

Instructions for Authors

The Journal of Veterinary Medical Science (JVMS)

Revised on June 1, 2024

1. General information

The Journal of Veterinary Medical Science (JVMS) is an open access, peer-reviewed journal that covers fields in basic, applied and clinical research in veterinary science.

JVMS is the official journal of the Japanese Society of Veterinary Science and releases 12 issues per year. The journal publishes work on the following fields: Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Pharmacology, Ethology, Wildlife Science, Pathology, Toxicology, Laboratory Animal Science, Parasitology, Bacteriology, Virology, Public Health, Immunology, Epidemiology, Avian Pathology, Internal Medicine, Clinical Pathology, Surgery, and Theriogenology.

2. Types of papers

Full papers, Notes, and Review articles that are principally related to veterinary science and are unpublished and not under consideration for publication elsewhere will be accepted for publication. The length of papers, including Tables, Figures, and any other appendices, should not exceed 8 PDF pages for a *Full paper* or *Review article*, and 5 for a *Note*. (One PDF page corresponds to about 850 words, excluding the title, figures, and tables.)

All submitted manuscripts are examined by editors and multiple reviewers, and the Editor-in-Chief or Vice Editor-in-Chief determines their acceptance/rejection.

3. Compliance with ethical standards

Before submitting manuscripts, authors should carefully read the following ethical standards to ensure compliance with the same. Manuscripts judged by the editors and Editorial Office as not compliant with these standards may be rejected without review. Similarly, such manuscripts may be retracted even after being accepted or published.

3-1. Duplicate submission

Manuscripts submitted to JVMS should not have been previously published, are not currently in press, or under consideration for publication in other journals (even in part/any language).

However, research reports and dissertations registered in institutional repositories are exempted from this rule.

If any related manuscripts are under consideration for submission to other journals, currently in press, or were previously published, authors should inform the Editor-in-Chief at the time of

submission. However, manuscripts that are deposited to publicly accessible preprint servers are not deemed to have previously been published (see [3-3. Preprints]).

If authors choose to submit their manuscripts to other journals prior to JVMS's final decision to accept/reject these manuscripts, they should retract the submission to JVMS first.

3-2. Originality

Submitting a manuscript to JVMS assures that the manuscript is original. JVMS screens for unoriginal content included in manuscripts using software. Authors submitting manuscripts to JVMS are considered to consent to this screening. Manuscripts lacking originality to an unacceptable level are rejected based on the editors' judgment.

3-3. Preprints

To widely disseminate research, JVMS permits authors to register their manuscripts on preprint servers officially approved by relevant research communities before or at the time of submitting these manuscripts to JVMS. This applies only to original-version manuscripts describing primary studies. Manuscripts revised based on reviewers' comments, accepted for publication, or already published in JVMS cannot be registered on preprint servers. However, there is no restriction on the registration of links to published papers on preprint servers.

3-4. Authorship

Submitting a manuscript to JVMS signifies that all co-authors have confirmed and approved the author list and final version of the manuscript. Any alteration to the author list after submission, such as adding or deleting author names, or changing the order of authors, is basically unacceptable.

3-5. Identity of images

When authors digitally manipulate or process images, revisions should be minimized and processing should be applied to entire image within the standard ranges specified by relevant research communities. Furthermore, when major revisions have been implemented, authors should clearly explain such revisions in their manuscripts. All images in each manuscript should accurately reflect original data. Authors should neither move, delete, add, nor emphasize individual parts of images. Editors have the right to request authors to submit original, unprocessed images. If authors have difficulty in submitting requested images, their manuscripts may be rejected.

3-6. Reprinting of copyrighted materials

When manuscripts contain materials to which authors themselves do not hold the copyrights, authors must obtain the relevant permission(s) from copyright holders to reprint these materials. When manuscripts contain materials that were previously published as papers, authors must obtain permission(s) from copyright holders and publishers of original articles to reprint these materials. Additionally, authors should refer to the original articles in their manuscripts. A copy of the permission(s) for reprinting should be attached when authors submit their manuscripts for the first time.

3-7. Data and materials availability

When necessary, authors should describe acceptance numbers and detailed corporate information in their manuscript to specify sources of publicly available data and materials, such as open repositories and private manufacturers.

Authors may disclose their own data and materials in supplements or display links to access open databases and digital repositories officially approved by relevant research communities from their manuscripts. These data should be available to editors and reviewers during the review process.

3-8. Animal experiments/experiments involving human biospecimens

Authors who intend to submit manuscripts describing experiments involving animals or animal biospecimens should specify that the study was conducted after approval of animal experiment committees organized within their institutions and furthermore, conformed to the guidelines established by these institutions. As the Editorial Board may inquire about the course of events, it is preferable for the authors to provide approval numbers in the manuscripts. Manuscripts judged as being ethically compromised due to animal handling or experimental methods by the Editorial Board may be rejected.

Authors who intend to submit manuscripts describing experiments involving humans or human biospecimens (including questionnaire surveys) should specify that the study processes were performed conforming to the fundamental rules listed in the Helsinki Declaration, its revised versions, or the guidelines established by authors' institutions. When necessary, authors should also explain (in their manuscripts) the method to obtain informed consent for participation in the study and the publication of its findings. Manuscripts judged as non-compliant in this respect by the Editorial Board may be rejected.

3-9. Experiments using genetically modified organisms

Authors who intend to submit manuscripts describing experiments using genetically modified organisms should specify that the study was conducted conforming to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety under the Convention on Biological Diversity and the guidelines established by authors' institutions. As the Editorial Board may inquire about the course of events, it is

preferable for the authors to provide approval numbers in the manuscripts. However, manuscripts in countries not ratifying the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety may be excluded from this rule.

3-10. Statistical analysis

Authors who intend to submit manuscripts describing experiments requiring statistical analysis should adopt appropriate statistical techniques and specify these methods. Manuscripts judged as errant with statistical techniques by the editors may be rejected.

3-11. Disclosure of potential conflicts of interest

To ensure transparency, all submitted manuscripts require conflict-of-interest disclosure at the time of submission. Conflicts of interest are deemed to be present when there are situations that may prevent authors from impartially conducting and reporting studies, or such situations are suspected or possible. Potential conflicts of interest include (and are not limited to) commercial or financial conflicts of interest, partnerships for commercial purposes, playing the role of a consultant, and share and capital ownerships. If any undeclared conflicts of interest are suspected in relation to submitted manuscripts, those manuscripts may be rejected based on the editors' judgment. All manuscripts should contain a conflict-of-interest disclosure statement, even if only to specify that there are none present.

Additionally, funding for the study should be explained in the ACKNOWLEDGMENTS section of each manuscript.

4. Open access

JVMS is an open access, online-only journal published in full color from Vol. 79. No. 1. (January, 2017). Articles are registered on J-STAGE, an electronic journal platform of Japan Science and Technology Agency and PubMed Central (PMC).

5. Article Publication Charge (from January 1, 2021)

JVMS charges an Article Publication Charge (APC) once an article is accepted for publication. The APC covers the costs of article edition and online hosting management, as well as indexing services. If the corresponding author is a member of the Japanese Society of Veterinary Science at the time of submission, the APC is JPY 16,000 for a *Full paper* or *Review article* and JPY 12,000 for a *Note*. If not, an APC of JPY 32,000 will be charged for any types of manuscript. Authors are also asked to pay the following optional APCs:

- (1) Cost of English proofreading when deemed necessary by the Editorial Board
- (2) Charge for extra pages (JPY 15,000 per extra page)
- (3) Additional fee for graphical abstract (JPY 2,000)

After the online release, an APC invoice will be sent to the corresponding author by the Japanese Society of Veterinary Science. Payment should be made to the following account (Japan Post Bank Code and Numbers: 00110-0-256160; Account Name: Japanese Society of Veterinary Science). An APC will not be charged for review articles invited by the Editorial Board.

6. Publication license

The copyrights for all papers published in JVMS belong to the Japanese Society of Veterinary Science. Authors are required to sign a license form to grant permission for publishing their works in the Journal to the Japanese Society of Veterinary Science conforming to the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-No Derivatives 4.0 International Public License.

7. Manuscript Preparation

7-1. Text formatting

In the top margin of the first page of the manuscript, one of the following categories should be noted as the field of the research: Anatomy, Physiology, Biochemistry, Pharmacology, Ethology, Wildlife Science, Pathology, Toxicology, Laboratory Animal Science, Parasitology, Bacteriology, Virology, Public Health, Immunology, Epidemiology, Avian Pathology, Internal Medicine, Clinical Pathology, Surgery, and Theriogenology. The first page should also include details of the type of paper: *Full paper*, *Review article*, or *Note*. In addition, it should include the title, authors' names, affiliations, and the full address (including city, country, postal code) of the institution(s) where the work was done, as well as the corresponding author's name and e-mail address. A running head in capital letters not exceeding 40 letters must be provided.

The second page should contain the abstract (240 words or less for a *Full paper* or *Review article* and 120 words or less for a *Note*) and up to five key words (in alphabetical order).

For a *Full paper* or *Review article*, the text should be divided into the following sections: INTRODUCTION, MATERIALS AND METHODS, RESULTS, DISCUSSION, CONFLICT OF INTEREST, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, REFERENCES, and FIGURE LEGENDS. For a *Note*, such headings are not required except for CONFLICT OF INTEREST, ACKNOWLEDGMENTS, REFERENCES, and FIGURE LEGENDS.

- The manuscript should be double-spaced (24–26 lines per page and approx. 70 letters per line) on A4 size with suitable margins (2.5 cm at the top, bottom, left, and right sides of the page).
- In the main text, consecutive page numbers on the footer and consecutive line numbers through all pages on the left margin of the page should be provided.

- Only the first letter of proper nouns should be capitalized. Scientific names for animals, plants, and microorganisms must be italicized.
- Avoid using abbreviations in the title of the paper. All abbreviations should be written in parentheses after spelling out or expanding the term in full at the first appearance in the abstract and main text.
- Arabic numerals should be used for quantities. Units and abbreviations should conform to the following examples:

M, mM, μ M, %, m, cm, mm, μ m, nm, pm, cm², L, mL, μ L, kg, g, mg, μ g, ng, pg, hr, min, sec, msec, rpm, Hz, Bq, mBq, μ Bq, kBq, cpm, dpm, ppm, °C, J, KJ, lux.
- Regarding suppliers, the following information should be provided when their names initially appear in manuscripts: description (product name; corporate name, and the city and country that the company is located in). For companies in the United States, an abbreviation of the state should follow the city.
- References should be arranged in alphabetical order by first author's surname and coauthors' surname, and numbered consecutively. For articles written by the same first author, they should be listed in the following order: (1) article by only the first author, (2) that by the first author + one coauthor, and (3) that by the first author + more than one coauthors. In the text, they should be cited by numbers in square brackets, e.g., [1], [3-5, 7]. The abbreviations of titles of periodicals should conform to ISO 4-1972 (E): Documentation International Code for the Abbreviation of Titles of Periodicals and ISO 833-1974 (E): Documentation International List of Periodical Title Word Abbreviation.
- The following are examples:
 - Beiser JA, Gustin KM, Pearce MB, Maines TR, Zeng H, Pappas C, Sun XS, Camey PJ, Villanueva JM, Stevens J, Katz JM, Tumpey TM. 2013. Pathogenesis and transmission of avian influenza A (H7N9) virus in ferrets and mice. *Nature* **501**: 556–559.
 - Hori M, Yazama F, Matsuura Y, Yoshimoto R, Kaneda T, Yasumoto T, Ozaki H, Karaki H. 2018. Inhibition of actin polymerization by marine toxin pectenotoxin-2. *J Vet Med Sci* **80**: 225–234.
 - Sasaki H, Sasaki N, Nishino T, Nagasaki K, Kitamura H, Torigoe D, Agui T. 2014. Quantitative trait loci for resistance to the congenital nephropathy in tensin 2-deficient mice. *PLoS One* **9**: e99602.
 - Hamm LL, Alpern RJ, Preisig PA. 2013. Cellular mechanisms of renal tubular acidification. pp. 1917–1978. In: Seidin and Giebisch's *The Kidney*, 5th ed. (Alpern RJ, Caplan MJ, Moe OW eds.), Elsevier, Amsterdam.
 - Wild DG. 2013. *The Immunoassay Handbook*, 4th ed., Elsevier Science & Technology, Oxford.
 - Japan Pet Food Association (JPFA). 2013. Research for the number of household dog and cats

in Japan. <http://www.petfood.or.jp/data/chart2013/index.html> [accessed on May 31, 2019].

7-2. Cover letter

A cover letter to the Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Board members should be prepared separately from the main text of the manuscript. It is preferred that the cover letter briefly describe the main findings presented in the paper, their novelty and scientific importance, and how they will be of interest to the readers of JVMS. If the authors have registered the paper on a preprint server, the cover letter should also include a link to the preprint server.

7-3. Quality of English

It is essential to use American English. It is recommended that authors whose mother language is not English have their manuscripts proofread by native English speakers or proofreading service providers prior to submission. Such proofreading should be repeated after major revisions are made in the review process.

8. Manuscript submission

Manuscripts are submitted and processed using the ScholarOne Manuscripts platform (SIM): <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jvms>.

Each manuscript should be uploaded and divided into the files specified below such that SIM automatically creates a single PDF file from the uploaded files. As this PDF file is used in the reviewing process, the author should confirm the absence of text garbling and sharpness of images prior to its submission.

The following files should be prepared when submitting a manuscript:

- **Text:** The text file should include a title page and a list of References: Microsoft word files are preferred; Use a regular plain 11-point font (e.g., Times New Roman, Century) (Avoid Helvetica, Arial, and Symbol).
- **Figures:** Color figures are recommended, however, please be considerate of the accessibility to readers with color-blindness.

Original files should be submitted in the following formats; PowerPoint, Word, Excel, Photoshop (PSD, JPEG, TIFF), (Avoid SHS, EXE, COM, VBS, ZIP).

Required resolutions: monochrome: 1,200 dpi; grayscale and color: 600 dpi; and photographs (not containing text): 300 dpi.

Please see the PMC Guidelines and the articles:

- Image Quality Specifications

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/pub/filespec-images/>

- Wendover, K. 2019. The arts: creating scientific figures with color in mind. The *NICHD Connection* 10: 1–4.

<https://science.nichd.nih.gov/confluence/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=147424999>
- Swan, N. 2019. How to make scientific figures colorblind accessible. The *NICHD Connection* 10: 5–7.

<https://science.nichd.nih.gov/confluence/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=147425018>

- **Tables:** No vertical lines should be used. All phrases should begin with a capital letter, in principle. It is recommended that Excel is used to create tables. PowerPoint files are unacceptable. Each table should have a title that outlines the content.
- To make figures and tables comprehensible by themselves, all abbreviations must be defined when corresponding terms initially appear in each manuscript.
- Supplementary Tables, Figures, and Movies may be published as digital appendices.
- As PDF files automatically created with SIM are used in the reviewing process, the resolutions of figures should be adjusted to keep the file sizes at 5MB or smaller. High-resolution files should be separately submitted after acceptance.
- Files should be named as follows; figure and table numbers should be inserted into these names:
 - Text: AuthorName.doc(x)
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 - Table: AuthorName_Table1.xls(x)
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 - Cover letter: AuthorName_cov.doc(x)
- Authors can suggest Preferred reviewers and Non-preferred reviewers at the time of submission. However, this does not necessarily mean that the authors' preferences will be met.

9. After acceptance

Accepted manuscripts are published after editing and typesetting by the Editorial Office. All contact related to each accepted manuscript is made with the corresponding author. Publication is usually in the order of acceptance.

10. Graphical abstract

Accepted manuscripts may, at the author's request, be published with a graphical abstract at the time of online publication. The graphical abstract is a brief, visual summary of the main results of the manuscript. The graphical abstract may be a figure that represents the main finding of the paper, or it may be a specially designed figure that allows readers to understand the paper at a glance.

The graphical abstract should be prepared in PowerPoint, JPEG, TIFF, or EPS file format.

11. Inquiries

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