AORTA
Author Instructions

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

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<th>APC Type</th>
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<td>PWYW</td>
<td>This journal implements a Pay What You Want model for APCs. This means that once your manuscript has been accepted for publication and it comes to paying the processing fee, you decide how much to pay. We are giving you the choice to pay any price you feel appropriate.</td>
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SUBMISSION CHECKLIST
All manuscripts must be submitted at the following link:
https://www.editorialmanager.com/aorta

☐ AUTHOR INFORMATION
- All authors: full name, academic degree(s), departmental and institutional affiliation(s)
- Corresponding author: full name, academic degree(s), department, affiliation, mailing address, telephone and fax number, e-mail address
- Conflict of interest statement in respect to all authors

☐ MANUSCRIPT FILE
- Must be digital - hard copy submissions are not accepted. See the section Article Types for word limit and main text structure

☐ ABSTRACT AND KEYWORDS
- See the section Article Types for word limit and abstract structure

☐ REFERENCES
- Cited sequentially in AMA style

☐ TABLES & FIGURES
- Cited sequentially in the main document
- Tables must be included in the main document file and Table captions should appear above every table
- Must be saved separately from the main document
- The main document should have a “Figure Captions” section (if figures are used)

☐ VIDEOS
- Cited sequentially in the main document, must be saved separately from the main document
- The main document should have a “Video Captions” section (if videos are used)

☐ PERMISSIONS
- Required if you plan to reproduce content from a published source or include a photograph of a patient
- Patient permission forms available at www.thieme.com/journal-authors
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**EDITORIAL CONTACTS**

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**General Manuscript Format**

The Editors of AORTA are pleased to welcome submissions in the form of original articles, brief communications, review articles, case reports, and submissions in other categories (see below) on topics pertaining to the aorta and its first order branches. We welcome multi-disciplinary submissions dealing with anatomy, pathology, pathophysiology, embryology, imaging, clinical care, surgical care, endovascular care, genetics, molecular genetics, engineering analysis, and technical innovations or products. We welcome review articles accepted submissions will be published as State-of-the-Art reviews. The Editors aim specifically to appeal to a broad variety of disciplines and specialties and to bring these disciplines together for cross-fertilization of ideas.

**Article Types**

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article Type</th>
<th>Total number of words in the text (including the abstract, manuscript text, references, figure captions)</th>
<th>Abstract Limit</th>
<th>Keywords Limit</th>
<th>Title Limit (characters excluding spaces)</th>
<th>Figures/Tables</th>
<th>Maximum # of References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Original Research Article</td>
<td>5,000 words</td>
<td>300 words</td>
<td>3-5 keywords</td>
<td>120 characters</td>
<td>Up to 8 figures/tables</td>
<td>25 references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Article</td>
<td>7,000 words</td>
<td>300 words</td>
<td>3-5 keywords</td>
<td>120 characters</td>
<td>Up to 8 figures/tables</td>
<td>45 references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case Report</td>
<td>1,500 words</td>
<td>75 words</td>
<td>3-5 keywords</td>
<td>120 characters</td>
<td>Up to 5 figures/tables</td>
<td>8 references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Images in Aortic Diseases</td>
<td>500 words</td>
<td>75 words</td>
<td>3-5 keywords</td>
<td>120 characters</td>
<td>Up to 5 figures</td>
<td>5 references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How I Do It</td>
<td>2,500 words</td>
<td>75 words</td>
<td>3-5 keywords</td>
<td>120 characters</td>
<td>Up to 5 figures/tables</td>
<td>8 references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Perspective</td>
<td>5,000 words</td>
<td>75 words</td>
<td>3-5 keywords</td>
<td>120 characters</td>
<td>Up to 8 figures/tables</td>
<td>45 references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basic Science for the Clinician</td>
<td>5,000 words</td>
<td>300 words</td>
<td>3-5 keywords</td>
<td>120 characters</td>
<td>Up to 8 figures/tables</td>
<td>45 references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter to the Editor/Editorial Commentary</td>
<td>500 words</td>
<td>Abstract not required</td>
<td>3-5 keywords</td>
<td>60 characters</td>
<td>1 figure or 1 table</td>
<td>5 references</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Feature Article*</td>
<td>5,000 words</td>
<td>75 words</td>
<td>3-5 keywords</td>
<td>120 characters</td>
<td>Up to 8 figures/tables</td>
<td>25 references</td>
</tr>
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*Please review the additional information regarding Special Feature articles in the “Specific Guidelines” section below.*
Specific Guidelines for Each Article Type

Original Research Article

- We encourage submission of Original Research articles based on clinical or laboratory work in any of the disciplines related to the aorta and its branches.
- The entire paper, including Abstract, Manuscript, References, and Figure/Table/Video captions should not exceed 5,000 words (excludes tables).
- The Original Research articles should be structured under the following section headings:
  - Abstract (structured)
  - Introduction
  - Materials and Methods
  - Results
  - Discussion
  - Conclusions
  - Acknowledgements (optional)
  - References
  - Tables with captions (optional)
  - Figure captions (optional)
  - Video captions (optional)
- The abstract in Original Research articles is limited to 300 words and should be structured under the following headings:
  - Background
  - Methods
  - Results
  - Conclusions
- 3-5 keywords are required and should be included on the second (abstract) page.
- The number of references should not exceed 25.
- Figures/Tables should not exceed 8 in total (except in special circumstances with a request submitted to the Editor).
- Authors should not exceed 7 except in special circumstances that must be approved by the Editors.

Review Article

- We encourage submission of Review articles on relevant and timely topic related to the aorta and its first order branches.
- Accepted Review articles will be published as State-of-the-Art Reviews.
- The entire paper, including Abstract, Manuscript, References, and Figure/Table/Video captions should not exceed 5,000 words (excludes tables).
- The Review articles should be structured under the following section headings:
  - Abstract (non-structured)
  - Introduction
  - Main text of the review divided into several sections and subsections
  - Conclusions
  - Acknowledgements (optional)
  - References
  - Tables with captions (optional)
  - Figure captions (optional)
  - Video captions (optional)
- The abstract in Review articles is limited to 300 words and should not be structured under any headings.
- 3-5 keywords are required and should be included on the second (abstract) page.
- The number of references should not exceed 45.
- Figures/Tables should not exceed 8 in total (except in special circumstances with a request submitted to the Editor).
- Authors should not exceed 7 except in special circumstances that must be approved by the Editors.
Case Reports

- Reports of interesting cases are encouraged.
- The entire paper, including Abstract, Manuscript, References, and Figure/Table/Video captions should not exceed 1,500 words (excludes tables).
- Case Reports should be structured under the following section headings:
  - Abstract (non-structured)
  - Introduction
  - Case Presentation
  - Discussion (conclusion section must be incorporated into the discussion)
  - Acknowledgements (optional)
  - References
  - Tables with captions (optional)
  - Figure captions (optional)
  - Video captions (optional)
- The abstract in Case Reports is limited to 75 words and should not be structured under any headings.
- 3-5 keywords are required and should be included on the second (abstract) page.
- The number of references should not exceed 8.
- Figures/Tables should not exceed 5 in total (except in special circumstances with a request submitted to the Editor).
- Authors should not exceed 7 except in special circumstances that must be approved by the Editors.

Images in Aortic Diseases

- Dramatic images of aortic pathology (or first order branches) can be submitted in this category. We encourage submission of interesting or unusual images by any modality (chest X-ray, echocardiogram, CT scan, MRI scan, PET scan, photograph, or other).
- The entire paper, including Abstract, Manuscript, References, and Figure/Video captions should not exceed 500 words.
- Images in Aortic Diseases should be structured under the following section headings:
  - Abstract (non-structured)
  - Main text of the manuscript without sections and subsections
  - References (optional)
  - Figure captions (optional)
  - Video captions (optional)
- The abstract in Images in Aortic Diseases is limited to 75 words and should not be structured under any headings.
- 3-5 keywords are required and should be included on the second (abstract) page.
- The number of references should not exceed 5, but references are not required for this submission type.
- Tables are not permitted in this submission type.
- Figures should not exceed 5 (except in special circumstances with a request submitted to the Editor).
- Authors should not exceed 3 except in special circumstances that must be approved by the Editors.
How I Do It

- We encourage submissions about novel or unusual approaches to surgical or interventional problems. These are expected to be well illustrated.
- The entire paper, including Abstract, Manuscript, References, and Figure/Table/Video captions should not exceed 2,500 words (excludes tables).
- How I Do It manuscripts should be structured under the following section headings:
  - Abstract (non-structured)
  - Introduction
  - Technique and Results
  - Discussion (conclusion section must be incorporated into the discussion)
  - Acknowledgements (optional)
  - References
  - Tables with captions (optional)
  - Figure captions (optional)
  - Video captions (optional)

- The abstract in How I Do It manuscripts is limited to 75 words and should not be structured under any headings.
- 3-5 keywords are required and should be included on the second (abstract) page.
- The number of references should not exceed 8.
- Figures/Tables should not exceed 5 in total (except in special circumstances with a request submitted to the Editor).
- Authors should not exceed 7 except in special circumstances that must be approved by the Editors.

Historical Perspective

- We encourage submissions that provide historical perspectives on aortic assessment and care. We feel that it is important to learn from the past, especially in the words of those who made the advances in earlier eras. These articles will often be invited by the Editorial Board, but spontaneous submissions are welcome as well.
- The entire paper, including Abstract, Manuscript, References, and Figure/Table/Video captions should not exceed 5,000 words (excludes tables).
- The Historical Perspective articles should be structured under the following section headings:
  - Abstract (non-structured)
  - Introduction
  - Main text of the manuscript divided into several sections and subsections
  - Conclusions
  - Acknowledgements (optional)
  - References
  - Tables with captions (optional)
  - Figure captions (optional)
  - Video captions (optional)

- The abstract in Historical Perspective articles is limited to 75 words and should not be structured under any headings.
- 3-5 keywords are required and should be included on the second (abstract) page.
- The number of references should not exceed 45.
- Figures/Tables should not exceed 8 in total (except in special circumstances with a request submitted to the Editor).
- Authors should not exceed 7 except in special circumstances that must be approved by the Editors.
Basic Science for the Clinician

- We welcome papers that review basic science investigations and modalities (e.g., genetics, engineering, molecular biology) in language accessible to a clinical audience. These articles will often be invited by the Editorial Board, but spontaneous submissions are welcome as well.
- These manuscripts are intended as review articles. Original basic science investigations in the field of aortic/vascular diseases should be submitted as Original Research articles.
- The entire paper, including Abstract, Manuscript, References, and Figure/Table/Video captions should not exceed 5,000 words (excludes tables).
- The Basic Science for the Clinician articles should be structured under the following section headings:
  - Abstract (non-structured)
  - Introduction
  - Main text of the review manuscript divided into several sections and subsections
  - Conclusions
  - Acknowledgements (optional)
  - References
  - Tables with captions (optional)
  - Figure captions (optional)
  - Video captions (optional)
- The abstract in Basic Science for the Clinician articles is limited to 300 words and should not be structured under any headings.
- 3-5 keywords are required and should be included on the second (abstract) page.
- The number of references should not exceed 45.
- Figures/Tables should not exceed 8 in total (except in special circumstances with a request submitted to the Editor).
- Authors should not exceed 7 except in special circumstances that must be approved by the Editors.

Letter to the Editor/Editonal Commentary

- We encourage Letters to the Editor, which comment on, either to corroborate or refute or expand on, articles published in earlier issues.
- Editorial Commentaries will be invited by the Editorial Board.
- The entire paper, including the Manuscript, References, and Figure/Table/Video captions should not exceed 500 words.
- The title of these submissions should be short and not exceed 60 characters.
- Letters to the Editor and Editorial Commentaries should be structured under the following section headings:
  - Main text of the manuscript without sections and subsections
  - References
  - Table and table caption (optional)
  - Figure caption (optional)
  - Video caption (optional)
- The abstract is not required for Letters to the Editor and Editorial Commentaries.
- 3-5 keywords are required and should be included on the title page.
- The number of references should not exceed 5.
- Either 1 figure or 1 table is permitted for this type of submission.
- Authors should not exceed 3 except in special circumstances that must be approved by the Editors.
Special Feature Articles

- We encourage submissions in a number of Special Features of AORTA, which include:
  - **Promising concepts**: Manuscripts reporting novel approaches to clinical or surgical problems in the early stages of development, often before large series are accomplished.
  - **Engineering Page**: Reports from engineers working on biological tissues related to the aorta, on grafts or graft materials, or on mechanical devices applicable to aortic care. Please ascertain that all terminology and concepts are rendered in forms accessible to and of interest to the clinical reader.
  - **“What I Did”**: Extraordinary or unusual clinical approaches, be they surgical or interventional, which authors might describe colloquially to a colleague as “You won’t believe what I did!” We feel that the entire readership will often benefit from exposure to such innovative work. Please feel free to include submissions concerning how you “got out of trouble” in a difficult situation.
  - **New Technology**: Announcement of new technical products available or soon to be released that are relevant to aortic care. Submissions must emphasize scientific and clinical merit in a non-commercial fashion. Objective and non-commercial presentation (conflict of interest will be assessed) will be obligated by the Editorial Board.
  - **Roundtable Discussions**: We will occasionally convene experts in a particular discipline, often from different points of view (e.g. surgical and endovascular) to opine in live discussions on clinical or scientific issues. These discussions will then be transcribed into text for the readership. These segments will often be organized by the Editors, but spontaneous submissions and suggestions are welcome.
  - **PRO-CON Debates**: We will frequently pit opposing thought leaders against each other in (we hope “heated”) text debates on controversial topics. These segments will often be organized by the Editors, but spontaneous submissions and suggestions are welcome.
  - **Poll the Editors**: It is often instructive to know how a panel of experts approaches a controversial or evolving clinical topic (e.g. methods of brain protection). We encourage readers to submit questions of such a nature to be submitted to a poll of our Editorial Board. We will publish the results, along with brief, pithy, especially pertinent comments from individual Editors that may emerge during the polling.

- The entire paper of Special Feature Articles including Abstract, Manuscript, References, and Figure/Table/Video captions should not exceed 5,000 words (excludes tables).
- The Special Feature Articles should be structured under the following section headings:
  - Abstract (non-structured)
  - Introduction
  - Main text of the manuscript divided into several sections and subsections
  - Conclusions
  - Acknowledgements (optional)
  - References
  - Tables with captions (optional)
  - Figure captions (optional)
  - Video captions (optional)

- The abstract in Special Feature Articles is limited to 75 words and should not be structured under any headings.
- 3-5 keywords are required and should be included on the title page.
- The number of references should not exceed 25.
- Figures/Tables should not exceed 8 in total (except in special circumstances with a request submitted to the Editor).
- Authors should not exceed 7 except in special circumstances that must be approved by the Editors.
General Manuscript Preparation Guidelines

- The manuscript must submit as a digital copy through an online submission and peer-review system. Hard copy submissions are not accepted.
- Keep the format of your manuscript simple and clear. If accepts, we will set your manuscript according to our style—do not try to “design” the document.
- The manuscript main document should be typewritten, double-spaced in 12-point font with 1-inch margins all around and saved as one file. This main document should include in this order: 1) title page, 2) abstract + keywords page, 3) main test of the manuscript, 4) references, 5) tables with captions (if any), 6) figure captions (if any), 7) video captions (if any).
- Figures should be submitted as high-resolution TIFF or EPS format files (minimum resolution 300 dpi for black-and-white and color figures and 1200 dpi for line drawings). 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.

Title Page

AORTA journal adheres to a single-blinded peer-review policy. Therefore, all submissions should start with a title page, which should include the following information:

- Title of the manuscript:
  - Please use a concise and informative title;
  - Avoid using abbreviations in the title.
- Brief running title (short title):
  - Should be no longer 50 characters (including spaces).
  - Avoid using abbreviations in the running title.
- List of authors and their full affiliations:
  - Full names of authors need to be provided and should include the first name, middle initial (if applicable), and last name.
  - The names of authors need to be accompanied by their academic degrees (i.e. MD, PhD, etc.).
  - Each author's affiliations should be listed in the following format: department, institution, city, state (if applicable), and country.
  - If authors have different (or multiple) affiliations, superscript numbering should be used to indicate which authors have which affiliation.
- Corresponding author information:
  - This should include the corresponding author's full name, full institutional mailing address (street address, city, state (if applicable) postal code, country), phone number (with country code), fax number (with country code), email address.
- Statement of conflict of interest:
  - Any potential conflict of interest of any of the co-authors listed on the submission should be disclosed on the title page.
  - If no conflict exists for any of the authors, this should be clearly stated as well.
- Word count:
  - Indicate the total word count for the entire manuscript including the abstract, manuscript text, references, table captions, figure captions (exclude tables themselves).
Abstract and Keywords

- The abstract and keywords should appear on the second page of the submission, following the title page. Insert a page break between the end of the title page and the start of the abstract page.
- The abstract should concisely outline the content of the article and any conclusions it may reach.
- See the section Article Types (above) for word limits for the abstract for each type of submission.
- Different types of submission require either a structured (Background, Methods, Results, and Conclusions) or a non-structured abstract (see the Specific Guidelines section below for instructions).
- Abbreviations are permitted in the abstract, but should be kept to a minimum and the full term should be expanded at first mention followed by the abbreviation in parentheses.
- References are not permitted in the abstract.
- The keywords should be a listing of words or terms that a reader would be likely to use in searching for the content of the article.

Main Document

- The main text of the manuscript should follow the structure corresponding to the type of submission (see the Specific Guidelines section below for instructions);
- Insert a page break between the end of the abstract page and the start of main text.
- Papers including human or animal subjects must include a statement of approval by appropriate agencies (i.e. Institutional Review Board, Ethics Committee, etc.) in the text. The authors should also indicate whether or not individual consent for the study was obtained, or whether it was waived.
- 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.
- When abbreviations are used in the main text of the manuscript, provide the full term followed by the abbreviation in parentheses the first time it is mentioned in the text. If the full term of the abbreviation was provided in the abstract, it still needs to be expanded at first use in the main text of the manuscript.
- 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. Keep the formatting to a minimum.
- Insert page or section breaks after each of the following: 1) title page, 2) abstract + keywords page, 3) main test of the manuscript, 4) references, 5) tables with captions (if any), 6) figure caption (if any), 7) video caption (if any).
- 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. All tables should typed and not submitted as figures.

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

- Each author is required to submit a Conflict of Interest form in order to disclose any potential conflicts they may have.
- AORTA uses the standardized Conflict of Interest form developed by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. To access this form, please click (or copy and paste into your browser the following link) http://www.icmje.org/conflicts-of-interest to download a Conflict of Interest form.
- The authors' statement of conflict of interest should be included on the title page (please see the section Title Page above). For accepted manuscripts, this statement will be published at the end of the manuscript after the Acknowledgements section and before the References section.
References

- References should be the most recent and pertinent literature available.
- It is essential that references 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) as they appear in the text using superscript numbers.
- Abstracts should not contain reference citations.
- 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:
  2. Citing a chapter in a book:
  3. Citing a book:
     Stryer L. Biochemistry. 2nd ed. San Francisco: WH Freeman; 1981:559–596
  4. Citing a thesis:
  5. Citing a government publication:
  6. Citing an online article:
  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
Tables and Table Captions

- 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 references starting on a new page. Insert a page break between the end of the references and the start of the tables.
- Tables must be double-spaced and numbered in the same sequence they are cited (called out) in the text. A short descriptive title/caption should be provided for each table.
- If a table contains artwork, supply the artwork separately as a digital file (see section Digital Artwork Preparation below).
- Abbreviations are permitted in the table captions, but should be kept to a minimum and the full term should be expanded at first mention followed by the abbreviation in parentheses (even if the term has been previously expanded in the main text of the manuscript).
- 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 fully explained/expanded at the end of the table in a footnote.

Figure Captions

- Figures include photographs or radiographs, drawings, graphs, bar charts, flow charts, and pathways, but NOT lists or tables.
- Figures must be cited (called out) 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 provided on a separate page after the tables (after the reference list if no tables are used). 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/panel (A, B, etc.) and of any portions of the figure highlighted by arrows, arrowheads, asterisks, etc.
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