Guidelines to authors

We welcome all contributions that enhance or illuminate relevant practice and science. All material is assumed to be submitted exclusively to ELPAT: via e-mail. The Editor expects adherence to the principles outlined by the committee on Publication Ethics (www.publicationethics.org.uk).

The manuscripts are written in clear, grammatical English.

1. Full-length reports of completed research should not exceed 3,000 words of text, with an abstract of not more than 200 words, no more than 50 references and a combined total of no more than 10 tables or figures.

2. Full-length reports of completed research must conform to the following format:

Page 1: Title page. This page contains the title (preferably not more than 15 words). Authors: The full first name, middle initials, and family name of each author, as well as the name(s) of the department(s) and institution(s) to which the work should be attributed, with address(es) including postal codes. Please supply 5-10 keywords. The mailing address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address for the corresponding author should be added.

Page 2: Footnotes. These should be designated by superscript Arabic numbers and should include the footnotes to the title, giving sources of support, and to authors' names, giving current addresses and an address for correspondance from readers. Authors should indicate clearly any source of funding for work reported in the journal as well as any potential conflict of interest. This page should also include all footnotes to the text, given in numerical sequence.

Page 3: Abbreviations. This page should list abbreviations not likely to be familiar to the reader. They should be listed alphabetically with their meanings. Please do not abbreviate terms unless they are used frequently.

Page 4: The abstract page is separate from the text, with a separate word count. The abstract should – if appropriate – at least consist of four paragraphs, labeled Aim/Background, Material/Methods, Results, and Conclusions. They should briefly describe the problem being addressed in the study, how the study was performed, the salient results, and what the authors conclude from the results. The abstract for Rapid and Brief Communications need not be divided into sections.

Page 5, pp: Text. The introduction contains a statement of the purpose of the work, the problem that stimulated it, and a brief summary of relevant published investigations. Materials and methods must be presented in sufficient detail to enable other investigators to repeat the work.

The results should be described concisely, avoiding redundant tables and figures illustrating the same data. The discussion should interpret results, with minimal recapitulation of findings.

New page: References are typed double-spaced starting on a separate page. The publisher uses the Vancouver System of reference formatting, with sequential numbering in the text, and respective ordering within the list. All references should be verified by the authors. Consult Index Medicus for standard journal abbreviations. Provide names of all authors when there are six or fewer; if there are seven authors or more, list only the first three, followed by „et al“.

Examples:


Type each table, double-spaced throughout (including column headings, footnotes, and data), on
a separate page. Number the tables in sequence in arabic numerals and supply a concise, informative title for each one. Each column in the tables should carry a concise heading describing the data in the column. Use lowercase superscript letters to designate footnotes, and type the footnotes below the tables to which they refer. Tables are cited in the text in numerical order. Each table should be able to be understood without consulting the text.

Black/white or colour images must be in digital format, appended to the text document. All image/figure files must be sent as tif, jpg or ppt files unless they are already included in the text document. In addition, hard copies are needed.

Legends should be supplied for all figures. They are numbered to correspond with the figures and typed double-spaced on a separate page.