

Guidelines for Authors

Dental Update is read by general and specialist practitioners, hospital dentists, and an increasing number of dental students and hygienists. The principal aim of the journal is to offer the general dental practitioner (and specialists in other subdisciplines of dentistry) a source of continuing education and a forum for discussion. *Dental Update* provides a range of information and is an invaluable resource, not just focusing on the complexities of restorative and preventive dentistry, but also covering specialties, such as endodontics, oral surgery, orthodontics, implants and periodontics, and all delivered in a clear and readable tone.

Types of articles

Dental Update publishes a range of articles including reviews, case reports, commentaries, letters to the editor, commissioned articles and other articles on topics that authors feel could be valuable to the readership. (*Dental Update* does not publish primary research). Articles are highly illustrated and good quality images are necessary for acceptance.

If you have an idea for an article, but would like to find out whether it would be of interest to the journal, please email the editorial office with your query

Publishing policies

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Submission declaration

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract, a published lecture

or academic thesis), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors, and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically, without the written consent of the copyright-holder.

Manuscript preparation

Please supply a Microsoft Word file or equivalent. If you are not using Microsoft Word, please save the document as an ASCII or text file. The document can be in any format or layout that will be easily read by reviewers when evaluating your manuscript. To maintain anonymity during the review process, author identification should appear only on the title page.

Figures and tables, and their captions, should be embedded at the point of citation in the manuscript. At this stage, images need only be of high enough resolution for reviewing purposes. If permission to reproduce figures or tables is required from a copyright holder, please seek it before submission, and include a full reference to the source in the caption.

Please ensure that you have documented consent for the use of photographs and any personal information about patients that has been included.

Unless otherwise agreed, articles should be no longer than approximately 3000 words (not including the references). Where articles are longer, they may be cut or published in two or more parts. While there are no strict formatting guidelines for submissions, all manuscripts should have the following essential elements:

- A proposed generic heading, such as Orthodontics, Oral Medicine or Restorative dentistry;
- Article title;
- Author(s) name(s), post-nominals,

job title, affiliation(s) or, in the case of GDPs, location of practice (on first page only);

- A concise abstract giving a summary of the article, up to approximately 100 words;
- A single-sentence clinical relevance statement;
- A single-sentence objectives statement. For example 'The reader should understand the clinical implications of candida infection.'
- Five keywords;
- Conflicts of interest statement disclosing any financial or personal relationships that could be a source of bias;
- A statement that informed consent has been given for the use of any images or personal information for individuals included in the article. Where appropriate, institutional review board approval must have been obtained.

Other points to note are:

- Tooth annotation should use the alphanumeric style (eg LR2).
- Generic names for drugs or products should be used, with, if pertinent, the proprietary name and manufacturer's details in brackets. For more than one brand, give those you believe to be the most widely used.
- References should be in the Vancouver style (numbered sequentially in the text with the numbers placed outside punctuation). Only published (or in press) references should appear in the reference list. If possible, please use a reference manager, such as Endnote or Mendeley. When an article is accepted, references will be checked and formatted to the *Dental Update* style. Some examples are as follows:

1. Johnson EL, Smith J, Arwel CF, Pancholi R. The tooth about Nightingale: a reflection on redeployment to Nightingale Hospital London. *Dent Update* 2020; **47**: 565–568. <https://doi.org/10.12968/denu.2020.47.7.565>.

- World Health Organization. Mental health and psychosocial considerations during the COVID-19 outbreak. 2020. Available at: www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-MentalHealth-2020.1 (accessed January 2021).

Manuscript submission

When your manuscript is ready, please send it by email to the editorial office. Multi-author articles should be accompanied by a letter signed by all authors to indicate that all have seen and approved the manuscript. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with the editorial office if you have any queries.

Peer review and acceptance

All contributions are initially assessed by the Editor for suitability for the journal. If deemed suitable, articles undergo

rigorous, double-anonymized peer review by experts in the field. The Editorial Director makes the final decision about acceptance of the manuscript. Please allow 6–8 weeks for this process.

Authors are informed once a decision has been made. If revisions have been requested before final acceptance, please provide a separate and clear description of the changes made, or a rebuttal to the reviewers' comments. The revised manuscript should be sent by email to the editorial office.

On acceptance of the article, high-resolution images and a photograph of the lead or corresponding author will be required.

Proofs

Proofs are sent to authors for approval. Authors are asked to return any corrections within a few days.

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