



Diagnosis

Table of Content

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Scope and general policies of the journal | 2 |
| Scope..... | 2 |
| Article categories | 2 |
| Submissions in the following fields are welcome | 2 |
| Special issues and special issue section | 2 |
| Submission of manuscripts | 3 |
| ORCID | 3 |
| Submission declaration and verification | 3 |
| Scientific misconduct | 3 |
| Responsible authorship and research integrity | 3 |
| Research data availability | 4 |
| Peer review, turnaround times and pre-publication policies | 4 |
| Rejection of manuscripts | 4 |
| Peer review information | 4 |
| Appeals..... | 5 |
| Turnaround times | 5 |
| Pre-publication policy | 5 |
| Inclusive language policy..... | 5 |
| Post-acceptance | 5 |
| Galley proofs..... | 5 |
| Author PDF | 5 |
| Repository policy | 6 |
| Copyright | 6 |
| Open access in hybrid journals..... | 6 |
| Article processing charges (APCs) | 6 |
| Open access articles on ResearchGate | 6 |
| Note for authors of NIH-funded research..... | 6 |
| PMC and Research Funder Policies | 7 |
| Ethical conduct of research | 7 |
| Acknowledgments | 7 |
| Authorization for the use of human subjects – Research ethics | 7 |
| Authorization for the use of experimental animals– Research ethics | 7 |
| Informed consent | 8 |
| Author contributions | 8 |
| Conflict of interest | 8 |
| Research funding | 9 |
| Clinical trial registration | 9 |
| Preparation of manuscript | 9 |
| Title page information..... | 9 |
| Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations | 10 |
| Studies dealing with diagnostic accuracy | 10 |
| Systematic reviews and meta-analyses of randomized controlled trials | 10 |
| Copyediting | 10 |
| Language | 10 |
| General format and manuscript elements..... | 10 |
| Abstract..... | 10 |
| Keywords..... | 10 |
| Headings | 11 |
| References..... | 11 |
| Figures and figure captions | 11 |
| Tables and table captions | 11 |
| Abbreviations..... | 12 |
| Equations and symbols..... | 12 |
| Scientific names and non-abbreviated Latin expressions..... | 12 |
| Units..... | 12 |
| Manufacturer details | 12 |
| Audio and video | 12 |
| Appendices..... | 13 |
| Supplementary material | 13 |
| Reference Style | 14 |

Scope and general policies of the journal

Scope

Diagnosis (DX) focuses on how diagnosis can be advanced, how it is taught, and how and why it can fail, leading to diagnostic errors. The journal welcomes both fundamental and applied works, improvement initiatives, opinions, and debates to encourage new thinking on improving this critical aspect of healthcare quality.

DX is a hybrid journal published quarterly online only. All contributions submitted for publication in *DX* are subject to single-anonymized peer review by at least two experts in the field, selected and invited by the Editor-in-Chief and a dedicated Editorial Team. *DX* publishes only English-language articles in the categories listed below.

Article categories

- Original Article – Reports of original research
- Review/Mini Review – Systematic, narrative, and focused reviews
- Opinion Paper
- Point/Counterpoint Paper
- Editorial
- Short Communication – Reports of early research results and pilot studies
- Letter to the Editor & Reply
- Guidelines and Recommendations
- Congress Abstracts
- Case Report – Learning from Tragedy – Case reports of diagnostic error or dilemma discussed from a multi-stakeholder perspective; should include the facts of the case, a discussion focused on a root cause analysis, take-away points or action items resulting from the analysis, and whenever possible input from both the affected patients and their providers
- Case Report – Lessons in Clinical Reasoning: Pitfalls, Myths, and Pearls – Case reports in which a clinician discusses their diagnostic approach after clinical information is presented, focusing on a case in which a diagnostic error (or near miss = great catch) occurred

***DX* will generally not consider case reports of unusual presentations. These should be submitted to one of the several journals that specialize in case reports.**

Submissions in the following fields are welcome

- Factors that promote diagnostic quality and safety
- Clinical reasoning
- Diagnostic errors in medicine
- The factors that contribute to diagnostic error: human factors, cognitive issues, and system-related breakdowns
- Improving the value of diagnosis – eliminating waste and unnecessary testing
- How culture and removing blame promote awareness of diagnostic errors
- Training and education related to clinical reasoning and diagnostic skills
- Advances in laboratory testing and imaging that improve diagnostic capability
- Local, national and international initiatives to reduce diagnostic error

Special issues and special issue section

DX publishes special issues and special issue sections focused on important and emerging topics in the field of study. Ideas for special issues and special issue sections are proposed by the journal's editorial board, but the journal will also consider proposals for special issues submitted by members of the wider research community. All proposals are assessed for quality and relevance by the Editor-in-Chief and the editorial office.

The journal has established a rigorous process to ensure that all manuscripts submitted for special issues follow the same high-quality standards and peer review process as regular manuscripts. Each special issue has a dedicated Guest Editor who is responsible for the coordinating the peer review process of all manuscripts submitted for the special issue (section). The Editor-in-Chief checks the initial manuscript and assigns it to the appropriate Guest Editor. The Guest Editor invites reviewers and makes recommendations on revisions and final decisions.

The Editor-in-Chief has an oversight of the entire process within the online submission system and is responsible for the final decision on all manuscripts.

Submission of manuscripts

- Submit manuscripts exclusively online at: <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/diagnosis>

We strongly recommend that authors register with institutional email addresses and do not use private email addresses. Institutional email addresses serve as strong authenticity markers. In addition, institutional email domains identify authors who are entitled to open access discounts per institutional agreements with the publisher. Not using an institutional email address may result in delayed or missed open access publication. A cover letter must be submitted for each manuscript upon first submission. It should contain a brief statement by the authors as to the element of novelty upon which they base their request for publication in *DX*. Please address the cover letter to the Editor-in-Chief. Revised manuscripts must be accompanied by a point-by-point reply to the reviewers' comments. Major changes in the revised manuscript must be highlighted, preferably in tracked changes mode. A second, clean version should always be submitted for major changes.

ORCID

ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) is a non-profit, publisher-independent system that is used to uniquely identify academics and their publications. Detailed information about ORCID can be found at www.orcid.org/. Providing an ORCID number for each author is strongly recommended. ORCID numbers should be listed on the title page.

Submission declaration and verification

For information on plagiarism, please refer to [COPE – Committee of Publication Ethics](#).

Each manuscript submission declares that the manuscript (or one with substantially the same content, by any of the authors) has not been previously published in any language anywhere and that it is not under simultaneous consideration by any other journal. Exceptions are listed in section “[Pre-publication policy](#)”. Furthermore, all co-authors must have agreed to its publication and have given the corresponding author the authority to act on their behalf in all matters pertaining to publication. The corresponding author is responsible for informing the co-authors of the manuscript status throughout the submission, review, and production process.

To exclude potential overlap with prior publication(s), your manuscript is systematically checked by the plagiarism checker Crossref Similarity Check ([iThenticate](#)). Previously published material must be referenced appropriately in the manuscript, regardless of whether the material was previously published in a subscription based, hybrid or open access journal, or in another language.

Scientific misconduct

Only articles that have not been or will not be published elsewhere will be published in the journal, excluding articles that fall under the publisher's pre-publication policy (see section “[Pre-publication policy](#)” below). Multiple submissions/publications or redundant publications (i.e., republication of data already published by the same authors) will be rejected. If identified after publication, the journal reserves the right to publish a retraction note. In any case, editors will follow the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#) (COPE's) Code of Conduct and implement its advice. For detailed information, please see our [publishing ethics page](#).

Responsible authorship and research integrity

The authors are responsible for all aspects of the study and will ensure that any questions regarding the accuracy and integrity of any part of the work are adequately investigated and resolved.

With submitting their manuscript to *DX* the authors declare that they are the sole and intellectual authors of the manuscript. We do not accept submissions that name Large Language Models, such as ChatGPT, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning Tools as credited author(s) on a manuscript because such tools cannot take responsibility for the submitted work and therefore cannot be considered as eligible authors. Where such tools or technologies are used as part of the design or methodology of a research study, please specify the tool and the purpose of its use for the conducted research in the Methods section of your manuscript, and if applicable indicate

the use of Large Language Models, AI and Machine Learning Tools for manuscript preparation in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#). In case of doubt, the Editorial Board reserves the right to ask the authors to submit the raw experimental data.

Research data availability

DX requires authors to follow our [Data Sharing Policy](#), which must comply with the European GDPR (*General Data Protection Regulation*) rules.

Research data should be made widely available to the research community to demonstrate the robustness and validity of the research presented in the journal, to enable and encourage replication of the results, and to allow the community with opportunities to learn.

We recommend the use of community-endorsed data types. If you assign a persistent identifier to your research data by archiving it in a data repository, other researchers will be able to cite your data as well as your published research article.

Where possible, data should be submitted to discipline-specific, community-recognized repositories. In cases where there is no appropriate discipline-specific resource, data may be submitted to a general data repository. Please see <https://www.re3data.org/>, <https://fairsharing.org/>, or <https://repositoryfinder.datacite.org/> for help finding research data repositories. We strongly recommend using [CoreTrustSeal](#) certified repositories.

To determine whether a research data availability statement is required and what format it must follow, please refer to the specific file for each policy level available on the [Data Sharing Policy](#) website. Detailed information can be found in the “Submit” tab on the journal website.

Please fill in your statement on data availability in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#), which is required for submission.

We further recommend citing the data that has been shared in the reference list. Data citations should include a persistent identifier, should be included in the reference list using the minimum information recommended by [DataCite](#) (Dataset Creator, Dataset Title, Publisher [repository], Publication Year, Identifier [e.g. DOI, Handle or ARK]) and follow journal style.

Peer review, turnaround times and pre-publication policies

Rejection of manuscripts

Submitted manuscripts will be reviewed in a two-step procedure. Firstly, the Editor-in-Chief decides whether the manuscript fulfills the substantive and formal criteria for the further peer review process. The decision is based on the following criteria:

- relevance: the content conforms to the scope and goals of *DX*,
- originality/topicality: the content is sufficiently important and topical to be worthy to be published in *DX*,
- formal correctness: the formal criteria have been met (also in view of the manuscript being written in understandable English),
- ethical guidelines: national and international ethical standards for studies with human and/or animal subjects are fulfilled (where applicable).

In cases where the criteria have not been met, the manuscript will be rejected without peer review.

This applies in particular to studies of genetic associations, which will be considered only if they contribute new insights and are statistically valid according to generally accepted criteria. Articles which are likely to affect the choice, performance or interpretation of clinical tests will be favored over those which do not, and animal or cell-culture studies need to justify their eligibility.

Reporting of negative results must be justified by prior evidence that a positive result would be expected.

Peer review information

DX is a single-anonymized journal. Manuscripts which fulfill the substantive and formal criteria are reviewed anonymously by at least two independent reviewers selected by the Editors. The authors may provide the names, department, institution, country, and email addresses of potential reviewers. Reviewers indicated by the authors must be of institutions and countries different from the those of any of the authors. Authors may also provide names of reviewers they wish to exclude from reviewing their manuscripts.

Appeals

Manuscripts that have been rejected for publication will be reconsidered only at the discretion of the Editor(s). Authors wishing to request reconsideration of a previously rejected manuscript must do so in written form and submit a rebuttal by email to the journal's editorial office. Authors should provide detailed reasons why they believe the manuscript should be reconsidered. If the rebuttal is accepted, the author will be asked to re-submit the manuscript, or the decision will be reversed.

Turnaround times

DX aspires to inform authors of the peer review decision within 3-4 weeks from the submission date. Revised manuscripts should be returned within 3-6 weeks. Accepted manuscripts will be published online within 3 weeks of acceptance.

Pre-publication policy

The publisher does not consider the following purposes of a paper as pre-publication: publication in the form of a congress abstract, publication as an academic thesis, publication as an electronic preprint on recognized servers such as arXiv, RePEc, bioRxiv, ResearchSquare, etc.

Inclusive language policy

Inclusive language recognizes diversity, conveys respect for all people, is sensitive to differences and promotes equal opportunities. Content should not make assumptions about readers' beliefs or commitments; should not contain anything that might suggest that one person is superior to another because of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition; and should use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that their writing is free from prejudice, stereotypes, slang, references to the dominant culture and/or cultural assumptions.

We advise the following approach: Aim for gender neutrality by using plural nouns (clinicians, clients, participants) as standard and avoiding "he" or "she", wherever possible. Instead, please use "they". We recommend avoiding the use of descriptors that refer to personal characteristics such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health status unless they are relevant and valid.

Post-acceptance

Galley proofs

Once the manuscript is accepted for publication, it is forwarded to typesetting. The corresponding author receives the galley proofs in electronic form to check them for editing and typesetting accuracy. Corresponding authors receive an email notification from noreply@degruyter.com, subject: "Check your proof pdf: DX. [manuscript ID]" (please carefully check your email inbox as well as your spam folder) with a link to the online proofreading system (Proof Central) through which they can access their galley proofs. The interface is similar to MS Word: authors can edit the text by entering their corrections directly, adding comments, and answering questions from the copy editor. If preferred, authors can also annotate and upload edits to the PDF version.

All instructions for proof corrections, including deadlines, will be given in the email notification, along with a user guide, providing step-by-step instructions for inserting corrections.

Substantial changes to a manuscript accepted for publication will only be considered with the permission of the Editor or after additional peer review. The responsibility for proofreading lies solely with the authors. **According to the publisher's policy, once a manuscript has been accepted, no changes to the author list and manuscript title are allowed (except typos). The publisher's production team is instructed to enforce this policy during the production/proof correction process.**

Author PDF

Electronic files of typeset articles in PDF format are provided free of charge. The corresponding author will receive an email notification when the article has been published online along with instructions on how to access the article.

Repository policy

Policies for sharing published journal articles differ for subscription-based and open access articles.

Authors may publish their articles, which are not published under a Creative Commons license (i.e., open access), in a public repository after an embargo period (see the publisher's [Sharing Policy](#)). Only the accepted author version of the manuscript, not the PDF version of the published article, can be published:

Immediately

- via their non-commercial personal website, blog, or social media channels
- by updating a preprint in arXiv, RePEc, bioRxiv, ResearchSquare, etc. with the version of the accepted manuscript
- as a closed deposit via their research institute or institutional repository for internal institutional purposes or as part of an invitation-only research collaboration workgroup
- directly by providing copies to their students or to research collaborators for their personal use
- for private scholarly sharing as part of an invitation-only work group

After an embargo period

- as open deposits to institutional or subject repositories
- to scholarly collaboration networks (SCNs)

Copyright

Manuscripts submitted to subscription and hybrid journals are accepted on condition of transfer of copyright ([License to Publish](#)) (for U.S. government employees: to the extent transferable) to the publisher. Once the manuscript has been accepted, it may not be published elsewhere without the consent of the copyright holders.

Open access in hybrid journals

If the authors decide to publish their article open access, they declare consent to place the article under the Creative Commons Attribution ([4.0 International License \(CC-BY-4.0\)](#)). The Creative Commons license specifies the extent to which the work can be re-used by the scientific community and the general public. Publishing under a Creative Commons license means that the authors retain the copyright, and the publisher receives non-exclusive exploitation rights. The permitted reuse of gold open access articles by third parties is determined by the usage license.

The author confirms that they have already acquired all necessary rights for all components of the work in the event of an open access publication. For more information, refer to paragraph 5 in the [License to Publish](#).

Article processing charges (APCs)

Authors publishing in hybrid journals do not have to pay APCs if they do not wish to publish their article open access. After acceptance and before production of an article, authors can decide whether to publish their article open access. Only if they decide to publish open access, APCs will be charged. All articles are peer-reviewed and accepted for publication based on the quality of their scientific contribution. The decision to publish open access does not affect the peer review process or the acceptance of the article. The publisher has [institutional agreements](#) in place that allow authors to publish open access articles at no cost – or with a significant discount. Please read our [Open Access Policies](#) for detailed information.

Open access articles on ResearchGate

The publisher partners with ResearchGate to deposit the Version of Record of all our gold open access articles with ResearchGate. If you have a profile on ResearchGate and you have published your article open access, it will automatically appear in your profile after publication. For more information about ResearchGate and setting up a profile visit [What is my Profile? – ResearchGate](#).

Note for authors of NIH-funded research

The publisher acknowledges that the author of a U.S.-agency-funded article retains the right to provide a copy of the final manuscript to agency upon acceptance for publication or thereafter, for public archiving in PubMed Central 12 months after publication in *DX*. Note that only the accepted author's version of the manuscript, not the PDF file of the published article, can be used for NIH archiving.

PMC and Research Funder Policies

U.S. government agencies and private funders have partnerships with the National Library of Medicine (NLM) to leverage the PMC (PubMed Central) infrastructure. Scientific work funded by these agencies and private funders will be automatically listed in PMC. You can find the list of potential donors [here](#).

Ethical conduct of research

The publisher and our publishing partners are committed to the principles of academic freedom, editorial independence and the highest level of scholarly integrity. Our aim is to provide trustworthy knowledge to the widest possible audience and to serve academic communities around the world. Detailed information about our ethics policy can be found on the [publishing ethics](#) website.

Manuscripts must follow certain ethical guidelines to be considered for publication, which can be found in the [Publication Ethics and Malpractice Statement](#). Accordingly, **before submitting your manuscript, please make sure that you and your co-authors agree to the applicable requirements**. For example, this may involve declaring and ruling out conflicts of interest or proving compliance with legal requirements related to human and animal testing.

Furthermore, our [Code of Conduct for Publication Procedures and Ethics](#) defines the responsibility of the publisher and the Editors we work with, to ensure the legitimacy and quality of our published research. Our principles are based on the guidelines of the [Committee on Publication Ethics \(COPE\)](#).

Acknowledgments

Authors may wish to acknowledge individuals, working groups, institutions, etc. who provided help and support (other than financial) during research and the preparation of the manuscript (e.g., language checking, writing assistance or proof reading of the article, etc.). Individuals acknowledged are not included on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise.

Acknowledgements should be given in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#), if required for submission.

Authorization for the use of human subjects – Research ethics

Manuscripts that contain information on the use of humans should clearly state that the research complies with all relevant national regulations and institutional policies and has been approved by the authors' Institutional Review Board or any equivalent committee. Copies of the guidelines and policy statements must be available for review by the Editor, if necessary. The Editors reserve the right to seek additional information or guidance from reviewers on any cases in which concerns arise. All investigations with human subjects must be conducted by following the tenets of the [Declaration of Helsinki](#). Authors must identify the Committee or Institutional Review Board approving the experiments and provide a statement indicating approval of the research. If applicable, information on research ethics and/or approval by the Institutional Review Board should be given in the Methods section. The work described in your article must have been also performed in accordance with the [Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals](#).

In addition, information on research ethics should also be given in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#), if required for submission. Please make sure that the information in the manuscript matches the information in the template.

Authorization for the use of experimental animals– Research ethics

Manuscripts that contain information on the use of animals should clearly state that the research has complied with all relevant national regulations and institutional policies and has been approved by the authors' Institutional Review Board or any equivalent committee. Copies of the guidelines and policy statements must be available for review by the Editor, if necessary. The Editors reserve the right to seek additional information or guidance from reviewers on any cases in which concerns arise. The research using animal subjects should be conducted according to the Principles of Laboratory Animal Care and similar documents (e.g. [NIH](#)). For manuscripts reporting experiments on live vertebrates or higher invertebrates, authors must identify the Committee approving the experiments, and must confirm that all experiments were performed in accordance with relevant regulations.

If applicable, information on research ethics and/or approval by the Institutional Review Board should be given in the Methods section.

In addition, information on research ethics should also be given in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#), if required for submission. Please make sure that the information in the manuscript matches the information in the template.

If a study did not require human or animal ethical approval, a corresponding statement should be given in the Methods section. In addition, this statement should also be given in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#), if required for submission. Please make sure that the information in the manuscript matches the information in the template.

Informed consent

The [Protection of Privacy](#) is a legal right that must not be infringed without individual informed consent. In cases where the identification of personal information is necessary for scientific reasons, authors should obtain full documentation of informed consent, including written permission from the patient or their legal guardians prior to inclusion in the study. The following (or similar) statement should be given in the Methods section: *Informed consent was obtained from all individuals included in this study.*

In addition, information on informed consent should also be given in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#), if required for submission. Please make sure that the information in the manuscript matches the information in the template.

Author contributions

In view of research integrity, authorship is generally confined to an individual who

1. has made a substantial intellectual or practical contribution to the conception or design of the project or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work of a publication AND
2. has drafted the work or reviewed/revised it critically for important intellectual content AND
3. has agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved AND
4. has approved the final version to be published.

Honorary authorship is not allowed.

Individuals who helped or participated in certain substantive aspects of the project or work (e.g., technical services staff), but whose contributions were not of sufficient extent to be listed as co-authors, should be appropriately acknowledged, usually in an Acknowledgements section.

We do not accept submissions that name Large Language Models, such as ChatGPT, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning Tools as credited author(s) on a manuscript because such tools cannot take responsibility for the submitted work and therefore cannot be considered as eligible authors.

Authors must declare their responsibility for the entire content of the manuscript and may indicate the individual contributions of each author, if applicable. The information on author contributions should be given in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#), if required for submission.

Conflict of interest

A conflict of interest for a particular manuscript exists when a participant in the peer review and publication process – author, reviewer, and editor – has ties to activities that could inappropriately influence their judgment, regardless of whether the judgment is actually affected. Financial relationships with industry (for example, employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, patent applications, expert testimony, grants, and other funding), either directly or through immediate family, are usually considered the most important conflicts of interest. However, conflicts can occur for other reasons, such as financial support of the study, ties to health insurance, politics or other stakeholders, personal relationships, academic competition, and intellectual passion.

To ensure fair and objective decision-making, authors must declare any associations that pose a conflict of interest (financial, personal, or professional) in connection with the manuscript under evaluation.

The conflict-of-interest statement should be given in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#), if required for submission.

Research funding

Funding sources should be in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#). When the study benefitted from funding through an unrestricted grant or other resources provided to a university, college, other research institution, or an individual author, state the name of the institute or organization that provided the funding along with the grant number, if applicable.

If no funding was provided for the research, the default statement will be set in place: *None declared*.

Clinical trial registration

If applicable, the universal trial number (UTN) must be specified. A UTN is a unique number generated by WHO for each clinical trial registered in one of the WHO primary registries. It is intended to facilitate study identification and is displayed on the WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) search portal. The UTN should be included in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#).

Preparation of manuscript

Title page information

Please provide the following information on the first page of your manuscript during the submission process:

- Author names

Write at least one given or one middle name and the family name in full. For all other names, initials are sufficient. List authors in the order you want them to appear in the final version. Indicate the corresponding author by using an asterisk “*” after the family name. Only one author can be designated as corresponding author. Please use author footnotes to further distinguish authorship.

Kindly stick to the wording as in the examples below:

- [Full name author A] and [full name author B] contributed equally to this work.
- [Full name author A] and [full name author B] contributed equally to this work and share first authorship.
- [Full name author A] and [full name author B] share senior authorship.
- [Full name author A] and [full name author B] share first authorship.

If you include the name of a group or consortium in your author list, please clearly identify the group members. Please note that as per the publisher’s policy, no changes to the author list are permitted after acceptance of a manuscript.

- Title and short title

Provide a descriptive, concise and comprehensible main title with no more than 75 characters (including blanks) as well as an abbreviated form of the main title (short title). The short title will be displayed on the top of each page of the final version (running head). Subtitles are allowed.

The article title and short title should be in sentence case. Use lowercase letters after colon.

- Affiliations

For the corresponding author supply the following details: email address, department, institution, street, city, postal code and country; for all other authors department, institution, city, and country are mandatory. Please also provide all details concerning the current institutional affiliation in case you changed affiliation during the manuscript preparation and publication process.

Supplying an ORCID is highly recommended (for more information and registration, please visit the [ORCID web-page](#)).

- Please also indicate the word count, number of tables and figures, and whether your manuscript contains supplementary material.

Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations

If applicable for your manuscript type, please make sure to fill in the [Template for Ethical and Legal Declarations](#) and upload it upon submission of your manuscript (see section “[Ethical conduct of research](#)”). The statements will be placed between the main text and the reference list in the final typeset article. Make sure that the information you might give in the manuscript matches the information in the template. The statements from the template will be the ones placed in the designated section of the final typeset article.

Studies dealing with diagnostic accuracy

Please refer to the 2015 Standards for Reporting of Diagnostic Accuracy checklist ([STARD](#)).

Systematic reviews and meta-analyses of randomized controlled trials

Please refer to the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses statement ([PRISMA](#)). Authors must include a suitable PRISMA flow chart in their submission. The flow diagram depicts the flow of information through the different phases of a systematic review. A template of the PRISMA flow diagram is available [here](#) as a PDF and Word document.

Copyediting

The publisher provides a technical editing of manuscripts. This includes ensuring the consistency of dates, lists, figure and table captions, in-text citation; the consistency of headlines and footnotes; the consistency in reference style; checking the text for completeness concerning references, cross-references and footnotes; a mechanical edit for grammar, punctuation and consistent treatment of terms (spelling, grammar, style); checking the quality of figures. Any additional copyediting needs to be taken care of by the authors.

Additionally, your manuscript will undergo copyediting which includes all aspects of technical editing plus the following main tasks: checking the text for comprehensibility; recasting very long/confusing sentences or paragraphs to shorter ones (with an author query to confirm the suggested change); ensuring the consistency of abbreviations.

Language

All manuscripts must be written in clear and concise English. Please use British or American English consistently. If you have reasons to doubt your proficiency with respect to spelling, grammar, etc. (e.g., because you are not fluent in English, then you may wish to employ – at your expense – the services of a professional language editor.

General format and manuscript elements

Please see the [Submission Checklist](#) for detailed information on length and structure of specific article types.

Abstract

Give a concise summary of your article in an abstract of max. 250 words in a single paragraph. As abstracts are published separately by abstracting and indexing services, please spell out abbreviations at first use and do not include footnotes, tables, figures or equations. Avoid using references. If it is essential to use a reference in the abstract, please expand it as per journal reference style.

Abstracts are to be structured with the following headings:

- Research articles; Short Communications: Objectives; Methods; Results; Conclusions
- Case reports: Objectives; Case presentation; Conclusions
- Reviews and Opinion Papers: Can be unstructured or structured. If you submit a structured abstract, please structure it by using the following headings: Background; Content; Summary; Outlook

Keywords

Keywords are used by abstracting and indexing services search engines to facilitate finding your paper. Together with the title and abstract of your paper, they are a key tool enabling readers to find your paper and for increasing citations.

Supply 3–6 specific keywords in lower case, separated by semicolon. These can be single words, but also short phrases representing the content. Make sure to select precise and concise keywords to your field or sub-field of research. Avoid jargon, abbreviations, and special characters.

Headings

Your manuscript should be subdivided into sections (and, if necessary, subsections). These sections should be labeled with headings in a consistent format and with a clear hierarchy of section headings. Limit your subsections to a maximum of four levels. For subdivided sections ensure that they have at least two subheadings on one level. Headings do not have an end period.

Headings should be un-numbered and in sentence case. Use lowercase letters after colon. Please clearly indicate the section headings hierarchy by using e.g., different font size, colors.

References

Please adhere strictly to the reference style of *DX* as outlined in the Reference Style Sheet at the end of this document. The style sheet provides examples for different types of citations in the text as well as for different bibliographic items in the reference list. Please note: All references mentioned in the reference list must be mentioned in the text, and vice versa.

Figures and figure captions

Graphs, line drawings, photographs, schemes, diagrams, etc. may be used to illustrate your findings.

The publication quality always depends directly on the quality and size of the delivered data.

Please label the illustrations as “Figure”. Each figure should be uploaded separately as a .jpg, .eps, .png or .tiff file. Please name the figure files according to their order in the manuscript, i.e., Figure 1, Figure 2, etc. Images should have a minimum resolution of 300dpi (color or black-white pixel graphics/half-tone images) in the intended size (600dpi combination of pixel graphic and line drawing, 1200dpi for line drawings). When drawing bar graphs, use patterning/color instead of grey scales (faint shading may be lost upon reproduction). Figures should not display any frames.

Figures should be numbered consecutively using Arabic numerals (from 1) throughout the text. Please make sure that the number in the file name of the uploaded figure is consistent with the number of the figure in the manuscript. If you include multi-part figures, please make sure to label all part figures by using uppercase letters. Please make sure that all figures are explicitly referred to in the text. Do not end the text immediately preceding the suggested positioning of a figure with a colon and avoid expressions such as “in Figure 1 below/above”, as the exact positioning of these elements cannot be determined until after the manuscript has been typeset. Note that figures will usually be placed on the top or the bottom of the page in the final layout.

Provide a concise and self-explanatory caption for each figure. In case of multi-part figures, please include a main caption as well as part figure captions.

The key to the symbols depicted in the figures should be included in the figure itself, where possible. Otherwise, include it in the caption. The caption itself should not be included in the figure.

Please make sure that letters, numbers, symbols, text, etc. included in the figure are clear, easy to read (not below 6pt, preferably in Arial or Helvetica) and uniform in style.

Multi-part figures should be labeled with capital letters. A main caption must precede the explanation of part figures.

It is the authors' responsibility to use images that do not infringe on any copyrights, performing rights, trademark rights, personal rights or any other third-party rights or are otherwise unlawful. Copyright permissions can be obtained through the [Copyright Clearance Center](#).

Tables and table captions

Tables should be clearly structured. Number tables consecutively using Arabic numerals. Tables should be provided in an editable source format (Word, LaTeX). Please avoid providing tables as image or Excel files.

Provide a short descriptive title, column heads, and (if necessary) footnotes to make each table self-explanatory. In column heads, separate units with a comma and use parentheses or square brackets for additional measures (e.g., %, range, etc.). Use footnotes in alphabetical order (superscript a, b, c, etc.) to give emphasis or further information. Explain the abbreviations used in tables in the footnotes.

In case bold font type is used to highlight information, please explain its meaning. Italic font type should be used only for species, genes and alleles.

Avoid color, shading, vertical lines, and other cell borders. Note that most horizontal lines within the table body will be removed during the production process.

Indicate where to place the table approximately (e.g., [Place Table 1 near here]). Do not end the text immediately preceding the suggested positioning of a table with a colon and avoid expressions such as “in Table 1 below/above”, as the exact positioning of these elements cannot be determined until after the manuscript has been typeset. Note that tables will usually be placed on the top or the bottom of the page in the final layout.

Abbreviations

The use of abbreviations and acronyms is permitted provided that they are written out in full with the abbreviation in parentheses when used the first time (applies to abstract and main text). Please use them consistently thereafter. Avoid using non-standard abbreviations unless they appear more than three times in the text. We recommend providing a list with an overview of all abbreviations.

Equations and symbols

Equations should be well-aligned and not crowded. Use only Latin and Greek alphabets. Avoid complicated superscripts and subscripts by introducing new symbols. Avoid repetition of a complicated expression by representing it with a symbol. For MS Word submissions create equations using the Microsoft equation editor or a corresponding add-on. Do not submit math equations as images, but as editable text. Number displayed equations consecutively with Arabic numerals (if referred to in the text). Refer to equations in the text as Eq. 1 or Eqs. 1 and 2.

Scientific names and non-abbreviated Latin expressions

Gene acronyms, alleles, genus, species, and non-abbreviated Latin expressions should be written in italic font type.

Capitalize the first letter of the genus, but not the species. Format all binomial names in italics. After the first use, genus names should be abbreviated to a first initial. For genus names starting with the same letter differentiate by including the second letter.

‘sp.’, ‘spp.’, ‘ssp.’, ‘var.’, ‘L.’, ‘subsp.’, etc. should be Roman.

Units

Units of measurement: All SI units should be in Roman, italics are not allowed. All units should be consistent in usage. Multiple units should be either spaced out or have a middle dot. A narrow non-breaking space (unicode hex value: U+202F) should be presented between numbers and units, except for °. °C and % should be spaced with a narrow non-breaking space.

Use capital L for liter.

Time units: Please use the following units:

Second: s

Minute: min

Hour: h

Day: day/days

Week: week/weeks

Month: month/months

Year: year/years

Manufacturer details

For all products used (such as reagents and apparatus), supply the manufacturer name, city, (state abbreviation, if applicable), country.

E.g., Cobas® EGFR Mutation Test CE-IVD (Roche Molecular Systems, Pleasanton, CA, USA)

Audio and video

For all examples connected to an audio/video recording, supply audio/video clips. Deliver these clips as separate files and do not integrate them directly into the manuscript.

Name all your clips using the following convention:

e.g., audio-1-smith.MP3, video-1-smith.MP4,

[media]-[identifier]-[author-family-name].[extension]

Indicate the position in the article by placing a marker as follows:

[associated audio-1-smith.wav with example (1)]

Provide a short caption for each media file and number them consecutively. Any other media files can be included as part of the supplementary material.

File naming: audiosupplement-1-smith.MP3,

[media.supplement]-[identifier]-[author-family-name].[extension]

The following formats are preferred: audio files in MP3 (at least 16 bit) and video files in MP4 (at least a height of 480 pixels and a frame rate of 25). However, other common formats are also permitted.

Appendices

Use appendices for information that supports your findings but is not essential for the understanding of your paper (e.g., lengthy mathematical proofs, tables, graphics, etc.). Cite appendices within the main text. Tables and figures in the appendix should be numbered consecutively as follows: Figure A.1, Table A.1, Figure A.2, Table A.2, etc. The appendix is placed at the end of the main text before the reference list.

Supplementary material

Supplementary material, which may offer further information on your work but does not belong to the core part of the article, will not be part of the typeset article PDF. The material will be made available as a separate download in the online version of the article. Supplementary material may contain questionnaires for discussed surveys, protocols, code samples, datasets, extensive tables, additional figures, multimedia files (audio, video, animations), etc. If the manuscript is accepted, supplementary material will be referenced in the print version, but will be published online only.

Please provide supplementary material data as separate file(s) of no more than 10 MB per file during submission. Do not integrate supplementary material into the main text. Please make sure to choose the file designation “Supplementary Material” only for the files which are to be published as supplementary material. Note that the material should be publication-ready (clean files, not in tracked changes mode), as it will not be typeset, but published exactly as supplied. Within the text, the supplementary material must be cited consecutively and be referred to as supplementary material data (e.g., see Supplementary Material, Fig. 1, or Figure S1, Table S1, etc.).



DE GRUYTER

Instructions for Authors

Diagnosis



DE GRUYTER

Instructions for Authors

Diagnosis