**TEMPLATE**

Thank you for downloading this file and using this template to prepare your manuscript for submission to ***Blood Transfusion***. We are now requesting a greater degree of conformity due to the ever increasing number of papers being submitted to assist in the reviewing and publication process for the benefit of our readers. **PLEASE PAY CAREFUL ATTENTION TO THE AUTHOR GUIDELINES**

**Using This Template**

The template consists of essential headings along with body text explaining what to include in each section. You can overwrite (or copy and paste (paste special – unformatted text) the body text with the corresponding text of section for your article. Add other headings as needed, and delete the examples and unnecessary text. Please adhere to the font size and type. Finally, please use English grammar and spelling, e.g.: hemoglobin, anemia, hemostasis. While accepted articles will be copy edited for consistency, Authors should make every effort to submit a manuscript that is grammatically correct, which will also aid in the review process. Please pay attention to correct use of decimals (e.g., 1.37, and not 1,37). Articles not meeting general stylistic criteria upon submission may be returned to the Authors for additional modification.

Be sure to display line numbers (1, 2, 3, and so forth) in the left margin of the manuscript as we have shown in this template. (Line numbering can be added from the Page Setup or Format menu of word processing programs). The line numbering should be continuous throughout the entire manuscript, from the first page through final page (i.e., do not begin numbering from 1 again at the top of each page).

**FIRST PAGE OF THE MANUSCRIPT**

**Title:** the title (max 120 characters spaces included) should be specific to the study yet concise, and should allow easy electronic retrieval of the article. It should be comprehensible to readers outside your field. Avoid specialist abbreviations if possible.

**Running title:**

Running title not exceeding 60 characters including spaces.

**Authors**

Please list all the Authors, provide the first names and surnames, and affiliations (use numbers in superscript when more departments have been involved). List ORCID ID alongside respective Authors, when available. Do not add any degrees or titles (e.g. MD, PhD, Dr, Prof).

e.g: Marco Rossi1, Giulio Bianchi1, Fabrizio Verdi2

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Department, university or organization, city, state/province (if applicable), and country - for all Authors.

**Type of Article**

Categorize your article in one of the following types: *Original Article*/*Review article (meta-analysis)*/Brief Report/Commentary/*Editorial/Letter to the Editor/Case report/Guideline-Recommendation.*

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From here onwards, the paper should be written with line spacing of 1.5. Instructions for Original articles are illustrated in the following sections; for other types of articles, see specific instructions in Author Guidelines.

**Abstract**

The abstract should not exceed 300 words and should be structured in 4 paragraphs: Background, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion.

**Key words**

Provide up to 5 key words using Mesh terms for indexing purposes.

**MAIN BODY OF MANUSCRIPT FOR ORIGINAL ARTICLES**

Text should not exceed 3,500 words from the Introduction to the Conflict of Interest Statement, excluding the title page, abstract and references.

**Introduction**

The introduction should put the focus of the manuscript into a broader context, and keep in mind readers who are not experts in the field. The introduction should conclude with a brief statement of the overall aim of the study.

1 Citations should be included in order of appearance with numbers in superscript.

**Materials and methods**

This section should provide enough details to allow full replication of the study by suitably skilled investigators.

**If your study involves human or animal subjects or records of human patients you MUST have obtained ethical approval. Ethical approval or exemption are required for retrospective studies on patients’ records. Please state in the Material and methods section whether ethical approval was given, by whom and the relevant Judgement’s reference number.**

If the Authors prefer, they can subdivide this section in various headings that should be provided in italics: e.g. *Patients, Surgery, ELISA, Statistical analysis.*

**Results**

The results section should provide details of all of the data that are required to support the conclusions of the paper. There should be a brief introduction of each section and end with a summarizing sentence of the main findings without discussion. The section may be divided into subsections, each with a concise subheading (in *italics*). We recommend that the results section be written in the past tense.

**Discussion**

Include a review of the key literature. If there are relevant controversies or disagreements in the field, they should be mentioned so that a non-expert reader can delve into these issues further. The discussion should consider the major conclusions of the work along with some explanation and/or speculation on their significance. How do the conclusions affect the existing assumptions and models in the field? How can future research build on these observations? What are the key experiments that remain? The discussion should be concise with solid arguments.

**Conclusions**

Conclusions and hypotheses should be firmly established/supported by the data presented, and any speculations should be clearly identified as such. No new data should be presented in the discussion.

**Acknowledgements.** Within this section, list those contributors who have not met the authorship criteria.

**Conflicts of interest.** Authors must fully disclose any existing or potential conflicts of interest of a financial, personal or any other nature that could affect or bias their research. If applicable, Authors are also requested to describe the role of the finding source(s) in the study design, data acquisition, analysis and interpretation, and writing of the manuscript. No potential conflicts of interest must also be explicitly stated.

**Funding.** Authors should describe in the "Funding" section, at the end of the manuscript, all funding sources (e.g. full name of funding organizations, grant numbers). The role of the sponsor, if any, in the study design, in the acquisition analysis and interpretation of data, in drafting the manuscript should be briefly described. If the sponsor has not been specifically involved in the research this should be stated.

**Authors’ contributions.** The individual contributions of Authors to the manuscript should be specified in this section.

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This study was approved by the Institutional Ethics Committee (please specifiy name of the Institution\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_) (approval number/protocol number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_).

The research was conducted ethically, with all study procedures being performed in accordance with the requirements of the World Medical Association’s Declaration of Helsinki.

Written informed consent was obtained from each participant/patient for study participation and data publication.

**REFERENCES**

See “Specific instructions for article categories” in the Author Guidelines for number of references and their style.

**TABLES**

See “Specific instructions for article categories” in the Author Guidelines for number of tables required.

**FIGURES**

See “Specific instructions for article categories” in the Author Guidelines for number of figures required.

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