

“La Tunisie Médicale” is a general scientific journal that publishes articles in the medical field or sciences applied to medicine. It is edited by the Tunisian Society of Medical Sciences since 1903.

PUBLICATION POLICY

Manuscripts must be submitted exclusively through the platform of “[La Tunisie Médicale](#)”.

By submitting an article for publication, the corresponding author guarantees that all co-authors have consented to be cited and have approved the article in its final form. The corresponding author also guarantees that the article has not been submitted for publication to another journal and has not been previously published.

Ethical considerations

Submitted work must adhere to the ethical recommendations of the [Helsinki Declaration](#). They must have been submitted, if required (original article, clinical case, etc.), to an ethics or data protection committee. The name, date, and reference of the ethics committee approval must appear in the Method section of the article and in the cover letter.

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION

Article submission is free of charge. It contains separate mandatory files including:

1. The manuscript, completely anonymised, including tables and figures
2. Title page

Manuscript

Manuscripts should be typed in a word processing software, Microsoft Word®, with numbered pages, using "Times New Roman" font size 12, single-spaced, justified, with titles in bold and subtitles in italics. If abbreviations are used in the text, they must be explained upon their first appearance (unless they are international units) and, if numerous (≥ 5), grouped in a glossary. Drugs must be mentioned by their generic name or chemical name.

The manuscript includes:

- Title in French and English
- Abstract in French and English (structured according to the article type). Additionally, the submission of a **graphical abstract** is strongly encouraged for original

articles.

- Keywords in French and English, up to six.
- Article written in the chosen language, French or English. The journal also accepts articles written in Arabic.
- For original articles, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses: a box consisting of 3 to 5 sentences summarizing "What is known" and "What this article adds".
- Bibliographic references, limited according to the article section, numbered in the order of appearance in the text and placed in parentheses (Arabic numeral). All references must be cited in the text (including those cited in figures and tables). References must be written according to "[Vancouver](#)" style.

Tables and figures

The total number of tables and figures must not exceed six. They should be inserted in the text at the time of citation rather than at the end of the manuscript. Tables are numbered in Arabic numerals, in the order of appearance in the text (e.g., Table 1), with gridlines and columns, and without colour. Figures are numbered in Arabic numerals, in the order of appearance in the text where they are cited (e.g., Figure 1). They must be of good quality, preferably in TIFF format, otherwise JPEG (200 ppi at the final print size, approximately 15x14 cm). Abbreviations should be avoided. If the figure and/or table contain abbreviations, they must be explained below each table/figure in alphabetical order. Asterisks should be in lowercase letters as superscripts and explained below the table/figure in order: a, b, c, d... Videos are accepted in AVI, MP4, or GIF format. They must not exceed 150 MB. Reproduction of previously published documents must be accompanied by permission from the publisher or copyright holder.

Title page

It contains:

- Title in French and English
- Running title (according to the language of the article)
- List of authors in order, including ORCID for authors is strongly recommended.
- Authors' affiliations written in a single line as follows: University of xxxxx, Faculty of Medicine of xxxx, postal code, Hospital xxxx, Service of xxxx, Research structure (name and code), postal code, City, Country. This list of authors with their affiliations must exactly match the list submitted on

the “La Tunisie Medicale” platform.

- Corresponding author's name and contact information (email address and phone number)
- Word count (excluding abstract, illustrations, and references)
- Conflicts of interest and funding sources: “La Tunisie Medicale” follows appropriate procedures and best practices regarding conflicts of interest published by [COPE](#) "Committee On Publication Ethics"
- Acknowledgments
- Possible use of a chatbot, specifying where it was used (for writing or linguistic correction, etc.)
- If the article or its results have been previously presented as a published abstract (with its reference) or at a congress.

ARTICLE SECTION AND FORMAT

Systematic review and meta-analysis

The journal encourages these publications. They involve synthesizing data published in original articles and commented on by the author, who evaluates their scientific value. The bibliographic search must be exhaustive. The structure follows the IMRAD format (Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion) and complies with the requirements of [PRISMA](#) guidelines. The maximum word count is set at 5000 words. A structured abstract of up to 250 words must be provided.

Original article

This presents original scientific results in a format that allows understanding and, if possible, replication of the work. It must be written following the IMRAD structure (Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion). Original articles are limited to fewer than 3000 words (excluding the title page, abstract, references, tables, and figures) and fewer than 40 references. A structured abstract (Introduction/Objective/Methods/Results/Conclusion) of up to 250 words must be provided. Depending on the methodology of the study, certain editorial guidelines must be followed.

Prospective clinical trials: must be registered in an appropriate and freely accessible electronic registry (e.g., [clinicaltrials](#), [pan-african clinical trials registry](#)), following the recommendations of the [ICMJE](#). All randomized clinical trials must follow the [CONSORT](#) guidelines. Randomized controlled trials must be clearly identified as such in both the title and abstract.

- **Observational studies:** must adhere to [STROBE](#)

guidelines.

- **Experimental studies:** are limited to a maximum of 3000 words and 30 references.
- **Retrospective studies** - case study.

Research protocol

It describes all the necessary steps for conducting a research project. It must be structured as follows: an introduction explaining the problem, the research question, methodology of data collection and analysis, the strengths, any limitations of the study, and the expected results. It must not exceed 2000 words, 2 tables and figures, and 15 references. The abstract must not exceed 250 words, structured as: Background/Objective(s)/Methods/Expected results/Conclusion. The registration number in an international public trial registration platform (e.g., [ClinicalTrials.gov](#)) must be provided at the end of the abstract.

Review

A review involves summarizing a subject for educational synthesis purposes. It is an educational article. The presentation plan is flexible and must clearly show the educational logic of the article through the use of different levels of titles and subtitles.

Editorial

An editorial may focus on a current topic or an article from the journal, ask a question, and provide an answer with arguments, or address a controversial topic. Editorials must not contain original results or clinical observations. Editorials should be brief (1000 words) and have fewer than 10 references. They can be submitted spontaneously or can be requested by the Editorial Committee. An abstract is not required.

Letter to the editor

Letters comment articles already published in “La Tunisie Medicale” in the last 6 months. Letters must not exceed 500 words and five references. The first reference is the published article in “La Tunisie Medicale” that is commented. An abstract is not required.

Clinical case

Only clinical cases written in English are considered. They must follow the [CARE](#) recommendations. They consist of an introduction, an objective, the reported case, and a discussion with a maximum of 10

references, at least one and up to three high-quality figures. We encourage clinical cases with literature reviews (in this case, the number of references can reach 20). A structured abstract not exceeding 250 words (Introduction/Observation/Conclusion) must be attached.

Image

This consists of presenting a single figure with a legend of up to 800 words and 5 references. No other text should be provided for this section.

Abstracts accepted in congresses and consensus developed by scientific societies

They will be accepted upon special request to the editorial committee by sending an email to the following address: stsm.tunismed.contact@gmail.com.

REVISION SUBMISSION

To submit revisions, the revised document must be uploaded to the platform in the "Revisions" section, including a point-by-point response to the reviewers' comments following the template at the following link ([Box 1 en anglais](#), [Box 2 en français](#)).

The table must be inserted at the beginning of the revised manuscript, and all corrections made in the text must be highlighted in **yellow**.

PUBLICATION FEES

Submission to "La Tunisie Medicale" is free. Upon acceptance, a fee of **300 DT (200 € for authors residing outside of Tunisia)** will be charged regardless of the article type. No article will be published before payment is made. An email detailing the payment procedure will be sent to the corresponding author.

NB. Authors residing outside Tunisia may be exempted from the acceptance fee upon request to "administration@stsm.latunisiemedicale.com"

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

The corresponding author will receive electronic proofs of their article in PDF format. Changes of the content of the will not be accepted at this stage. Corrections will be limited only to typography. Authors must return the corrected proofs to the editor within 48 hours of receipt. In case of delay, the editor can proceed to printing the article without the author's corrections. After acceptance of the article, changes of the authors' names or order will not be applied unless specific cases. A letter signed by all

authors must be sent to the editorial committee in that case. The editor-in-chief can accept or refuse the special request. After acceptance of the article, any retraction must be justified and will be subject to 50% of the fees, i.e., **150 DT (100 € for authors residing outside of Tunisia)**.