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Manuscript Form: Manuscripts must be double-spaced with wide margins throughout. Incomplete or improperly prepared manuscripts will be returned to authors without review. A separate title page should be provided, and the article type must be indicated on the title page (Review Article, Original Article, Case Report, Short Communication, How to Do It, or Letter to the Editor). Abstract, text, acknowledgments, references, tables, legends, and figures should begin on separate sheets and follow in that order. Consult the most recent edition of the Council of Biology Editors manual for authors, editors, and publishers (Cambridge University Press) for recommended abbreviations. Define abbreviations at first appearance, and avoid use in the title and abstract. Use generic names of drugs.

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Abstract: The abstract should not exceed 200 words, and should be arranged under the following subheadings for original articles: Purpose; Methods; Results; and Conclusion(s).

Text: The text of experimental articles should be divided into the following sections: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion.

Case Report: The manuscript should not exceed 10 typed pages, with no more than 5 figures (or tables), including an abstract (150 words maximum), running title, and 3–5 key words for indexing. Titles must include a subtitle, such as "Report of a Case" or "Report of Three Cases".

Short Communication: To be presented without subdivision into sections such as Methods, Results, etc., the manuscript should not exceed 9 typed pages with no more than 2 figures (or tables). Include an abstract of a maximum 150 words. List a short running title and 3 key words for indexing.

How to Do It: This section includes short articles on methods or techniques recommendable for practical surgery. Articles should not exceed 9 manuscript pages with 4 figures (or tables). Include an abstract of a maximum of 150 words. List a short running title and 3 key words for indexing.

Letters to the Editor: A letter must not exceed 500 words including references. The Editorial Board has the right to accept or reject any letter. It is understood that, if accepted, letters may be edited so long as the writer's views are not misrepresented.

References: Number references consecutively in the order cited in the text, not alphabetically. Accuracy of reference data is the author's responsibility. Personal communications and unpublished data should be cited in parentheses in the text. If such a citation is from someone other than the authors, a letter should be submitted in which the direct quotation is given with the author's signature. Provide inclusive page numbers for all references. In citation of articles list the first six authors only, and add "et al" if there are seven or more authors. Journal titles should be abbreviated according to Index Medicus. For papers written in Japanese, follow the style of example 2. If such a paper has an English abstract, see example 3.

Examples:

1. Mulford DK, Dawson AE. Atypia in fineneedle aspiration cytology of nonpalpable and palpable mammographically detected breast lesions. *Acta Cytol* 1994;38:9-17.
2. Nakajima T. Tabular analysis of 10 000 cases of gastric cancer in the Cancer Institute Hospital (in Japanese). *Gan to Kagakuryoho (Jpn J Cancer Chemother)* 1994; 21:1813-97.
3. Imada T, Takehana T, Rino Y, Suzuki M, Takahashi M, Chin C, et al. Indications for pylorus-preserving gastrectomy for early gastric cancer (in Japanese with English abstract). *Nihon Syokakigeka Gakkaizasshi (Jpn J Gastroenterol Surg)* 1995; 28:2248-55.
4. Watanabe H, Jass JR, Sobin LH. *Histopathological typing of oesophageal and gastric tumours*, 2nd ed. Berlin Heidelberg New York: Springer; 1990. p. 23.
5. Wyatt JL. *Helicobacter pylori, duodenitis and duodenal ulceration*. In: Rathbone BJ, Heatley RV, editors. *Helicobacter pylori and gastroduodenal disease*. 2nd ed. Oxford: Blackwell; 1992. p. 140-9.

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The preferred figure formats are EPS for vector graphics exported from a drawing program and TIFF for halftone illustrations. EPS files must always contain a preview of the figure in TIFF format. The file name (one file for each figure) should include the figure number. Figure legends should be included in the text and not in the figure file.

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English script and rewrite are under the supervision of Amanda Tompson, Sydney, Australia, and Brian T. Quinn, Fukuoka, Japan.