

Instructions for Authors: Afr. Infect. Dis. (2018) 12(1):39-45

Publisher: African Traditional Herbal Medicine Supporters Initiative (ATHMSI)

Web page: <http://http://journals.sfu.ca/africanem/index.php/AJID/index>

The African Journal of Infectious Disease (AJID) is a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary, international journal that provides rapid publication of articles on Infectious Diseases of man and domestic animals. The Journal welcomes submission of articles that meet the general criteria of significance and scientific excellence. Papers will be published approximately two-to-three months after acceptance.

The Mission and Vision statement of ATHMSI (the publisher) is to encourage herbal complementary efforts by indigenous communities, in the management of human and animal diseases. The aims of the NGO are to:

- i. exchange information on ethnomedicines through networking at local, national, regional and international levels;
- ii. facilitate collaboration and constant flow of information between Traditional Medical Practitioners and Orthodox Medical Practitioners;
- iii. promote integration of Traditional Medical Practitioners into healthcare delivery system;
- iv. facilitate the training of Traditional Medical Practitioners through organization of courses and workshops with emphasis on standardization, safety, efficacy and quality of their products;
- v. encourage registration of Traditional Medical Practitioners as cooperative groups with the appropriate authorities at the Local, State, Regional, National Levels and at International terrain;
- vi. facilitate activities that would fill the gaps that exist in research and development, in the various communities on one hand, and large-scale industrial production of plant products which could be bridged through commercial-oriented research, on the other hand; and
- vii. disseminate relevant scientific information through appropriate journal publications.

Publication of articles in AJID, like in other reputable scientific journals, involves many parties, each of which plays an important role in achieving the objectives of the journal. It, therefore, follows that all players in the publication process, especially the author, the journal editor, the peer-reviewer, and the publisher are expected to meet and uphold standard norms of ethical behaviour at all stages of their involvement, from submission stage to publication of the article stage.

ATHMSI is committed to meeting and upholding standards of ethical behaviour at all stages of the publication process. The Journal provides authors with links to industrial associations that set standards and provide guidelines for best practices in order to meet these requirements, such as the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) <http://publicationethics.org/resources/guidelines>, and other relevant bodies, e.g., Elsevier's Publishing Ethics Resource Kit (PERK). <https://www.elsevier.com/editors/publishing-ethics/perk>; International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICJME) <http://www.icmje.org/recommendations>; and World Association of Medical Editors (WAME). <http://www.wame.org/about/recommendations-on-publication-ethics-policies>. Below is a summary of the journal's key expectations from editors, peer-reviewers and authors.

Policy and Ethics: The author, in his/her covering letter, must declare that the work reported in the manuscript was performed according to the national and international institutional rules concerning animal experiments, clinical studies and biodiversity rights. The importance of the study should also be provided in the covering letter. Authors should submit data that have arisen from animal and human studies in an ethically-guided manner by following the guidelines set up by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Authors submitting papers are advised to read online WIPO and WHO guidelines on these subjects.

(http://www.wipo.int/tk/en/consultations/draft_provisions/draft_provisions.html and <http://www.who.int/medicines/library/trm/researchdocs.shtml>). Authors should make sure that they have acquired appropriate "prior informed consent" (PIC) of patients or volunteers used in their clinical studies. This means that the onus is on the authors, and not on the journal, regarding this important ethical issue. Moreover, authors should state this as a part of the protocol describing how this type of study or survey is made. Papers that violate these principles will neither be accepted nor considered for publication in AJID.

Author contributions: Each author should state his/her contribution to the article.

Declaration of conflict of interest: It is mandatory that authors disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest

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Every manuscript submitted to AJID will be initially checked and reviewed by an Editorial Office staff. If it is deemed to be appropriate and within the scope of the journal, the manuscript will be assigned to a sectional editor. If the Sectional Editor judges the article to be suitable for possible consideration for publication in AJID, the manuscript will then be sent to at least two external reviewers who are experts in the study area (using our database of experts in the field). All received manuscripts undergo these processes except (i) Letters to the Editor, (ii) Commentaries, (iii) Editorials and (iv) Conference Reports which are based on the Editor's decision who may ask experts in the field on the scientific and ethical merits of their contents.

At the time of submission, authors are requested to provide two-to-three potential reviewers (with their names, affiliations and e-mail addresses) who could expertly review their manuscripts.

However, the Editors reserve the right to choose or not to choose any from the authors' suggested reviewers.

AJID uses a single-blind review process. The reviewers' identities are kept confidential, while the identity of the author/authors is made known to the reviewers.

Reviewers are expected to maintain confidentiality about the manuscripts that they review. Authors should receive initial decision on their manuscripts within 4-8 weeks after submission. If revision of the manuscript is required, the authors must submit their revised manuscript within 2-4 weeks of the request.

The Editorial Board may require authors to revise their manuscript/s more than once.

Article Processing Fee (APF) and Extra-Page Charges (EPC) will apply to all manuscripts submitted to AJID including: Original articles, review articles, case reports and short communications. The APF is USD300.00. This includes up to 10 black-and-white published pages. EPC of USD30.00 will be charged per additional black-and-white page, while a once-for-all Submission Fee (SF) of USD20.00 will be charged for every manuscript submitted to the journal.

Original/Regular Articles: should describe original investigations and research works that represent new and significant contributions and advances to the field of Infectious Diseases. Such articles should contain 4000-6000 words, 4-8 figures/tables and a maximum of 35-40 references.

The structured abstract should be 200-250 words. Original/Regular Articles are always peer-reviewed.

Review Articles: should bear reviews on major areas or sub-areas in the area of Infectious Diseases. Reviews should describe current, new developments, summarize progress, and analyze published works in the field. Such articles should contain 5000-8000 words, 4-8 figures/tables, and a maximum of 40-50 references. The structured Abstract should be 200-250 words. Review Articles are always peer-reviewed.

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of interest to the journal. They should not have Tables or Figures. They should contain 500-750 words in length, and no more than a maximum of 5 references. Letters to the Editors are not peer-reviewed, but the Editor reserves the right to accept or reject any such article. The Editor may also seek expert views and/or opinions in the field before accepting or rejecting such articles.

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Authorship: Only those persons who contributed directly to the intellectual content of the paper should be listed as authors. The surnames and addresses/affiliations of all authors, as well as the e-mail address of the corresponding author, should be clearly indicated on the title page. Only one author can be the corresponding author. The corresponding author is the one individual who takes primary responsibility for communication with the journal office during the manuscript submission, peer review, and publication processes.

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must also be clearly stated. When reporting experiments on human subjects, authors should indicate whether or not the procedures followed are in agreement with the ethical standards of the committee on human experimentation (institutional, national and international), and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 2008.

Manuscript Preparation Guidelines: Each manuscript to be submitted to AJID should be prepared and structured into the following sections:

1. Title page
2. Abstract
3. Key-words
4. Abbreviations
5. Introduction
6. Materials and Methods
7. Results
8. Discussion
9. Conclusion
10. Conflict of Interest/Competing Interests
11. Acknowledgements
12. References

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The first page of the manuscript should set out:

1. The title page of the article (100 characters maximum);
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The 'Title' should be as brief as possible, describing the contents of the article. The 'TITLE PAGE' must include the authors' full names and affiliations. The name of the corresponding author and his/her e-mail address should be clearly indicated. Present addresses of authors should appear as footnote.

The 'Abstract' should be informative and self-explanatory. It should be structured into: **Background, Materials and Methods, Results and Conclusion**. The entire Abstract should be 200-250 words in length. Complete sentences, active verbs and third person should be used.

Key-words: following the Abstract, about 3-7 key-words that will provide indexing references should be listed.

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disciplines.

The '**Materials and Methods**' should be sufficiently complete to enable experiments described in the study to be repeated and reproduced by other researchers in the field. However, only truly new procedures should be described in detail; while previously published procedures should only be cited. Important modifications of published procedure should be mentioned only briefly. Capitalize Trade Names and include the Manufacturers names and addresses. Sub-headings should be used.

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The '**Discussion**' should interpret the findings in the light of the results obtained in the experiments and in the previous studies on the topic.

The '**Conclusion**' should briefly summarize the key findings of the study in a few sentences at the end of the manuscript.

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Acknowledgements should contain names of people who have contributed in one way or the other to the successful completion of the manuscripts, funds and grant providers, and so on. This should be as brief as possible.

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1. Kamanzi-Atindehou, K., Koné, M., Terreaux, C., Traore, D., Hostettmann, K. and Dosso, M. (2002). Evaluation of the antimicrobial potential of medicinal plants from the Ivory Coast. *Phytotherapy Research*, 16: 497 – 502.

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2. Vinegar, R.; Truax, J.F., Selph, J. L. and Voelker, F. A. (1982). Pathway of onset, development and decay of carrageenan pleurisy in the rat. Federation Proceedings, 41: 2588- 2595.

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