

Instructions for Authors

Editorial Policy

Neuropediatrics will consider the publication of articles on pediatric neurology and related clinical or basic science disciplines if the clinical or experimental results bear on the field of pediatric neurology. The language of the journal is English.

Manuscripts are selected for publication according to assessment by the Editorial Board and reports from at least two independent referees. Authors may suggest three referees but not from their own institution. The journal reserves the right to edit the language of accepted papers for clarity and correctness, and to make formal changes to ensure compliance with *Neuropediatrics* style. Authors have an opportunity to review any such changes in the proofs. The Editorial Board reserves the right to make the final decision on acceptance, and also to return manuscripts without reviewing if they do not conform to the subject or style of *Neuropediatrics*. The decision of the Editorial Board is final.

Manuscripts written by authors whose first language is not English should be checked by an English native speaker before submission. Manuscripts which do not meet acceptable language standards will be returned to authors.

Manuscripts are accepted on the condition that they be contributed exclusively to *Neuropediatrics*, are not under consideration elsewhere, and that the results have not been published previously other than in abstract form. The corresponding author must declare that the manuscript is submitted on behalf of all authors. Copyright belongs to the publisher upon acceptance of the manuscript. Submission of a manuscript signifies acceptance of the journal's Guidelines for Authors.

Submission of Manuscripts

Manuscripts can be submitted exclusively via online submission at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/neuped> or via link at www.thieme.de/neuropediatrics. Hard copy

submission and electronic submission via email will not be accepted. See "Uploading Files on Submission" for further information on the online submission process.

Categories of Papers

The following types of papers will be considered:

Review Articles are usually commissioned by the Editorial Board but suggestions are welcome and should contain a brief survey of the topic.

Original Articles are informative accounts of recent research into modern problems of *Neuropediatrics*. They should not exceed 8 printed pages of *Neuropediatrics* or 5000 words.

Short Communications contain case reports or more condensed information on clinical or experimental studies. Reports on single cases can usually not be considered unless they contain exceptional observations of general relevance. Short communications should not exceed 1500 words, two illustrations or tables, and 10 references.

Rapid Communications should be short communications of outstanding novel observations and be marked as such. Care should be taken to describe experimental procedures as concisely as possible. If accepted, publication time will be at least 3 months shorter than for mainstream papers.

Letters to the Editor will usually address articles published in *Neuropediatrics* or comment upon recent scientific advances of general interest. Letters will be reviewed. Letters to the Editor are excluded from online submission and should be sent to the Executive Editor (Prof. Dr. Thomas Voit, University of Essen, Department of Pediatrics, Hufelandstr. 55, 45122 Essen, Germany).

Manuscript Preparation

Abbreviations should be avoided in the **title**. If abbreviations are used in the text they should be listed on separate page along with their explanations.

The detailed **abstract** should state the general idea, objectives, new results and conclusions drawn from the study, and be self-explanatory.

Materials and methods should be described in detail with appropriate information about patients or experimental animals. Papers reporting experiments on patients must state that approval was obtained from the appropriate institutional review body, and that informed consent was obtained from each pa-

tient. Care must be taken to preserve the anonymity of patients, in conformity with the statement of the Vancouver Group (Br Med J 1991; 302: 1194). The source of special equipment, chemicals, antibodies or gene probes must be acknowledged including city and country.

Figures: Reproduction in color is possible but authors are expected to bear the extra costs involved.

Figure legends should be brief, but must contain all the information to make the illustration comprehensible without taking recourse to the text. **Tables** should be planned to suit the page size of *Neuropediatrics*. All tables should have a title and be self-explanatory. Sufficient information must be given to make the data intelligible without reference to the text.

Acknowledgments are brief but may contain grant numbers.

The **references** are numbered alphabetically and should be cited in the text as numbers in alphabetical (not chronological) order. If several works of one author are listed they should be arranged in chronological order. The names of all authors must be given up to a maximum of six and any more should be substituted by et al. The titles of journals should be abbreviated according to Index Medicus, latest edition. Unlisted journals are spelled out. All titles are to be given in the original languages if they can be reproduced in the English alphabet. Translated titles may be enclosed in square brackets.

Examples:

- Muntoni F, Brown S, Sewry C, Patel K. Muscle development genes: their relevance in neuromuscular disorders. *Neuromuscular Disord* 2002; 12: 438–446
- Dubowitz V. *Muscle Biopsy. A Practical Approach*. 2nd ed. London: Baillière Tindall, 1985
- North K, Goebel HH. Congenital myopathies. In: Jones Jr HR, De Vivo DC, Darras BT (Eds). *Neuromuscular Disorders of Infancy, Childhood, and Adolescence. A Clinician's Approach*. Oxford: Butterworth/Heinemann, Elsevier Science, 2003: 601–633

Citation of other researchers' unpublished work must be accompanied by a letter of authorization. This also applies to manuscripts in press elsewhere which must be included as a clearly marked copy.

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Uploading Files on Submission

For submission of all manuscripts, follow the instructions of the online submission system at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/neuped>. Before submission, keep ready full metadata of the manuscript (title, full names referenced by Arabic superscripts with affiliation and addresses of all authors, and also, the complete list of references, footnotes, figure legends, and tables). **The author submitting the manuscript will be corresponding author.**

Upload as many files as needed for your manuscript. **If you have updated a file, please delete the original version and upload the revised file.** If you are submitting a revision, please include only the latest set of files. All files will be combined into a single PDF document for the peer review process.

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During the technical production of books and journals checks are repeatedly made for print errors, with particular reference also to doses and dosage schedules. Failing expert knowl-

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We should join hands in reducing the risk of right of recourse or claim to damages, and in this regard your responsible cooperation is fundamental.

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