

# Tanzania Journal of Health Research

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## General information

**Aims and Scope:** *Tanzania Journal of Health Research* is an open-access peer reviewed journal that targets scientists, policy and decision makers and the general public. The Journal publishes original papers, review articles as or short communications on biomedical and health sciences and policy and planning. The Journal is published quarterly in January, April, July and October as an organ of the Tanzania Health Research User's Trust Fund. The *Journal* is available at: [www.bioline.org.br/journals](http://www.bioline.org.br/journals) and AJOL at <http://www.ajol.info/index.php/thrb>; and abstracted on African Index Medicus at <http://indexmedicus.afro.who.int/> and PubMed at <http://www.ncbi.nih.gov/entrez>

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**Author enquiries:** Instructions to authors can be found in each issue and online at <http://www.nimr.or.tz/>

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Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with the fifth edition of the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals” established by the Vancouver Group (International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, ICMJE). The complete document, updated October 2001, is available at <http://www.icmje.org/index.html>. The manuscripts should be addressed exclusively to the TJHR. Their simultaneous presentation to other journals whether in regards to the text, tables or figures, whether in their totality or in part, is prohibited. The authors must sign and submit a declaration in accordance with the copyright agreement.

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These are contributions that have the purpose of publication of original unpublished research which may be reproduced and generalised. They should be between 3000 and 6000 words, excluding tables, figures and references. The original scientific article should follow the conventional structure: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion.

**Title:** The title should be short and to the point; omit phrases such as “Investigation on...” “Preliminary report of ...”; numbered series articles followed by a subtitle are not allowed. Taxonomic affiliation and authority should be given in the abstract, or in the key words, but not in the Title. Full addresses should appear under the names of the author(s); in addition, the title page should contain the name and address of the person to whom the proofs should be sent. If the author’s address has changed, his full present address should also appear on the title page. A short list of terms suitable for indexing should be included.

**Abstract:** Should be short and concise and should contain the full scientific name. The abstract should indicate clearly the following: Background, Objective, Methods, Results and Conclusion.

**Introduction** should be short, defining the problem studied, stating its importance and highlighting the present gaps in knowledge. The Introduction should be directed to the present investigation; avoid giving a review on general aspects of the topic. The number of citation should be limited.

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**Discussion** should include the limitation of the study, comparison with available literature, and the interpretation of the authors, drawing the conclusions. The findings should be discussed in relation to

what is already known, and indications of the course for further research may be provided. Scientific as well as policy implications of the major findings may be mentioned. Within space limitations the author has some freedom to express his own opinion, even if editors or referees differ with him.

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Short communications are intended to provide preliminary research results or unpublished hypotheses of public health relevance. Short communications may contain an abstract, and can be organized either along the lines of a regular manuscript, or without subdivisions. Authors may also consider combining the results and discussion sections. Short communications are limited to a maximum of two figures and one table. The items of manuscript preparation for regular articles apply to Short Communication with the following differences: (i) Abstracts are limited to 100 words; (ii) Introduction, materials and methods, results and discussion should be combined into a single sections. They should include not more than 5 references.

## 3. Letters to the Editor

These include letters which seek to discuss recent articles published in TJHR or report on original research or significant findings. They should not exceed 600 words and 5 references.

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### Clinical studies

TJHR supports the registration of trials as an important initiative to improve the reporting of clinical studies. Trial registers that currently meet all of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) and World Health Organization (WHO) requirements can be found at <http://www.icmje.org/faq.pdf>