

Recommended structure and template for original articles submitted to the Journal
***Electronic Physician* and other medical and health-related journals**

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Date of publication: July 24, 2015

Available from: <http://www.ephysician.ir/2015/SOP.pdf>

Doi: 10.14661/2015.SOP

About this document:

This template or Standard Operating procedure (SOP) is prepared for authors who want to submit their manuscript for the peer review process in the journal *Electronic Physician* (ISSN: 2008-5842; Website: <http://www.ephysician.ir>). Authors may use the same format and structure that are used when they prepare their original articles for submission to other medical and health-related journals; however, authors should read the section “Instructions for Authors” in the target journal before submitting a manuscript to any journal.

Writing the “Abstract”

Please organize the abstract into four sub-sections as follows:

Background: Organize this sub-section into 2-3 short sentences. In sentences 1-2, say something general about the topic and its importance. In the last sentence, present the objectives or aim of the study.

Methods: In the first sentence, address the research design (e.g., cross-sectional, case control, other) and the setting or population of the study. For example, you could say “This cross-sectional study was conducted on 400 participants from University Science Malaysia (USM) in 2015. In other very short and clear sentences, write about the research instrument(s) used, e.g., measurement tool, questionnaire, or other, provide a summary of the data, and, in the last sentence, present the name of statistical software used (if any) and the statistical techniques that were used for data analysis.

Results: In this section, present the main numerical findings (for quantitative research); do not forget to present P values, effect sizes, r coefficients, prevalence, odds ratios (ORs), relative risks (RRs), and other important statistical indices.

Conclusion: In this section, the first sentence should summarize the essence of the research or the conclusions directly based on your own research. In second sentence, you may provide a suggestion or make a practical recommendation.

Organizing the “Manuscript”

Please organize the manuscript into five sections as follows:

1. Introduction

Organize this section into three paragraphs (You may use more, if needed). In the first paragraph, cover the background of the topic. In the second paragraph, state the problem and logical basis for the study so readers can understand why this research was important. In the last paragraph, present the general objective and specific objectives of your research. The last paragraph should say something like this:

“The general objective of this research was to determine XXX. The specific objectives were 1) to determine the difference between X and Y, 2) to assess the effect of X on Y, 3) to identify X, and 4) to determine the relationship between X and Y.”

2. Materials and Methods

Please organize this section into several separate sub-sections using appropriate sub-headings, such as research design (or research design and setting), sampling (covering the methods you used to determine the sample size and the sampling methods you used), measurement tools (covering the description of the instruments you used, such as a questionnaire, and how you validated the tools and confirmed their reliability), data collection (covering all step-by-step methods you used to recruit participants, interviews that were conducted, questionnaires that were completed, and any other steps involved in collecting data), research ethics (state whether a research ethics committee approved your research, and list all of the measures you considered in the research in order to ensure that no participants were harmed), and statistical analyses (including the software you used and the statistical techniques you used to analyze the data).

3. Results

Organize this section into separate paragraphs. The first paragraph can cover the sociodemographic findings. Other paragraphs can cover the findings of each of the hypotheses you examined (or each of the inferential analysis techniques you used), as well as the specific descriptive findings (e.g., prevalence, frequencies, other). Present the main numerical findings of the research, and provide the full details of the numerical findings in tables and figures to facilitate the readers’ understanding.

4. Discussion

The discussion should have about the same number of paragraphs or sub-sections as you used in the ‘Results’ section. Discuss the findings of your research, state their importance, indicate how they relate to the findings of other researchers, and explain why they are the same or different. Cite an appropriate number of published papers. Make sure that most of the papers you cite are among the most recent publications in high-quality, peer-reviewed journals.

5. Conclusions

Organize this section into one short paragraph (3-6 sentences). In first sentence, present the essence of the research or its main findings. In the next sentence, state the conclusions based on your findings. Then, provide some practical recommendations for health policy makers and others, as appropriate. Recommend any future research that you think should be conducted concerning your topic in the last sentence of this section.

Writing “Acknowledgments”

In the first sentence, indicate the source of the paper, e.g., whether it was extracted from the main author’s postgraduate thesis or related research or some other source. Then, acknowledge the institutes that funded the research. Please mention the grant number or any official letter number in this sentence. Thank the other people or institutes (e.g., departments, hospitals, labs) that contributed to this research but not at the level required to be deemed co-authors. You should acknowledge any person who helped you in writing, editing, or reviewing the manuscript or who helped in other ways, such as conducting statistical analyses, planning the logistics of the research, or preparation of the manuscript.

Listing “References”

Please name up to six authors. If they were more than six authors, use ‘et al.’ after the sixth author. Then, insert the title of the paper followed by the title of the journal (abbreviated form of the journal title, in italic font), year of publication, volume and issue number, and number of pages. At the end of the reference, add the digital object identifiers (DOI) for each article that has such an identifier as well as the PubMed PMID and PubMed Central PMCID of articles that are available in PubMed.

End of SOP

July 20, 2015. Electronic physician. <http://www.ephysician.ir>

About Electronic Physician:

Electronic Physician is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes original articles, reviews (traditional reviews and systematic reviews), Meta analyses, case reports and other common types of articles related to all areas of basic and clinical medical sciences and all disciplines of health sciences. Editorials, letters to the editor, opinions, and other short articles also are welcomed. Topics of interest include all subjects that relate to the practice of medicine and the betterment of public health worldwide.