Articles submitted for publication to The Annals of Pharmacotherapy should advance the safe, effective, and economical use of medications in patients.

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Submission should be made at http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/aop by following the instructions on that page. Combine title page, abstract, text, references, and table(s) into a single document prior to online submission. Art (e.g., figures, photographs) must be computer-generated or scanned in high resolution (see also “Figures”). Each figure should be submitted as a separate electronic file. Tiff or pdf files are preferred. Tables should be submitted in an editable format, in either Word or Excel. Do not send images of tables.

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**Cover letter.** All cover letters must include the following:

1. Name of corresponding author with full mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address;
2. Article category preference (see “Article Categories”);
3. Brief explanation of the topic’s significance to patient care;
4. Explanation about any similar work by the author(s) or data from the same study that is under review or in press, or results previously presented or published (see “Duplicate Publication”).

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**Conflict of interest statement:** Authors must report any conflicts of interest including, but not limited to, consulting fees, paid expert testimony, employment, grants, honoraria,
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**Article Categories**

**Research Reports:** Original research involving medication effectiveness, safety, pharmacoeconomics, pharmacokinetics, pharmacogenomics, interactions, adherence and use, and pharmacy practice. Meta-analyses are also considered research. Well-designed prospective studies are given highest priority for acceptance. Limitations of studies must be stated in the text. All reports must include, when applicable, a statement in the Methods section that the work was conducted in compliance with Institutional Review Board/Human Subjects Research Committee requirements.

Abstract: no more than 300 words; Text: 3000 words
References: 30; Tables/figures: 4

**Review Articles:** Comprehensive, significant, critical, and analytical reviews that include essential information on a well-delineated subject. Reviews must synthesize and critically evaluate available data rather than simply describing the findings. Articles are classified using the subcategories below:

**SPECIALTIES:** Reviews within a specific clinical area (eg, cardiology, critical care, infectious diseases, oncology, pediatrics, psychiatry), drug interactions and reactions, and other areas such as pharmacoeconomics or pharmacoepidemiology.

Abstract: no more than 300 words; Text: 4500 words
References: 100; Tables/figures: 4

**DRUG INFORMATION_ROUNDS:** Answers to specific questions related to drug therapy that include recommendations based on available studies.

Abstract: no more than 300 words; Text: 2500 words
References: 25; Tables/figures: 1

**DRUG SELECTION PERSPECTIVES:** Com-parisons of drugs within a class or in different classes with the same indication(s).

Abstract: no more than 300 words; Text: 4000 words
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**FORMULARY FORUM:** Comprehensive, comparative reviews of single drug entities to aid in the understanding of the merits of the agent relative to others in its class.

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Abstract: no more than 300 words; Text: 2000 words
References: 50; Tables/figures: 2

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**THERAPEUTIC MONITORING:** Reviews of drug therapy monitoring for purposes of optimizing treatment in individual patients or populations.

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Abstract: no more than 300 words; Text: 2500 words
References: 25; Tables/figures: 4

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Abstract: 100 words (unstructured); Text: 1500 words
References: 15; Tables/figures: 1

**Letters and Comments:** Letters and comments should address areas related to clinical practice, research, or education, including recently published articles. Letters are limited to no more than five authors. In cases where adverse
effects or drug interactions are described, the Naranjo ADR or DIPS probability scales should be used to determine the likelihood that the adverse effect was drug-related (see “Case Reports”). Comments must be submitted within 6 months of an article’s publication.

Abstract: none; Text: 500 words
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Authors are required to follow The Annals’ style, which is consistent with the American Medical Association Manual of Style, 10th edition. http://www.amamanualofstyle.com/.

Manuscript Preparation: Manuscripts should be prepared using a standard 12-point font on 8.5 x 11.0 inch (216 x 279 mm) paper (ISO A4 also acceptable), with margins of at least 1 inch (25 mm). All copy should be double-spaced, including title page, abstract, text, acknowledgments, references, tables, and figure legends. Pages must be numbered.

Title Page: The title page should contain:
1. Article title (concise, but indicating main focus of paper);
2. Name of each author in line-by-line fashion (no footnotes) as it should appear in print;
3. Highest academic degree, position title, and/or academic appointment of each author;
4. Names of departments and institutions with which each author is affiliated;
5. Name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address of corresponding author;
6. Name, address, fax number, and email address of author to whom reprint requests should be sent, if different from corresponding author;
7. Statement pertaining to funding and conflict of interest (see “Conflict of Interest Statement”);
8. Information about presentation of the work as an abstract or poster, if applicable;
9. Separate word counts of abstract, main text, and references;
and
10. Key words for purposes of indexing and searching.

Structured Abstract: Abstracts should be no more than 300 words. All manuscripts submitted to The Annals, with the exception of Editorials, Opinions, and Letters, require an abstract that is structured with the appropriate headings as shown below. (Editorials and Opinions require an unstructured abstract up to 100 words in length.)

RESEARCH REPORTS

Background
Brief (2–3 sentences) description of why the study is needed and its importance to the field.

Objective
1. Concise (1–2 sentences) statement of the objective or hypothesis to be addressed.
2. Primary objective identified and stated first, followed by any key secondary objectives.

Methods
1. Design: Clear statement of the study’s design, including all aspects (eg, parallel group, randomized, blinded).
2. Participants and setting: The most pertinent inclusion and exclusion criteria, and the setting within which the study was conducted.
3. Interventions: Complete details on treatment (eg, drug dose, route of administration, and duration of administration) and, if pertinent, control interventions.
4. Outcome: Primary and secondary outcome measures, identified as such.

Results
1. Number of participants: Total number, with breakdown into defined groups (eg, treatment, control) shown, followed by number of participants analyzed, again with breakdown into defined groups shown.
2. Outcome: Numbers of participants and events shown, with summary of the outcome in each group reported as effect size (eg, relative risk, odds ratio) and precision (confidence interval). Data on all outcome measures and any negative and/or nonsignificant findings must be included.
3. Adverse events/safety: Any unintended effects shown; if none, that should be stated.
4. Limitations: Factors affecting accuracy or generalizability of results (eg, small sample size, open-label design).

Conclusions
1. Conclusions (not summary) of the study, based only on the results shown, with balance of benefits and harms.
2. Clinical application of the findings, again based only on the data obtained (ie, avoid over-generalization)
Research Report abstract example:

**Background:** No previous studies exist examining implementation of an institution-wide guideline and order set for hyperglycemic emergencies (diabetic ketoacidosis [DKA] and hyperosmolar hyperglycemic state [HHS]).

**Objective:** Evaluate the impact of an institutional guideline and order set for hyperglycemic emergencies. **Methods:** This retrospective descriptive study evaluated patients with a diagnosis of DKA or HHS. Two time periods were evaluated: phase 1 (PRE) assessed practice preguideline implementation, and phase 2 (POST) assessed practice postguideline and order set introduction. **Results:** A total of 172 patients (96 PRE and 81 POST) were included in the analysis. There was no difference in the mean intensive care unit (ICU) LOS in the PRE versus POST groups (5.2 ± 0.4 vs 5.9 ± 8.6 days, *P* = .49). The mean intensive care unit (ICU) LOS was shorter in the POST group (64.8 ± 19 vs 37.1 ± 74.8 hours, *P* < .01). The POST group had an increase in frequency of assessments for clearance of urinary ketones (18 vs 33.3%, *P* = .03) and β-hydroxybutyrate (16 vs 37%, *P* < .01). Frequency of point-of-care glucose testing (12.5 ± 4.6 vs 15.1 ± 4.7, *P* < .01) and time to anion gap closure (13 ± 9 vs 9.3 ± 7.4 hours, *P* < .01) improved in the POST group. There was no difference in the number of patients experiencing hypoglycemia or hypokalemia between both groups. **Conclusions:** Implementation of an institutional guideline and order set for hyperglycemic emergencies decreased ICU LOS and time to anion gap closure, with no difference in rates of hypoglycemia.

**REVIEW ARTICLES** (including Drug Information Rounds)

**Objective**

Explain the rationale and goals for the review.

**Data Sources**

Provide specific search details in the abstract and specify the resources employed in the search and include date ranges, search terms, and limits.

**Study Selection and Data Extraction**

Quantify the original reports included and how they were chosen, as well as the methods used for abstracting the data.

**Data Synthesis**

Summarize main results and provide interpretation of the data from various studies.

**Conclusions**

Summarize the key “take-home” points from the review. **NOTE:** Reviews that can only conclude with the suggestion that “additional studies are needed” will be of a lower priority than reviews that can provide direct clinical recommendations or assessments as based on the literature being reviewed.

**Review Article abstract example:**

**Objective:** To review the possible association between azithromycin and increased cardiovascular risk. **Data sources:** A literature search of MEDLINE (1946-August 2013) was performed using the search terms *macrolide*, azithromycin, QT prolongation, cardiovascular, and torsade de pointes. Additional references were identified from a review of literature citations. **Study selection and data extraction:** All English-language observational studies assessing the association between azithromycin and QT prolongation or cardiovascular risk were evaluated. Case reports describing this potential association were also reviewed. **Data synthesis:** A total of 6 case reports have shown a possible association between azithromycin and QT prolongation. In 3 of these cases, proarrhythmic events were reported. In a prospective observational study of 47 individuals with low cardiovascular risk, electrocardiograms were compared before and after 5 days of azithromycin treatment. Mild prolongation of the QTc was noted, but it was statistically insignificant compared with baseline. No arrhythmias were observed. A large observational cohort study found a small increase in cardiovascular deaths after azithromycin therapy, primarily among patients with high baseline cardiovascular risk. Conversely, a second cohort study involving a population of young to middle-aged adults failed to find an association. **Conclusions:** An emerging body of evidence suggests that azithromycin therapy may prolong the QT interval and, in rare cases, precipitate the potentially fatal arrhythmia torsade de pointes. Patients with additional risk factors for QT prolongation appear to be at highest risk, including women, elderly individuals; those with existing or prior history of cardiovascular disease, QT interval prolongation, hypokalemia, hypomagnesium, or bradycardia; and those using concomitant drugs associated with QT prolongation. For patients without these additional risk factors, azithromycin appears to be relatively safe.

**Text:** Appropriate headings and subheadings should be used liberally throughout the text. Abbreviations must be defined upon first use in the text. Use of abbreviations should be limited to, for example, lengthy terms; the majority of drug names should not be abbreviated. USANs or, when appropriate, chemical names, must be used for all drugs. Manufacturers’ code numbers should be used only when a generic name is not yet available. Trade names should be included only to distinguish between different trade preparations, for some combination drugs, or in reviews of drugs that have been recently approved by the FDA.
**References**: All references, including those related primarily to figures and tables, must appear in the text and be cited consecutively. References in text, tables, and figure legends should be denoted with superscript Arabic numerals. Personal communications (ie, unpublished data) may not be used as numbered references. Information obtained through personal communication must be inserted in parentheses within the text and include the contact person’s name, academic degree, affiliation, and date of communication. Signed permission letters from quoted sources indicating the content of the personal communication must be provided to the Editorial Office. Abstracts and Letters to the Editor may be used as numbered references but must be identified as such in the citations. Inclusive pagination must be provided for all references. Journal names should be abbreviated as they appear in PubMed. Those not appearing in PubMed should be spelled out. Referenced articles that are cited as “In press” must include the title of the journal that has accepted the paper. List all authors when there are 6 or fewer; with 7 or more authors, list the first 3, followed by “et al.” To facilitate online retrieval of references, include a citation’s digital object identifier (DOI) if available. More information about DOIs can be obtained at www.crossref.org or dx.doi.org. When citing articles that have been published online prior to print, authors are encouraged to include the date published online (Epub date) in addition to the full print information. When the article has appeared in print, the URL will not be used; however, a DOI should be included if available. Examples of correct referencing style are given below.

**ARTICLE**

**ARTICLE WITH URL**

**ABSTRACT**

**JOURNAL SUPPLEMENT**

**FORMAT FOR SUPPLEMENTARY ONLINE-ONLY MATERIAL** (include the full citation of the published article; the specific name of the material (ie, use whatever label the journal has given it, “supplementary material”, “appendix I”, etc.), the URL for the page being cited, eg:

**JOURNAL OR MAGAZINE PAGINATED BY ISSUE**

**BOOK USED AS A GENERAL REFERENCE**

**BOOK CHAPTER**

**PACKAGE INSERT/PRODUCT INFORMATION**

**SCIENTIFIC OR MEETING PRESENTATION**

**MONOGRAPH IN ELECTRONIC FORMAT**

**Appendices**: When necessary, appendices should be used to present lengthy or detailed surveys, descriptions of extensive mathematical calculations, and/or itemized lists. They should be placed (with legends as needed) following the reference list in the manuscript. Lengthy appendices, such as algorithms, surveys, and protocols, will be published only online; the URL will be provided in the printed article where the appendix is cited.
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Figures: Figures and artwork should be submitted in the following digital file formats and with minimum resolution of 300 DPI (600 DPI for line art): TIFF, PDF, JPEG, or Microsoft Word. Letters, numbers, and symbols should be clear, uniform in size, and large and dark enough to be legible when the size of the figure is reduced to fit column width in the journal. Titles and detailed explanations should appear in the legends rather than in the figures. Bar graphs or pie charts should be in black and white only and not contain gray shading as filler or background; distinctive fillings should be used instead (eg, white or solid black; horizontal, vertical, or slanted stripes; cross-hatching; dots). Dotted lines and decimal points should be dark enough to reproduce well. Background horizontal or vertical lines should not be used. Figures should have labels on their margins indicating file number, figure number, and corresponding author’s name at top of figure. The top of a figure should also be designated if the figure lacks distinguishing features. Legends should be double-spaced, and each abbreviation and symbol used must be defined. Duplication of figure content within text.