

# Bristol Medical Student Journal

## Instructions for authors

### **Background**

The Bristol Medical Student Journal (BMSJ) is a newly established project run by medical students, from peer-review to production. Our objective is to showcase work undertaken by students to their peers, lecturers and family. While at the same time, introducing students to research and the academic process, giving them confidence to pursue other ventures in the future. If you are a medical student with a piece of work you are especially proud of, we welcome you to submit to our journal for consideration. This document outlines the instructions for authors preparing submissions to the journal.

Submissions can be emailed to 'secretary' - [submissions-bmsj@outlook.com](mailto:submissions-bmsj@outlook.com)

### **Types of articles accepted**

- Original research articles
- Review articles
- Letters
- Audit/QI reports
- Elective reports
- Student choice/student selected component reports

### **Presentation**

Please submit the manuscript as a word document (.doc or .docx) file. Text should be in arial, Calibri or Times New Roman font, size 11-12 with 1.5x line spacing. Headings in size 14 font. There is no limit on figures and tables. Please ensure that all figures and tables are referenced in the text in order. Supplementary material to be submitted in a separate word document denoted as S1 for supplementary figure 1 and must be referenced in the text. Supplementary material will not contribute to word count.

#### *Original research articles*

Word count: 2500 (including abstract)

Format: Abstract (max. 250 words), introduction, methods, results, discussion, conclusion

#### *Review articles*

Literature review or systematic reviews accepted

Word count: 2500

Literature review format: Abstract (max. 250 words), introduction, +/-methods, main body, conclusion

Systematic review format: Abstract (max. 250 words), introduction, methods, results, discussion, conclusion

#### *Letters*

Word count: 500 words

*Audit/QI reports*

Word count: 2500 words

*Elective reports*

Word count: 2000 words

*Student choice/Student selected component report*

Word count: 2000 words

**Further instructions**

Title page – Please begin all submissions with a title page including the type of article (e.g. review), author(s) and word count. Please note the first author must be a student.

Ethics – Ethical considerations and approval (if necessary) must be outlined in the methods section.

Abbreviations – Please define all abbreviations on first instance in the text.

Acknowledgements – This section may be included at discretion of the authors.

Referencing – All sources must be referenced in the text using Vancouver style and presented with a bibliography/reference list at the end of the manuscript. It is recommended that a referencing software is used such as EndNote or Mendeley.

Tables – Should be in word document format to allow for easier editing. All tables require a number (e.g. Table 1.1), title, legend and references (if necessary).

Figures – Must be at least 600 dpi resolution. May be black/white or colour. PNG or JPEG format. Must be accompanied by a number (e.g. Figure 1.1) and title/legend.

Plagiarism – Plagiarism of all forms is unacceptable and will not be tolerated by the BMSJ. Any articles proven to be plagiarised will be rejected and reported to the Medical School as per University guidelines.

**What to expect after submission**

After submission the article will be screened by one of the editors and appropriate student peer-review will be arranged. You should hear back from the editors within 2 weeks of submission to confirm that peer-review is being arranged. Peer review will take a further 2-6 weeks depending on the speed of the reviewer. All articles submitted in the 2021/2022 academic year aim to be published in the summer of 2022.

General enquires: [bmsjournal@outlook.com](mailto:bmsjournal@outlook.com)

Submissions: [submissions-bmsj@outlook.com](mailto:submissions-bmsj@outlook.com)