

Introduction:

1-2 sentences that clearly indicate the scientific question of the study and its clinical (or other) importance

Methods:

Sufficient information to be able to understand the experimental design, the analytical techniques and the statistics used in the study

Results:

Objective data to answer the scientific question(s).

Conclusions:

Only conclusions directly supported by the results, along with implications for clinical practice, avoiding speculation and over generalisation.

All text should be in English, in Arial font, size 11 point, left-aligned and single spaced. All headings must be in bold.

The file must be saved as a Word file (version 2013 or 2016) before uploading to the abstract submission system.

IMPORTANT: Abstracts must not exceed 3,000 characters. This includes Title, Authors and Affiliations, spaces and figure/table. Please check this before submitting your abstract document. The abstract document must not include authors & affiliations as the review will be blinded. You will be asked to type this information into the submission form online. Abstracts will be published in *Gut*. The journal applies this strict character count to help with layout, but also to help authors keep material back for full publication purposes. Any abstracts over this maximum character count will be truncated by *Gut*, with no exceptions.

Do not include footnotes. Any references must be included within the body of the text and will be included in the character count.

How to count the characters:

On a PC: Open the document in Word, press control A (to select all), then select the Review menu and choose the word count option.

On a Mac: Click on the icon over the word view. The word count appears near the bottom of the page. Move the pointer over the right side of the word count, then click the arrows that appear and select 'characters with spaces'.

Image requirements:

Images and graphics may be inserted, fulfilling the following criteria:

- Width: min 83mm
- File size: min 35 KB / max 1000 KB
- DPI: min 300

Figures and tables

- Only one figure or table may be submitted.
- Text in these is included in the abstract character limit and may therefore reduce the number of characters considerably.
- Any figure/table provided must be submitted in monochrome.

- Keep any figure/table submitted as simple as possible for optimal reproduction. Figures will be sized to fit a single column so complex images with lots of detail are discouraged.
- The figure legend / table title should appear in the abstract text rather than as part of the figure or table.
- The figure/table should be cited in the abstract as Figure 1 / Table 1 (whichever is relevant).

Spelling & Grammar:

- Please ensure your abstract does not contain spelling, grammar, or scientific mistakes, as it will be published exactly as submitted. Linguistic accuracy is your responsibility. No proof reading will be done.
- Abstracts may only be submitted in English.
- Abbreviations should be defined on first use.
- Trade names can be mentioned in the title, as well as in the body of the text.
- If the abstract contains special characters, consider spelling them out or finding a transferable way for them to reproduce, to avoid errors in the published abstract.