GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

*Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas* is the official publication of the Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (AEDV). Founded by Juan de Azúa in 1909, it is the longest-standing monthly Spanish medical journal. The journal is dedicated to articles on scientific research and continuing education with subjects related to medical-surgical dermatology and venereology. The journal is published in Spanish in its printed version and in Spanish and English in its on-line edition.

We suggest that articles by Spanish authors should comply with the general criteria of Law 14/2007, from 3rd July, for biomedical research (BOE n 159), which protects the rights of individuals who are subjects of research. Clinical assays should be registered with public databases prior to their initiation and patient recruitment, and only after approval of the institutional or regional Clinical Research Ethics Committee. The authors should provide the archive number and database where the assay is registered. For all clinical assays that initiate patient recruitment as of 1 January 2017, registration in public databases will be mandatory. Assays with patient recruitment prior to this date may still be submitted to the Journal for evaluation.

**Types of article**


For single-centre studies, it is recommended that the number of signatories not exceed 6. More authors maybe considered for multicentre studies. In any case, each author’s contribution to the manuscript must be specified. The maximum word count is 2500 words (excluding the title page, abstract, references, tables and figure legends). Up to 30 references, 6 figures and 6 tables will be accepted. These requirements may only be changed in exceptional situations and with prior permission from the Editor. For online publishing only, it is recommended that the authors submit all tables, figures and methodology that are not essential for understanding the study but that are useful for replicating the study or for a more thorough reading of it. The manuscript should be structured into sections.

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**Case reports.** Exhibition of short series of cases of rare or interesting disease, which make an important contribution to knowledge. Isolated cases, unless they are truly exceptional, will not be accepted. It must include an unstructured abstract (up to 150 words) and key words. The text may be up to 1250 words (excluding the title page, abstract, references, tables, and figure captions). Up to 5 figures and/or tables and 15 references are permitted. It is recommended that there are no more than 5 named authors. The case reports should include: a) an abstract (with a brief introduction, case descriptions, and discussion and/or conclusion); b) the text, with the following sections: introduction, clinic cases, discussion; and c) references. This section will appear in the electronic version of *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas*.

**Cases for diagnosis.** These manuscripts should include original clinical cases that have not been published previously in another journal. One to 3 authors will be allowed. Do not include an abstract. Key words are required. These manuscripts should include:
1. A first part (case presentation) with up to 200 words that can fit on a single printed page. This part should contain the following: a) the case history; b) physical examination; c) histopathology (that describes the histologic findings but does not give conclusive information about the diagnosis); d) complementary tests; e) figures of best possible quality, in color (maximum 3): these may be clinical, histologic, dermatoscopic,... with no figure captions (their meaning should be described in the text).
2. Second part (diagnosis and comments). Up to 450 words, excluding references, in order to be fitted in one printed page. This part should include: a) the diagnosis; b) course and treatment (of the patient presented); c) comments (on the reference disease, the case presented, and the differential diagnosis); d) references (up to 6 references).

**Case and Research Letters.** This Section is for publication of brief reports on studies or clinical cases. From 1 to 4 authors. The text can be up to 800 words. No abstract. Include key words. Up to 3 figures and/or tables. Up to 10 references.

**Letters to the editor.** This Section is for publishing critical opinions, agreements, praise or any other type of observation regarding articles published in the journal. This section can also be used for suggestions, criticism, or comments about any formal aspect or content of the issue of *Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas*. From 1 to 4 authors are allowed. Do not include abstract. Include key words. The maximum length of text allowed is 800 words with up to 3 figures and/or tables and up to 10 references.

**Opinion article.** It includes the opinion of the author on a subject of his/her specialty, giving his/her personal thoughts on it, with the possibility of referring to related publications. One or two authors can be included. Do not include a abstract. Include key words. It is not generally divided into sections. References may be included. It may have an extension of 1250-2500 words not counting the references.

**Review.** Reviews update a topic of dermatological importance, reviewing it in depth based on updated quality scientific evidence. From 1 to 3 authors The length shall not exceed 3,500 words (excluding the title page, abstract, references, tables and figure legends) and a maximum of 100 references. Includes an unstructured abstract (maximum 150 words) and
keywords. The reviews will be conducted at the express request of the journal’s Editorial Committee or by a previous request from the author to the director (directoractas@aedv.es) and will be subjected to a peer review. As part of the Continuing Medical Education program the authors will be requested to prepare 4 multiple-choice questions, whose standards of preparation will be detailed along with the request. Reviews that include recommendations on procedures and/or preventive, diagnostic and/or therapeutic techniques shall include the level of evidence and degree of recommendation following the SIGN, Oxford or NICE classification systems. As well as general reviews, the journal Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas publishes reviews on issues related to clinical practice, controversies and developments, with the following standards for authors.

**Practical dermatology.** A review article on a topic with an eminently practical approach. Avoid an extensively long development of the work, orienting the subject towards recommendations for the daily clinical practice. Include from 1 to 3 authors. Length up to 2500 words (excluding the title page, abstract, references, tables, and figure captions). Include a non-structured (up to 150 words) and include key words. Use of figures, graphics, tables, or algorithms is recommended to facilitate the understanding of the topic. These articles are commissioned expressly by the Editor-in-Chief or by prior request of the author to the Editor (directoractas@aedv.es) and will be subjected to peer review and as part of the Continuing Medical Education program the authors will be requested to prepare 4 multiple-choice questions, whose standards of preparation will be detailed along with the request. The level of evidence of the recommendations as described for general reviews will be included.

**Controversies in dermatology.** These are review articles on a topic that has some controversial aspects. The author should give some personal criteria and cover the different positions found in the literature. Include from 1 to 3 authors. Maximum length should be up to 3.700 words (excluding the title page, abstract, references, tables, and figure captions). Include a non-structured abstract (up to 150 words) and key words. Use of figures or tables is recommended if they facilitate the understanding of the topic. These articles are commissioned expressly by the Editor-in-Chief or by prior request of the author to the Editor (directoractas@aedv.es) and will be subjected to peer review. As part of the Continuing Medical Education program the authors will be requested to prepare 4 multiple-choice questions, whose standards of preparation will be detailed along with the request.

**Novelties in Dermatology.** These are articles in which a subject of great current interest is reviewed and briefly commented on. Include from 1 to 3 authors. Maximum length should be up to 2.500 words (excluding the title page, abstract, references, tables, and figure captions). Include a non-structured abstract (maximum 150 words) and key words. These articles are commissioned expressly by the Editor-in-Chief or by prior request of the author to the Editor (directoractas@aedv.es) and will be subjected to peer review. As part of the Continuing Medical Education program the authors will be requested to prepare 4 multiple-choice questions, whose standards of preparation will be detailed along with the request.

**Consensus statements.** These articles cover the content of consensus statements, recommendations, and therapeutic or diagnostic guidelines drafted by a working group or a scientific society. Include a non structured abstract (up to 150 words) and key words.

**History and humanities in dermatology.** These are review articles on the history or humanities related to dermatology and venereology. A maximum length up to 1500 without abstract. We admit 3 figures/tables and 10 references. These articles are commissioned expressly by the Editor-in-Chief or by prior request of the author to the Editor (directoractas@aedv.es) and will be subjected to peer review.
Practical Dermoscopy. This Section is dedicated to the publication of clinical-dermatoscopic cases. Includes clinical cases whose clinical diagnosis is difficult and in which dermoscopy provides the diagnostic key. Include from 1 to 3 authors. Do not include an abstract. The practical dermoscopy should include: 1. Case presentation: include a two clinical imaging study, brief descriptive text without giving the diagnostic. 2. Dermoscopic images presentation: two dermoscopic images should be accompanied by the question “What is the diagnosis?”. 3. Comment: should be no longer than 400 words, excluding the references. Includes dermoscopic feature description emphasizing the differential diagnosis keys. References: no more than 6.

Videos of Surgical Procedures in Dermatology. Will focus on the use of innovative surgical techniques and modifications to existing ones for the resolution of clinical cases as well as the use of known surgical techniques to solve clinical complex cases. Include from 1 to 4 authors. Extension up to 800 words (excluding title page, references, tables and figure captions). Do not include abstract. Include key-words. Figures and tables (maximum 3 figures and / or tables) should be embedded in the video stream. References (no more than 5) at the end of the manuscript and video stream. The manuscript should be structured into the following sections: introduction, surgical technique description, indications/contraindications, complications, conclusions and references. The link to the video will be placed at the foot of the manuscript. Video lasts up to 10 minutes. Surgical video will show complete surgery procedure from baseline to final outcome. It is recommended to include video footage or images of final postsurgical outcomes medium- to long term. To improve the understanding of the procedure described, short and clear commentaries (audio or subtitles) should be incorporated into the video file. Submit videos according to the following acceptable file formats .mov, .wmv, .mpg, .mpeg, .mp4 or .avi, and maximum file size of 50 MB. Verify that the videos are viewable in QuickTime® or Windows Media Player ®. Editorial board of Actas Dermo-Sifiliográficas reserves the right to edit videos according to editorial line the journal. Accepted videos will be posted for viewing via streaming on http://ees.elsevier.com/ad, and its manuscript will be published in the print version of the journal.

Forum. This section, which includes two manuscripts in each issue, is aimed at collecting short bibliographic reviews written by Dermatology Medical-Surgical and Venereology resident physicians who are aspiring academics to the Spanish Academy of Dermatology and Venereology (AEDV). These reviews will be assigned after contact is made with their representatives in the AEDV Board of Directors. Each review will cover a subject considered to be of maximum interest and current, based on 2 to 4 fundamental bibliographic references. It can include a maximum of 3 authors (all of them resident physicians in dermatology). The manuscript title must include the prefix “RF-” followed by the review subject. Do not include a summary. Include key words. Maximum length of the text permitted is 500 words. In exceptional cases, a maximum of 1 figure and/or table will be accepted. The bibliography should include 3–4 references, from PubMed indexed journals in relation with the subject of the original article commented. The articles of this section will be written on request of the section coordinators.

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State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

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If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulæ and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

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