

INSTRUCTION TO THE AUTHORS

Journal Description

Turkish Neurosurgery is a peer-reviewed, multidisciplinary, open access journal directed at an audience of neurosurgery physicians and scientists. The official language of the journal is *English*. The journal publishes original articles in the form of clinical and basic research. *Turkish Neurosurgery* will only publish studies that have institutional review board (IRB) approval and have strictly observed an acceptable follow-up period. With the exception of reference presentation, *Turkish Neurosurgery* requires that all manuscripts be prepared in accordance with the *Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals*.

Turkish Neurosurgery periodically publishes the following papers: Research (Original Investigation, Clinical and Experimental Studies), Review Article, Case Report, Letter to Editor, Technical Note and Turkish Neuro-Excursion.

Our mission is providing a scientific forum relevant to neurosurgeons and health care providers.

Open Access Policy

As the Turkish Neurosurgery Journal, we believe science is a common denominator of the humanity which should be publicly available and free. Since its establishment in 1989, all our effort and workforce were based on volunteers and their efforts.

Definition of Open Access Publication¹

An Open Access Publication [A] is one that meets the following two conditions:

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Notes:

A. Open access is a property of individual works, not necessarily journals or publishers.

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¹ https://dash.harvard.edu/bitstream/handle/1/4725199/Suber_bethesda.htm#note1

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Manuscript Submission

Authors are to submit their manuscripts through the web based tracking system at <http://www.turkishneurosurgery.org.tr>. The site contains instructions and advice on how to submit manuscripts, guidance on the creation / scanning and saving of electronic art and supporting documentation. **ORCID** identifier (ID) is required for **ALL** authors during the submission process. **ORCID ID** can be obtained free of charge at <http://orcid.org>. **E-mail address of all authors** should also be provided during the submission process. In addition to allowing authors to submit manuscripts on the web, the site allows authors to follow the progression of their manuscript through the peer review process. Authors who submit their manuscripts through the web-based tracking system are asked **not** to send hard copies of the manuscript to the editorial office. Please address all inquiries regarding manuscripts not yet accepted or published to the Journal's editorial office. The editorial office will acknowledge receipt of your manuscript and will send you a manuscript number for reference.

Before submission please ensure that:

One author has been designated as the correspondent with full contact details including e-mail address, postal address and phone number. In any case of editorial board could not contact with the corresponding author, Turkish Neurosurgery journal have the right to decide what is appropriate.

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- 3) All your figures are in **TIFF** format. Color figures should have a resolution of at least **300 dpi**, black and white figures should have a resolution of at least **600 dpi**. Turkish Neurosurgery does not demand any color figure fee.
- 4) All your video files are in .mpeg and .mp4 format, not longer than 10 minutes, and not bigger than 40 MB. Video files should include an embedded audio narration and subtitles in English.
- 5) All your tables are in .doc or .docx format, created using the table creating and editing feature of the word processing software. Do not use Excel or comparable software. Upload a single text file which includes **ALL the tables in separate pages**. Cite tables consecutively in the text, and number them in that order. Key each on a separate sheet, include the table title, appropriate column heads, and explanatory legends (including definitions of any **abbreviations** used). Do not embed tables within the main text.

If your manuscript does not meet these requirements, manuscript **WILL BE RETURNED** to the corresponding author for technical revision before undergoing peer review.

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9. When you complete all the submission process click approve for all the files you want to submit and click **Submit your Manuscript** button.

Revised Submission

Author's comments to the reviewers are required for revised submissions. Authors must address all the reviewer's concerns/suggestions and whether the change was made or not. Authors must also highlight the changes made within the text. Do not track the additions or deletions to the manuscript. If the authors do not want to revise the manuscript within a period of **two months**, the manuscript will be declined.

Ethics, patient anonymity and informed consent:

This journal adheres to the ethical standards described by the Committee on Publication Ethics (<https://publicationethics.org/>) and the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (<https://www.icmje.org/>). Authors are expected to adhere to these standards.

It is the author's responsibility to ensure that a patient's anonymity is carefully protected and to verify that any experimental investigation with human subjects reported in the manuscript was performed with informed consent and followed all the guidelines for experimental studies with human subjects required by the institution(s) with which all the authors are affiliated. Authors should mask patients' eyes, private parts and remove patients' names from all figures. Editorial board of the Turkish Neurosurgery

have the right to demand ethical committee forms or informed consent forms **at any stage of the submission and publication**. All animal experiments should comply with the ARRIVE guidelines <https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/arrive-guidelines>. Also, Editorial board of the Turkish Neurosurgery have the right to withdraw any paper, even it is accepted, if there is any ethical issue.

Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the reported study. The authors should ensure that they have written entirely original works, and if the authors have used the work and/or words of others, that this has been appropriately cited or quoted. Editorial board of the Turkish Neurosurgery have the right to withdraw any paper if there is any plagiarism. All submissions must include disclosure of all relationships that could be viewed as presenting a potential conflict of interest. All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors must disclose any interests in the disclosure and conflicts of interest section of the main document.

Authorship Change

Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors before submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list after submitting the paper is **inappropriate and prohibited**. Authors should **withdraw** their paper if there is a need for authorship change.

Types of Manuscripts

Turkish Neuro-Excursion: The editor will invite experts for these special types of papers which may cover a broad spectrum in various fields of medicine, science, art, history, law as well as any important theme on actuality other than core neurosurgery. The number of words, figures, tables and references are not restricted.

Research (Original Investigation, Clinical and Experimental Studies): The main text should not exceed 4500 words **excluding the** references, tables, and figure legends for original articles, including randomized controlled trials, observational (cohort, case-control or cross-sectional) studies, diagnostic accuracy studies, nonrandomized behavioral and public health intervention trials, experimental animal trials and any other retrospective or prospective clinical or experimental studies. The number of figures, tables, videos and references are not restricted. The specifications for figures and video files are given.

Review Article: All review articles should be systematic reviews and meta-analyses. A systematic review protocol describes the rationale, hypothesis, and planned methods of the review. It should be prepared before a review is started and used as a guide to carry out the review. Turkish Neurosurgery no more accept papers as “Case Report and Review of the Literature”. All systematic reviews and meta-analyses **SHOULD COMPLY** with **PRISMA** guidelines <http://www.prisma-statement.org/>. Systematic reviews and meta analyses **SHOULD INCLUDE** a **CONSORT** Flow Diagram <http://www.consort-statement.org/consort-statement/flow-diagram>. Any systematic review and meta-analysis without a CONSORT Flow Diagram will be rejected.

Case Report: Turkish Neurosurgery values **demonstrative and unique case reports** with **high quality figures**. A case report should be so clear and easy to understand that the reader could replicate the case in his/her daily practice. Word count must not exceed 1500 (excluding references, tables, and figure legends). Case reports cannot have more than 15 references, and 6 figures or tables. Turkish Neurosurgery **does not accept** papers as “**Case Report and Review of the Literature**” anymore.

Technical Note: Turkish Neurosurgery values **demonstrative technical notes** with **high quality figures**. Technical notes reinforced with high-quality anatomical studies are welcome. A technical note should be so clear and easy to understand that the reader could replicate the technique in the operating room or on cadaveric specimen. The number of words must not exceed 2000, and there should not be more than 20 references. The number of figures and tables are not restricted.

Letter to the Editor: Letters should refer to the title and authors of a recent Turkish Neurosurgery article. The letter should be no longer than 300 words with no more than 3 references. Unpublished data should not be used. Letters to the Editor are sent to the article authors for response. The Editor-in-Chief makes the final decision on whether letters to the editor and the responses are published.

References

The authors are responsible for the accuracy of the references. Key the references (double-spaced) at the end of the manuscript. Cite references in the text in alphabetical order within parentheses. Do not link the references to the text. Cite unpublished data, such as papers submitted but not yet accepted for publication or personal communications, in parentheses in the text (please be sure that such have a DOI number to be presented). **Do not use “et al.” in the references**. List all the authors of the reference. Refer to the List of Journals Indexed in Index Medicus for abbreviations of journal names, or access the list at “<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/tsd/serials/lji.html>”. The DOI numbers are mandatory in accordance with the library indexes; please be sure to present the DOI numbers for each reference at the end of its sentence. The reference styles for Zotero and EndNote are available on the journal's home page.

Sample references are given below:

A. Journal article

Umeoka K, Mizunari T, Murai Y, Kobayashi S, Morita A: Occlusion of the ascending pharyngeal artery during carotid artery surgery: Importance and technique. *Turk Neurosurg* 24: 546-548, 2014. <https://doi.org/10.5137/1019-5149.JTN.9527-13.0>

B. Book chapter

Martin A: Literacies for the digital age. In: Martin A, Madigan D (eds), *Digital literacies for learning*. Facet, 2006:3-25. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.29085/9781856049870.003>

C. Entire book

Smith T, Williams BM, Streefkerk R: *The citation manual for students: A quick guide* (2nd ed). Wiley, 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1000/182>

D. Example of thesis

Kanpolat Y: *Experimental percutaneous access to the trigeminal ganglion and the histopathological evaluation of radiofrequency thermic lesion* (Unpublished dissertation), Ankara: Ankara University, 1978:1- 52

E. Software

Epi Info [computer program]. Version 6. Atlanta: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1994

F. Online journals

Friedman SA. Preeclampsia: A review of the role of prostaglandins. *Obstet Gynecol* [serial online]. January 1988;71:22-37. Available from: BRS Information Technologies, McLean, VA. Accessed December 15, 1990

G. Database

CANCERNET-PDQ [database online]. Bethesda, MD: National Cancer Institute, 1996. Updated March 29, 1996

H. World Wide Web

Gostin LO. Drug use and HIV/AIDS [JAMA HIV/AIDS web site]. June 1, 1996. Available at: <http://www.ama-assn.org/special/hiv/ethics>. Accessed June 26, 1997

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE USAGE POLICY

Permitted Uses of Artificial Use (AI) Tools: Authors may use generative AI tools (e.g. ChatGPT, Bing Chat, Bard, etc.) to assist with certain aspects of manuscript preparation – for example, to improve grammar and readability, to brainstorm research questions, or to summarize background literature – provided that these tools are used responsibly and with human oversight. AI can be a helpful aid for editing and idea generation, but it must not replace the authors' own critical analysis and writing.

Authorship and Accountability: AI tools cannot be listed as an author or co-author under any circumstances. All authors listed on the paper must be human and must meet the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) authorship criteria (having made substantial contributions, written or revised the text, and able to take responsibility for the work). The human authors take full responsibility for all content of the manuscript, including any portions that may have been AI-assisted. If errors, biases, or plagiarism are found in the content – even if introduced by an AI – the authors will be held accountable.

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Location of Disclosure in Manuscript: In addition to the submission form, authors must insert an "AI Assistance Statement" in the manuscript itself. This should be placed at the end of the manuscript (just before the References) under a separate heading, for example: "Declaration of Generative AI Use."

Content of the Disclosure: The disclosure statement should identify the AI tool and version, and describe the specific purpose and section of the manuscript for which it was used. For instance: "Declaration of Generative AI Use: During the preparation of this article, the authors used ChatGPT (GPT-4, OpenAI, September 2025) to refine the English language in the Introduction and Discussion sections. The AI was not used to generate any scientific conclusions or new content, but only to improve readability."

After using this tool, the authors thoroughly reviewed and edited the text to ensure accuracy and originality, and take full responsibility for the content of this manuscript."*

This example can be adapted as needed. The key is to include which tool, for what purpose/section, and a confirmation of author oversight (i.e., that the authors reviewed and approve the AI-influenced content). Minor uses of software for spell-checking or reference formatting do not need to be declared.

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No AI-Generated Figures or Images: Do not use AI image generators to create figures, diagrams, or any visual element of the paper, unless this is part of the study itself and is explicitly described in the Methods. Any inadvertent AI modifications to images (beyond standard brightness/contrast adjustments) are not allowed. Editors may request original image data to verify integrity.

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Confidentiality and Ethics: Do not feed sensitive or confidential information (such as unpublished data, patient details, or identifiable personal information) into any AI service unless it's in accordance with privacy laws and ethical guidelines. Many AI tools may store or reuse input data, so use them with caution regarding confidential content.

Enforcement: Submissions will be checked for compliance. Omission of a required AI disclosure or false statements about AI use will be treated seriously. It could lead to rejection of the manuscript or, if discovered later, a correction or retraction, as it violates publication ethics. Conversely, transparent disclosure of AI assistance will not negatively impact the editorial decision; it will simply be noted in the final publication to inform readers. Our journal's stance is that honesty about the use of new tools is always the best policy.

Continual Policy Updates: Finally, this is an evolving area. The journal will regularly review and update these AI usage guidelines in line with COPE recommendations and industry best practices. Any future changes will be communicated to authors via updated instructions for authors.

Conclusion

In summary, our neurosurgery journal will permit the limited use of AI tools in manuscript writing only with proper disclosure and human oversight. Authors must state explicitly if and how AI was used in preparing their paper, and they remain fully responsible for the integrity of their work. Under no circumstances can an AI be an author, or can AI-generated material be presented as original human work. This policy follows the lead of major journals like *Nature* and *World Neurosurgery*, which similarly require authors to report AI assistance and forbid AI authorship. By implementing

these guidelines, we aim to embrace beneficial innovations while upholding the rigor, ethics, and transparency expected in scientific publishing. Of note, The Editorial Board have the right to request revisions or withdraw any paper if there is any misuse of AI.

Biswas, SS. ChatGPT-for-Research-and-Publication-A-Step-by-Step Guide. (<https://meridian.allenpress.com/jppt/article/28/6/576/496601/ChatGPT-for-Research-and-Publication-A-Step-by>)(<https://doi.org/10.5863/1551-6776-28.6.576>)

Ramoni D, Sgura C, Liberale L, Montecucco F, Ioannidis JPA, Carbone F. Artificial intelligence in scientific medical writing: Legitimate and deceptive uses and ethical concerns. *European Journal of Internal Medicine*, Volume 127, 31 - 35

PEER REVIEW PROCESS

This journal uses double-blind review, which means that both the reviewer and author identities are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa, throughout the review process.

1. Manuscript Submission

The corresponding or submitting author submits the paper to the journal through <http://turkishneurosurgery.org.tr/>.

2. Assessment of the Paper for Journal Requirements

The editorial office checks the paper's composition and arrangement against the journal's Author Guidelines - Instruction to the Authors (<http://turkishneurosurgery.org.tr/static.php?id=7>) - to make sure it includes the required sections and stylizations.

3. Evaluation by the Editor-in-Chief (EIC)

The EIC checks the paper's scientific appropriateness for the journal, its originality and actuality. If not, the paper may be rejected without being reviewed any further.

4. EIC Assigns a Section Editor (SE)

Section Editors handle the peer review process. All manuscripts that reach this step will go through a double-blind peer-review process. In order to ensure an unbiased evaluation process, each submission will be reviewed by at least two external, independent peer reviewers who are experts in the field.

5. Invitation to Reviewers

The SE sends invitations to individuals he or she believes would be appropriate reviewers. As responses are received, further invitations are issued, if necessary, until the required number of acceptances is obtained.

6. Response to Invitations

Potential reviewers consider the invitation against their own expertise, conflicts of interest and availability. They then accept or decline.

7. Review is Conducted

The reviewer sets time aside to read the paper several times. The first read is used to form an initial impression of the work. If major problems are found at this stage, the reviewer may feel comfortable rejecting the paper without further work. Otherwise they will read the paper several more times, taking notes so as to build a detailed point-by-point review. The review is then submitted to the journal, with a recommendation to accept or

reject it – or else with a request for revision (either major or minor) before it is reconsidered.

8. Journal Evaluates the Reviews

The SE considers all the returned reviews before making an overall decision. If the reviews differ widely, the editor may invite an additional reviewer so as to get an extra opinion before making a decision.

9. The Decision is Communicated

The EIC is the final authority in the decision-making process for all submissions. He or She sends a decision e-mail to the author including any relevant reviewer comments.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Online Proof Correction

Corresponding authors will receive an e-mail including final PDF version of their manuscript. Authors are obligated to proofreading their manuscript in 72 hours.

Turkish Neurosurgery workflow processes to get your article published quickly and accurately. Please use this proof only for checking the typesetting, editing, completeness and correctness of the text, tables and figures. Significant changes to the article as accepted for publication will only be considered at this stage with permission from the Editor. It is important to ensure that all corrections are sent back to us in one communication. Please check carefully before replying, as inclusion of any subsequent corrections cannot be guaranteed. Proofreading is solely your responsibility. **Authorship change is not accepted during proofreading and is prohibited.**

Rapid Publication Option

In accordance with the Turkish Neurosurgical Society's Board Decision on August 5, 2023, "Turkish Neurosurgery" journal is starting to publish articles with a rapid publication option (RPO). This type of publication choice will have no effect on the peer review process or acceptance of the submission since it will be requested by the authors after acceptance of the article.

What is RPO?: The RPO ensures the accepted article will be immediately prepared in electronic format (e-pdf), and it will be printed in one of the upcoming issues of the journal. This service has a publication fee that needs to be met by the authors, their institutions, or the research funders for each article that is published in a timely manner. The decision for RPO will be made by the authors, and they will only be charged upon their requests and if their paper is accepted. As there is a limited space for such option in each publishable issue, this process will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis, and the Turkish Neurosurgical Society is responsible for organizing the demands and informing the Editorial Board as well as the Publisher.

Why RPO?: There is a waiting list, and the number of articles per issue is constant and limited. It generally takes 6–14 months for a research paper to be published in a printed journal. This service allows immediate publication of the article in both electronic and printed formats. Of note, the printed article will be published in one of the upcoming issues of the journal.

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¹ <https://www.edmgr.com/insights/publish-faster-progress-faster-the-basics-of-rapid-publication>

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ORCID ID can be obtained free of charge at <http://orcid.org>
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3. Title page
Title (brief, definite, didactic)
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5. Manuscript text with page numbers [Microsoft Word (.doc)] (without author names and affiliations)
6. Figure legends
7. Tables (Word, Wordperfect)
8. Figures (TIFF)
9. Videos (avi, mpeg, mp4) with narration and/or subtitles
10. References double-spaced and cited in alphabetical order