

EDITORIAL

Introducing the New Design of the *European Journal of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery*

On behalf of all editors and publishers involved with the *European Journal of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery* (*EJVES*) we wish you a very happy, healthy, and successful New Year 2019! Not only does this issue proudly open the 57th volume in the 32 year history of the *EJVES* (founded in 1987), it also marks the beginning of a new era of its appearance by introducing the new *EJVES* design.

When scrolling through the present issue readers will note a number of improvements in style and presentation (Table 1) that reach far beyond the “facelift” the *EJVES* underwent five years ago.¹ The previous makeover primarily aimed at introducing colours and new fonts to create a more appealing appearance. The present overhaul, in contrast, not only addresses visual attractiveness, but also reorganises the Journal’s structure and workflow to boost its constant strive for improved content and best evidence, and to prepare it for future developments. The new *EJVES* design may thus be seen as both a logical result of all the Journal’s innovations over the past decade,¹ and a necessary basis on which to successfully continue the recent series of important achievements.²

Being a truly international journal, the *EJVES* has always pursued a policy of inclusiveness for its highly varied submissions coming from a multicultural (and multilingual) environment. Previous quality improvement efforts have primarily addressed scientific content and language,¹ whereas the format of presentation traditionally remained at the authors’ discretion. Although this helped to highlight the rich variety of research submitted to the Journal and proved to be a successful strategy,² the time seems right to aim for the next level.

One consequence of becoming one of the leading Journals in vascular medicine² is that establishing a *positive recognition value* becomes increasingly important to maintain attractiveness vis-à-vis its strong competitors for receiving the best research in the field. Consistent and rigorous reporting standards and a unique and clear design will improve comprehensibility and the persuasiveness of the content. Once established, this should increase the Journal’s reputation, which by itself can be expected to have a beneficial impact. The *EJVES* has already entered a positive cycle

of attracting better research,² which is a promising basis for future improvements.

The new *EJVES* design introduces a set of measures (Fig. 1) that aim to standardise the presentation of the Journal’s contents (Table 1), to reflect its quality standards and to improve readability. After having introduced distinct anatomical sections in 2014 (i.e., carotid, aortoiliac, venous, etc.),¹ the new design adds another complementary perspective by organising the contents into coloured sections. The “red section”, for instance, represents all original research dealing with arteries, whereas the “blue section” is reserved for all original research on veins and lymphatics. Educational content, including continuing medical education and topical reviews, is integrated in the “purple section”. Interactive correspondence with our readership is exchanged within the “grey section”.

The use of various fonts is an obvious way to distinguish between content. In the new design all core text sections including abstracts, “What this Paper Adds” sections, and text body appear in Calibri font as previously, which reads very well; the aim of this is to highlight visually the key content in a connected and united way. Well matched but clearly diverse is the *Charis SIL* font used for all tables, figures, and reference lists, which sets these pockets of condensed information and illustrations apart.

To achieve this, all tables and figures are being reworked and edited from scratch, which is probably the most notable change (Fig. 1). This process aims not only for visual homogeneity, but also ensures that tables and figures, together with their titles and legends, work as discrete, standalone pieces of information. This is also emphasised visually by standard boxes and shades that are used to outline tables and figures from the main texts (Table 1, Fig. 1). Similarly, arrows in flowcharts, as well as curves or box plots, will all be redrawn into predefined formats with regard to colour, tints, and patterns, which are also distinguishable in black and white offprint. As a consequence, figures, photographs, and artwork can only be accepted in certain, modifiable high resolution vector based formats, such as .eps or (preferably) .pdf.

As cosmetic and superficial as all these changes may appear at first sight, they pursue an overriding goal that goes beyond professional appearance, and aims at ensuring professionalism along the whole publication process. Once the new design has been established, the

Table 1. Style guide for the new <i>European Journal of Vascular and Endovascular Surgery</i> design		
Aspect	Concept	Details/including
Colour sections	Overall compass	
<i>Red</i>	Original research dealing with arteries Observational studies, experimental research Systematic reviews with or without meta-analyses	Carotid section Aortoiliac section Peripheral artery section Basic research/vascular biology
<i>Blue</i>	Original research articles dealing with veins or lymphatics Observational studies, experimental research Systematic reviews with or without meta-analyses	Deep veins and thromboembolism Superficial veins and varicosities Lymphatic vessels Basic research/vascular biology
<i>Purple</i>	Educational content Editorials Edutorials Non-systematic reviews (topical or narrative)	Statistical and methodological concepts Evidence driven clinical scenario Eminence based clinical scenario Coup d'œil (clinical picture) Jugaar (technical tips and tricks) Multiple choice questions
<i>Black/Grey</i>	Communication Invited commentaries Correspondence, book reviews Abstract sections	Selected abstracts from the Journal of Vascular Surgery, national meetings, etc.
Font	Readability and consistency	
<i>Calibri</i>	To homogenise and highlight core text section	Abstract and main text "What this Paper Adds" paragraph Author information
<i>Charis SIL</i>	To distinguish standalone pieces of information	Tables, including legends Figures, including legends References Article meta-information
Tables	Transparent and visually independent piece of information	
	Works standalone	Boxed, with boxed title, bold column headings, and a boxed legend
	Standard formats for data presentation	Alternate shaded lines for table content Two widths: one column or page width Only in portrait orientation (no landscape)
Figures	Clear and visually independent key findings of study	
	Redrawn electronically from author's file (.eps or .pdf) Standard formats for typical types of figures	Boxed, with boxed legend, and background shade Standard use of lines and arrows Kaplan–Meier curves, flowcharts, box plots, hazard ratio charts, etc.
	Works standalone	Three widths: one column, three quarter page or page width Standard width to height ratio, if applicable Standard annotations

new editorial workflow needed for the rework of accepted papers is also to be used to ensure standard reporting items are provided in each table and figure and that all published contents fully comply with best reporting practice. Gradually, this will result in a unique and consistent overall *EJVES* style that will be reflected in the instructions for authors and is expected to keep up the

successful development of the Journal and to set new standards for further improvements.

We hope you like the new *EJVES* design as much as we do, and that it inspires you to submit your best research to share it in a highly standardised and appealing way with the preferred vascular community, i.e. the *EJVES* readership. Happy New Year!

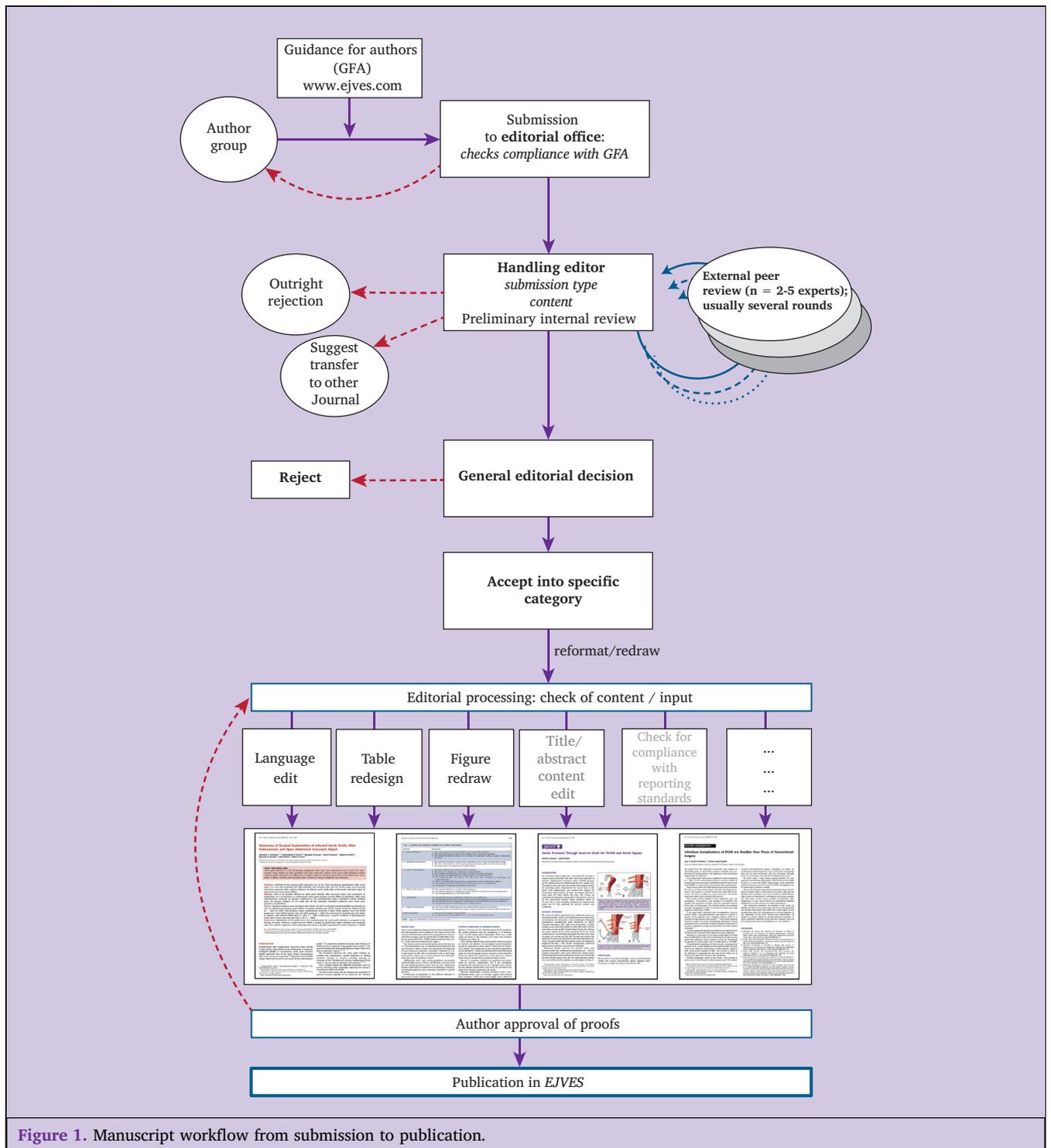


Figure 1. Manuscript workflow from submission to publication.

REFERENCES

- 1 Kolh P, Dick F. A great era comes to an end: and a new one begins! *Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg* 2016;**52**:423–4.
- 2 Kolh P, Dick F, Halliday A. EJVES: the leading journal in vascular surgery, and one of many highlights for the ESVS Annual Meeting in Valencia. *Eur J Vasc Endovasc Surg* 2018;**56**:315–7.

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