

Chinese Medicine and Natural Products

Author Instructions

Thank you for contributing to Chinese Medicine and Natural Products. Please read the instructions carefully and observe all the directions given. Failure to do so may result in unnecessary delays in publishing your article

APC Type	2022 Article Processing Charge (APC)
Free	None (Funded by: Henan University of Chinese Medicine)

Chinese Medicine and Natural Products was founded in 2021 and is co-sponsored by Henan University of Chinese Medicine and China Association of Chinese Medicine. We welcome editorials, original articles, reviews, expert perspectives, evidence-based TCM and case reports to the editor in all aspects of Chinese medicine, including but not limited to the following areas: Zhang Zhongjing's academic, classical prescriptions and clinical medicine, experience of famous doctors, experimental study, research on the material foundation of Chinese materia medica, pharmacology and clinics of Chinese materia medica, acupuncture research.

As an open-access publication with 4 issues per year, all content is freely available online to all readers.

The Article processing Charge is waived for accepted manuscripts from 2022-2024.

CONTENTS

MANUSCRIPT FORMAT	3-7
Article Types	3
General Guidelines	3
Title Page	4
Abstract and Keywords	4
Main Document	4
Acknowledgments	5
Conflict of Interest	5
References	6
Specific Format of Chinese Medicine Terms.....	7
Figure Captions	7
Tables	7
Supplementary Material	7
DIGITAL ARTWORK PREPARATION	8
General Guidelines	8
Black and White Art	8
Color Art	8
Art Labels	8
SUBMISSION PROCEDURE	9
Article Processing Charge (APC)	9
Submission Procedure	9
Revision Procedure	9
PRODUCTION PROCEDURE	9
Page Proofs	9
POLICY STATEMENTS	10-11
Statement on Liability	10
Definition of Authorship	10
Copyright Statement	10
Clinical Trials	10
Ethics	10
Patient Permission Policy	11
EDITORIAL CONTACTS	12

MANUSCRIPT FORMAT

Article Types

The following graph shows what types of articles are accepted for publication, and what requirement they may have.

Article Type	Abstract Limit	Keywords Limit	Title Limit
Original Article	300 words	3 to 8 key words	No Limit
Review	300 words	3 to 8 key words	No Limit
Expert perspective	300 words	3 to 8 key words	No Limit
Evidence-based TCM	300 words	3 to 8 key words	No Limit
Case report	200 words	3 to 5 key words	No Limit

General Guidelines

- You must submit a digital copy of your manuscript. Hard copy submissions are not accepted.
- Keep the format of your manuscript simple and clear. We will set your manuscript according to our style—do not try to “design” the document.
- The manuscript, including the title page, abstract and keywords, text, references, figure captions, and tables should be typewritten, double-spaced in 12-point font with 1-inch margins all around and saved as one file.
- Indicate the type of manuscript in the title, choosing from Original article, Review, editorial, expert perspective, case report and Evidence-based TCM .
- Evidence-based TCM refers to the theories and methods of evidence-based medicine to collect, evaluate, produce and transform evidence on the effectiveness, safety and economy of TCM, reveal the characteristics and laws of clinical functions of TCM, and guide clinical guidelines, paths and hygiene an applied discipline of decision making. Length: max. 7000 words, 40 references.
- The text for case reports should not exceed 1200 words (references excluded), with illustrations limited to a maximum of 4 and references to 15. Tables should be avoided.
- Title page, Abstract, Main Text, Figure Legend, and References should be saved on a separate file.
- Each figure should be saved as its own separate file. Do not embed figures within the manuscript file. This requires special handling by Thieme’s Production Department.
- Keep abbreviations to a minimum and be sure to explain all of them the first time they are used in the text.
- The manuscripts should be written in consistent British or American English.
- The authors should use Système International (SI) measurements. For clarity, nonmetric equivalents may be included in parentheses following the SI measurements.
- Use generic names for drugs. You may cite proprietary names in parentheses along with the name and location of the manufacturer.
- 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.

MANUSCRIPT FORMAT *continued*

Title Page

- This journal adheres to a **single-blinded peer-review** policy. The title page should be included in the main document.
- The title page should list the article title and the corresponding author's full name, degree, title, department, affiliation, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone and fax numbers. It should also list the full name, department, and affiliation of every co-author.
- Any change of affiliation requests will not be allowed after publication. A note about the author's new address can be added to the article's webpage if needed.
- If the article has been submitted on behalf of a consortium, all author names and affiliations should be listed at the end of the manuscript.
- Authors are required to disclose all financial and personal relationships that might influence their work, and all authors should disclose possible conflicts of interest, in their title page.

Abstract and Keywords

- The abstract should be prepared on a separate page, and must not exceed 300 words in length. (As for Short communication must not exceed 120 words in length)
- 3-5 keywords should be supplied. (As for Short communications, 3 key words should be supplied).
- The purpose of the investigation should be stated, followed by a description of the study design or experimental procedure, main findings or major contributions, and finally the specific conclusion or recommendations.
- Sufficient information should be included for the abstract to be easily understood without reference to the text, and any new and important aspects of the study should be emphasized.

Main Document

- Text is to be divided into sections with the following headings consecutively in principle: Introduction, Material and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion and Acknowledgement (if needed).
- Papers including human or animal subjects must include a statement of approval by appropriate agencies in the text.
- Use generic names of drugs or devices. If a particular brand was used in a study, insert the brand name along with the name and location of the manufacturer in parentheses after the generic name when the drug or device is first mentioned in the text.
- Quantities and units should be expressed in accordance with the recommendations of the International System of Units (SI), 8th edition 2006 (www.bipm.org/units/commonpdfsi_brochure_8_en.pdf).
- When abbreviations are used, give the full term followed by the abbreviation in parentheses the first time it is mentioned in the text, such as inferior gleno-humeral ligament (IGHL).
- Please clearly distinguish the hierarchy of headings within the manuscript by using capital letters, underline, italic, and bold styles as necessary.
- As needed, use italic, superscripts, subscripts, and boldface, but otherwise do not use multiple fonts and font sizes.
- Do not insert page or section breaks except where noted in the Author Instructions.
- Use hard returns (the Enter key) only at the end of a paragraph, not at the end of a line. Allow lines of text to break automatically in your word-processing software. Do not justify your text.
- Use only one space, not two, after periods.
- Create tables using the Table function in Microsoft Word.

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Acknowledgments

The source of any financial support received and recognition of personal assistance for the work being published should be indicated at the end of the article, just before the Reference section, under the heading Acknowledgments.

Conflict of Interest

All authors (including corresponding and co-authors associated with the manuscript) must make a formal statement at the time of submission indicating any potential conflict of interest that might constitute an embarrassment to any of the authors if it were not to be declared and were to emerge after publication. Such conflicts might include, but are not limited to, shareholding in or receipt of a grant or consultancy fee from a company whose product features in the submitted manuscript or which manufactures a competing product. Should the article be accepted for publication, this information will be published with the paper.

Types of conflicts include: Consulting, Royalties, Research Support, Institutional Support, Ownership, Stock/Options, Speakers Bureau, and Fellowship Support. Any commercial entity whose products are described, reviewed, evaluated, or compared in the manuscript, except for those disclosed in the Acknowledgments section, are potential conflicts.

This journal follows the guidelines of the [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors](#) and an [ICMJE disclosure of potential conflicts of interest \(COI\) form](#) must be submitted for each author at the time of manuscript submission. Forms must be submitted even if there is no conflict of interest. It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that all authors adhere to this policy prior to submission.

A conflict of interest statement must also be included in the manuscript after any "Acknowledgements" and "Funding" sections and should summarize all aspects of any conflicts of interest included on the ICMJE form. If there is no conflict of interest, authors must include 'Conflict of Interest: none declared'.

Please click <http://www.icmje.org/conflicts-of-interest> to download a Conflict of Interest form. The disclosure information is important in article processing. If the provided forms are incomplete or missing, it can cause delays in publishing of article.

MANUSCRIPT FORMAT *continued*

References

References should be the most recent and pertinent literature available. It is essential that they are complete and thoroughly checked. If the reference information is incomplete, good online sites to search for full details are the National Library of Medicine: www.nlm.nih.gov; Books in Print: www.booksinprint.com; PubMed: www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/PubMed/; or individual publisher Web sites.

- References must be listed in AMA style, using Index Medicus journal title abbreviations.
- References follow the article text. Insert a page break between the end of text and the start of references.
- References must be cited sequentially (NOT alphabetically) in the text using superscript numbers.
- By way of exception to AMA style, do not italicize book titles or journal title abbreviations and do not put a period at the end of a reference.
- List all author names, up to and including six names. For more than six authors, list the first three followed by et al.
- References should be styled per the following examples:

1. Citing a journal article:
Newburger JW, Takahashi M, Burns JC, et al. The treatment of Kawasaki syndrome with intravenous gamma-globulin. *N Engl J Med* 1986;315:341–347
2. Citing a chapter in a book:
Toma H. Takayasu's arteritis. In: Novick A, Scoble J, Hamilton G, eds. *Renal Vascular Disease*. Philadelphia: WB Saunders; 1995:47–62
3. Citing a book:
Stryer L. *Biochemistry*. 2nd ed. San Francisco: WH Freeman; 1981:559–596
4. Citing a thesis:
Stern I. Hemorrhagic Complications of Anticoagulant Therapy [Ph.D. dissertation]. Evanston, IL: Northwestern University; 1994
5. Citing a government publication:
Food and Drug Administration. *Jin Bu Huan Herbal Tablets*. Rockville, MD: National Press Office; April 15, 1994. Talk Paper T94-22
6. Citing an online article:
Rosenthal S, Chen R, Hadler S. The safety of acellular pertussis vaccine vs whole-cell pertussis vaccine [abstract]. *Arch Pediatr Adolesc Med* [serial online]. 1996;150:457–460. Available at: http://www.ama-assn.org/sci-pubs/journals/archive/ajdc/vol_150/no_5/abstract/htm. Accessed November 10, 1996
7. Citing a symposium article:
Eisenberg J. Market forces and physician workforce reform: why they may not work. Paper presented at: Annual Meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges; October 28, 1995; Washington, DC

MANUSCRIPT FORMAT *continued*

Specific Format of Chinese Medicine Terms

- As for titles of classical TCM book, they are written in Italics so that readers can easily identify them. Double quotation marks are not necessary. The English name and Chinese Pin Yin should be listed. The first letter of each word should be capitalized. For example, “《黄帝内经》” can be translated as “Yellow Emperor’s Inner Classic (Huang Di Nei Jing)”.
- As for the name of Chinese herbs, we suggest using a Latin name or an English name followed by a Chinese Pin Yin name. For instance, “当归” can be translated as “Danggui (Angelicae Sinensis Radix)” or “Danggui (Chinese angelica)”.
- As for the name of acupoint, it should be written in Chinese Pin Yin with an international coding in round brackets, such as “足三里” can be translated as “Zusanli (ST 36)”.
- As for the names of prescriptions and Chinese patent medicines, when they appear for the first time in the title, abstract and text, they indicate the Chinese names in round brackets, such as 温经汤 can be translated as Wenjng Decoction (温经汤). The first letter of each word should be capitalized.

Figure Captions

- Figures include photographs, drawings, graphs, bar charts, flow charts, and pathways, but NOT lists or tables.
- Figures prepared by the author(s) will be used in the online version of the journal. Cite each figure in the text and mark in the right margin of the page.
- Figures must be cited sequentially in the text. Number all figures (and corresponding figure captions) sequentially in the order they are cited in the text.
- Figure captions should be written after the reference list. Insert a page break between the end of references and the start of figure captions.
- Figure captions should include a description of the figure and/or each lettered part (A, B, etc.) and of any portions of the figure highlighted by arrows, arrowheads, asterisks, etc.
- For a figure borrowed or adapted from another publication (used with permission), add a credit line in parentheses at the end of each figure legend. This credit line should be a complete bibliographic listing of the source publication (as a reference), or other credit line as supplied by the copyright holder. For example (Reprinted with permission from Calfee DR, Wispelwey B. Brain abscess. *Semin Neurol* 2000;20:357.)
- If a figure has already been published, it is the author’s responsibility to obtain written permission to reproduce or modify from the copyright holder, and acknowledge the original source in the legend
- Short Communication should be composed of 2 sheets or less of figures.

Tables

- Data given in tables should be commented on but not repeated in the text. Be sure that lists or columns of related data are composed in a word-processing program like the rest of the text.
- Do not intersperse tables in the text. Tables should appear after the figure captions. Insert a page break between the end of the figure captions and the start of the tables.
- Tables must be double-spaced and numbered in the same sequence they are cited in the text. A short descriptive title should be provided for each table.
- If a table contains artwork, supply the artwork separately as a digital file.
- For tables borrowed or adapted from another publication (used with permission), add a credit line as the first footnote beneath each table. This credit line should be a complete bibliographical listing of the source publication (as a reference), or other credit line as supplied by the copyright holder. For example, “Reprinted with permission from Calfee DR, Wispelwey B. Brain abscess. *Semin Neurol* 2000;20:357.” (“Data from . . .” or “Adapted from . . .” may also be used, as appropriate.)
- Other footnotes for tables should be indicated in the table using superscript letters in alphabetical order.
- Any abbreviations used in the table should be explained at the end of the table in a footnote.

Supplementary (if available and necessary)

- We encourage authors to submit detailed supplementary, including dataset, document, image, video, software code, protocol, supporting information, table etc, but some large datasets (>100 MB) should be deposited in specialized service providers by author.

DIGITAL ARTWORK PREPARATION

General Guidelines

- It is best to use Adobe Photoshop to create and save images, and Adobe Illustrator for line art and labels.
- Do not submit art created in Microsoft Excel, Word, or PowerPoint. These files cannot be used by the typesetter.
- Save each figure in a separate file.
- Do not compress files.
- All black-and-white and color artwork should be at a resolution of 300 dpi (dots per inch) in TIFF format. Line art should be 1,200 dpi in EPS or TIFF format. Contact the Production Editor at Thieme if you are unsure of the final size.
- It is preferable for figures to be cropped to their final size (approximately 3½ inches for a single column and up to 7 inches for a double column), or larger, and in the correct orientation. If art is submitted smaller and then has to be enlarged, its resolution (dpi) and clarity will decrease.

Note: Lower resolutions (less than 300 dpi) and JPEG format (.jpg extension) for grayscale and color artwork are strongly discouraged due to the poor quality they yield in printing, which requires 300 dpi resolution for sharp, clear, detailed images. JPEG format, by definition, is a lower resolution (compressed) format designed for quick upload on computer screens.

Black-and-White Art

- Black-and-white artwork can be halftone (or grayscale) photographs, radiographs, drawings, line art, graphs, and flowcharts. Thieme will only accept digital artwork.
- If possible, do not send color art for conversion to black-and-white. Do the conversion yourself so that you can check the results and confirm in advance that no critical details are lost or obscured by the change to black-and-white.
- For best results, line art should be black on a white background. Lines and type should be clean and evenly dark. Avoid screens or cross-hatching, as they can darken or be uneven in printing and lead to unacceptable printing quality.

Color Art

- All color artwork should be saved in CMYK, not RGB.

Art Labels

- Arrows, asterisks, and arrowheads (or other markers) should be white in dark or black areas and black in light or white areas, and large in size. If not, these highlighting marks may become difficult to see when figures are reduced in size during the typesetting process.
- Use 1-point (or thicker) rules and leader lines.
- Capitalize the first word of each label and all proper nouns. Consider using all capitals if you need a higher level of labels.
- Where there are alternate terms or spellings for a named structure, use the most common one and make sure it is consistent with what is used in the text.
- Avoid using multiple fonts and font sizes for the labels; use only one or two sizes of a serif font.

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- Consult the checklist on the first page of this document to ensure that you are ready to submit your manuscript.
- Please note: **There are no submission charges to submit your manuscript to this journal.**

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- Should the editors decide that your article requires a revision, you will need to make the changes via a word-processing program and resubmit it electronically.
- The best way to make revisions to your manuscript is by enabling the Track Changes mode in Microsoft Word, which will automatically highlight and mark up revised text. Please submit both a marked up copy and a clean copy of your revised manuscript to the submission system.

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Each author should have made the following contributions towards the completion of the manuscript:

1. Substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data
2. Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content
3. Final approval of the version to be published

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Ethics

The journal is very concerned about ethical standards. Please provide proof that the terms of the latest version of the "World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki - Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human Subjects" have been adhered to or provide approval of your local ethics committee. The same applies to animals. Please provide proof that experiments involving animals were carried out in compliance with ARRIVE Guidelines or the "Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory animals" published by the National Academy of Sciences or else provide approval of your local ethics committee.

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