The Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon Reports

Instructions for Authors

website: www.thieme.com/tcsr

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Submission of Manuscripts

Manuscripts must be submitted exclusively via online submission at https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/tcsreports. Submission of hardcopy manuscripts or e-mail attachments will not be accepted.

The Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon Reports is part of The Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon, the official organ of the German Society for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery (DGTHG). It is dedicated to publish selected Case Reports in cardiac, thoracic, and vascular surgery. If a manuscript is accepted for publication, certain conditions must be agreed to by all authors. These include statements regarding authorship and scientific responsibility, conflicts of interest, exclusive publication, and assignment of copyright. No part of the published material may be reproduced elsewhere without written permission from the publisher.

The German Society for Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgery and The Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon Reports require all authors to adhere to the universally accepted, high ethical standards of our profession. Concerns about plagiarism, double publication or scientific misconduct will be investigated.

The Editorial Office utilizes plagiarism detection software

To ensure that the authors have met all the formal requirements they are referred to the following editorial listing them in detail:


Acknowledging the principles summarized therein helps dealing with any issues that might arise after publication, especially should any of the statements subsequently be found to be false.

OPEN ACCESS

The Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon Reports has an OPEN ACCESS format, which means that an accepted article will be freely available worldwide on the electronic platform without subscription to a particular journal. Open Access publication requires a publication fee to be paid by the author after acceptance. This covers the production cost, indexing and electronic publication.

The publication fee for a case report is €2,440/$2,440 (€1,220/$1,220 for members of the DGTHG, SGHC, LGTHG). Detailed information about payment methods will be given after acceptance of a manuscript.

Instructions

The following instructions are provided for the convenience of authors. Please use them to ensure that the manuscript is complete and can be processed further after submission. Incomplete or faulty manuscripts cannot be accepted for editorial review and will be instantaneously unsubmitted or rejected for formal reasons.

General

For submission of all manuscripts, follow the instructions on the online submission system. You will be required to open an account to register with the system, and an individual tracking number will be automatically assigned to each submission. This tracking number must be used in all further correspondence. Before submission, have all the metadata of the manuscript at hand: title, full names with affiliation and address of all authors (including e-mail addresses), as well as the selected keywords (see below), figures, and legends. The author submitting the manuscript will be regarded the corresponding author by default.

Preparation of Manuscripts

- Manuscripts must be double-spaced throughout (including abstract, text, references, and legends) using a standard word processor leaving 3 cm margins all around. All text files must be .doc files. Please be aware that pdf files cannot be processed.
- A complete manuscript consists of the metadata describing the document, an abstract, the main document, and figures.
- Arrange the main document of the manuscript as follows: (1) text, (2) references, (3) legends. Number pages consecutively, beginning with the title page as page 1 and ending with the legend page.
* Please avoid all allusions to your identity or institution except where asked for. This simplifies the anonymization process needed for our double-anonymized review system.

**Manuscript**

As Case Reports are no longer published in the ThCVS, all such manuscripts must be submitted to the website of the ThCVS Reports Journal: https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/tcsvreports

*The text for case reports should not exceed 1200 words (references excluded), with illustrations limited to a maximum of 4 and references to 8. Tables should be avoided.*

If case the report is accompanied by a thorough summary of the literature and has an educational value beyond the anecdotal case management, the word limit is 2500 (references excluded - which may then amount to 15). Acceptance of such manuscripts for peer review is at the discretion of the Editor. It may be worthwhile to enquire before submission.

**Metadata**

**Type and Title**

During the online manuscript submission you will have to confirm the manuscript type (Case Report Cardiac, Thoracic, Vascular) and enter the title. Bear in mind that a concise title attracts the reader’s attention and try to confine it to 85 characters.

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Provide a structured abstract not longer than 100 words. It should be divided into three sections in the following order: Background, Case Description, Conclusion. Indicate the abstract word count at the end.

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Include at least three keywords to assist in cross-indexing the article and to facilitate reviewer assignment. These keywords must be chosen from the list provided.

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Please enter this information only where prompted and avoid allusions to authors and institutions in the main text.

Only individuals who actively contributed to the intellectual content of the manuscript are to be listed as authors. The Thoracic and Cardiovascular Surgeon Reports is in full agreement with the Ethical Considerations in the Conduct and Reporting of Research of the ICMJE (www.icmje.org). Therein it is stated that a clear distinction must be made between authors and contributors.

*Therefore the number of authors should not exceed FOUR.* If it is claimed that several authors “contributed equally to this work”, an explanation in writing must be submitted to the Editor-in-Chief, ideally as part of the Cover Letter. This will be published along with an accepted article.

List all authors by first name, family name and highest academic degree. List the departmental affiliations of each author together with the institutional address. Assign authors to departments using numbered superscripts.

**Word Count**

Provide the electronic total word count of the entire document on the bottom of the title page, including the legends but excluding the references.

**Main Document**

**Text**

*In general, the text should be organized as follows: Introduction, Case Description, Discussion. Avoid cross references to an institution within the text ("...was referred to St. Elsewhere’s Hospital") as this helps to anonymize the manuscript for peer review.*

*The manuscript must be written in English, using either American or British spelling, but consistent throughout. As English is not the native language of many authors, poor language quality often belies the true content of a paper. Authors are strongly advised to have the manuscript checked by a (near-)native speaker before submission to avoid rejection because of misunderstandings or incomprehensibility.*

*Consult the American Medical Association Manual of Style, 10th edition, for recommended abbreviations. Define abbreviations after their first appearance in the text, avoiding their use completely in the title and abstract. Internationally accepted abbreviations of common medical usage need not be defined (e.g.: ASD, AIDS, CT, DNA, VSD).*

*Give all measurements and weights in standard metric units, temperatures in degrees Celsius, blood pressures in millimetres of mercury (mmHg). International System of Units (SI) units are acceptable.*

*Credit suppliers and manufacturers of equipment, drugs, and other brand-name material mentioned in the manuscript within parentheses, giving the company name and primary location.*

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**References**

Number references consecutively in the order in which they first appear in the text. Identify references in text, tables, and legends by Arabic numerals placed on the line (!) in square brackets. In the numbered reference list at the end of the text, use the style of the examples given below. Use Index Medicus abbreviations for journal titles. The list of references must begin on a new page.

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List all authors if 6 or fewer; otherwise list first 3 and add “et al”.

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It is the nature of Case Reports that some very specific experience is described which may lead to the identification of the patient. Authors are advised to obtain written permit by a patient (or relatives where appropriate) to publish such case-related data. The consent form for the treatment as such does not suffice.

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New Technologies
When reporting experience with a new technology or a new device, the state of the certification process in the authors’ country and internationally must be given. See also “Conflicts of Interest” below.

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