

## **Instruction for Authors**

1. Kekkaku is an official peer-reviewed scientific journal of the Japanese Society for Tuberculosis and Nontuberculous Mycobacteriosis. The Journal seeks to advance the development of tuberculosis medicine and related area by publishing the best research in the form of review articles, opinion, original articles, short reports, case reports, activity reports, materials and letter-to-the-editor. The journal also publishes reviewer's commentaries on articles published in the Journal. Submission of a manuscript to the Journal implies that the article is original and that no portion (including figures or tables) is under consideration elsewhere or has been previously published in any form other than as an abstract.
2. The Editorial Board is responsible for making the final decision, whether to accept or reject the manuscript for publication. Further to acceptance in the Journal, these manuscripts are made publicly available online in the order they are accepted.
3. Review articles, Original articles, Materials, and Activity reports should not exceed 6 printed pages (4,000 words maximum) including figures, tables and references. Opinions and Case reports should not exceed 4 printed pages (2,500 words maximum) including figures, tables and references. Only 5 or fewer figures are permitted for all types of article. Authors are responsible for any cost related to color figure production and excess page or figures.
4. Short reports should not exceed 2 printed pages (1,500 words maximum) including figures, tables and references. The number of figures should not exceed 2 and the number of references should be kept to a minimum. Short reports present a concise study, or sometimes preliminary but innovative and important research findings, that might be less substantial than a full original research paper.
5. All manuscripts must be written in English, including figures and tables. The entire text should be double-spaced, including references. All lines of text should be numbered. Line numbers are automatically added by the submission system in Microsoft Word documents. Submitting an incomplete manuscript or a manuscript that does not adhere to word limits will cause a delay in review.
6. The manuscript should include an abstract of no more than 300 words. The abstract, regardless of the article type, should contain a list of 5 to 6 key words.

7. Letter-to-the-Editor on the articles published within 6 months in the Journal are considered for publication provided they have not been discussed previously. Letters-to-the-Editor should be 800 words maximum. Letter-to-the-Editor is evaluated on clarity and significance by the Editorial Board.
8. All authors submitting to medicine, biomedicine, health sciences, allied and public health journals should conform to the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals, prepared by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE).
9. Any proper nouns or scientific names that are not English should be written in italic.
10. The list of references should be numbered according to the sequence of citation in the text, and should be included at the end of the main document. For a reference to a journal article, it is required to include author names, article title, journal title, year of publication, volume and location in the Vancouver style. For a reference to a book, include authors, title of book, edition, place of publication, publisher, year, name of part, and location. If there are more than three authors, name only the first three authors and then use “et al.”

*Journal article*

Wiegshauss EH, Smith DW. Evaluation of the protective potency of new tuberculosis vaccines. Rev Infect Dis. 1989;11 Suppl 2:S484-490.

*Journal article with limit to the number of authors*

Rastan S, Hough T, Kierman A, et al. Towards a mutant map of the mouse new models of neurological, behavioural, deafness, bone, renal and blood disorders. Genetica. 2004;122:47-49.

*Journal article in a language other than English*

Bechade D, Desrame J, Raynaud JJ, et al. [Oesophageal ulcer associated with the use of bacampicillin]. Presse Med. 2005;34:299-300. French.

*Entire book*

Jenkins PF. Making sense of the chest x-ray: a hands-on guide. New York: Oxford University Press; 2005. 194 p

The number of references should not exceed 30 for Original articles, 20 for Case reports and 6 for Short reports.

11. All measurements should be in the metric system and follow the International System of Units (SI). Temperatures should be in degrees Celsius. Blood pressures should be in millimeters of mercury. All measurements should follow the International System of Units (SI). Use a capital letter “L” for liter in the units of measurements in the Text, Figures, and Tables (e.g., g/dL, mg/dL, IU/L, and mEq/L).
  
12. Authors should submit the revised manuscript within 2 months from the date of the prior decision. All authors must approve every revision, correction and amendment prior to re-submission of the revised manuscript. Manuscript submitted more than 2 months later will be treated as an original submission.
  
13. Manuscript files should be submitted electronically via the ScholarOne  
<<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/kekkaku>>
  
14. Offprints will be provided upon request at the author’s expense. The orders should be made during the proofing stage.
  
15. Copyright on all accepted manuscripts in the Journal is held by the Japanese Society for Tuberculosis and Nontuberculous Mycobacteriosis. Authors are responsible for all aspects of the manuscript in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.
  
16. Anyone that wishes to reuse the materials published in the Journal, a written approval must be received from the Japanese Society for Tuberculosis and Nontuberculous Mycobacteriosis. The permission of reuse incurs a fee of 3,000 Japanese yen per page in addition to the reproduction fee of 10 yen per copy.

### Specifications by Article Types

|    | Article type     | Description  | Requirements                          |
|----|------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. | Original article | Articles with new findings and original research results, research methodologies, research materials and interpretations of the authors’ own | Word Limit: 4,000<br>Figures: up to 5 |

|    |                      |  |                                       |
|----|----------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| 2. | Short report         | Short paper designed to rapidly disseminate descriptions of new research ideas and innovative research results             | Word Limit: 1,500<br>Figures: up to 2 |
| 3. | Case report          | Reports on rare medical or clinical cases that have significant educational resources.                                     | Word Limit: 2,500<br>Figures: up to 5 |
| 4. | Activity report      | Topics pertaining to medical or health activities that highlights matters of public health.                                | Word Limit: 4,000<br>Figures: up to 5 |
| 5. | Review article       | Review, evaluation or commentary of a number of research reports on a specific theme.                                      | Word Limit: 4,000<br>Figures: up to 5 |
| 6. | Opinion              | Discussions and recommendations on researches, activities and polices.   | Word Limit: 2,500<br>Figures: up to 5 |
| 7. | Materials            | Reports or data that include educationally valuable information on Tuberculosis.   | Word Limit: 4,000<br>Figures: up to 5 |
| 8. | Letter-to-the Editor | Commentaries on published articles in the journal within 6 months, including conference participation reports and memoirs. | Word Limit: 800<br>Figures: none      |
| 9. | Editorial            | Reviewer's opinions on an article accepted for publication in the Journal.   | Word Limit: 1,500                     |

## Manuscript Preparation

### 1. Manuscript Formatting

#### 1) General

- i. Title page
- ii. Key words
- iii. Abstract
- iv. Text
- v. References
- vi. Figures and Tables.
  - a. Figures should be followed by tables.

b. Figures and tables should appear in separate pages

vii. Figure Legends

The page number and line number must be assigned throughout the manuscript continuously from the title page.

2) Title page should include the following information

- i. Title
- ii. Running title (no more than 60 letters including spaces)
- iii. Full names of first author and co-authors (10 authors maximum)
- iv. Author's affiliations,
- v. Complete postal address and e-mail address of each author

2. Capitalize the first letter of each major word in the manuscript title. If a subtitle or words in parentheses are included in the article title, capitalize only the first letter. This applies to the tables.

3. Abstracts in manuscript types Original article and Short report should be structured, and consist of the following 4 headings.

- i. Background (including a clear description of the purpose and subject of the research)
- ii. Methods
- iii. Results
- iv. Conclusions

4. Figures and Tables

- i. Keep the data or text in the figures or tables to a minimum to support the textual material. Definitions of any symbols, panels, abbreviations or units of measurement should be concise but comprehensive.
- ii. The major divisions of the table should be indicated by horizontal rules.
- iii. Figures including photographs, line drawing, etc. should be prepared with the greatest accuracy to detail. The published work will directly reflect the quality of the artwork provided. Publication cost for color figures will be charged to the authors.
- iv. Figures and tables should be clearly cited where they should appear at the relevant location in the text.
- v. The table title should be included above the table. The figure legends should be included underneath the figures.
- vi. Each term, phrase or explanations in the figures and tables should begin with a capital

letter.

5. Abbreviations should be defined in parentheses after complete expressions at their first use. For tables and figures, abbreviations should be defined after complete expressions as a footnote in the first figure and table.
6. When citing information from a web page, make sure the websites are active, and it is necessary to include the title, full URL for the page and the date of citation in the reference list.
7. When submitting “Material”, any information other than a set of collected data should be organized into the following sections: Purpose, Discussion and Conclusion.
8. The Journal encourages the authors of manuscript which includes clinical trials to share their de-identified research data including, but not limited to raw data, processed data, software, algorithms, protocols, methods, materials, study protocol, statistical analysis plan, informed consent form, clinical study report, analytic code.

As required by ICMJE, all manuscripts that report the results of clinical trial must include a data sharing statement with a link to the trial registration. The statement should include the following information:

- Available types of data,
- Available documents (study protocol, statistical analysis plan, informed consent form, clinical study report, or analytic code)
- Available dates
- With whom the data are available.
- Types of analyses the authors are willing to share the data
- Method of requesting the data.

The statement is published alongside their paper.

#### **Amendments:**

- All submitted manuscripts except for invited articles will be reviewed by two expert reviewers in the field of the study.
- The manuscript must be edited by a native English speaker who is a professional medical editor prior to submission.

- Submission guidelines for papers presented at the Annual Meetings of the Japanese Society for Tuberculosis and Nontuberculous Mycobacteriosis, including invited lectures, special lectures, presidential lectures, educational lectures and symposiums, are specified otherwise.
- Abstracts presented at the regular branch meetings of the Japanese Society for Tuberculosis and Nontuberculous Mycobacteriosis should be no more than 350 words. Abstracts for invited lectures, special lectures, presidential lectures, educational lectures and symposiums should be no more than 1,000 words.