

Multiple Sclerosis Journal

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IMPORTANT: The journal no longer solicits Systematic Reviews.

MSJ is now requiring authors to provide the essential requirements of MRI imaging as supplementary data in order to help replication of studies. If submitting a manuscript using MRI data please use this [msj_mri_journal.doc](#) to supply the necessary data in a suitable format.

Original research papers

Original research papers should be no more than 3,000 words and contain the following sections: Title page, Abstract, Introduction, Materials (or patients or animals) and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments, References, Tables, Figure legends, Figures (see 'Sections of the manuscript' for further details). Please, make sure your abstract contains numerical results.

Short Reports

Short reports are an alternative to original research papers, when research studies can be concisely presented in less than 1,000 words and 10 references, and a maximum of two figures or tables.

Topical Reviews

Topical Reviews focus on specific subjects of current interest where there have been recent and significant advances, ranging from basic neuroscience to clinical and applied research. They are short, factual, focussed updates, comprising: Title page, an Abstract of 150 words, 5 Keywords, 2,500 words of text (excluding references), a limited number of relevant and recent references (up to 35), and a maximum of eight figures or tables. See examples from the journal for more information. Topical Reviews are generally by invitation, but they can also be submitted without previous request.

Controversies in Multiple Sclerosis

Controversies focus on current issues, with contrasting contributions from leading experts, and cover topics of debate from basic neuroscience to clinical and more 'applied' areas. They necessarily represent an opinion, but are founded on factual evidence. Each Controversy comprises: i) a proposal for a particular view; ii) a presentation of a contrasting view; and iii) an overview/summary. The two opposing views comprise no more than 1,000 words each, supported by no more than 10 key references. The summary piece is based on the opposing statements, and is about 500 words in length. See examples from the journal for more information. We welcome ideas for topics and potential authors, if you have an appropriate idea for a topic and authors to write a Proposal or Rebuttal, please contact the Controversies editors via the editorial office to discuss further: msj@sagepub.com

Personal Viewpoints

Viewpoints which bring new ideas and stimulate discussion and debate are welcomed by the Editors, in particular those that will be of general interest, and which question or comment on new and significant MS-related studies. These will be reviewed and should be no more than 1,500 words, up to 10 references, one figure and one table (if necessary).

Future Perspectives

Future Perspectives can provide a forum to help capture the work of groups established to improve or update areas of fundamental importance to MS such as clinical and imaging outcomes. Articles will be reviewed and ideally should be no more than 1,500 words, up to 10 references, one figure and one table (if required).

Case Reports

The Editors will consider Case Reports that illustrate important points. These must not exceed 1000 words in length, must have a title page, a short summary of no more than 100 words, up to 10 references, and up to two figures or tables.

Letters to the Editor

Brief letters raising pertinent issues relating to recently published papers in *Multiple Sclerosis Journal* or stand-alone letters on topics of interest are welcome. They will be reviewed and may be sent to the first author of the article being discussed for a possible response. They should be in letter format without an abstract. Stand-alone letters on topics of interest will be reviewed and should be in letter format without an abstract.

Editorials

Editorials may be solicited by the Editors to address particular topics relating to one or more papers in a given issue.

Note: While Editorials, Reviews (including book and meeting reviews), and Topical Reviews will usually be solicited by the Editors, suggestions for topics or brief outlines of proposals are very welcome and can be sent to the nearest regional Editor.

Table 1: Overview of the requirements for manuscript submissions for *MSJ*:

Article type	Abstract	Main text word limit*	References**	Figures/Tables
Original Research Paper	200	3,000	Up to 35	8 maximum
Short Report	100	1000	Up to 10	2 maximum
Topical Review	150	2500	Up to 35	8 maximum
Controversies in Multiple Sclerosis (by invitation)	N/A	1,000	Up to 10	2 maximum
Personal Viewpoint	N/A	1500	Up to 10	4 maximum
Future Perspectives	N/A	1,500	Up to 10	4 maximum
Case Report	100	1,000	Up to 10	2 maximum
Letter to the Editor	N/A	500	Up to 10	N/A
Invited Editorial	N/A	1,000	Up to 10	N/A

*Excludes references, tables and legends, **Additional references can be added as supplementary material

Clinical trial registration

The journal conforms to the [ICMJE requirement](#) that clinical trials are registered in a [WHO-approved public trials registry](#) at or before the time of first participant

enrollment as a condition of consideration for publication. The trial registry name and URL, and registration number must be included at the end of the abstract.

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The LaTeX files are also accepted. A LaTeX template is available on the [Sage Journal Author Gateway](#).

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Please include a structured abstract of 200 words between the title and main body of your manuscript that concisely states the purpose of the research, major findings, and conclusions. If your research includes clinical trials, the trial registry name and URL, and registration number must be included at the end of the abstract. Submissions that do not meet this requirement will not be considered.

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This journal includes video abstracts.

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