

Our complete Author Guidelines are available at [www.futuremedicine.com](http://www.futuremedicine.com)

**Audience**

The audience for Future Medicine titles consists of research scientists, decision-makers and a range of professionals in the scientific community.

**Submission**

We accept unsolicited manuscripts. If you are interested in submitting an article, or have any queries regarding article submission, please contact the Head of Commissioning directly ([a.williams@futuremedicine.com](mailto:a.williams@futuremedicine.com)). For new article proposals, the Editor will require a brief article outline and working title in the first instance. We also have an active commissioning program whereby the Editor, under the advice of the Editorial Advisory Panel, solicits articles directly for publication.

**Peer review & revision**

Once the manuscript has been received in-house, it will be peer-reviewed (usually 2–3 weeks). Following peer review, 2 weeks is allowed for any revisions (suggested by the referees/Editor) to be made.

**In-house production**

Following acceptance of the revised manuscript, it will undergo production in-house. Authors will receive proofs of the article to approve before going to print, and will be asked to sign a copyright transfer form (except in cases where this is not possible, i.e., government employees in some countries).

**Article types**

For a more detailed description of each article type, please view our author guidelines at: [www.futuremedicine.com](http://www.futuremedicine.com).

**Reviews**

Reviews aim to highlight recent significant advances in research, ongoing challenges and unmet needs.

Word limit: 4000–6000 words

Required sections: (for a more detailed description of these sections go to [www.futuremedicine.com](http://www.futuremedicine.com)):

- Practice points
- Abstract
- Body of article
- Conclusion
- Future perspective
- References: target of 80 references
- Reference annotations
- Financial disclosure

**Original research articles**

Word limit: Limits vary depending on journal title; please contact the relevant Commissioning Editor for further details.

**Perspectives**

Word limit: 4000–6000

Perspectives have the same basic structure and length as review articles, however they should be more speculative and very forward looking, even visionary. They offer the author the opportunity to present criticism or address controversy. Authors of perspectives are encouraged to be highly opinionated. The intention is very much that these articles should represent a personal perspective. Referees will be briefed to review these articles for quality and relevance of argument only. They will not necessarily be expected to agree with the authors' sentiments.

Perspectives are divided into three types:

**Clinical perspective**

These will discuss the unmet needs or clinical burden of a disease/disorder. The authors should highlight the unresolved issues in the field and the challenges that they personally feel still need to be addressed.

**Practitioner's perspective**

This article type will provide the author with the opportunity to present their own guidance and personal experiences concerning the diagnosis and treatment of

specific diseases and clinical situations. Articles should combine evidence-based medicine, treatment guidelines and experience-based reports. Articles should be constructed in narrative format, providing a review of current diagnosis, management strategies and guidelines augmented with personal approaches and experience.

**Guidelines perspective**

These articles will evaluate the release of recent disease guidelines, for example; taking either a US/European/International specific perspective, comparing US and European Guidelines, or evaluating the updates that have been made to a specific set of guidelines (e.g., comparing the old and new guidelines and providing some context to the need for change). Authors are encouraged to discuss their own expert experience and opinions on the guidelines under discussion.

**Special reports**

Word limit: 2000–2500

Special reports are short review-style articles that summarize a particular niche area, be it a specific technique or method.

**Editorials**

Word limit: 1000–1500

Editorials are short articles on issues of topical importance. We encourage our editorial writers to express their opinions, giving the author the opportunity to present criticism or address controversy. The intention is very much that the article should offer a personal perspective on a topic of recent interest. Longer **Commentaries** (word limit: 2000–3000) are also accepted.

**Case studies/Case series**

Case studies/series present a notable medical case or series of related cases of interest, and aim to further the reader's understanding of the issues relating to such situations.

Word limit: 1500–3000 words

Required sections:

- Practice Points
- Summary
- Body of the article. A suggested structure could be:

- Presentation of case: setting and patient details/history
- Initial diagnosis/assessment
- Treatment/management
- Outcome and implications
- Discussion/conclusion
- References
- Reference annotations
- Financial disclosure/Acknowledgements (including appropriate patient consent)

**Manuscript preparation**

**Spacing & headings:** Please use double line spacing throughout the manuscript. No more than four levels of subheading should be used to divide the text and should be clearly designated.

**Abbreviations:** Abbreviations should be defined on their first appearance, and in any table and figure footnotes. It is helpful if a separate list is provided of any abbreviations.

**Spelling:** US-preferred spelling will be used in the final publication.

**Figures, tables & boxes:** Future Medicine has a charge for the printing of color figures (i.e., each color page) in the print issue of the journal. We have no page charges and aim to keep our color charge to a minimum. The charge does not apply to the online version of articles, where all figures appear in color at no charge.

**Copyright:** If a figure, table or box has been published previously (even if you were the author), acknowledge the original source and submit written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce the material where necessary.

As the author of your manuscript, you are responsible for obtaining permissions to use material owned by others. Since the permission-seeking process can be remarkably time-consuming, it is wise to begin writing for permission as soon as possible.

Please send us photocopies of letters or forms granting you permission for the use of copyrighted material so that we can see that any special requirements with regard to wording and placement of credits are fulfilled. Keep the originals for your files. If payment is required for use of the figure, this should be covered by the author.

**Key formatting points**

Please ensure your paper concurs with the following article format:

**Title:** concise, not more than 120 characters.

**Author(s) names & affiliations:** including full name, address, phone & fax numbers and e-mail.

**Practice points:** a series of 6–10 bulleted points outlining methods of diagnosis and clinical treatment options.

**Abstract:** approximately 120 words and, for research papers, structured (Background, Results/Discussion/Methods, Conclusions). No references should be cited in the abstract.

**Body of the article:** article content under heading and subheadings.

**Conclusion:** analysis of the data presented in the review.

**Future perspective:** a speculative viewpoint on how the field will evolve in 5–10 years time.

**References:**

- Primary literature references, and any patents or websites, should be numerically listed in the reference section in the order that they occur in the text.
- Should appear as a number i.e., [1,2] in the text.
- Any references that are cited in figures/tables/boxes that do not appear in the text should also be numerically listed in the reference section in the order that they occur in the text.
- Quote first six authors' names. If there are more than six, then quote first three *et al.*
- The Future Medicine Endnote style can be downloaded from our website at: [www.futuremedicine.com/page/authors.jsp](http://www.futuremedicine.com/page/authors.jsp)

**Reference annotations:** please highlight 6–8 references that are of particular significance to the subject and provide a brief (1–2 line) synopsis. Papers should be highlighted as either: \* of interest or \*\*of considerable interest.

**Figures/Tables/Boxes:** Summary figures/tables/boxes are very useful, and we encourage their use in reviews/perspectives/special reports. The author should include illustrations and tables to condense and illustrate the information they wish to convey. Commentary that augments an article and could be viewed as 'stand-alone' should be included in a separate box. An example would be a summary of a particular trial or trial series, a case study summary or a series of terms explained.

**If any of the figures or tables used in the manuscript requires permission from the original publisher, it is the author's responsibility to obtain this. Figures must be in an editable format.**