

## General Information

*Nutrition in Clinical Practice (NCP)* is a peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary journal that is dedicated to publishing articles about the scientific basis and clinical application of nutrition and nutrition support. NCP is published bi-monthly and is an official journal of the American Society for Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition ([A.S.P.E.N.](#)).

The aims of *NCP* are to disseminate current research on clinical nutrition and nutrition support from an interdisciplinary viewpoint and bridge the gap between research and practice. *NCP* contains comprehensive reviews, clinical research, case observations, and other types of papers written by experts in the field of nutrition and health care practitioners involved in the delivery of specialized nutrition support.

*NCP* Editors determine specific nutrition themes for each issue and solicit articles for those themes. Unsolicited articles based on the identified themes or any other topic related to clinical nutrition and nutrition support are also welcome. In addition, *NCP* publishes A.S.P.E.N. Standards of Practice and Position Papers

The editorial board for *NCP* is led by Dr. Jeanette Hasse; she is supported by esteemed Associate Editors and Editorial Board Members recognized for their research and experience in specialized nutrition support.

## Manuscript Categories

**Review**—Reviews are complete, critical evaluations of the current state of knowledge in a particular subject area. In addition to presenting and discussing research accomplishments, reviews also highlight remaining challenges and possible future research developments in a particular field. Although reviews are generally commissioned by the Journal, unsolicited submissions are also welcome. Reviews should consist of a maximum of 20,000 words, including text, footnotes, literature citations, table, and legends. An unstructured abstract of 200-250 words is required.

**Clinical Research**—Clinical Research papers are well-designed prospective or retrospective studies describing practical results that are immediately applicable to patient care. Studies involving human subjects require approval by an Institutional Review Board or Human Subjects Review Board.

**Clinical Observations**—Clinical Observations are reports of clinical experience. These articles will range from clinical reports of one or several patients to reviews encompassing particular areas of clinical practice.

**Techniques and Procedures**—Techniques and Procedures manuscripts are “how-to-do-it” contributions by practitioners. This section should include descriptions of certain procedures, treatments, or other aspects of managing patients receiving nutrition support.

**Pivotal Paper**—A Pivotal Paper is a review of a previously published pivotal article. The front page of the original article will be reprinted as the second page of this article. The rest of the article should be comprised of 4 sections: *Prevailing Belief System* – What were the prevailing common beliefs and practices of the nutrition community at the time the original paper was published; *Unique Scientific Contribution* – What scientific information was imparted by this paper that changed thinking and practices; *Validation* – What studies have subsequently supported or contradicted the findings of this paper and how has the information held up over time; *Future Considerations* – Are the concepts established by this paper likely to be challenged in the future by new issues, developments, modifications or change in thinking?

**Clinical Controversies**—A Clinical Controversies manuscript is a review of management in an area that is in dispute. There should be at least 2 opposing views on management of a particular clinical problem, and each view should be defensible from the literature.

**Clinical Dilemmas**—A Clinical Dilemma paper is a discussion of a clinical problem for which there appears to be no entirely satisfactory method of management. The discussion should emphasize the nature of the dilemma, and should discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the various alternatives available for management of the clinical problem.

**Invited Commentary**—Commentaries are short, narrowly focused articles usually commissioned by the journal. They provide critical or alternative viewpoints on key issues and generally consist of a discussion of an article recently published in the journal. Commentaries are commissioned by the journal.

**Letter**—Letters to the Editor provide substantive comments on papers published in the Journal, or on topics of broad interest to the clinical nutrition and metabolic support community. Letters should be submitted no later than six weeks after publication of the paper discussed in the Letter. Letters to the Editor are generally no more than 500 words. All letters accepted for publication are edited, and the edited versions are reviewed by authors for approval prior to publication.

## Manuscript Submission

Manuscripts must be submitted online at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ncp>. There is no submission fee. Author instructions and forms are available at this site. Please note that your author account will be the same for *NCP* as for the Journal of Parenteral and Enteral Nutrition (*JPEN*), since authors submitting manuscripts for publication in *NCP* are submitting their manuscript to the A.S.P.E.N. journals' office database, accessible to the Editors of both A.S.P.E.N. journals.

Manuscripts are considered with the understanding that they have not been published previously, except in abstract form or as preliminary observations, and are not under consideration by another publication. Each submission is given unbiased consideration and evaluated without regard to the race, gender, ethnic origin or citizenship of the author(s). We treat all articles as confidential until they are published in the journal.

When reporting studies on human subjects (whether prospective or retrospective), indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation. All authors should report any real or potential conflict of interest that may influence the readers' perception of the work. Articles will be subject to peer review and revision and to the rules governing the Copyright Act of 1978.

## How to Prepare Your Manuscript

### Format

Please use double-spacing throughout. Standard 10- or 12-pitch type and spacing are preferred to proportional spacing. Use generic names of drugs, unless the specific trade name of a drug is directly relevant to the discussion; when using the trade name, please provide the manufacturer and location. Limit the use of abbreviations in the title or abstract, and in the text, citing the term in full at its first use. When reporting experiments on human subjects, indicate that the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible institutional committee on human experimentation (see below). Protect the identities of all patients. When reporting experiments on animals, indicate approval by the institution's animal care and use committee.

## Title Page

On the title page, list each author's full name, licensures, highest academic degrees, and affiliation. If an author's affiliation has changed since the work was done, list the new affiliation as well. Also state the name and affiliation of any statistical reviewer consulted.

## Abstract

Include an abstract of no more than 250 words. Abstracts for clinical research submissions should be structured, consisting of the following sections: (1) *Background*, state the problem or purpose of the study; (2) *Materials and Methods*, briefly describe the study design and variables; (3) *Results*, describe the main findings; and (4) *Conclusion*, emphasize new or important aspects of the study or observations. Abstracts for review articles do not need to be explicitly structured, but should address the relevance of the subject matter, methods of the review, major findings, and conclusions.

## References

Please number references in the order they are mentioned in the text; do not alphabetize. In text, tables, and legends, identify references with superscript Arabic numerals. In listing references, follow AMA style, abbreviating names of journals according to Index Medicus. Please list all authors up to 6 names; if there are more than 6 authors, use "et al." following the third author.

Examples:

1. Davis JT, Allen HD, Powers JD, Cohen DM. Population requirements for capitation planning in pediatric cardiac surgery. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med*. 1996;150:257–259.
2. Cole BR. Cystinosis and cystinuria. In: Jacobson HR, Striker GE, Klahr S, eds. *The Principles and Practice of Nephrology*. Philadelphia, PA: BC Decker Inc; 1991:396–403.

## Tables

Double-space on separate sheets. Title all tables and number them in order of their citation in text. If a table must be continued, repeat the title on a second sheet, followed by "(cont.)."

## Figures and Illustrations

Images should be submitted in high resolution (file size 500K to 1M). Please number illustrations in order of their citation in text. Note that there will be restrictions and a charge to the authors for printing color illustrations. Legends for Illustrations: Double-space legends and be brief (maximum 40 words). Indicate magnification and stain used for photomicrographs.

## Acknowledgements and Permissions

Acknowledge all illustrations and tables taken from other publications and submit the original publishers' written permission to reprint in *NCP*

## English Language

Appropriate use of the English language is a requirement for publication in the Journal. Authors who have difficulty writing in English may seek assistance with grammar and style to improve the clarity of their manuscript. Many companies provide substantive editing via the Web, including [ScienceDocs](#), [American Journal Experts](#), [Bioscience Editing Solutions](#), [BioScience Writers](#), [Boston BioEdit](#), [Editage](#), [International Science Editing](#), [SPi Professional Editing](#), and [Write Science Right](#). Please note that neither A.S.P.E.N. nor *NCP* takes responsibility for, or endorses, these services. Their use does not guarantee acceptance of a manuscript for publication.

## **Informed Consent**

If the manuscript reports the results of an experimental investigation of human subjects (whether the study was prospective or retrospective), state formally that an appropriate institutional review board approved the project and/or that informed consent was obtained from subjects after the nature of the procedure(s) had been explained. If the study was a quality improvement project and reports data from human subjects, the authors must still receive approval for the study from an institutional review board.

Include a signed statement of consent from the patient (or, if the patient is a minor, from both parents or the legal guardian) with all identifiable photographs. Consent forms must contain a statement that photographs and information about a case may be published separately or together and that the patient's name will not be disclosed.

## **Editing**

Accepted manuscripts will be copyedited according to *NCP* style; authors may consult the 10th edition American Medical Association Manual of Style (2007) for general style guidelines. Galley proofs are sent to the corresponding author for approval. Authors are responsible for all statements made in their work, including changes made by the copyeditor and authorized by the corresponding author.

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## **Manuscript Checklist**

- Current and valid email address for each author listed on the manuscript.
- Online electronic submission.
- Cover letter with postal and email addresses, telephone, and fax numbers for one corresponding author.
- Title page with keywords and short title.
- Abstract with no more than 250 words. If the paper is a Clinical Research paper, a structured abstract is required with the following headings: Background, Material and Methods, Results, and Conclusion
- References in proper NCP format and in numerical order, with each cited in the text.
- Consent forms for patient photographs.
- Permission grants for previously published materials