

INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

I. General: The *Circulation Journal* is the official publication of the Japanese Circulation Society. Contributions from non-members are also accepted. Articles deal with either clinical or experimental investigation of the cardiovascular and related systems. The Journal will also consider the publication of review articles summarizing the present state of knowledge in a particular field. Manuscripts must conform to the *Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals* as presented in *N Engl J Med* 1997; 336: 309–315 (<http://www.icmje.org/>).

II. Previous Publication: Submission of a manuscript to the *Circulation Journal* implies that the article is original and that no portion (including figures or tables) is under consideration elsewhere or has been previously published in any form other than as an abstract. Previous publication includes publishing as a component of symposia, proceedings, transactions, books (or chapters), articles published by invitations or reports of any kind, as well as in electronic databases of a public nature.

III. Copyright: Submission of a manuscript implies that, when accepted for publication, the authors agree to automatic transfer of the copyright to the Japanese Circulation Society.

IV. Ethics: When reporting experiments on human subjects, indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional or regional). The participants' informed consent should be obtained and should be indicated in the article. When reporting experiments on animals, indicate whether institutional or national guidelines for the care and use of laboratory animals were followed.

V. Submission of Manuscripts: All manuscripts must be submitted electronically. [URL <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cj>] Please upload your manuscript files, not as PDF. After you upload your manuscript file(s), your manuscript will undergo a conversion process. Before approving submission, please check the converted PDF file thoroughly.

VI. Authorship Agreement: When you submit a manuscript electronically, please make sure to download the "Authorship agreement" and fax it to the editorial office.

VII. Manuscript Form: All manuscripts should be written in English and prepared according to the following specifications. The main document should be typewritten with double spacing, and include the title page, abstract, key words, text, acknowledgements, references and legends for the figures within 6000 words. The total number of tables and figures should not exceed 8. Pages should be numbered consecutively in this sequence, beginning with the title page.

Original Articles

1. The title page must have (1) the complete title of the paper (do not use abbreviations in the title), (2) name(s) of author(s), with highest academic degree(s) including only MD, PhD, or BSc, (3) department(s) and institution(s) of origin, (4) a short title of no more than 50 characters including spaces, (5) name(s) of grant(s), (6) the name and address of the author responsible for correspondence, and (7) the total word count of the manuscript, including the title page, abstract, text, references, tables and figure legends and total number of tables and figures.

2. The second page should have an abstract of no more than 220 words and 3-5 key words.

Regarding the abstracts for regular papers and rapid communications, use the following headings: Background (rationale for study), Methods and Results (brief presentation of methods and presentation of significant results; note that both categories are included under one heading), and Conclusions (succinct statement of data interpretation).

3. Letters and symbols in figures should be clear and of sufficient size to be legible after reduction to the width of one column. Specify the size to be printed, if necessary. *Circulation Journal* will be a full-color journal from the issue of Vol. 74 No. 1. Therefore, the cost for colored figures will not be charged. Submission of manuscript with color figures is encouraged.

4. Units of measurement should be SI units, except for blood pressure, which should be expressed in mmHg. Do not spell out numbers and standard units of measurement except at the beginning of sentences. Use Arabic numerals and standard abbreviations to indicate numbers and units.

5. References must be numbered consecutively as they appear in the text. References are listed in the same numerical order at the end of the article with all authors listed when there are 6 or less; when there are 7 or more, list only the first 6 and add et al. The titles of journals should be abbreviated to the style used in Index Medicus (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/tsd/serials/lji.html>). References should accord with the system used in the *Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals*. Consult the examples shown below.

Examples:

- 1) Tanaka S, Yokoyama C, Kawamura I, Takasugi N, Kubota T, Ushikoshi H, et al. Conservative medication follow-up for over 20 years of a patient with ischemic heart disease after diagnosis of chronic total occlusion of the 3 main coronary arteries. *Circ J*2008; **72**: 1205 – 1209.
 - 2) Wu TJ, Kim YH, Yashima M, Athill CA, Ting CT, Karagueuzian HS, et al. Progressive action potential duration shortening and the conversion from atrial flutter to atrial fibrillation in the isolated canine right atrium. *J Am Coll Cardiol*2001; 38: 1717–1757.
 - 3) Opie LH. Mechanism of cardiac contraction and relaxation. In: Braunwald E, editor. Heart disease, 5th edn. Philadelphia: Saunders, 1997; 360–393.
6. Supplementary files
- 1) Up to 3 supplementary files will be accepted per manuscript.
 - 2) If a supplementary file contains References, they should be separate references for the supplementary file only.
 - 3) Supplementary files will only be published in the online journal.
 - 4) There is a size limit of 5 MB of uploaded files per manuscript (including text, figures and tables).

Rapid Communications

These are reports of novel findings of particular importance and/or current interest and will be accepted if they merit immediate publication. The papers will normally be published within 2 months of acceptance. The manuscripts should be no more than 1000 words of text, have a maximum of 15 references and an abstract not exceeding 100 words. The total number of tables and figures should be less than 2. The manuscripts normally occupy no more than 3 journal pages. Provide both a short title and 3 key words (see Regular Paper section). Please refer to the General Instructions for reference style and other manuscript requirements.

Review Articles (Invited)

These are invited articles by internationally recognized authorities on various topics.

Editorials (Invited)

The manuscripts must not exceed 1500 words in length, including a maximum of 15 references, and no abstract. The total number of tables and figures must be limited to 2. The manuscripts normally occupy no more than 2 journal pages. Please refer to the General Instructions for reference style and other manuscript requirements.

Images in Cardiovascular Medicine

The manuscripts should contain novel color images with scientific impact. Submission of a simple case report is discouraged. The manuscripts must not exceed 1500 words in length, including a maximum of 15 references, and no abstract. The total number of color figures must be limited to 2 (in addition to 2 supplemental files if needed). Submission of tables is not encouraged. The manuscripts normally occupy no more than 2 journal pages. Please refer to the General Instructions for reference style and other manuscript requirements.

Letter to the Editor / Author's Reply

The manuscripts must not exceed 1000 words in length. Please refer to the General Instructions for reference style.

VIII. Review of Manuscripts: All manuscripts, except Review Articles are evaluated by 2 reviewers assigned by the Editors.

IX Proofs: Galley proofs of accepted manuscripts will be sent to the authors for their correction. Changes should be limited to typographical errors or errors in the presentation of data. Excessive corrections may be charged to the authors.

X. Publication Charges:

Manuscripts submitted from the beginning of 2008 (EST);

Page charges: free for the first 2 pages

¥10,000 for 3–5 pages

¥20,000 for 6–8 pages

¥50,000 for pages exceeding 8

XI. Reprints: Reprints are available in a multiple of 100 copies when ordered with the return of the proofs. The approximate cost per 100 copies is ¥10,000 including color pages.

(Revised June 24, 2011)