

Editorial Note

We welcome you to this edition of the Yenagoa Medical Journal (YMJ). The YMJ is the official publication of the Association of Resident Doctors of the Federal Medical Centre, Yenagoa, Bayelsa State, Nigeria. It is published four times a year in the months of January, April, July and October.

We publish open access, peer-reviewed original articles, review articles, case reports, letters to the editor, short communication, commentaries, viewpoints, book reviews, medical educational materials and articles on socioeconomic, political or legal matters related to medical practice.

All opinions, except otherwise stated, are those of the authors of the articles in this journal and do not reflect the views of the Yenagoa Medical Journal, Association of Resident Doctors or the Federal Medical Centre, Yenagoa.

Fees and charges for submission of manuscripts.

For now, until reviewed, fees will not be charged for publication of articles in the Yenagoa Medical Journal. The website of the Yenagoa Medical Journal can be accessed. Pdf formats of articles published in the journal are downloaded without charge.

For all correspondence, kindly contact the editor-in-chief:

Dr. Oriji, Peter Chibuzor

Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology,
Federal Medical Centre,
Yenagoa,
Bayelsa State, Nigeria.
+234 706 423 3209

Email: yenagoamedicaljournal@gmail.com

Website: www.yenagoamedicaljournal.com

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Privacy Statement

The names and email addresses entered in this journal site, or used for any correspondence with this journal will be used exclusively for the stated purposes and will not be made available for any other purpose or to any other party.

Guidelines for Submission of Manuscripts

Articles

1. Original research articles

These include original data that have not been published anywhere else (except as an abstract). Research articles should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgements, Competing Interests, Authors' contributions, Consent (where applicable), Ethical approval (where applicable), References and illustrations/figures/tables. An original research article should not contain more than 12 illustrations/figures/tables, and should not exceed 6,000 words (all inclusive).

2. Short research notes

These are single-finding articles that can be reported with not more than two illustrations/figures/tables. Posters from conferences or internal meetings may be written as short research notes. Some additional detail in the methods, description of the results, and discussion may be required to enable readers have enough information to understand the description of the work. A Short research note should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Methodology, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Acknowledgements, Competing Interests, Authors' Contributions, Consent (where applicable), Ethical approval (where applicable), References and illustrations/figures/tables. This should not exceed 4,000 words, 3 illustrations/figures/tables, and 25 references.

3. Short communications

These are urgent communications of important preliminary results that are original, of high interest and likely to have a significant impact on the subject area of the Yenagoa Medical Journal. The original research article is expected to be sent to Yenagoa Medical Journal for publication following short communication. A short communication should not exceed 2,500 words, 2 illustrations/

figures/tables, and 15 references.

4. Review articles

These will include discussion of published articles and data acquired in a specific area, and will not have to be data acquired by the authors. A review article may have different headings, and does not follow a particular pattern. The name of the author(s) reviewing particular article(s) should be written as the author(s) of a review article. The source of the article(s) reviewed should be written in the abstract. Review articles should not exceed 6,000 words, 100 references and 12 illustrations/figures/tables.

5. Systematic review articles

These are usually based on medical interventions or animal model studies. **Authors should consult the PRISMA guidelines for reporting in systematic reviews.** Systematic reviews deal with a clearly formulated question and use systematic and explicit methods to identify, select, and critically assess the relevant research. These articles should not exceed 6,000 words, 100 references and 12 illustrations/figures/tables.

6. Commentary

This includes topical issue of public interest. It should not exceed 3,000 words, 3 illustrations/figures/tables, and 20 references.

7. Case reports

These describe patient cases which are of particular interest due to their **rarity, peculiarity, novelty and their potential message** for clinical practice. These demonstrate unusual presentations which may confront the practitioner. Case reports should follow the structure of Abstract, Introduction, Case presentation, Discussion, Conclusion, Authors' contributions, Consent (where applicable), Ethical approval (where applicable), References and illustrations/figures/tables.

Abstract of not more than 300 words should be written with the following headings: Background, Case presentation and Conclusion. A case report should not exceed 2,500 words, 5 figures and 25 references.

8. Letter to the editor

This will provide a means of communication between the author of an article and the reader of the Yenagoa Medical Journal. Letter to the editor may provide **new insight, make corrections, offer alternate theories, or request clarification** about content printed in the Yenagoa Medical Journal. Letter to the editor should not exceed 500 words, 2 illustrations/figures/tables and 10 references.

Submission

Manuscripts for publication should be submitted as **email attachment of word document to yenagoamedicaljournal@gmail.com**. After submission, the author will be contacted within 24 hours.

For all correspondence, please send us an email to **yenagoamedicaljournal@gmail.com**.

Manuscripts

The manuscript should be written in **English language (using the British conventions of spelling, punctuation and grammar)** as **word document** using the **Times New Roman** font. The text should be written in **double line spacing and single column format**.

Title Page

The title page should contain a brief title, name(s) of author(s) and their affiliations. The title should be written without abbreviations. Affiliation should have a number in superscript just after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address.

The name of the corresponding author should be indicated with **telephone number (country code inclusive for those outside Nigeria) and e-mail address**.

Abstract

The abstract should be concise. It should not exceed 300 words. It should briefly describe the purpose of

the work, techniques and methods used, major findings with important data and conclusion. **Abbreviations should not be used**. If abbreviation must be used, it should be defined in the abstract, at first use.

Introduction

This provides a background, defined problem, proposed solution, brief literature survey and justification of the research.

Material and methods

The references of already published methods should be stated. The methods used in the work submitted should be described in detail. Illustrations, tables and figures should be placed at their appropriate positions inside the text.

Tables should be typed and double-spaced. The headings should be placed above the table. Where footnotes are necessary, they should be placed below the table with superscript lowercase letters. The information that has been presented in a figure should not be re-presented in a table. The captions of figures should be written below the figures.

Results & Discussion

Results should state the main findings of the research. The discussion should provide detailed interpretation of the significance of the findings of the research.

Conclusion

The major findings of the research should be stated.

Acknowledgments

Acknowledgments of the people who provided support, grant/funding, assistance in manuscript preparation and technical assistance should be written.

Authors' contributions

The contributions of all the authors should be stated.

Consent

Written informed consent where applicable **should be obtained from the patient and attached to the**

manuscript to be submitted for publication.

Consent should be obtained from a next of kin if there is demise of the person presented in a case report. If the person presented is a minor, or is unable to provide consent for publication, consent should be obtained from their parents or guardians.

Ethical approval

If human subjects are involved in the research, authors should obtain a **clearance certificate from the Research Ethics Committee of their institution(s)** which will be attached to the manuscript for submission.

Reference style

The Yenagoa Medical Journal uses the AMA (American Medical Association) style author-number "Vancouver" system of referencing. References must be listed at the end of the manuscript and numbered in the order that they appear in the text, and the numbered references must appear at the end of the corresponding text as superscript.

Submitted manuscripts

1. Manuscripts submitted for publication will be assessed by the editor-in-chief or an associate editor who checks the manuscripts for compliance with the guidelines for submission of manuscripts and relevance to the YMJ. Authors of eligible manuscripts will be notified and manuscripts not eligible will be returned for corrections or rejected. Eligible manuscripts are sent to two reviewers. Guided by the outcome of the review process, the editorial board decides to either reject the manuscript outrightly, or send the reviewer's copy back to the author for needed corrections/revision and thereafter, accept for publication, or accept for publication if little or no corrections are needed.
2. Manuscript submitted to the Yenagoa Medical Journal indicates that the study has not been published before.
3. Submission of a manuscript clearly indicates that the **Yenagoa Medical Journal has been granted license by the authors to publish the**

article and identify itself as the original publisher.

4. Submission of manuscripts for publication in the Yenagoa Medical Journal clearly indicate that **the authors have granted any third party the right to use the articles in the journal freely as long as the integrity, original authors and citation details are maintained.**

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