

The Japanese Journal of Antibiotics Instructions for Authors

The Japanese Journal of Antibiotics (“JJA”) is an open access quarterly online journal, publishing articles written in Japanese or English, and accessible to the public immediately after publication.

JJA contains articles and reports on anti-infective drugs (antibacterial, antifungal, antiviral and other agents including vaccines), infection control (including for experimental infections) or bacteriological testing (testing techniques).

Categories of articles

1. There are seven categories of articles published in JJA:
 - A. Original Articles: Articles including innovative and valuable knowledge derived from research results, etc.
 - B. Case Reports: Articles on cases
 - C. Brief Reports: Articles that are insufficient to meet the criteria of original articles due to the limited number of cases investigated but include innovative and valuable knowledge and discussion
 - D. Research Reports: Articles that do not meet the criteria of original articles but contain insights worth publishing
 - E. Review Articles: Articles that summarize research results on a specific theme with adequate experimental evidence and conclusions
 - F. Reference Materials: Papers containing data compiled from research and investigation, or articles intended to share information
 - G. Proceedings: Lectures at a conference/seminar or records of a symposium or conversation

Paper writing

2. Refer to “How to Write a Scientific Paper for the Japanese Journal of Antibiotics” in Appendix on page 5.
3. Original Articles, Case Reports, Brief Reports and Research Reports are eligible for publication provided that their main arguments have not been published in another journal.

Submission of manuscripts

4. Manuscripts (main text, tables and figures, etc.), accompanied by the [Transparency Declaration](#) and [Affirmation of Originality and Assignment of Copyright](#) forms, should be sent via e-mail to the JJA Editorial Office (jj@antibiotics.or.jp). The Transparency Declaration and Affirmation of Originality and Assignment of Copyright forms should be signed by the corresponding author and scanned before being sent.
5. For any manuscript containing materials not copyrighted by the authors or already published, the authors need to secure authorization for reprint from the copyright holder (and publisher) concerned. In submitting the manuscript, a copy of the written authorization for reprint shall be attached for each of the reprinted materials.
6. When submitting a manuscript in English, the English text should be edited by an expert prior to submission. Where the authors request the JJA Editorial Office for English proofreading, the authors must bear the cost of the service.
7. The receipt date shall be the date when the Editorial Office receives the email with the manuscript file attached.

Review of manuscripts

8. The Editorial Board is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. Manuscripts shall be subject to peer review in principle.
9. Manuscripts passing the initial screening by the Editorial Board shall be reviewed by the

referees designated by the Editorial Board. When it is decided that the manuscript requires revision, the authors shall re-submit the revised manuscript within the prescribed period of time. The Editor-in-Chief of the Editorial Board shall make the final decision on the publication of each manuscript.

Proofreading of articles

10. The first proof shall be the text proofread by the authors.

Copyright

11. The copyright of articles published in JJA belongs to the Japan Antibiotics Research Association (“JARA”).
12. The authors shall sign the [Affirmation of Originality and Assignment of Copyright](#) form to assign all types of copyright to the publications in JJA to JARA.

Open access and Creative Commons (CC) License

13. All articles and papers published in JJA are open access materials. “Open Access” means ensuring unhindered access for the public by making available articles and papers free of charge on the Internet and clearly stating the scope and conditions for secondary use including copying, reprint or translation (license information).
14. JJA’s standard license regarding its policy for secondary use shall be Creative Commons License (<https://creativecommons.org/share-your-work/cclicenses/>) CC BY 4.0, but other CC Licenses (CC BY-ND 4.0, CC BY-NC 4.0 and CC BY-NC-ND 4.0) may be selected as necessary. The authors shall tick the box of the appropriate CC license in the [Affirmation of Originality and Assessment of Copyright](#) form, which must be duly signed.

Further details of CC licenses follow.

[CC BY 4.0] (recommended by JARA)

The authors decide to choose CC License CC BY 4.0 (Attribution 4.0 International). This license allows the sharing and modification (including adaptation) of the article for both commercial and non-commercial purposes, provided that appropriate credit is given (including indication of modifications, if any).

[CC BY-ND 4.0]

The authors decide to choose CC License CC BY-ND 4.0 (Attribution – No Derivatives 4.0 International). This license allows the sharing of the non-modified article for both commercial and non-commercial purposes, provided that appropriate credit is given.

[CC BY-NC 4.0]

The authors decide to choose CC License CC BY-NC 4.0 (Attribution – Non-Commercial 4.0 International). This license allows the sharing and modification (including adaptation) of the article for only non-commercial purposes, provided that appropriate credit is given (including indication of modifications, if any).

[CC BY-NC-ND 4.0]

The authors decide to choose CC License CC BY-NC-ND 4.0 (Attribution – Non-Commercial No Derivatives 4.0 International). This license allows the sharing of the non-modified article for only non-commercial purposes, provided that appropriate credit is given.

When the authors make no choice, the CC License shall default to CC BY 4.0. No change or cancellation may be made once a CC License has been given*.

*Some sponsoring organizations require that the sponsored articles be made public under a specific CC License. It is the authors’ responsibility to check with any sponsoring organization before submitting the manuscript.

Ethics

15. Research or study involving human subjects shall be conducted in compliance with the

ethical standards under the Declaration of Helsinki and shall comply with the Ethical Guidelines for Life Science and Medical Research Involving Human Subjects of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan, or shall meet any equivalent institutional standards. Articles on clinical trials shall include the name of the clinical trial register system, registration number, etc.

16. Clinical research on genetic therapies shall comply with the Guidelines for Clinical Research on Genetic Therapies or shall meet any equivalent institutional standards.
17. Animal experiments must be performed with reference to guidelines for appropriate implementation from the perspective of animal protection and in accordance with applicable scientific and ethical norms, while complying with institutional guidelines.
18. Elsewhere, research shall meet applicable guidance or relevant ministerial orders/guidelines, or meet any equivalent institutional standards, with reference to the List of Guidelines on Medical Research published by the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare (<https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/hokabunya/kenkyujigyou/i-kenkyu/index.html>), among others.

Conflict of interest (COI)

19. All authors shall disclose COI arising from any financial affiliation (annual payment of ¥1,000,000 or more from any single company or organization, or in the case of a lecture or manuscript fee, annual payment totaling ¥500,000 or more from a single company or organization) or personal affiliation. The lead author shall check the COI status of all other authors and fill in the Transparency Declaration form, which must be duly signed. Anything that warrants self-declaration, or the absence thereof, should be indicated at the end of the manuscript.

Manuscript publication charges

20. Manuscript publication charges are as follows.
 - (1) Page charge
There is no charge for up to three pages for an original article, research report or reference material, and up to two pages for a case or brief report. Where the manuscript exceeds those limits, the authors are required to pay a charge of ¥16,500 (tax included) per page. Color prints of pictures, figures and tables shall be provided free of charge.
 - (2) Reviewing charge
Reviewing is basically free of charge. The authors shall pay any special extra cost that is required and to which they consent.
 - (3) Offprints
Offprints are available at cost. The authors may order the required number of copies in units of 50 at the time of their own proofreading.

Address

21. Manuscripts should be sent to the following address:
The Japanese Journal of Antibiotics Editorial Office
Japan Antibiotics Research Association
jja@antibiotics.or.jp

Supplementary provisions

- Effective on 1 April 1983 (as internal rules)
Revised on 22 September 1998
Revised on 25 May 2009
Revised on 3 December 2010
Revised on 15 March 2013
Revised on 1 November 2014
Revised on 1 April 2017

Revised on 6 November 2017
Revised on 18 March 2019
Revised on 1 September 2019
Revised on 25 March 2020
Revised on 30 April 2020
Revised on 14 October 2020
Revised on 1 October 2024

Appendix to the Instructions for Authors: How to Write a Scientific Paper for the Japanese Journal of Antibiotics

1. The paper should adopt one of the following formats: (A) Original Article; (B) Case Report; (C) Brief Report; (D) Research Report; (E) Review Article; (F) Reference Material; or (G) Proceedings.
2. Although there are no limitations on the number of words, figures or tables, the article should be written clearly and concisely.
3. The manuscript should be written in Japanese or English. Japanese text should use Chinese characters in common use and contemporary Japanese syllabic writing. Also, in the case of a Japanese manuscript, the first letter of every English word in the text should be capitalized. Terms should be consistent throughout the manuscript. The files should be provided in Word, PowerPoint, and/or Excel format. The font size should be 12 points in general. Indicate the position of figures and tables in the text.
4. JJA is published in B5-size format, which means that figures and tables should be no larger than 15 cm (W) x 21 cm (H). Figures and tables should be drawn in balanced dimensions both horizontally and vertically taking account of the size of the journal, so that they remain legible when reduced in scale.
5. Use Arabic numerals and standard metric units as below for length, weight, and volume: km, m, cm, mm, μm , nm, m^2 , L, dL, mL, μL , kg, g, mg, μg , ng, pg, hr, min, sec, IU, mol, mmol, %, $^{\circ}\text{C}$, mmHg, etc.
6. Italics should be used for scientific names. Names of fungi, drugs, diseases, etc. should not be abbreviated. When any abbreviation is used, indicate it in the text. If a fungus name is spelled out at its first appearance (e.g., *Staphylococcus aureus*), the generic name may subsequently be abbreviated to the first letter (e.g., *S. aureus*).
7. References should be listed in numerical order at the end of the manuscript. Do not abbreviate Japanese journal names. Abbreviations for titles of medical periodicals in other languages should conform to those used in Index Medicus and follow the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals (so-called "Vancouver" style).
 - (1) Ōmura S, Tomoda H, Kim YK, Nishida H: Pyripyropenes, highly potent inhibitors of ACYL-CoA: cholesterol acyltransferase produced by *Aspergillus fumigatus*. *J Antibiot.* 1993; 46: 1168-9.

All authors should be listed for papers with up to six authors; for papers with seven or more authors, the first three authors should be listed, followed by *et al.*

Structure of the paper

Title page: Write the format and title of the article, the names and affiliations of the authors, the signature and contact information of the corresponding author (including phone number and e-mail address), and (up to five) keywords, in that order.

Abstract: Clearly and concisely state the essence of the research described in the article.

Introduction: Clearly describe the objective of research, citing literature related to the background for planning the research described in the article.

Materials and methods:

- (1) For a tested strain, clearly indicate if it is a clinical isolate or a standard strain. For a clinical isolate, describe the conditions of sample collection.
- (2) Clearly state that the research was carried out in compliance with appropriate ethical standards, as required for any research project.
Example: The research was conducted with the approval of the Ethics Committee of XXX University (approval number: XXX).
- (3) When describing a novel experimental procedure, provide sufficient technical details so that it could be replicated. In case of partial change to a published procedure, cite the original article, accompanied by a detailed description of the change concerned. The original article should be cited if a published procedure was used without modification.
- (4) In case of a statistical analysis, clearly state the analytical procedure as well as software used for the analysis.

Results:

- (1) Only describe the results of research conducted by the authors, etc. in a concise manner to avoid duplication in argument.
- (2) Reserve the interpretation of the results for the discussion section.
- (3) Any result derived from comparative studies between groups should be concisely supported by statistical analysis.
- (4) Make sure to include any negative but important results gained from the research.

Discussion: Do not repeat results in this section.

Conflict of interest:

- (1) No COI to report:
State: "There is no conflict of interest."
- (2) Reporting of COI:
State, for example:
"Declaration of conflict of interest:
Author A receives a scholarship from Company X.
Author B receives a lecture fee from Company Y.
Author C works for Company Z."

References:

- (1) Add a series of numbers followed by a single parenthesis on the right of citations in the text.
- (2) References should appear in the order of citation in the text.
- (3) In general, references should be limited to peer-reviewed articles.

Structure of the paper

Article format	Structure
A. Original Article	(1) Title page; (2) Abstract; (3) Introduction; (4) Materials and methods; (5) Results; (6) Discussion; (7) Acknowledgements; (8) COI; (9) References; (10) [In case of an article in Japanese] Abstract in English (title, author names in alphabetic characters, affiliations, abstract); and (11) Figures/tables.
B. Case Report	(1) Title page; (2) Abstract; (3) Introduction; (4) Case studies; (5) Discussion; (6) Acknowledgements; (7) COI; (8) References; (9) [In case of an article in Japanese] Abstract in English (title, author names in alphabetic characters, affiliations, abstract); and (10) Figures/tables.
C. Brief Report	In general: (1) Title page; (2) Abstract; Items 3, 4, 5 and 6 for original articles without distinction; (7) Acknowledgements; (8) COI; (9) References; (10) [In case of an article in Japanese] Abstract in English (title, author names in alphabetic characters, affiliations, abstract); and

Japan Antibiotics Research Association Compendium of Rules 9-2

	(11) Figures/tables.
D. Research Report	Same as for original articles.
E. Review Article	(1) Title page; (2) Abstract; (3) Introduction; (4) Results; (5) Acknowledgements; (6) COI; (7) References; (8) [In case of an article in Japanese] Abstract in English (title, author names in alphabetic characters, affiliations, abstract); and (9) Figures/tables.
F. Reference Material	In general: (1) Title page; (2) Abstract; (3) Introduction; (4) Methods; (5) Materials; (6) Discussion; (7) Acknowledgements; (8) COI; (9) References; (10) [In case of an article in English] Abstract in English (title, author names in alphabetic characters, affiliations, abstract); and (11) Figures/tables.
G. Proceedings	No prescribed structure