

Instructions for Authors – Original Articles

Geburtshilfe und Frauenheilkunde (“GebFra”) addresses the whole field of obstetrics and gynecology and is concerned with research as much as with clinical practice. In its scientific section (“*GebFra Science*”), it publishes original articles and reviews in all fields of the discipline, including gynecological oncological issues, breast cancer, obstetrics and perinatal medicine as much as papers covering reproductive medicine or urogynecology. Only *GebFra Science* accepts free submissions, please be aware that contributions to the *GebFra Magazine* (study reports, commentaries, news, politics etc.) are usually by invitation only. The journal also publishes the official clinical guidelines of the German, Swiss and Austrian societies for gynecology and obstetrics, please contact leitlinien@dggg.de for more details.

Submission process

All manuscripts for *GebFra Science* must be submitted online at: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/gebfra>.

By submitting a manuscript the authors confirm that the manuscript has not been published previously and that it is not currently under consideration by any other journal. In the course of the submission and production process the authors will be asked to declare possible “conflicts of interest” (COI), confirm that the manuscript has been prepared in accordance with *Good Clinical Practice* and the *Declaration of Helsinki*, and that the tenets of the *Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals* have been followed. It is important that all mentioned co-authors agree to the publication.

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Articles submitted in German and accepted for publication will be translated into English by the Thieme publishing group (title, abstract and main text); the German version of those articles will be published online only.

Manuscripts submitted in English and accepted for publication will be published with a German translation of the title and abstract; all articles of the scientific section (*GebFra Science*) are published both with an English and German abstract.

Preparing the manuscript

Please read the following instructions carefully. Manuscripts that do not comply with the format detailed below will be rejected by the editorial office prior to peer review.

- **Language:** *Geburtshilfe und Frauenheilkunde* accepts manuscripts written in English or German. Spelling should be US English or British English, but not a mixture. Also, articles with poor or insufficient language (German or English) will not be admitted to peer review.

- **Quality:** Manuscripts with poor results, low scientific value or providing no new aspects to the scientific community will not be considered for publication.
- **Length, abbreviations:** There is no explicit limit on the length of articles submitted, but authors are reminded to be concise. There is a maximum of 6 individual figures or tables. If abbreviations are used in the text they should be defined in the text at first use.

Arrangement

Manuscripts must be presented in the following order: introduction, patients/materials and methods, results, discussion, conclusion, conflict of interest, acknowledgements, references, figure legends, tables and figures.

Abstract

The Abstract of the manuscript should not exceed 250 words and must be structured into separate sections:

- **Introduction:** The authors should state the scientific context and should end this section with the study aims or questions it seeks to answer.
- **Patients or Materials and Methods:** The authors should explain concisely how the study was performed.
- **Results:** The authors should state the main findings only.
- **Conclusions:** The authors should give a brief summary and conclusions.

The abstract must not contain abbreviations or references.

Key words

Give three to five key words. Choose your key words from the list provided by the online submission system or add key words of your own.

Introduction

The Introduction section should be written in a way that is comprehensible to readers who are not specialists in the scientific field. It should summarize the rationale for the study and outline the relevant background material to indicate why this study was necessary and what it aimed to add to the particular scientific field. The Introduction should end with the study aims; it must not contain findings or conclusions.

Patients or Materials and Methods

The Methods section should include the design of the study, the recruitment procedure and inclusion criteria of patients, animals or materials involved, a clear description of all interventions and comparisons, and the type of analysis used, including a statistical analysis.

Clinical Trial reporting should follow the guidance of CONSORT 2010 and accordingly the CONSORT 2010 Statement should be cited (see also CONSORT 2010 statement: updated guidelines for reporting parallel group randomised trials. DOI: 10.1371/journal.

pmed.1000251, in particular CONSORT 2010 checklist and CONSORT 2010 Flow Diagramm).

Patients must have given written informed consent and must not be identifiable.

Generic drug names should generally be used. When proprietary brands are used in research, include the brand names in parentheses once in the methods section. Officially registered preparations, procedures, substances, devices, etc. are not given the trademark in purely editorial content (e.g. ATLS instead of ATLS®). Company and product names are typographically conventional at Thieme and are converted like proper names with a capital letter at the beginning: Edeka instead of EDEKA, Eon instead of E.ON, etc. Complete capitalization is possible for abbreviations (e.g. BMW, VW, IBM); misunderstandings can be prevented in individual cases with quotation marks (e.g.: She saw in the “Spiegel” that...). With this procedure, Thieme follows the relevant international standards for scientific publications, as formulated, for example, by the “AMA Manual of Style: A Guide for Authors and Editors. 11th Edition”.

Do not present or discuss results in the Methods section.

The Methods section has to be broken into subsections with short, informative headings.

Results

Results should be presented in logical sequence; repetitive presentation of the same data in different forms should be avoided.

The Results section should also be written in a way that is comprehensible to researchers who are not specialists in the scientific field of the manuscript and must clearly state the data. Results of statistical analysis should include, where appropriate, relative and absolute risks or risk reductions, confidence intervals and p-values. However, do not discuss your results here!

The Results section has to be broken into subsections with short, informative subheadings.

Discussion

The Discussion section should also be written in a way that is comprehensible to researchers who are not specialists in the scientific field of the manuscript and should be structured in the following way: Short summary of the data presented, discussion of the presented data within the context of published literature, presentation of the strength and limitations of the own study.

The Discussion section must not be broken by subheadings.

Conclusions

The authors should state clearly the main conclusions of the research and give a clear explanation of their importance and relevance. Summary illustrations may be included.

Conflict of Interest

A conflict of interest exists when your interpretation of data or presentation of information may be influenced by your personal or financial relationship with other people or organizations. Authors must disclose any financial conflicts of interest. All conflicts of interest that are declared will be listed at the end of published articles. Where an author states no conflict of interest, the listing

will read “The author(s) declare that they have no competing interests”.

Acknowledgements

Please acknowledge anyone who contributed to the article by making substantial contributions to conception, design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, or who was involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically, but who does not meet the criteria for authorship. Please also include the source(s) of funding for each author, and for the manuscript preparation.

References

References are listed at the end of the text in the order in which they appear in the text using Arabic numerals [in square brackets]. All references listed must be cited in the text. If cited in tables or figure legends, continue numbering according to the first identification of the table or figure in the text.

If automatic numbering systems are used, the reference numbers must be finalized and the bibliography must be fully formatted before submission.

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Examples of the *Geburtshilfe und Frauenheilkunde* reference style:

Journal article: Juhasz-Böss I, Laschke MW, Müller F et al. Endometriosis: survey of current diagnostic and therapeutic options and latest research work. *Geburtsh Frauenheilk* 2014; 74: 733–742

Journal article – in press: von Wolff M, Rohner S, Santi A et al. Modified natural cycle In-vitro fertilization – an alternative IVF treatment with lower costs per achieved pregnancy but longer treatment time. *J Reprod Med* 2013; in press

Journal article – e-pub ahead of print: Stupin J, Arabin B. Overweight and obesity before, during and after pregnancy. Part 1: Pathophysiology, molecular biology and epigenetic consequences. *Geburtsh Frauenheilk* 2014; DOI: 10.1055/s-0034-1368486

Book: Gätje R, Eberle C, Scholz C, Lübke M, Hrsg. *Kurzlehrbuch Gynäkologie und Geburtshilfe*. Stuttgart: Thieme; 2011: 110–119

Chapter in a book: Zaino R, Carinelli SG, Ellenson LH et al. Tumours of the uterine Corpus: epithelial Tumours and Precursors. In: Kurman RJ, Carcanglu ML, Herrington CS, Young RH, eds. *WHO Classification of Tumours of female reproductive Organs*. 4th ed. Lyon: WHO Press; 2014: 125–126

Electronic material: Beckmann MW, Denschlag D, Gaß P et al. 195. Stellungnahme der DGGG – Durchführung des Medizinproduktegesetzes – Gynäkologische Morcellatoren. 2014. Online: http://www.dggg.de/leitlinienstellungnahmen/aktuelle-stellungnahmen/?eID=dam_frontend_push&docID=2607; last access: 17.10.2014

Figures and legends

Figures and photographs should be numbered and cited in the order they appear in the text. In general, full length articles will contain up to 6 figures and/or tables. Each figure should be submitted in a separate file. The figure number should be placed above each figure.

The figure legends should be included in the main manuscript text file at the end of the document. For each figure, the following information should be provided: Figure number (i.e. Fig. 1, 2, 3 etc); short title of figure (maximum 15 words); detailed legend (up to 1000 characters).

Figures must be provided in sufficient quality. Illustrations should be provided as separate files, not embedded in the text file. Suitable formats for figures are “tif”, “gif”, “jpg” and “bmp” files (resolution 300 dpi). All figures, tables and graphs should be numbered consecutively and be accompanied by a caption. There is no charge for the use of colour figures. We cannot accept **images that have already been published in books, journals, or electronic products of other publishers**. That is because it is almost impossible to obtain the necessary rights of use even when licensing fees are paid. Therefore, **please do not pay any licensing fees** (e.g. to “RightsLink”/Copyright Clearance Center). Standard license contracts from “Creative Commons” are also insufficient for our purposes. Please contact us if you have any questions regarding the use of images.

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Each table should be numbered and cited in sequence using Arabic numerals (i.e. Table 1, 2, 3 etc.) and should always be cited in the text. Tables should not duplicate the content of the text. Tables should also have a title that summarizes the whole table. Detailed legends may then follow, but they should be concise.

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Every manuscript submitted to the scientific section will be subject to peer review. Authors will receive a review report including comments of the reviewers, together with requests of change or improvement of the manuscript.

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