

# INSTRUCTIONS FOR CONTRIBUTORS

## General Information

It is policy of the «Mediterranean Journal of Pacing and Electrophysiology» to publish papers, in English, in all fields of cardiac pacing, clinical and basic electrophysiology. In general, papers may include original observations, experimental and clinical researches on cardiac pacing, cardioversion-defibrillation, catheter ablation and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias.

The Journal will publish:

1. *Editorial*;
2. *Leading articles of scientific, clinical and medico-political interest*;
3. *Original case reports* about one or two cases of particular clinical significance; they may not exceed three-four pages, including all material (abstract, text, references, legends, tables, etc.);
4. *Scientific review* on important arrhythmologic issues;
5. *Multicenter evaluations of a commercial product* (pharmacological or not);
6. *Brief communications on new devices (products) or drugs*, progresses in technology or methodology for diagnosis and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias;
7. *Comments by Editorial Board* on recent publications of topical interest;
8. *Synthesis and critical reviews* of clinical trials also in other fields of Cardiology;
9. *Guide-lines for the treatment of different cardiac arrhythmias* according with the decisions of the International Cardiologic Societies;
10. *Informatics* in arrhythmology;
11. *Articles about quality of a product and appropriateness in the use of some technologies for diagnosis and treatment of cardiac arrhythmias*;
12. *News bulletin, including information on forthcoming local and international lectures and conferences*;
13. *Articles concerning the activities of MESPE (Mediterranean Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology)*;
14. *Letters to the Editor* or to the components of the Editorial Board;
15. *Abstract of Congresses on Cardiac Arrhythmias*.

## Manuscript preparation

Manuscripts should be typed double-spaced with a wide margin (mm. 25) using one side of the paper only. Four copies should be submitted to the editorial office, an original and three photocopies. Any special points should be emphasized in the covering letter from the submitting author. The paper should be arranged as follows:

1. Title page
2. Abstract
3. Introduction-background
4. Materials (or patients) and methods
5. Results
6. Discussion
7. Acknowledgements
8. References
9. Tables
10. Figures
11. Key words (3 to 5 according to Index Medicus).

The title page should bear the title of the paper, the full names of the authors, their affiliations and addresses, the name and full postal address of the author to whom correspondence and reprint requests are to be sent and a running title of no more than 50 letters and spaces. The abstract should not exceed 200 words. It should be written in a style that conveys the essential message of the paper in abbreviate form. The «Introduction» should assume that the reader is knowledgeable, in the field, and should therefore be as brief as possible. In the «Materials and methods» section, methods that have been published in detail elsewhere should not be described in detail.

Abbreviations and symbols used must be standard. Acronyms should be used sparingly and must be fully explained when first used. Whenever possible drugs should be given their approved generic name. When a proprietary (brand) name must be used, it should begin with a capital letter. Statistical analysis must explain the methods used and be in accordance with the guidelines laid down, by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (*Ann Intern Med* 1988; 108: 266-273).

## References

Only papers, closely related to the author's work, should be quoted. Exhaustive lists should be avoided. References should follow the Vancouver format. In the text they should appear as numbers starting at 1. At the end of the paper they should be listed (double-spaced) in numerical order, corresponding to the order of citation in the text. All Authors should be quoted for papers with up to six authors; for papers with more than six authors, the first three only should be quoted followed by *et al.*. Abbreviations for titles of medical periodicals should be conform to those used in the latest edition of *Index Medicus*. The first and last page numbers for each reference should be provided. Abstracts and letters must be identified as such.

*Periodicals*: 1. Kyriakides ZS, Kolettis TM, Sbarouni E, Antoniadis A, Giakoumakis T, Kremastinos D: *Short-Term Atrioventricular Sequential Pacing does not adversely affect collateral blood flow: A study during Angioplasty*. *PACE* 1988; 21 (Pt 1): 706-13.

*Books*: Barold SS, Mugica J: *New perspectives in cardiac pacing*. Mount Kisco, New York: Futura Publishing Company, 1991.

*Chapter in book*: Daubert C, Mabo Ph, Pouillot C, LeLong B: *Atrial Chronotropic Incompetence: Implications for DDDR Pacing*. In Barold SS, Mugica J: *New perspectives in cardiac pacing 2*. Mount Kisco, New York: Futura Publishing Co, 1991; 251-71.

*Abstract*: As for periodicals but with (abstract) before the periodical title of the periodical.

*Letters to Editor*: Letters should not exceed 500 words. A response will be solicited from the authors of the original article or, for general questions, from the editor or from one of the component of the Editorial Board.

## Figures

In the text Arabic numbers should be used and all illustrations should be specifically referred to in the text, e.g. (Figure 2). All illustrations should be submitted as glossy prints to about 01-1/2 times the intended final size and should be numbered as figures whether they are photographs, representational drawings or line diagrams and graphs. Photographs and photomicrographs should be unmounted glossy prints and should not be retouched, and should be chosen to exclude technical artefacts. Magnification is best indicated by a line representing a defined length included within the photographs.

Areas of key interest and/or critical reproduction should be indicated on a films overlay attached to a photograph or on a photocopy. All annotations and letters should be indicated in the same way, and preferably not included on the original print. Clearly contrasted and focused prints are essential for adequate reproduction.

Line diagrams and graphs should be on separate sheets; they must be drawn with black Indian ink on white paper, or supplied as photographic prints of such original lettering on figures should be minimal and must not duplicate the legend. The use of symbols should be included in the caption, not on the figure. A photocopy of all illustrations should be submitted.

Color photographs, will be published at the Author's expense. In this case, a signed statement saying that the Author(s) will pay publication cost must accompany the material submitted.

## Tables

These should be as few as possible and should present only essential data. They should be type-written on separate sheets, have a title or caption, and given Roman numbers.

## Permission.

Material taken from other sources must be accompanied by a statement from the Authors and Editors giving permission for reproduction in the Journal. Written permission must also be obtained from the Author(s) of unpublished data or personal communications that can be clearly indicated as such in the text. For items not covered above, refer to guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors published in: *Ann Intern Med* 1988; 108: 258 and *Br Med J* 1988; 296: 401.

## Editorial office

Manuscripts must be accompanied by a covering letter signed by all authors. A correspondence address, telephone and fax number should also be given. Manuscripts and other editorial correspondence should be sent to the Editor:

*Prof. Enrico Adornato*  
*Mediterranean Journal of Pacing and Electrophysiology*  
*c/o Edizioni Luigi Pozzi*  
*Via Panama 68, 00198 Roma (Italy)*  
*Tel. +39 (06) 8553548; Fax +39 (06) 8554105*

The Editor will send a letter indicating acceptance of the paper or explaining the reasons for rejections. Papers may be accepted subject to amendment by the authors. If a paper is not resubmitted within two months, it will be treated as a new submission. In any correspondence concerning submitted papers the reference number given by the Editorial Office must be quoted.

## Proofs

One Marked copy of the proofs will be sent to the principal author who should read them carefully for errors. The corrected copy must be returned to the Publisher with in twenty days by fax or by courier. Major alterations to the text cannot be accepted at this stage. In case of delay the proofs will be corrected by the Editorial office.

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## Offprints

Twenty-five offprints will be supplied, free of charge, to the principal author. Additional offprints may be ordered on the form accompanying the proofs. The charges are necessarily higher if orders for reprints are received after the issue has gone to press.

## Drug side effects

Manuscripts reporting adverse *drugs* reactions should be accompanied by evidence showing the reaction has been reported on a «yellow card» or to appropriate drug licensing authority, and to the *drug* manufacturer.