

# Instructions For Authors

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*JACC: Basic to Translational Science*, an open access journal, serves a forum for advancing the field Translational Cardiovascular Medicine, and as a platform for accelerating the translation of novel scientific discoveries into new therapies that improve clinical outcomes for patients affected with or at risk for Cardiovascular Disease. Thematic areas of interest include pre-clinical research; clinical trials; personalized medicine; novel drugs, devices, and biologics; proteomics, genomics and metabolomics; and early phase clinical trial methodology.

We request that all manuscripts be submitted online at <http://www.jaccsubmit-basicts.org>

Manuscript submissions should conform to the guidelines set forth in the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publication,” available from <http://www.icmje.org> and most recently updated in April 2010.

English language help service: Upon request, Elsevier will direct authors to an agent who can check and improve the English of their paper (before submission). Please contact [authorsupport@elsevier.com](mailto:authorsupport@elsevier.com) for further information.

The *JACC* Journals use a single-blind peer-review process. Papers are assigned an Associate Editor, who can assign up to two peer-reviewers, although more can be assigned if necessary.

## AUTHOR ENQUIRIES

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For enquiries relating to the submission of articles or to articles currently under review, please contact the *JACC: Basic to Translational Science* editorial office at [jaccbts@acc.org](mailto:jaccbts@acc.org). For information on articles that have been accepted for publication, please visit Elsevier’s Authors Home at [www.elsevier.com/authors](http://www.elsevier.com/authors). Elsevier’s Authors Home also provides the facility to track accepted articles and set up e-mail alerts to inform you of when an article’s status has changed, as well as detailed artwork guidelines, copyright information, frequently asked questions, and more. Authors can order copies of the issue in which their article appears at a discounted rate; please contact Elsevier Health Sciences Division, Subscription Customer Service, 3251 Riverport Lane, Maryland Heights, MO 63043, Tel: 1-800-654- 2452, E-mail: [journalscustomerservice-usa@elsevier.com](mailto:journalscustomerservice-usa@elsevier.com).

## EXCLUSIVE SUBMISSION/PUBLICATION POLICY

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Manuscripts are eligible for review only under the conditions that they are not under consideration elsewhere and that the data presented have not appeared on the Internet or have not been previously published (including symposia, proceedings, transactions, books, articles published by invitation, or preliminary publications of any kind except abstracts not exceeding 400 words).

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## RELATIONSHIP WITH INDUSTRY POLICY

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Authors are required to disclose any relationship with industry and other relevant entities—financial or otherwise—within the past 2 years that might pose a conflict of interest in connection with the submitted article in both the cover letter and on the title page. All sources of funding for the work should be acknowledged in a footnote on the title page, as should all institutional affiliations of the authors (including corporate appointments). Other kinds of associations, such as consultancies, stock ownership, or other equity interests or patent-licensing arrangements, should be disclosed to the Editors in the cover letter at the time of submission. If no conflict of interest exists, please state this in the cover letter and on the title page. Relationship with industry guidelines apply to authors of all the following: Original Research Papers, State-of-the-Art Papers, Editorials and Viewpoints, Images, Editorial Comments, and Letters to the Editor.

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Only authors appearing on the final title page will be sent a form. YOU CANNOT ADD AUTHORS AFTER ACCEPTANCE OR ON PROOFS. After a paper is sent to the publisher, the links to the electronic forms will no longer be active. In this case, authors will be sent links to download hard

copy forms that they may mail or fax to the *JACC: Basic to Translational Science* office.

## ETHICS

Studies should be in compliance with human studies committees and animal welfare regulations of the authors' institutions and Food and Drug Administration guidelines.

Human studies must be performed with the subjects' written informed consent. Authors must provide the details of this procedure and indicate that the institutional committee on human research has approved the study protocol. If radiation is used in a research procedure, the radiation exposure must be specified in the Methods. Clinical trials should be registered.

Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent which should be documented in your paper. Patients have a right to privacy. Therefore, identifying information, including patients' images, names, initials, or hospital numbers, should not be included in videos, recordings, written descriptions, photographs, and pedigrees unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and you have obtained written informed consent for publication in print and electronic form from the patient (or parent, guardian or next of kin where applicable). If such consent is made subject to any conditions, the editorial office must be made aware of all such conditions.

Written consents must be provided to the editorial office on request. Even where consent has been given, identifying details should be omitted if they are not essential. If identifying characteristics are altered to protect anonymity, such as in genetic pedigrees, authors should provide assurance that alterations do not distort scientific meaning and editors should so note. If such consent has not been obtained, personal details of patients included in any part of the paper and in any supplementary materials (including all illustrations and videos) must be removed before submission. Animal investigation must conform to the "Position of the American Heart Association on Research Animal Use," adopted by the AHA on November 11, 1984. If equivalent guidelines are used, they should be indicated. The AHA position includes: 1) animal care and use by qualified individuals, supervised by veterinarians, and all facilities and transportation must comply with current legal requirements and guidelines; 2) research involving animals should be done only when alternative methods to yield needed information are not possible; 3) anesthesia must be used in all surgical interventions, all unnecessary suffering should be avoided and research must be terminated if unnecessary pain or fear results; and 4) animal facilities must meet the standards of the American Association for Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC).

The *JACC* Journals has an ethics committee comprised of 7 members, which oversees quality control and will look into the issues of concern, if any.

## AUTHORSHIP/COVER LETTER

Each author must have contributed significantly to the submitted work. If there are more than 4 authors, the contribution of each must be substantiated in the cover letter. If authorship is attributed to a group (either solely or in addition to 1 or more individual authors), all members of the group must meet the full criteria and requirements for authorship. To save space, if group members have been listed in *JACC: Basic to Translational Science*, the article should be referenced rather than reprinting the list. The Editors consider authorship to include all of the following: 1) conception and design or analysis and interpretation of data, or both; 2) drafting of the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the manuscript submitted. Participation solely in the collection of data does not justify authorship but may be appropriately acknowledged in the Acknowledgment section.

Manuscripts must be submitted with a cover letter stating: 1) the paper is not under consideration elsewhere; 2) none of the paper's contents have been previously published; 3) all authors have read and approved the manuscript; and 4) the full disclosure of any potential conflict of interest (see "Relationship With Industry Policy"). Exceptions must be explained. If there is no conflict of interest, this should also be stated in the cover letter.

The corresponding author should be specified in the cover letter. All editorial communications will be sent to this author. The corresponding author will be whom we contact for submission queries.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR SUBMISSION OF ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPERS

*JACC: Basic to Translational Science* is not restricted to page length, however the Editors prefer that manuscripts not exceed 5,500 words (including references and figure legends). Note that if you are asked to revise your paper an alternate word limit may be specified by the Editors. Illustrations and tables should be limited to those necessary to highlight key data. Please provide gender-specific data, when appropriate, in describing outcomes of epidemiologic analyses or clinical trials; or specifically state that no gender-based differences were present.

The manuscript should be submitted in Microsoft Word format and be arranged as follows: 1) title page; 2) structured abstract and key words; 3) condensed abstract; 4) abbreviations list; 5) text; 6) Perspectives (Clinical Competencies/Translational Outlook); 7) acknowledgments (if applicable); 8) Funding Sources 9) references; 10) figure titles and legends; and 11) tables.

## OTHER PAPER CATEGORIES

The following information should be noted for these paper types:

**STATE-OF-THE-ART PAPERS.** The Editors will consider both invited and volunteered review articles. Such manuscripts must adhere to preferred length guidelines of no more than 5,000 words and require an unstructured abstract, a central illustration and a list of 3-4 brief (15 words or fewer for each bullet, or 85 characters for each bullet) bullet points that highlight the main message of the review. The first bullet should provide the translational/clinical context or background that establishes the relevance or need for this review. The second bullet should speak to the main message and focus of the review, including any recommendations made by the authors. The final bullet should summarize where the field needs to move forward from this point. Authors should detail in their cover letters how their submission differs from existing reviews on the subject.

Example of bullet points:

- The acute inflammatory response is a critical mechanism for host defense, whereas the resolution of inflammation is equally important for tissue homeostasis by delimiting the destructive effects of chronic inflammation.
- This review will discuss the role of the activation of the G-protein coupled formyl peptide receptor 2 (ALX/FPR2) in terms of regulating the resolution of inflammation following tissue injury, and will specifically focus on the role of lipid mediators in activating the ALX/FPR2 receptor.
- Additional studies will be required to clarify whether activation of the ALX/FPR2 receptor can be used therapeutically to prevent chronic inflammation, scar tissue formation following acute tissue injury.

**LEADING EDGE TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH** articles are discrete, highly significant, innovative or novel findings reported in a shorter format of 3,500 words or fewer in length. Editors will review for interest within seven (7) days of submission. These may be invited or volunteered manuscripts.

**TRANSLATIONAL PERSPECTIVES.** Although usually invited, succinct opinion pieces relevant to a specific aspect of translational medicine will also be considered for *JACC: Basic to Translational Science*. They should not exceed 2,500 words and should have no more than a total of 2 figures and tables than 5 references.

**RESEARCH LETTERS.** Both Research Letters and Letters to the Editor are published under the heading “Letters.” *JACC: Basic to Translation Science* will publish a limited number of research letters that are tightly focused on a new or novel research observation. Research letters will generally be solicited by the Editors; however, authors can also submit original investigations of a focused nature as a research letter. Research Letters should be submitted online at [www.jaccsubmit-basict.org](http://www.jaccsubmit-basict.org). They should not exceed 1000 words, including references and figure legend, with no more than 5 references, one Figure (in no more than 2 parts) or one simple Table. A title page is required. Online or Supplemental Material is not permitted.

**LETTERS TO THE EDITOR AND REPLIES.** *JACC: Basic to Translation Science* will publish a limited number of letters that focus on a specific manuscript that has appeared in the journal. Letters must be submitted within 3 weeks of the issue date of the article. *JACC: Basic to Translation Science* does not consider letters to the editor on review articles, editorials, or any correspondence, including research letters. Letters should be submitted online at [www.jaccsubmit-basict.org](http://www.jaccsubmit-basict.org). They should not exceed 500 words, including references and figure legend, with no more than 5 references, one Figure (in no more than 2 parts) or one simple Table. A title page is required with a unique title of 15 words or less that does not include the title of the original research paper. Replies will generally be solicited by the Editors.

## MANUSCRIPT CONTENT

### TITLE PAGE

Include the full title, authors’ names (including full first name and middle initial and degrees), total word count, and a brief title of no more than 15 words. List the departments and institutions with which the authors are affiliated, and indicate the specific affiliations if the work is generated from more than one institution (use superscript letters <sup>a</sup>, <sup>b</sup>, <sup>c</sup>, <sup>d</sup>, and so on). Also provide information on grants, contracts, and other forms of financial support, and list the cities and states of all foundations, funds and institutions involved in the work. Include any relationship with industry (see “Relationship With Industry Policy”). If there are no relationships with industry, this should be stated. Under the heading, “Address for correspondence,” give the full name and complete postal address of the author to whom communications, author proofs, and reprint requests should be sent. Also provide telephone and fax numbers and an email address for the corresponding author.

### STRUCTURED ABSTRACT

Provide a structured abstract of no more than 250 words, presenting essential data in 5 paragraphs introduced by separate headings in the following order: Objectives, Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Use complete sentences. All data in the abstract must also appear in the manuscript text or tables. For general information on preparing structured abstracts, see “Haynes RB, Mulrow CD, Huth EJ, Altman DG, Gardner MJ. More informative abstracts revisited. *Ann Intern Med* 1990;113:69-76.” An unstructured abstract is appropriate for review articles.

For accepted papers, authors will be asked to provide a list of bulleted highlights and a summary to replace the abstract (see Visual Abstract instructions below).

### CONDENSED ABSTRACT

Provide a condensed abstract of no more than 100 words, stressing clinical implications, for the expanded table of contents. Include no data that do not also appear in the manuscript text or tables.

### TEXT

The text should be structured as Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion. Use headings and subheadings in the Methods, Results, and particularly, Discussion sections. Every reference, figure, and table should be cited in the text in numerical order according to order of mention.

The abbreviations of common terms (e.g., ECG, PTCA, CABG) or acronyms (GUSTO, SOLVD, TIMI) may be used in the manuscript. On a separate page following the condensed abstract, list the selected abbreviations and their definitions (e.g., TEE = transesophageal echocardiography). The Editors may determine which lesser known terms should not be abbreviated. Please consult “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publication,” available from <http://www.ICMJE.org> and most recently updated in April 2010, for appropriate use of units of measure.

### STATISTICS

All publishable manuscripts will be reviewed for appropriateness and accuracy of statistical methods and statistical interpretation of results. We subscribe to the statistics section of the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publication,” available from <http://www.ICMJE.org> and most recently updated in April 2010. In the Methods section, provide a subsection detailing the statistical methods, including specific methods used to summarize the data, methods used for hypothesis testing (if any), and the level of significance used for hypothesis testing. When using more sophisticated statistical methods (beyond *t* tests, chi-square, simple linear regression), specify the statistical package, version number, and nondefault options used. For more information on statistical review, see “Glantz SA. It is all in the numbers. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1993;21:835-7.”

### PERSPECTIVES

The authors should delineate clinical implications and translational outlook recommendations for their manuscripts. These should be listed in the manuscript after the Text and before the Acknowledgments and References. Please review the examples provided below. The implications describe the consequences of the study for current practice. The translational outlook identifies the potential barriers to clinical translation, emphasizing directions for additional research.

**Clinical Competencies.** Competency-based learning in cardiovascular medicine addresses the 6 domains promulgated by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and endorsed by the American Board of Internal Medicine (Medical Knowledge, Patient Care and Procedural Skills, Interpersonal and Communication Skills, Systems-Based Practice, Practice-Based Learning, and Professionalism) ([www.acgme.org/acgme](http://www.acgme.org/acgme)). The ACCF has adopted this format for its competency and training statements, career milestones, lifelong learning, and educational programs. The ACCF also has developed tools to assist physicians in assessing, enhancing, and documenting these competencies ([www.acc.org/Lifelong-Learning-and-MOC/Resources/Competencies](http://www.acc.org/Lifelong-Learning-and-MOC/Resources/Competencies)).

Authors are asked to consider the clinical implications of their report and identify applications in one or more of these competency domains that could be used by clinician readers to enhance their competency as professional caregivers.

This applies not only to physicians in training, but to the sustained commitment to education and continuous improvement across the span of their professional careers.

**Translational Outlook.** Translating biomedical research from the laboratory bench, clinical trials or global observations to the care of individual patients can expedite discovery of new diagnostic tools and treatments through multidisciplinary collaboration. Effective translational medicine facilitates implementation of evolving strategies for prevention and treatment of

disease in the community. The Institute of Medicine identified two areas needing improvement: testing basic research findings in properly designed clinical trials and, once the safety and efficacy of an intervention has been confirmed, more efficiently promulgating its adoption into standard practice (Sung NS, Crowley WF, Genel M. The meaning of translational research and why it matters. *JAMA* 2008;299:3140-3148).

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has recognized the importance of translational biomedical research, emphasizing multifunctional collaborations between researchers and clinicians to leverage new technology and accelerate the delivery of new therapies to patients ([www.ncats.nih.gov/about/about.html](http://www.ncats.nih.gov/about/about.html)).

Authors are asked to place their work in the context of the scientific continuum, by identifying impediments and challenges requiring further investigation and anticipating next steps and directions for future research.

#### VISUAL ABSTRACT

A visual abstract is a single, concise, pictorial summary of the main findings of the article. Our in-house medical illustrators will create the final printable versions of these figures in consultation with the Editor-in-Chief and the authors. The visual abstract is specially designed to be placed at the beginning of the article and is accompanied by 3-5 "bulleted highlights" and a short summary written by the author and ultimately replaces the written abstract. See examples of articles with visual abstracts:

**Example #1:** <http://basictranslational.onlinejacc.org/content/1/1-2/3>

**Example #2:** <http://basictranslational.onlinejacc.org/content/1/1-2/32>

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Acknowledgments or appendices should be concise. Signed letters of permission from all individuals listed in the acknowledgments must be submitted to *JACC: Basic to Translational Science*.

#### REFERENCES

Identify references in the text by Arabic numerals in parentheses on the line. The reference list should be typed double-spaced on pages separate from the text. The references should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are mentioned in the text.

*Do not cite* personal communications, manuscripts in preparation, or other unpublished data in the references; however, these may be included in the text in parentheses. *Do not cite abstracts that are older than 2 years.* Identify abstracts by the abbreviation "abstr" in parentheses. If letters to the editor are cited, identify them with the word "letter" in parentheses.

Use *Index Medicus* (National Library of Medicine) abbreviations for journal titles. It is important to note that when citing an article from the *JACC: Basic to Translational Science*, the correct citation format is *J Am Coll Cardiol Basic Trans Science*.

Use the following style and punctuation for references:

#### Periodical

List all authors if 6 or fewer, otherwise list the first 3 and add et al.; do not use periods after the authors' initials. Please do provide inclusive page numbers as in example below.

5. Glantz SA. It is all in the numbers. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 1993; 21:835-7.

#### Doi-based citation for an article in press

If the ahead-of-print date is known, provide as in example below.

16. Winchester D, Wen X, Xie L, et al. Evidence for pre-procedural statin therapy: meta-analysis of randomized trials. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2010 Sept 28 [E-pub ahead of print], <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2010.09.028>.

If the ahead-of-print date is unknown, omit as in example below.

16. Winchester D, Wen X, Xie L, et al. Evidence for pre-procedural statin therapy: meta-analysis of randomized trials. *J Am Coll Cardiol* 2010 [E-pub ahead of print], <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jacc.2010>.

#### Chapter in book

Provide authors, chapter title, editor(s), book title, publisher location, publisher name, year, and inclusive page numbers.

27. Meidell RS, Gerard RD, Sambrook JF. Molecular biology of thrombolytic agents. In: Roberts R, editor. *Molecular Basis of Cardiology*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell Scientific Publications, 1993:295-324.

#### Online media

Provide specific URL address and date information was accessed.

10. Henkel J. Testicular Cancer: Survival High With Early Treatment. *FDA Consumer magazine* [serial online]. January-February 1996. Available at: [http://www.fda.gov/fdac/features/196\\_test.html](http://www.fda.gov/fdac/features/196_test.html). Accessed August 31, 1998.

#### Material presented at a meeting but not published

Provide authors, presentation title, full meeting title, meeting dates, and meeting location.

20. Eisenberg J. Market forces and physician workforce reform: why they may not work. Paper presented at: Annual Meeting of the Association of Medical Colleges; October 28, 1995; Washington, DC.

#### FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure legends should be typed double-spaced on pages separate from the text; figure numbers must correspond with the order in which they are mentioned in the text.

#### ALL FIGURES MUST HAVE A TITLE AS WELL AS A CAPTION.

For example, Figure 1: Title - Caption, etc.

All abbreviations used in the figure should be identified either after their first mention in the legend or in alphabetical order at the end of each legend.

All symbols used (arrows, circles, etc.) must be explained.

If previously published figures are used, written permission from the original publisher is required. See STM Guidelines for details: <http://www.stm-assoc.org/permissions-guidelines>. Cite the source of the figure in the legend.

#### FIGURES

Figures and graphs submitted in electronic format should be provided in EPS or TIF format. Graphics software such as Photoshop and Illustrator, NOT presentation software such as Powerpoint, CorelDraw, or Harvard Graphics, should be used to create the art. Color images must be at least 300 DPI. Gray scale images should be at least 300 DPI. Line art (black and white or color) should be at least 1200 DPI and combinations of gray scale images and line art should be at least 1200 DPI. Lettering should be of sufficient size to be legible after reduction for publication. The optimal size is 12 points. Symbols should be of a similar size. Figures should be no smaller than 13 cm × 18 cm (5" × 7"). Please do not reduce figures to fit publication layout. If the manuscript is accepted for publication, the publisher will re-size the figures accordingly.

#### ALL FIGURES MUST HAVE A TITLE AND A LEGEND.

Our editors encourage authors to submit figures in color, as we feel it improves the clarity and visual impact of the images. If your original submission contains any line art or black and white figures that you would like to change to color, please email the revised color figures to the *JACC: Basic to Translational Science* editorial office during the revision process. Be sure to include correspondence, with the manuscript number, explaining the change.

Decimals, lines, and other details must be strong enough for reproduction.

Designate special features with arrows. All symbols, arrows, and lettering on halftone illustrations must contrast with the background.

#### TABLES

Tables should be typed double-spaced on separate sheets, with the table number and title centered above the table and explanatory notes below the table. Use Arabic numbers. Table numbers must correspond with the order cited in the text.

#### ALL TABLES MUST HAVE A TITLE.

Abbreviations should be listed in a footnote under the table in alphabetical order. Footnote symbols should appear in the following order: \*, †, ‡, §, ||, ¶, #, \*\*, ††, etc.

Tables should be self-explanatory, and the data presented in them should not be duplicated in the text or figures. If previously published tables are used, written permission from the copyright holder (typically the original publisher) is required. Cite the source of the table in the legend.

#### VIDEO REQUIREMENTS

Inclusion of videos in the published paper is at the discretion of the Editors.

1. Video submissions for viewing online should be one of the following formats: Audio Video Interleave (.avi), MPEG (.mpg), or Quick Time (.qt, .mov).  
AVI files can be displayed via Windows Media Player  
MPEG files can be displayed via Windows Media Player  
<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia>  
<http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windowsmedia/players.aspx>  
Quick Time files require Quick Time software (free) from Apple,  
<http://www.apple.com/quicktime/download/index.html>
2. Videos should be brief (<2-5 min). Longer videos will require longer download times and may have difficulty playing online. Videos

should be restricted to the most critical aspects of your research. A longer procedure can be restructured as several shorter videos and submitted in that form.

3. It is advisable to compress files to use as little bandwidth as possible and to avoid overly long download times. Video files should be no larger than 5 megabytes. This is a suggested maximum. If files are larger please contact the *JACC: Basic to Translational Science* office.
4. A video legends page giving a brief description of the content of each video should be included in the manuscript. Please note that ALL videos must be linked to figures or panels of a figure(s).
5. If your paper is accepted for publication you may wish to supply the editorial office with several different resolutions of your video files. This will allow viewers with slower connections to download a lower resolution version of your video.

**It is important to note** that when citing an article from *JACC: Basic to Translational Science*, the correct citation format is *J Am Coll Cardiol Basic Trans Science*