

## Instructions for Authors

### 1. Scope

“Acta Orthopaedica Et Traumatologica Hellenica” is the official journal of the Hellenic Association of Orthopaedic Surgery and Traumatology, first published in 1948. The current edition of Acta Orthopaedica Et Traumatologica Hellenica is published in English, online, without any article processing charges (APCs). It offers a compact forum of communication to orthopaedic surgeons and related science specialists. It publishes only peer reviewed articles. The peer review process is the established method for research validation in science whereby a work is critically assessed by expert referees demonstrating both the right level of knowledge in the field of the work, while being fully independent from it. Acta Orthopaedica Et Traumatologica Hellenica follows a blind peer review process mediated and ensured by the Editor-in-Chief and the Editorial Board members. Aiming for clinically pertinent, scientifically correct, ethical, original and review quality research, only scientifically sound articles, deemed of high enough interest and originality that will receive favorable reports from our Editors/Reviewers Board will be accepted for publication.

### 2. Types of papers

The journal accepts and publishes the following types of articles:

**Original articles:** Original articles are encouraged. They should provide novel insights and contribute to continuous medical education and transfer of knowledge. They should include a clear rationale, and the findings/conclusions need to be sound and supported by statistical analysis. When the accuracy of a diagnostic test is assessed, following the Standards for Reporting of Diagnostic Accuracy (STARD) flow diagram (<http://www.stard-statement.org>) is suggested. A structured

abstract of 250 words (divided into Background, Materials and Methods, Results and Conclusions), 3-5 keywords, text up to 4,500 words, figures up to five, tables up to six, and references up to 50 are recommended. (It is at the Editor’s discretion to allow differences in the above numbers).

**Review Articles:** All types are allowed including narrative reviews, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, literature reviews, mini reviews, monographs, and historical reviews on orthopaedic heritage. They should be extensive, educative, informative, adequately illustrated, and appropriately cited with up to date quality citations. An unstructured abstract of 150-250 words, 3-5 keywords, text up to 8,000 words, figures up to eight, tables up to six, references up to 100, and a maximum of six authors are recommended. (It is at the Editor’s discretion to allow differences in the above numbers).

**Case Reports:** Case reports should be didactic and educative, exceptional (or unique) and add to the current literature on an interesting topic, diagnostic criteria or therapeutic methods. An unstructured abstract of 150-250 words, 3-5 keywords, text up to 6,000 words, figures up to six, tables up to 4, references up to 80, and a maximum of six authors are recommended. (It is at the Editor’s discretion to allow differences in the above numbers).

**Pictorial Essays (Images papers):** The purpose of pictorial essays is to provide a teaching message through high quality images. A brief text (e.g., the history of the patient shown in the illustration) followed by a brief discussion are required to accompany the images. An unstructured abstract of 150-250 words, 3-5 keywords, text up to 4,000 words, figures up to four, tables up to two, references up to 20, and a maximum

of four authors are recommended. (It is at the Editor's discretion to allow differences in the above numbers).

**Letters to the Editor:** Letters to the Editor, Editorials, Communication to the editor are welcomed and will be published if they offer pertinent and constructive comment on articles previously published in *Acta Orthopaedica Et Traumatologica Hellenica*. These papers are usually solicited on a topical topic. No abstract, text up to 4,000 words, figures up to four, tables up to two, references up to 20, and a maximum of four authors are recommended. (It is at the Editor's discretion to allow differences in the above numbers).

### 3. Language

English is the official language of the journal. All submitted manuscripts should be written in English. The authors are encouraged to consult English speaking authors and services for correct English grammar and syntax.

### 4. Manuscript Submission

Submissions should be done through the journal's website at <https://eexot-journal.com>. Manuscripts should be send to [aothjournal@gmail.com](mailto:aothjournal@gmail.com). Submission should adhere to the journal's instructions with respect to the authorship, abstract, introduction (rationale of the paper), materials/methods, results, discussion, conclusions, references (format), illustrations and tables. Submissions not adhering to the journal's instructions will be send back to the authors for corrections that will delay the peer review process.

After submission, the Editorial office and the Editor-in-chief will check the submitted files and if appropriate will assign to section Editors or invite Reviewers. The time allocated for reviewers to assess the manuscript and submit their recommendation is 3 weeks. By that time the Editor-in-chief will make his final decision for publication.

### 5. Ethics and copyright

Submission of a manuscript implies that the work described has not been published before; that it is

not under consideration for publication anywhere else; that its publication has been approved by all co-authors, if any, as well as by the responsible authorities – tacitly or explicitly – at the institute where the work has been carried out. The Editors, the journal, and the Publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation.

The journal follows the guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors ([www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org)). For all original articles a statement in the text of approval from the local ethics committee, a statement that research was performed according to the ethical standards as described by the Declaration of Helsinki and a statement that informed consent for participation in the study was obtained from all subjects, are required. In case of study with animals the following statement needs to be added in the text: "All applicable international, national, and/ or institutional guidelines for the care and use of animals were followed".

All authors need to sign the copyright transfer form and must have made substantial contributions as established by the ICMJE (<http://www.icmje.org>).

### 6. Conflict of interest disclosure statement

Each author needs to disclose any type of financial interest that is related to the study and might create a potential conflict. Funding of the study, if any, needs to be disclosed. If there is no conflict of interest, this should be stated in the manuscript before the Reference section as follows: "The authors declared no conflicts of interest".

### 7. Permissions and plagiarism

Authors wishing to include figures, tables, or text passages that have already been published elsewhere are required to obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) for both the print and online format and to include evidence that such permission has been granted when submitting their papers. Plagiarism, as evidenced by appropriate dedicated software, will not be accepted. If excessive, the manuscripts with plagiarism will be returned to the corresponding author without consideration

for peer review.

## 8. Submission checklist

A manuscript must contain the following files for submission:

*Cover letter:* Each manuscript should be accompanied by a cover letter signed by the corresponding author on behalf of the rest of the authors stating that the the work submitted has not been published before; that it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else; that its publication has been approved by all co-authors, if any, as well as by the responsible authorities – tacitly or explicitly – at the institute where the work has been carried out. Any other information such as solicited paper, paper submitted for a special issue, letter to the Editor, etc should be communicated to the Editor in the Cover letter. In case of article resubmission a point-by-point answer to the reviewer's comments needs to be submitted with the cover letter.

*Title page:* It includes the title of the manuscript (concise, informative and capture of the message), the names of the authors, the affiliations of the authors, and the name, affiliation, address, e-mail address, and telephone number of the corresponding author.

*Blinded manuscript:* The manuscript should be blinded i.e. it should not include authors; names and affiliations.

*Abstract and Keywords:* An abstract and Keywords are required, as indicated above depending on the manuscripts types.

*Text structure:* the text of the Original Articles needs to be organized as follows: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion. Review Articles should include sections and subsections with appropriate headings depending on the topic; too many headings and subheadings should be avoided because they complicate reading. Case reports should include an Introduction, Case presentation, and Discussion. Pictorial Essays (Images papers) should include an Introduction and Discussion section only.

*Abbreviations:* Abbreviations should be used as minimum as possible, and should include only widely known and accepted abbreviations such as ORIF (open reduction and internal fixation), ICU (intensive care unit), etc. When used, they should be defined the

first time they are used, followed by the acronym or abbreviation in parenthesis.

*Acknowledgements, sponsorships and grants:* Acknowledgements should be added at the end of the manuscript before the References section. It should read as follows: "The authors thank... or acknowledge....".

*Measurement Units:* All measurements should be mentioned in international units (SI). The full stop should be used as a decimal (i.e. 3.5 cm). Spaces should be added around the plus/minus symbol (i.e.  $13.6 \pm 1.2$ ). There should not be any spaces around range indicators (i.e. 15-20) or equality/inequality symbols (i.e.  $r=0.37$ ,  $p<0.005$ ).

*Figure and Tables:* Figures and tables should be cited in the text consecutively in the order in which they appear. They should be cited in parentheses at the end of the respected sentence, and not be referred to in the text. They should be counted in Arabic numbers: i.e. (Fig. 1) and (Table 1), and any Figure parts should be identified with lower case letters, i.e. (Fig. 1a).

Figures need to be of high quality (minimum resolution of 1,200 dpi) in TIFF or JPEG format.

Patient anonymity should be ensured and patient identifying images such as intraoperative or clinical photographs should be avoided. All identifying data (name, identification numbers, initials) must be removed from text, images and tables.

Figures and Tables legends should be explanatory and appropriate (what the figures and tables show). The legends should be listed at the end of the text, after the References section. The Figures and Tables should not be embedded in the text, but they should be uploaded in separate respective files, named respectively, i.e. (Fig. 1a).

Studies cited in the Tables should be cited according to the references list of the manuscript.

## 9. References

References section is not an afterthought but a continuum of the paper. They should be up to date and of acceptable quality. Their accuracy is the responsibility of the authors. They should be cited in the text in the order in which they appear. The numbering

needs to be in Arabic numbers and formatted in superscript in the respective areas of the text, after the punctuation (i.e. <sup>1</sup>).

All authors should be listed for all references of a manuscript.

When a book chapter is cited, the authors and title of the chapter, editors, book title, edition, city and country, publisher, year and specific chapter pages should be mentioned.

For Online Document, the following should be mentioned: authors (if any), title of page, name of institution or owner of Web site; URL; dates of publication, update, and access.

### **References examples:**

Journal article:

Mavrogenis AF, Altsitzioglou P, Tsukamoto S, Errani C. Biopsy Techniques for Musculoskeletal Tumors: Basic Principles and Specialized Techniques. *Curr Oncol.* 2024;31(2):900-917. doi: 10.3390/currenocol31020067.

Sun J, Mavrogenis AF, Scarlat MM. The growth of scientific publications in 2020: a bibliometric analysis based on the number of publications, keywords, and citations in orthopaedic surgery. *Int Orthop.* 2021;45(8):1905-1910. doi: 10.1007/s00264-021-05171-6. Kolovos S, Sioutis S, Polyzou M, Papakonstantinou ME, Karampikas V, Altsitzioglou P, Serenidis D, Koulalis D, Papagelopoulou PJ, Mavrogenis AF. The risk of DDH between breech and cephalic-delivered neonates using Graf ultrasonography. *Eur J Orthop Surg Traumatol.* 2024;34(2):1103-1109. doi: 10.1007/

s00590-023-03770-0.

Book chapters:

Mavrogenis AF, Antoniadou T, Dimopoulos L, Filippiadis D, Kelekis A. Metastasis (Chapter 26). In: *Textbook of Musculoskeletal Disorders*. Vincenzo Denaro, Umile Giuseppe Longo (Eds). © Springer Nature. 2023. ISBN 978-3-031-20986-4.

Online document:

Copyright Registration Guidance: Works Containing Material Generated by Artificial Intelligence Available at: <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2023/03/16/2023-05321/copyright-registration-guidance-works-containing-material-generated-by-artificial-intelligence>. Published Feb 2023. Accessed on Jan 27, 2024.

### **10. Review and Proof reading of manuscripts**

The Reviewers comments will be communicated to the Authors. The Authors should make proof corrections within 3 weeks. All comments should be addressed point-by-point in a cover letter with Authors' responses to Reviewers' comments. Upon acceptance, the authors will receive a proofs pdf document of their paper for proofs reading. Then, the Authors will be asked to check the integrity of the text (importantly the authors' names and affiliations), accept any grammar or spelling changes and check if all the Tables and Figures are included and properly numbered. This should be done promptly, preferable within 72 hours. Once the publication is online, no further changes can be made. Further changes can only be published in form of Erratum.

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