GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION
The Revista de Gastroenterología de México (Mexican Journal of Gastroenterology) is the official publication of the Asociación Mexicana de Gastroenterología (Mexican Association of Gastroenterology). Its pages are open to the members of the Association, as well as to all members of the medical community interested in using this forum to publish their articles in accordance with the following editorial policies. The journal publishes original work in the broad field of Gastroenterology and provides information on the specialty and related areas that is up-to-date and relevant. The scientific works include the areas of clinical, endoscopic, surgical, and pediatric Gastroenterology, along with related disciplines.

Types of article
The journal accepts original articles, scientific letters, review articles, clinical images in Gastroenterology, brief communications, letters to the Editors, clinical guidelines, editorials, and consensuses.

SECTIONS

ORIGINAL ARTICLES

Original articles must have the following headings: Introduction and aims; Materials and Methods; Results; Discussion and Conclusions. They should include a title, up to five keywords and a structured abstract of up to 250 words, all of these elements in Spanish and English. The content of the abstract should be the same in Spanish and English. It is the authors’ responsibility to provide a title and an abstract in English that have been revised by an expert in the language. A minimum of abbreviations is suggested. A Word count follows the Keywords.

SCIENTIFIC LETTERS

The Journal’s Editorial Committee will evaluate the clinical descriptions that contain information that can be of clear educational value for the readers of the Journal. Case studies of 4 patients or fewer may be included that describe new aspects, a therapeutic challenge, treatments of pathologies with new drugs and/or relevant evaluations of the mechanisms of the disease, its diagnosis, or treatment. The maximum length is 850 words and the text should not be divided into sections. Two figures or tables may be included. The reference list should not have more than 10 references. Scientific letters do not include an abstract. The maximum number of authors is 5.

REVIEW ARTICLES
These are articles that investigate, describe, and analyze the current state of knowledge on a subject of interest in Gastroenterology and related disciplines. They can be written by one or more collaborating authors, but only at the express request of the Editorial Committee. They may encompass aspects of physiopathogenesis, new diagnostic techniques, experimental treatments, emerging therapies, and new classifications of a nosologic entity. The abstract and text are not divided into sections. The Spanish and English abstracts should not exceed 250 words each, with a maximum of 5 keywords. Each Review article has a minimum of 5,000 words and a maximum of 7,500 words and no more than 250 references. There is a maximum of 6 tables or figures.

CLINICAL IMAGES IN GASTROENTEROLOGY

This section is for images that are of clinical interest or useful for teaching. A maximum of 5 photographs are accepted in the JPEG, EPS or TIFF digital image formats at the best possible resolution (300 dpi). The text should not exceed 15 single-spaced lines that will be used as the legends accompanying the photograph(s). Images with a maximum of 3 authors are accepted. A reference list is not required. No images printed on any kind of paper will be accepted. The Editors reserve the right to reject all images of inadequate quality or resolution. Images do not include an abstract.

BRIEF COMMUNICATIONS

These are brief reports of preliminary or limited data corresponding to original research that is in progress, observations or case series with data on the physiopathogenesis, diagnosis, treatment, or prognostic factors of gastrointestinal, hepatic and/or pancreatic disorders. The authors are responsible for providing the title in Spanish and English. A structured abstract no longer than 150 words in Spanish and English must be included. The body of the article should not be longer than 1,200 words and should have only one table, figure, or illustration. The following sections are included: Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, and Conclusion. There is also a maximum of 10 references.

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

The journal accepts Letters to the Editors in relation to articles published in the journal from the two latest issues. The Letter should have a title that refers to the article being discussed and it is the authors’ responsibility to provide the title in Spanish and English. The letter should begin with the phrase, “To the Editors: ...”. It should be no longer than 500 words. The authors’ own data is acceptable if they strengthen the discussion of the article. If such is the case, a maximum of one table, figure, or illustration is allowed. There is a maximum of 5 references, including the obligatory reference of the article being discussed (previously published in the journal). Once the Letter to the Editors has been received, the authors of the article under discussion will be contacted to give them the opportunity to write a Letter of Response, and both will be published in the same issue of the Journal. If more than one Letter is received, all will be sent to the authors of the corresponding article so they can be answered.

Contact details for submission

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This journal has no page charges.

Language
The Revista de Gastroenterología de México accepts manuscripts in Spanish and English for their publication. The Journal publishes two versions, one in Spanish (printed and online formats) and one in English (online format). Accepted articles in Spanish are all translated into English and appear in the Journal’s online version. Accepted articles in English are translated into Spanish and appear in both the printed and online versions of the Journal.

Submission checklist
You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

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BEFORE YOU BEGIN

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Please see our information pages on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication.

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Declaration of interest
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All authors should have made substantial contributions to all of the following: (1) the conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, (3) final approval of the version to be submitted.

Changes to authorship
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In line with the position of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, the journal will not consider results posted in the same clinical trials registry in which primary registration resides to be prior publication if the results posted are presented in the form of a brief structured (less than 500 words) abstract or table. However, divulging results in other circumstances (e.g., investors' meetings) is discouraged and may jeopardise consideration of the manuscript. Authors should fully disclose all posting in registries of results of the same or closely related work.

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Randomized controlled trials should be presented according to the CONSORT guidelines. At manuscript submission, authors must provide the CONSORT checklist accompanied by a flow diagram that illustrates the progress of patients through the trial, including recruitment, enrollment, randomization, withdrawal and completion, and a detailed description of the randomization procedure. The [CONSORT checklist and template flow diagram](#) are available online.

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Registration in a public trials registry is a condition for publication of clinical trials in this journal in accordance with [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors](#) recommendations. Trials must register at or before the onset of patient enrolment. The clinical trial registration number should be included at the end of the abstract of the article. A clinical trial is defined as any research study that prospectively assigns human participants or groups of humans to one or more health-related interventions to evaluate the effects of health outcomes. Health-related interventions include any intervention used to modify a biomedical or health-related outcome (for example drugs, surgical procedures, devices, behavioural treatments, dietary interventions, and process-of-care changes). Health outcomes include any biomedical or health-related measures obtained in patients or participants, including pharmacokinetic measures and adverse events. Purely observational studies (those in which the assignment of the medical intervention is not at the discretion of the investigator) will not require registration.

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It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the word processor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the word processor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the [Guide to Publishing with Elsevier](http://ees.elsevier.com/rgmx)). Note that source files of figures, tables and text graphics will be required whether or not you embed your figures in the text. See also the section on Electronic artwork.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.
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Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Subsections should be used as much as possible when cross-referencing text: refer to the subsection by heading as opposed to simply 'the text'.

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State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

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Results
Results should be clear and concise.

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This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Conclusions
The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

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If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

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**Structured abstract**
A structured abstract, by means of appropriate headings, should provide the context or background for the research and should state its purpose, basic procedures (selection of study subjects or laboratory animals, observational and analytical methods), main findings (giving specific effect sizes and their statistical significance, if possible), and principal conclusions. It should emphasize new and important aspects of the study or observations.

The abstract must have the following headings: Introduction and aims; Materials and Methods; Results; and Conclusion. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

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Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site. Authors can make use of Elsevier's Illustration and Enhancement service to ensure the best presentation of their images and in accordance with all technical requirements: Illustration Service.

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Highlights are a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article. Highlights are optional and should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point). You can view example Highlights on our information site.

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Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using British spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

**Abbreviations**
Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations
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Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

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Reference to a book:
Reference to a chapter in an edited book:
Reference to a website:
Reference to a dataset:
Note shortened form for last page number. e.g., 51–9, and that for more than 6 authors the first 6 should be listed followed by 'et al.' For further details you are referred to 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals' (J Am Med Assoc 1997;277:927–34)(see also Samples of Formatted References).

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