



## Journal of Food Quality and Hazards Control

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### INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

#### Aims and scopes

*Journal of Food Quality and Hazards Control (J. Food Qual. Hazards Control)* is an international peer-reviewed quarterly journal that aims at publishing of high quality articles involved in food quality, food hygiene, food safety, and food control which scientists from all over the world may submit their manuscript. This academic journal aims to improve international exchange of new findings and recent developments in all aspects of agricultural and biological sciences. This free of charge journal is published in both online and print forms and welcomes the manuscripts that fulfill the general criteria of novelty and scientific importance. Among the most significant objectives of *Journal of Food Quality and Hazards Control* are to ensure that the articles reflect a wide range of topics regarding journal scopes; to do a fair, scientific, fast, as well as high quality peer-review process; to provide a wide and diverse geographical coverage of articles around the world; and to publish the articles having a trustable resource of scientific information for the audiences. The types of acceptable submissions include original article, review article, short communication, letter to the editor, case report, editorial, as well as book review. *Journal of Food Quality and Hazards Control* is an official journal of Research Center for Food Hygiene and Safety, School of Public Health, Shahid Sadoughi University of Medical Sciences, Yazd, Iran. This is an open access journal under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>) that allows readers to read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of its articles and allow readers to use them for any other lawful purpose. The scopes are as below:

- Food quality assurance and improvement
- Food preservation
- Food additives
- Food spoilage
- Food control
- Food safety
- Food toxicology
- Food bacteriology
- Food parasitology
- Food virology
- Food mycology
- Food chemistry and biochemistry
- Food biotechnology
- Novel methods for detection of food hazards
- Molecular identification of pathogens in food
- Nutrigenomics
- Drinking water safety

#### Editorial policies

This journal defines an author as a person who has made a substantive contributions to design of the work, or to analyze or interpret of data; and to draft or revise it; and to verify the approval of the version to be published and to agree for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved. Those who do not meet at least one of the above criteria should be acknowledged. Any host, guest, honorary or anonymous authors must be strictly avoided. In this journal, there is no limitation in authorship numbers.

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- Revisions of the work
- Submitting a brief description of all contributions to the manuscript in the title page
- Disclosing any information on prior or duplicate publication or submission elsewhere of any part of the work

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The authors should use the metric units for measurement units of weight, height, length, and volume. Temperature should be assigned using degree Celsius. Authors should use International System of Units (SI) for laboratory information. Editors have right to recommend non-SI if SI units would not be universe. Drug concentrations should be reported in SI or mass units.

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Authors should use the standard abbreviations. The abbreviations should not be used in the title. The terms or phrase of abbreviations should be spelled out at the first usage inside either abstract or text body and the abbreviation should be immediately appeared in parenthesis. No needs to mention the full words of standard units of measurement. Authors should mention any abbreviations and acronyms used at least three times in the manuscript in the title page. If the manuscript is accepted, the list of abbreviations and acronyms will be included on the first page of the article.

## Types of acceptable articles

A manuscript can be classified under one of the following categories:

- Original article
- Review article
- Short communication
- Letter to the editor
- Case report
- Editorial
- Book review

## Preparation of manuscript

### Original article

It should not exceed 7000 words, excluding references, and they should have the following format:

**Title page:** Title page of the manuscript should be in a separate page with no number. This page should include the title of the manuscript; authors' names and affiliations; name of the institution/university where the work was done; running title; full address of the corresponding author (email, telephone, fax, postal code); and also highlights. First character of all words in the manuscript title must be written in capital form with exception of prepositions and conjunctions words. The title should be clear, concise and informative. Running title, as short form of the main title, is presented at the top of pages in maximum 5 words with exception of prepositions and conjunctions words. Highlights are composed of three to five bullet points which provide core findings of the manuscript (especially, results and conclusion) to help readers to fast overview of the published article. Each bullet point must include up to 15 words with exception of prepositions and conjunctions words.

**Abstract:** Abstract should be structured providing background, methods, results and, conclusion altogether should be in the range of 150-300 words. Abbreviations should not be used for repeating up to twice.

**Keywords:** Keywords are used for indexing purpose. Each manuscript should provide 3 to 5 keywords according to the Medical Subject Headings, MESH (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/MBrowser.html>).

**Introduction:** Introduction should provide a background and specifies the research objective of the study or observation. This section must emphasize the purpose and the rationale for the study. It should neither review the subject extensively nor should it have data or conclusions of the study.

**Materials and methods:** Materials and methods must indicate clearly the steps taken to acquire the information. It should be detailed. All materials should be mentioned by the company, country or city that they made. Repeating the details of standard techniques is best avoided. The software used for statistical analysis and description of the actual method should be mentioned. This section should have some subtitles. The subtitles must be inserted as italic form.

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**Discussion:** Discussion should emphasize the new and important aspects of the study. Possible explanations for these findings should be mentioned. However, extensive citations and discussion of the previous studies in literature and also repetition of the results should be avoided.

**Conclusion:** In this section, overall conclusion of the author(s) from the research, the limitation of the work and the implications of the finding for future research should be noted.

**Author contributions:** In this section, each author's contribution must be exactly declared using initials to indicate each author's identity (for example, "J.C. and T.P. designed the study; J.C., D.N, and R.K. conducted the experimental work; B.A. analyzed the data; H.L. and B.A. wrote the manuscript, etc."). Based on the recommendations by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors/ICMJE (<http://www.icmje.org>) about the conduct, reporting, editing and publication of scholarly work in medical journals, all authors should have made significant conceptual, intellectual, experimental, and analytical contributions to the research, as well as having participated in writing and revising the manuscript (please see "Authorship criteria and contributions" section in the current instruction).

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**References:** Only credible scientific sources including journals, books, official websites, etc. are acceptable. Abstracts presented in the congresses or seminars, and also non-official websites should preferably not be used. The references should be noted by Harvard citation style indicating as follow:

A) *Citation in text:* Each reference cited in the text should be presented in the reference list (and vice versa). All citations in the text should follow the below principles:

1. Single author: the author's name and the year of publication (e.g., Smith, 2009)
  2. Two authors: both authors' names and the year of publication (e.g., Jay and Reid, 2007)
  3. Three or more authors: first author's name followed by 'et al.' and the year of publication (e.g., Ferguson et al., 2013)
- Citations may be made directly (or parenthetically). Groups of references should be listed first alphabetically, then chronologically.

B) *List:* References should be arranged alphabetically by authors' names and should be as full as possible. It should be noted that journal full names must be capitalizes each word (exception of prepositions and conjunctions words) and italic. If two or more references belong to the same author (s) in the same year, the letters (a, b, c, etc.) must be placed after the year of publication. If an in-press article is cited, DOI should be inserted. Some examples of references are as below:

- Journal: Marin S., Ramos A.J., Cano-Sancho G., Sanchis V. (2013). Mycotoxins: occurrence, toxicology, and exposure assessment. *Food and Chemical Toxicology*. 60: 218-237.
- Book: Jay J.M., Loessner M.J., Golden D.A. (2005). *Modern food microbiology*. 7<sup>th</sup> edition. Springer Science, New York. pp: 42-67.
- Chapter in an edited book: Farouk M.M., Bekhit A.E. (2013). Processed camel meats. In: Kadim I.T., Mahgoub O., Faye B., Farouk M.M. (Editors). *Camel meat and meat products*. CAB International, London. pp: 186-191.
- Web: Institute of Standards and Industrial Research of Iran (ISIRI). (2007). Raw frozen hamburger. National Standard No. 2304. URL: <http://www.isiri.org/portal/files/std/2304.pdf>. Accessed 20 August 2013.

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### **Short communication**

These articles are like those of original ones except that these are shorter and prepared in minimum 1500 and maximum 3000 words. The results and discussion sections should preferably be merged.

### **Review article**

It should be prepared according to one of the following styles:

- Systematic reviews: This kind of manuscripts should be in form of meta-analysis, meta-synthesis or without statistical analysis. These manuscripts contain original articles' parts. They should contain 2500-7000 words.
- Non systematic reviews: This kind of manuscripts should be written by researchers who are expert in the related field. Different parts of such articles include abstract (with no structure), introduction, main text, and conclusion. They should contain at least 25 references and the range of 3000-10000 words including the references and captions.

### **Case report**

This kind of manuscript should include abstract, keywords, introduction, case report, discussion, conclusion, author contributions, conflicts of interest, acknowledgment, and references. Case report should have 1500-3000 words. The title should include the words 'case report' as well as a description of the reported phenomenon (e.g., reporting of new and rare food borne pathogen).

### **Editorial**

These manuscripts need no structure and have not abstract. But, the total words number should be at maximum 2000 including references and the references not exceeding more than 10.

### **Letter to the editor**

It should be about criticism of previous articles in this journal or the others and analysis of a related scientific topic with journal scope. These manuscripts need no structure and have not abstract.

### **Book review**

In this type of manuscript, a new published internationally and valuable book regarding to the scopes of the journal, is introduced in maximum 1000 words. These manuscripts need no structure and have not abstract.

## **Reporting guidelines**

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- <http://www.anzctr.org.au>
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