Forensic Pathology
Official Journal of the Japanese Society for Forensic Pathology

Submission Guidelines

Forensic Pathology invites submissions of original manuscripts pertaining broadly to the field of forensic pathology. In addition to case reports based on autopsy findings and research reports dealing with forensic pathological topics employing laboratory animals and forensic autopsies, we also accept original articles on other topics relevant to forensic pathology, including following topics:

- Analyses of cause of death
- Forensic toxicology
- Personal identification and DNA polymorphism
- Medical ethics
- Medical law
- Medical malpractice
- Various problems with forensic examination
- Statistical analyses conducted at individual facilities

We therefore welcome a wide range of submissions.

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1. Scope of Publication

   We publish only academic articles (original papers as well as review articles, case reports, technical reports, briefs, research materials, academic reports) pertaining to forensic pathology that have not been published elsewhere. "Briefs" refers to reports concerning methods, techniques, or otherwise concise reports concerning unusual cases.

2. Ethical Guidelines

   Studies involving human subjects should be carried out in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the World Medical association (Declaration of Helsinki).

   Animal experiments should comply with the ARRIVE guidelines and should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments, or the National Institutes of Health guide for the care and use of Laboratory animals (NIH publications No.8023, revised 1978).

3. Contributors' Qualifications

   Contributors are not subject to any particular limitation. However, where the first author of a general research paper is not a member of the Japanese Association of Forensic Pathology (except in the case of a manuscript submission solicited by the Editor-in-Chief), contributors must tender a reporting fee of 6,000 yen. This reporting fee shall be waived for contributors who are foreign nationals not residing in Japan.

4. Copyright

   Copyright of published articles shall be held by the Japanese Society for Forensic Pathology.

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5. English Manuscript Preparation

1) Manuscript should be double spaced using A4 or international standard-sized typing paper.

2) The first page of the manuscript should list the title, the author's name and institutional affiliation. In the case of more than 1 author, authors'names should be annotated in superscript[1) 2)] with their respectively affiliated institutions indicated by the same notation. A brief running title should be provided of no more than 80 characters including spaces and punctuation. Please write the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of a corresponding author in the blank space in the lower left corner of the page.

[Example]

An Autopsy Case after Exploration for Subdural Hematoma

Tatsushige FUKUNAGA[1)] , Akio TANEGASHIMA[1)] , and Shin-ichi SHIMOSAKA[2)]

1) *Department of Forensic Medicine and Sciences, Mie University School of Medicine, Tsu 514-8057, Japan*

2) *Department of Neurosurgery, Mie University School of Medicine, Tsu 514-8057, Japan*

3) In principle, the structure of general research papers should consist of abstract, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, and references. Abstract must begin on a separate page and should not exceed 300 words.

4) After the abstract, add keywords that will convey an overview of the research, such as the study subject, methods, and theory. In principle, articles should contain no more than 5 keywords, which should follow the listing conventions for MeSH (Medical Subject Headings) .

5) Figures (Fig.) , Tables, and photographs should be drawn as follows:

① Figures should be drawn with a computer or in black drafting ink with a number listed on the backing sheet.

② Photographs are to be treated as figures.

③ When inserting a mesh in each figure, the mesh should be as coarse as possible (because it will become finer when the image is scaled down) .

④ The author' s name, number, and orientation indicators (up, down, etc.) should be written on the backs of photographs before they are mounted on the backing sheet.

⑤ Titles and explanations of figures should be listed together on a separate sheet.

⑥ Insertion locations should be indicated in the margins of the text.

6) Citing references

① When citing references in the text, notation such as [1,2)] or [1–4)] should be inserted in superscript.

② Citations shall only first authors' surname in the text. Where a publication has more than 2 authors, the first author should be listed followed by "et al." and the relevant reference number.

7) Cited references should be listed together at the end of the text in the order in which they are cited, as in the example below. When there are 3 or less authors, all authors should be listed. If there are 4 or more authors, the first 3 authors should be listed followed by "et al" . Journal abbreviations should follow the Index Medicus, while unpublished articles shall be listed as "accepted" or "in press." Do not quote from manuscripts submitted for review.

[Examples]

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1) Bunai Y. Nagai A, Nakamura I, et al. Sudden unexpected death due to Fournier's gangrene. Int J Legal Med 1997; 110: 104-6.
2) Knight B. Forensic Pathology. London; Edward Arnold, 1991. p.281-93.
3) Arias-Stella J. Physiopathologic aspects of high altitudes. In: Tedeschi CG, Eckert WG, Tedeschi LG, editors. Forensic Medicine; vol. 3, Philadelphia: WB Sounders; 1977. p.1292-316.

8) Notation for symbols and units are shown in Table 1.

9) It is recommended that all manuscript must be checked from a native English speaker with experience in Scientific English writing.

6. Submission Procedures

Authors should prepare 3 copies of the manuscript (2 of these may be photocopies, but the photographs cannot be photocopies) to send by postal mail. Submissions may be addressed to Hiroshi Kinoshita, Editor-in-Chief of Forensic Pathology, Forensic Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Kagawa University, 1750-1 Ikenobe, Miki-cho, Kita-gun, Kagawa, 761-0793 Japan.

7. Acceptance of General Research Papers

The decision to accept a general research paper will be made by the Editorial Committee following peer review. In some cases, accepted manuscripts may be subjected to copy editing under the responsibility of the Editorial Committee.

8. Revisions

Proofing by the author shall be carried out only on the initial proof and must be done promptly upon receipt of the proof. No major changes or additions should be made to the original text without consent of the Editorial Committee. Corrections to subsequent proofs shall in principle be carried out by the Editorial Committee.

9. Publication Fee

Contributors are responsible for payment of a publication fee of 5,000 yen (to be waived where the lead author is a member of the Japanese Society for Forensic Pathology) in addition to a printing fee of 1,000 yen per page of the published version of the article. However, this does not necessarily apply to manuscripts solicited by the Editor-in-Chief. The first 4 pages in color printing of the published version will be produced free of charge. If there are 5 or more pages in color printing, following page charges shall be borne by the author (3,000 yen per printed page). In addition, the cost of reprints shall be borne by the author.

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Table 1. unit name and symbols

unit name	commonly used units
length *l*	m, cm, mm, μm, nm
area *A*	m^2, cm^2, μm^2
cubic volume *V*	m^3, cm^3, mm^3, μm^2, L, mL, μL
mass *m*	kg, g, mg, μg, ng, pg, t
time *t*	s, min, h
angle	° (degree), ′ (minute), ″ (second), rad
temperature *T*	K(Kelvin), ℃(Celsius)
pressure *P*	Pa(N/m^2), bar, mb, atm, mmHg
frequency	cycle, rpm, Hz
calorie	J, eV
electricity	A, V, W, Ω, C (Coulomb)
radiation	Bq, C, Gy, Sv
concentration	
ratio, mass concentration	%, %(v/v), %(w/v), mol%, ppm, ppb
mg concentration per100g(ml)	mg/100g, mg/100ml, mg/dl
mole, mol concentration	mol, mol/l, μmol/l, M(mole/l)
normal concentration	N(normal)
velocity	cm/s, km/h

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