Instructions to Authors Submitting Manuscripts in English

(revised January 20, 2026)

The Journal of the Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons (JSPS) is the official bimonthly publication of the JSPS. In this journal, original research articles, clinical and laboratory observations, reviews of medical progress, case-based discussions, and letters to the editors in pediatric surgery and related fields are published.

General

Articles are accepted for publication with the stipulation that they are submitted solely to the Journal of the JSPS. This journal will not accept papers that have been published elsewhere, even if in another language, or papers that are being considered by another publication or in the process of being published.

Investigations regarding human subjects and animal experiments must conform to accepted ethical standards. For investigations involving human subjects, fully informed consent must be obtained and noted in the manuscript. The protocol for the research project must also comply with the provisions of the World Medical Assembly Declaration of Helsinki (available at http://www.wma.net/e/).

When reporting a study that involves human participants, authors should include a statement confirming that the study was approved by the appropriate institutional ethics committee. Not only interventional studies but also observational studies must be approved by the ethics committee. It depends on the authors' institutional policy whether case reports require ethics approval. If the study is granted exemption from requiring ethics approval, this should be detailed in the manuscript.

If the study involves any off-label use of drugs or surgical treatments not covered by any health insurance, which require ethics approval, this should also be detailed in the manuscript.

If there is no ethics committee in the authors' institution, the authors should apply to another institution such as an affiliated university or a local medical association for ethics approval.

All of the authors must indicate whether they have a financial relationship with the organization that sponsored the research in accordance with the "Guidelines for Conflict of Interest Issues Related to Clinical Studies", available at the home page of the Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons. Therefore, the manuscript must be accompanied by the "Journal of the Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons Conflict of Interest Disclosure Statement (form 2)".

All submitted articles will be evaluated by at least two expert reviewers assigned by the editors. The editors will correspond with the authors and make the final judgment on the manuscript. The deadline for resubmission after peer review is six months or less, and the review process will be discontinued after one year, even if an extension is requested. The type of article, such as case report, original research, or review article, will be finally decided by the editorial board of the journal. The first author is required to be a member of the JSPS. Nonmembers may submit manuscripts as first authors only with the sponsorship of a JSPS member.

The authorship should be based on a substantial contribution to the design of the work, the acquisition, analysis, or the interpretation of data, and drafting and/or critical revision. The roles of all the authors should be described at the end of the manuscript.

One author should be delegated as the corresponding author and is responsible for managing all communications between the journal and all the authors and ensuring that all the authors have approved the manuscript before submission. The contact information of the corresponding author should be provided on the title page of the manuscript.

The copyrights to a paper become the property of JSPS when the paper is accepted for publication. The authors must agree that the article, if editorially accepted for publication, shall be licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution License (CC BY-NC-SA). Page proofs will be sent to the corresponding author and are to be returned to the Editorial Office as soon as possible. Alterations are to be limited to the correction of typographical errors.

Authors whose first language is not English should have their manuscripts checked by a native English speaker who is familiar with the topic of the paper. Proof that the English of the manuscript has been checked should be attached.

Manuscripts

Line numbers should be added on the manuscript, restarting on each new page. Pages should be numbered consecutively, commencing with the title page and including those containing the abstract, key words, main text, authors' roles, references, tables, figure legends, figures, and video legends.

The manuscripts should be arranged as follows.

Title page

The title page should include the article title, the name of each author, the institution from which the work originated, the full postal address of the institution, numbers of tables and figures, acknowledgments, and the category of the manuscript. The name, business phone number, and e-mail address of the corresponding author are also required. The number of authors, including co-authors, should in principle be limited to 10. If the number exceeds 10, the reason must be clearly stated on the title page. The editorial board of the journal will review the justification and determine whether exceeding the author limit is appropriate.

Abstract

A structured abstract of no more than 250 words must accompany the manuscript. It is to consist of four paragraphs with the following introductory labels: Purpose, Methods, Results, and Conclusions. Case reports should contain a

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brief unstructured abstract. Following the abstract, up to five keywords are to be given for subject indexing. They should be taken from Medical Subject Headings terms.

Text

The text of observational and experimental original articles should be divided into the following sections: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion. For case reports, the manuscript text should be arranged under the following headings: Introduction, Case report, and Discussion. Items of measurement in manuscripts should be in metric units, such as mm, mg, kg, °C, and mEq.

Acknowledgments of people, grants, funds, and so forth that contributed substantially to the work should be given separately from the main document. A conflict-of-interest statement should always be inserted in Acknowledgments, even when no such conflict exists.

References

Cite references in the text using superscripted numbers in the order of reference appearance in the text. References themselves should be typed in double-spaced format on a separate sheet of paper. Note that journal abbreviations must follow the style used in the Medline/ Index Medicus. List all authors if there are three or fewer; for four or more authors, list the first three and add "et al.".

Examples of reference entries

For journals:

1) Bajpai M, Das K, Gupta AK: Caudal duplication syndrome: More evidence for theory of caudal twinning. J Pediatr Surg, 39: 223–225, 2004.

2) Langwieler T, Fiegel HC, Alaamian M, et al.: The relationship of diaphragmatic defect, liver growth, and lung hypoplasia in nitrofen-induced congenital diaphragmatic defect, liver growth, and lung hypoplasia in nitrofen-induced congenital diaphragmatic hernia in the rat. Pediatr Surg Int, 20: 509–514, 2004.

3) Richmond A: Chemokine modulation of the tumor microenvironment. Pigment Cell Melanoma Res. Epub 23: 312–313, 2010.

For books:

1) Tsuchida Y, Suzuki N: Hepatic tumors. In Puri P (ed): Newborn Surgery (2nd ed). pp. 739–745, Arnold, London, 2003.

For URLs:

http://www.jsps.or.jp/ (cited 2021-07-01).

Tables and figures

Tables are to be typed in double-spaced format on separate pages, numbered in the order in which they are mentioned in the text, and given a brief descriptive title. Line drawings and graphs of figures drawn professionally that can be reduced to final journal dimensions are required. Legends must be provided for all figures and are to be typed in double-spaced format on a separate sheet of paper. If the resolutions of the figures are very low, high-resolution figure files in a different electronic format will be requested after the manuscript has been accepted for publication.

If submitting videos, the following specifications are a guideline for authors; the format is MP4, the duration is no more than two minutes per video, upper limit for the size of a single video file is 10 MB, and the number of video files is two or less. Videos are numbered in the order of appearance in the text, and their legends must be provided after the figures. Videos play supplementary roles when the study may not be understandable only with photos. The content of the manuscript needs to be complete even without the videos. The presence or absence of a video and its content will not form the basis for the reviewers' decisions.

Letters to the Editors

The editors invite comments that express differences of opinion or supporting views of previously published papers in the journal or short communications in the form of letters. Each letter must not exceed 300 words, should be typed in double-spaced format, and may include up to three complete references without any tables or figures. The editor-in-chief reserves the right to accept or reject letters.

Submitting the Manuscript

Manuscripts and video files should be submitted to the Editorial Office via e-mail. Save texts, tables, and figures in a single file using Microsoft Word-compatible formats or a PDF file. Please consult the editorial office if the e-mail cannot be transmitted owing to the file size.

Editorial Office:
Journal of the Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons,
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E-mail: jsps-hen@nacos.com

Publishing Charges

Manuscripts accepted for publication are processed with an editorial charge of 5,000 Japanese Yen.

Extra Charges

The cost of publication is free within four pages for original papers and three pages for case reports. Additional pages will be charged 7,500 Yen per page.

Reprints of papers are available for a fee. Any reproduction costs for ensuring the adequate quality of figures is to be paid separately by the authors.

Secondary Publication

Manuscripts that have already been published in another journal will not be accepted and should not be submitted; an exception is made for certain types of article such as guidelines. Please note, however, that articles that have been published in the Journal of the JSPS may be republished in other journals, provided that the author receives approval from the editors of both journals. The second publication must faithfully reflect the data and interpretation of the previously published manuscript, as well as include a reference to the first publication. The first publication must be respected and given precedence in reference data, and all copyrights belong to the JSPS. (These stipulations are based on the latest version of the requirements of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.)

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Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form

(form2)

Date: _____

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In the interest of transparency, we ask you to disclose all relationships/activities/interests listed below that are related to the content of your manuscript. "Related" means any relation with for-profit or not-for-profit third parties whose interests may be affected by the content of the manuscript. Disclosure represents a commitment to transparency and does not necessarily indicate a bias. If you are in doubt about whether to list a relationship/activity/interest, it is preferable that you do so.

The author's relationships/activities/interests should be defined broadly. For example, if your manuscript pertains to the epidemiology of hypertension, you should declare all relationships with manufacturers of antihypertensive medication, even if that medication is not mentioned in the manuscript.

In item #1 below, report all support for the work reported in this manuscript without time limit. For all other items, the time frame for disclosure is the past 36 months.

In a manuscript submitted to Journal of the Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons, all disclosures should be inserted by the corresponding author in the "Conflict of Interest Statement" before the reference list, as shown in the following example.

Conflict of Interest Statement

A (author name) serves as a consultant to Z (entity name); B's spouse is chairman of Y; C received a research grant from X; D received lecture fees from V; E holds a patent on U; F has been reimbursed by T for attending several conferences; G received honoraria for writing promotional material for S; H has no conflict of interest.

		Name all entities with whom you have this relationship or indicate none (add rows as needed)	Specifications/Comments (e.g., if payments were made to you or to your institution)
Time frame: Since the initial planning of the work			
1	All support for the present manuscript (e.g., funding, provision of study materials, medical writing, article processing charges, etc.) **No time limit for this item.**	☐ **None**	
Time frame: past 36 months			
2	Grants or contracts from any entity (if not indicated in item #1 above).	☐ **None**	

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		Name all entities with whom you have this relationship or indicate none (add rows as needed)	Specifications/Comments (e.g., if payments were made to you or to your institution)
3	Royalties or licenses	☐ **None**	
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6	Payment for expert testimony	☐ **None**	
7	Support for attending meetings and/or travel	☐ **None**	
8	Patents planned, issued or pending	☐ **None**	
9	Participation on a Data Safety Monitoring Board or Advisory Board	☐ **None**	
10	Leadership or fiduciary role in other board, society, committee or advocacy group, paid or unpaid	☐ **None**	
11	Stock or stock options	☐ **None**	

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12	Receipt of equipment, materials, drugs, medical writing, gifts or other services	☐ **None**	
13	Other financial or non-financial interests	☐ **None**	

Please place an "☑" next to the following statement to indicate your agreement:

☐ **I certify that I have answered every question and have not altered the wording of any of the questions on this form.**

All of the forms from each author should be submitted with the manuscript at the time of submission by the corresponding author.

Each author is required to complete and return this form to the corresponding author.

(Please do not send to Journal of the Japanese Society of Pediatric Surgeons office)

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