected journal author guidelines for more details on reference style.]

[See your selected journal author guidelines for figure and table requirements. Many times, these items are asked to be uploaded to a separate file when submitting manuscript to journal for review.]

Table 1 [Table titles are in sentence case and do not end with a full-stop.]

Notes:

Abbreviations: AUC, area under the curve; LS, least squares; NE, not estimable.

[These are examples of format.]

Figure 1 [Title of figure is in sentence case and ends in a full stop.]