Instructions to Authors

Investigación Clínica publishes Original Research Articles, Reviews and Clinical Case Reports in Spanish or English that represent a significant contribution to the advance of knowledge in human or animal biology. It also includes a section of Letters to the Editor.

Manuscript Submission

Send the manuscript (in Word for Windows®), with its corresponding Check List and accompanied by a Cover Letter to the Editor, by e-mail to the following addresses: rclinicas@gmail.com / elenaryder@gmail.com. The Tables and Figures, if any, should be placed at the end of the manuscript text and must be sent as individual files (one per each table and figure). The name of three possible referees, with their postal and e-mail addresses should be submitted together with the manuscript. The Editorial Board reserves the right to decide if any of them will be chosen as reviewers. Everything concerning the correspondence, including the opinion of the referees, the requirements resulting from the manuscript review and notification of the decision of the Editorial Committee, will be conducted by e-mail.

Cover Letter

The manuscript must be accompanied by a letter, addressed to the Editor, in which all authors accept, with their signature, that have actively participated in its development and execution, and that the manuscript is being sent for consideration to this journal. In this letter, the authors must state that the work submitted is original, has not been published previously, and that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Authorship must be based in: 1) A substantial contribution to the concept and design of the study, acquisition of data or analysis and interpretation of the data; 2) Drafting or critically reviewing the manuscript; and 3) Final approval of the version of the article to be published.

Peer-review Process

This process will be realized through electronic means. All manuscripts submitted for publication are considered by the Editorial Board of the Journal, which decides if they should be sent to review, or should be rejected because the manuscript does not meet the minimal editorial requirements or if it is not of sufficient quality to be published in the journal. The Original Research Articles and Clinical Case Reports will be reviewed by three experts in the area object of the communication, and only one, in the case of Review Articles. The reviewers will be given a two-month period to send their evaluations. If the opinions of two of the reviewers coincide, the Editorial Board could accept these evaluations. In case of discrepancy, it will wait for a third opinion or it may even require the evaluation of additionally appointed reviewers.

Both the reviewer’s evaluations and the manuscript authorship will remain strictly confidential during the process. The authors will receive the complete reviewer’s evaluations, both in cases of manuscript modifications, or in cases of rejections. Only in exceptional cases, these assessments will be edited.
The Editorial Committee will give the authors a two-month period to respond to the reviewer’s opinions or to make the suggested modifications. If the authors take more time to answer than the stipulated, the manuscript will be rejected or considered as a new submission.

Editorial Norms

The manuscript must be double-spaced throughout, with ample margins in both sides and all pages should be numbered.

**Original Research Articles, Clinical Case Reports and Review Articles** must consist of original contributions of importance to the advance of knowledge in the subject matter of the study. They must include in the first page the manuscript’s full title, complete names of the authors (without using academic degrees), the address of the institution or institutions where the work was performed, indicating with consecutive numbers the addresses corresponding to the different authors. In separate lines, write a group of three to six keywords, and a short title of not more than 75 characters, in the main language used in the manuscript. This should be followed by a summary in Spanish and the Title and Abstract, both in English.

If the full text of the paper is written in English or as with the English abstract, it is important to consult with an expert if the author is not proficient in the language. A manuscript could be rejected if it requires considerable language modifications.

**Original Research Articles** should be structured as follows: Abstracts in Spanish and English, Introduction, Material and Methods or Material and Patients (if the research is related to humans), Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments and References. The Journal does not utilize a Conclusions section and these should be part of the end of the Discussion.

**The Abstract** should establish the objectives of the study, the original observations and the conclusions based on the results presented. It must not contain references, nor be structured and should not exceed the limit of 250 words. A brief conclusion must be presented at the end of the abstract. Avoid the use of abbreviations and if necessary, they should be defined at the first mention in the text.

Human studies should include in the description of the **Material** used, the approval of the Ethics Committee of the institution where the study was realized, following the principles outlined in the Declaration of Helsinki of 1975 and revised in 2008. The informed consent of individual participants must be included. The use of names, initials or the clinical history’s number should be avoided. Photographs showing the face of patients will not be accepted without a signed statement of informed consent. Those studies involving animals must follow the corresponding ethics code, according to the established international standard guidelines for the use, care and humane treatment of laboratory animals.

**Results** should be presented in past tense following a logical sequence in the Text, Tables and Figures. The information presented in Tables and Figures should not be repeated in the text. Only the important observations must be detailed.

The **Discussion** must emphasize on the new and important aspects of the study and relate the results obtained with those previously reported on other investigations. It should present the new finding’s implications, their limitations, the conclusions, as well as suggest the outlines of future investigations.

**Review Articles** should be written, preferentially, by a specialist in the field object of the review and should contain the author’s own contributions, either in the bibliography or with a discussion of the subject matter reviewed. No more than 4 authors are required. Reviews that consist only in a bibliographical description of the subject, without including an analysis, will not be accepted. The text body of the Reviews is free, although it is convenient to subdivide it in sections.

**Clinical Case Reports** should consist in the presentation of uncommon clinical cases in the daily medical practice. They should include a detailed description of the case, followed by a discussion and the corresponding bibliographical support.

**Letters to the Editor** should be commentaries to recent publications in our Journal and if possible, should not exceed two pages in length, including references, if any.

**Tables** should be numbered in Roman numerals and submitted on separate pages. They should contain a title written in capital letters...
and should not have lines to separate columns. The notes referring to the expressed in the body of the Table should be incorporated as footnotes, with the corresponding symbol. The journal does not accept the expression “Source of Information” in the Tables that refer to the results presented in the manuscript, but only in those that come from other material. Care should be taken to place commas before decimals if the article is written in Spanish or periods if it is in English.

Figures should be submitted considering the following general points:

Each figure should be submitted as a separate file in the same software in which it was generated (GraphPad Prism® for example).

Figures should be numbered consecutively, in Arabic numerals, according to the order of citation in the text.

Make sure to use uniform font size and style in all figures.

Use Arial, Courier, Times or Symbol fonts only.

Figure legends must be sent separately and not appended to the figure, indicating their number, and with sufficient information to allow their interpretation, without having to recur to the text.

The images should be of the approximate size to the desired printed version.

Photographs may be in black and white or color and have an adequate contrast for their reproduction. Send figures, photographs and combinations of them as separate files in TIFF format as follow: color or grayscale photographs (half-tones) should have a minimum of 300 dpi; bitmapped figures and graphs a minimum of 600 dpi; and for combinations of bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale), a minimum of 500 dpi. In the case of electronic microphotographs, extreme care should be taken in the definition and contrast of the reported findings, detailing them with appropriate symbols. The magnification of the microphotographs must be indicated.

Photograph legends must be sent separately and not appended to the figure, indicating their number, and with sufficient information to allow their interpretation, without having to recur to the text.

The journal will not accept pictures taken from previously published papers without authorization.

References. All references must be cited in the text with a number (in parenthesis). They must be cited consecutively in the order of appearance in the text, written accurately, as they appear in the original work, and following the international norms described in “Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals”, updated in December 2014, http://www.icmje.org; i.e., last name (using capitals only at the beginning) and first name initials, without periods, for all authors. The names of all authors must be typed in bold face and each one separated by commas. The terms “y col.” or “et al.” are not acceptable. This must be followed by the full title of the article using capital letters only at the beginning and in proper names. Next, the abbreviated journal title, according to the indications of the Index Medicus (http://nlm.nih.gov), followed by the year of publishing, volume and first and last page numbers separated by a hyphen. Unpublished observations, personal communications or papers sent for publication will not be accepted as references; however, these may appear in the text, in parenthesis. If the author is an Organization, its name should be cited as a reference. Examples:

- Thesis: Delgado N. Implicaciones ecológicas de la introducción de Bacillus thuringiensis var israelensis como controlador biológico de Anopheles aquasalis (Dip-


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**Publication Fees.** A nominal publication fee will be charged upon acceptance of a paper, to contribute to the cost of Editorial Handling. If the authors require the printing and mailing of five reprints, there will be an additional fee of Bs. 50.00 per printed page. Reprints will be sent via express mail and if required by the authors, a courier service can be used, with payment at destination.

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### Check List

- Cover letter signed by all authors accepting a significant participation in the work, that are in agreement with the content of the manuscript and that the content has not been published or submitted for publication elsewhere. Corresponding author must be identified.
- Pages sequentially numerated
- Title in English
- Title in Spanish
- Short Title in the main language used in the manuscript
- Full names of the authors without professional titles
- Postal and e-mail addresses of the institution or institutions where the work was performed
- Non structured abstracts in English and Spanish that state the purpose, basic procedures, main findings and principal conclusions of the study. No more than 250 words
- Concise Introduction regarding to the study
- Precise description of Material and Methods, or Material and Patients, with references
- Specification of statistical analysis (when required)
- Results described clearly and in logical order without extended discussion of their significance
- Discussion based in findings of the study
- All references mentioned in the Reference list are cited in the text according to specifications of the journal
- Unpublished results, personal communications or congress presentations without abstracts are not recommended in the reference list
- Tables with footnotes below the table body
- Illustrations and photographs according to journal specifications
- Figures, illustrations and photographs with legends in separate pages