

Instructions for Authors

Table of Contents

1. Checklist of Submission	3	
2. Manuscript Preparation	4	
2.1 General Issues	4	
2.2 Additional Points:	4	
2.3 Front Matter	5	
2.4 Main Content	6	
2.5 Back Matter	7	
2.6 Figures, Schemes, and Tables	9	
3. Manuscript Submission Overview	10	
3.1 Types of Manuscript	10	
3.2 Submission Process	11	
3.3 Accepted File Formats	11	
3.4 Free Format Submission	12	
3.5 Cover Letter	12	
3.6 Author Identification	12	1
3.7 Author Affiliation	13	
3.8 Independent Researcher/Practitioner	13	
4. Original Images Requirements	13	
5. Supplementary Materials, Data Deposit, and Software Source Code	14	
5.1 Data Availability Statement	14	
5.2 Data Citation	15	
6. Research and Publication Ethics	16	
6.1 Research Ethics	16	
6.2 Borders and Territories	19	
6.3 Publication Ethics Statement	19	
6.4 Translations	20	
6.5 Citation Policy	20	
6.6 Reviewer Suggestions	21	
6.7 Extensive English Editing	21	
6.8 Preprints and Conference Papers	21	
6.9 Authorship	21	
6.10 Updating Published Papers	22	
6.11 Copyrights and Licensing	24	
6.12 Editorial Independence	25	
6.13 Conflicts of Interest	25	
7. Editorial Procedures and Peer Review	25	

7.1 Pre-check	25
7.2 Peer Review	26
7.3 Editorial Decision and Revision	26
7.4 Author Appeals and Ethical Complaints	27
7.5 Production and Publication	28
8. Appendix 1—GCEJ-Front Matter & Back Matter Template	29
9. Appendix 2—GCEJ-Original Research Article Template	33
10. Appendix 3—GCEJ-Review or Perspective Template	37

1. Checklist of Submission¹

Before submitting your manuscript(s) to *GCEJ*, please carefully read the following checklist:

1. Please refer to the [About the Journal](#) section to understand our focus and determine if your manuscript is a good fit;
2. We recommend authors review the [Manuscript Template Files \(GCEJ-Front Matter & Back Matter Template, GCEJ-Original Research Article Template, and GCEJ-Review or Perspective Template\)](#) to improve their submission. You can also submit a free format² (without specific layout), which should contain the required sections: **Types of Manuscript, Title, Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials & Methods, Data, Figures and Tables with Captions, Discussions, Results, Conclusions**, etc. For other parts that may reveal personal information, we kindly suggest authors prepare them in “[Front Matter and Back Matter](#)” (on page 5 of the pdf document). “**Front Matter**” contains **Author Information** (authors’ names, affiliations, corresponding author’s name and email, etc.). “**Back Matter**” contains **Supplementary Materials, Author Contributions, Acknowledgments, Funding, Data Availability Statement, Conflicts of Interest, Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate, Consent for Publication, Further Disclosure**, etc.;
3. Please pay special attention to the issues about **authorship, copyright, data, the format of figures, tables, formulas, and references, ethics of research and publication**, and ensure that they have been appropriately considered and are compliant with general publication standards;
4. **Please ensure that all authors have participated in the creation of the manuscript, and approved the content and its publication.** We suggest all authors read this [Instructions for Authors](#);
5. **Manuscripts submitted to the journal must be original, have not been previously published, and will be examined for potential plagiarism;**
6. Please select the most suitable type for your manuscript and pay attention to the word count (see [Types of Manuscript](#), on page 10 of the pdf document), which includes the body of the manuscript, references, notes, and captions (other parts in the **Front Matter** and **Back Matter** should be excluded).
7. Please note the **Editorial Office** in the manuscript and cover letter, whether the submission belongs to a Special Issue or not. We suggest authors include the Title of Special Issue and the name of inviters, e.g., “For Special Issue Submission: This manuscript is submitted to Special Issue Title and/or invited by Guest Editor’s Name; For Regular Submission: This manuscript is a regular submission.”
8. It’s the author’s responsibility to guarantee the quality of references cited in manuscripts. **As the official publication language of GCEJ is English, we suggest authors cite English references in their manuscripts.** Please note that all references should be easily accessed and **the references written in non-English languages SHOULD NOT EXCEED 20% of the total number of references in one manuscript.**

3

¹ For any special cases, don’t hesitate to get in touch with the **Editorial Office** to get additional guidance or the approval of the *Editor-in-Chief*.

² The sections contained in “free format” should follow the [Types of Manuscript](#) (on page 10 of the pdf document).

2. Manuscript Preparation

2.1 General Issues

- **Original Research Articles Should Include:**
 1. **Front matter:** Type of Manuscript, Title, Author list (including note's symbols: *, †, ‡, §, ||, ¶, **, ††, ‡‡, etc.), Affiliations, Abstract, Keywords.
 2. **Main content:** Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussions, Conclusions.
 3. **Back matter:** Supplementary Materials, Author Contributions, Acknowledgments, Funding, Data Availability Statement, Conflicts of Interest, Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate, Consent for Publication, Further Disclosure, and References.
- **Reviews should comprise:**
 4. **Front matter:** Type of Manuscript, Title, Author list (including note's symbols: *, †, ‡, §, ||, ¶, **, ††, ‡‡, etc.), Affiliations, Abstract, Keywords.
 5. **Main content:** Introduction, Main Text (with literature review and discussion), Summary/Conclusions.
 6. **Back matter:** Supplementary Materials, Author Contributions, Acknowledgments, Funding, Data Availability Statement, Conflicts of Interest, Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate, Consent for Publication, Further Disclosure, and References.
- **Reports³** should include a succinct **Introduction** about the general clinical engineering or medical condition or relevant observations that will be discussed; the **Case Presentation** should include all of the relevant de-identified demographic and descriptive information about the devices or the patient(s), and a description of the observations, diagnosis, treatment, and outcome; a **Discussion** providing context and any necessary explanation of specific developments or treatment decisions; a **Conclusion** briefly outlining the take-home message and the lessons learned.

4

2.2 Additional Points:

1. For studies involving patients/human beings, **the sample size should be sufficient** to support the conclusions of the study;
2. For studies reporting a method or technology in the clinical engineering field, we suggest the manuscript to be interesting, novel, and innovative, and should provide real progress, as well as added value in the field (e.g., a novel model that is of certain interest to many other readers);
3. Purely computational/informatics (analysis) papers should include sufficient experimental validation; papers on deep learning should include training, test, and validation sets of data; models built to determine outcomes should also be accomplished by functional studies, including applicable in vitro and/or in vivo experiments;
4. Retrospective studies should have a prospective element and be of sufficient size to be considered. In general, samples from retrospective studies are better from multiple centers to avoid biased conclusions;
5. Health informatics manuscripts need experimental or multiple database data verification. If the authors claim a signature's prognostic or predictive value, it must be tested against existing prognostic/predictive procedures. The authors also need to compare new health informatics methods with existing ones.
6. The detailed layout arrangements can be found in the [Manuscript Template Files \(GCEJ-Front Matter & Back Matter Template; GCEJ-Original Research Article Template; and GCEJ-Review or Perspective Template\)](#).
7. Other types of manuscripts should follow the standard requirements respectively.

³ For other types, please refer to [Types of Manuscript](#) (on page 10 of the pdf document).

- **Graphical Abstract**

To better highlight the manuscript, we encourage authors to prepare a **Graphical Abstract** during submission or before the acceptance of the manuscript. A Graphical Abstract (GA) is an image that appears alongside the text abstract in the Table of Contents. In addition to summarizing the content, it should represent the topic of the article in an attention-grabbing way. Moreover, **it should not be exactly the same as the Figure in the paper or just a simple superposition of several subfigures**. Note that the GA must be original and unpublished artwork. Any postage stamps, currency from any country, and copyrighted or trademarked items should not be included.

The GA should be a high-quality illustration or diagram in any of the following formats: PNG, JPEG, or TIFF. Written text in a GA should be clear and easy to read, using one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Arial, Courier, Helvetica, Ubuntu, or Calibri. The font size should be flexible according to the function, as long as the meaning of words in the GA is well presented.

The minimum required size for the GA is 600 × 1200 pixels (height × width). The size should be of high quality to reproduce well.

- **Video Abstract**

Authors are also encouraged to provide a **Video Abstract**, which is a motion picture equivalent of a written abstract and aims to increase the visibility of authors' research. Video Abstracts should be engaging and interesting and offer viewers more information than could be written in a textual abstract. **The video file must be in MP4 format and should not exceed 200 MB.** The length of Video Abstracts shouldn't exceed 5 minutes in common situations.

- **Acronyms/Abbreviations/Initialisms**

Acronyms/Abbreviations/Initialisms should be defined the first time they appear in each of three sections: the abstract; the main text; the first figure or table. When defined for the first time, the acronym/abbreviation/initialism should be added in parentheses after the written-out form.

- **SI Units (International System of Units)**

SI Units should be used. Imperial, US customary and other units should be converted to SI units whenever possible.

- **Equations**

When using Microsoft Word, please choose either the Microsoft Equation Editor or the MathType add-on. Equations should be editable by the **Editorial Office** and not appear in a picture format.

- **Research Data and Supplementary Materials**

Note that publication of your manuscript implies that you must make all materials, data, and protocols associated with the publication available to readers. Disclose at the submission stage any restrictions on the availability of materials or information. Read the information about [Supplementary Materials](#) (on page 14 of the pdf document) and [Data Deposit](#) (on page 14 of the pdf document) for additional guidelines.

- **Preregistration and Preprint**

Where authors have preregistered studies or preprints, links to them must be provided in the manuscript. Authors should also guarantee in the cover letter that all the materials, data, and analysis in the preregistration or preprint are not published.

2.3 Front Matter

Please note that the following parts **must appear in all manuscripts**⁴:

- **Type of Manuscript:** Please choose the most suitable type of your manuscript. You can refer to [Types of Manuscript](#) (on page 10 of the pdf document) for further information.

⁴ All regular manuscripts must include the contents in the **Front Matter**. Some special types of manuscripts, like *Editorial, Commentary, Letter, Note*, etc., where the **Abstract** and **Keywords** are not necessary, can only include "Types of Manuscript", "Title" and "Author List and Affiliations".

- **Title:** The title of your manuscript should be concise, specific and relevant. It should identify if the study reports (human or animal) trial data, or is a systematic review, meta-analysis, or replication study. When gene or protein names are included, the abbreviated name rather than the full name should be used. Please do not include abbreviated or short forms of the title, such as a running title or head, which will be removed by our **Editorial Office**.
- **Author List and Affiliations:** The authors' full first and last names must be provided. The initials of any middle names can be added. The PubMed/MEDLINE standard format is used for affiliations, which is as follows: complete address information including city, zip code, state/province, and country. At least one author should be designated as the corresponding author. The email addresses of all authors will be displayed on published papers. It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that consent for the display of email addresses is obtained from all authors. If an author (other than the corresponding author) does not wish to have their email addresses displayed in this way, the corresponding author must indicate as such during proofreading. After acceptance, changes to the authors' names or affiliations are not permitted. Regarding authorship, one author, or at most two in limited cases, should be designated as the corresponding author. A maximum of two joint principal authors can be indicated by the addition of a superscript symbol (†). The symbol must be included below the affiliations, and the following statement must be added: "**These authors contributed equally to this work**". The equal roles of authors should also be adequately disclosed in the author contributions statement. Please read the [Authorship](#) (on page 21 of the pdf document) for further information.
- **Abstract:** The abstract should be **up to 500** words and structured to contain the following headings: **Background/Objectives, Methods, Results, and Conclusions**. **Background/Objectives:** Place the question addressed in a broad context and highlight the purpose of the study; **Methods:** Describe briefly the main methods or treatments applied. Include any relevant preregistration numbers and species and strains of any animals if used; **Results:** Summarize the article's main findings; **Conclusions:** Indicate the main conclusions or interpretations. The abstract should be an objective representation of the article: it must not contain results that are not presented and substantiated in the main text and should not exaggerate the main conclusions. **It should not contain any non-standard abbreviations, acknowledgments of support, references, or footnotes.**
- **Keywords:** **3–10** pertinent keywords need to be added after the abstract. The first letter of every keyword should be capitalized, and all keywords should be separated with commas (Keyword 1, Keyword 2, Keyword 3, Keyword 4, Keyword 5, Keyword 6). We recommend that the keywords are specific to the article, yet reasonably common within the subject discipline.

6

2.4 Main Content⁵

- **Introduction:** The introduction should briefly place the study in a broad context and highlight why it is important. It should define the purpose of the work and its significance, including specific hypotheses being tested. The current state of the research field should be reviewed carefully and key publications cited. Please highlight controversial and diverging hypotheses when necessary. Finally, briefly mention the main aim of the work and highlight the main conclusions. Keep the introduction comprehensible to scientists working outside the topic of the paper.
- **Materials and Methods:** They should be described with sufficient detail to allow others to replicate and build on published results. New methods and protocols should be described in detail while well-established methods can be briefly described and appropriately cited. Give the name and version of any software used and make clear whether the computer code used is available. Include any pre-registration codes.
- **Results:** Provide a concise and precise description of the experimental results, their interpretation as well as the experimental conclusions that can be drawn.
- **Discussion:** Authors should discuss the results and how they can be interpreted in perspective of previous studies and of the working hypotheses. The findings and their implications should be discussed in the broadest context possible and the limitations of the work highlighted. Future research directions may also be mentioned. This section may be combined with Results.
- **Conclusions:** This section is mandatory, with one or two paragraphs to conclude the main text.

⁵ The structure of the **Main Content** varies in different types of manuscript. Here we only list the common parts.

2.5 Back Matter

- **Supplementary Materials:** Describe any supplementary materials published online alongside the manuscript (figures, tables, video, spreadsheets, etc.). **Please indicate the name and title of each element as follows Figure S1: title, Table S1: title, etc.**
- **Author Contributions:** At the time of submission, all manuscripts classified as *Original Research Articles* and *Reviews* must include a detailed **Author Contributions Statement**. This statement should specify the individual contributions of each listed author in accordance with best practices recommended by COPE and ICMJE.

Authors are required to provide this statement during the submission process, either by selecting roles from a defined list or by writing a free-text description. These contributions will be published in the final article under the section “**Author Contributions**”.

Each author must meet all the following criteria:

- ✧ **Substantial contributions to one or more of the following:** The conception or design of the work; The acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data; The development of software or hardware used in the study; The drafting of the article or critical revision for important intellectual content.
- ✧ **Final approval** of the submitted version (and any version substantially edited by journal staff that involves the author’s contributions).
- ✧ **Accountability** for all aspects of the work, including the accuracy or integrity of any part of the article, even for elements in which the author was not personally involved.

At submission, authors must: Declare the specific contribution(s) of each co-author; Confirm that all listed authors meet the authorship criteria; Acknowledge that no one who qualifies for authorship has been omitted; Agree to the published author contribution statement.

If contributors do not meet the authorship criteria but have made supportive contributions (e.g., technical help, writing assistance, general supervision), they should be **acknowledged in the “Acknowledgments” section**, not listed as authors.

For research articles with several authors, a short paragraph specifying their individual contributions must be provided. The following statements should be used “Conceptualization, X.X. and Y.Y.; Methodology, X.X.; Software, X.X.; Hardware, X.X., Validation, X.X., Y.Y., and Z.Z.; Formal Analysis, X.X.; Investigation, X.X.; Resources, X.X.; Data Curation, X.X.; Writing–Original Draft Preparation, X.X.; Writing–Review & Editing, X.X.; Visualization, X.X.; Supervision, X.X.; Project Administration, X.X.; Funding Acquisition, Y.Y.”. For more details, please refer to [CRediT](#). **Please note that Authorship must include and be limited to those who have contributed substantially to the work.** Please read the section concerning the [Authorship](#) (on page 21 of the pdf document) carefully.

- **Acknowledgments:** In this section, you can acknowledge any support given that is not covered by the author contribution or funding sections. This may include administrative and technical support, or donations (e.g., materials or instruments used during experiments).
- **Funding:** All sources of funding for the study should be disclosed. Clearly indicate grants that you have received in support of your research work and if you received funds to cover publication costs. Note that some funders will not refund Article Processing Charges (APC) if the funder and grant number are not clearly and correctly identified in the paper. Funding information can be entered separately into the submission system by the authors during the submission of their manuscripts. Such funding information, if available, will be deposited to the Open Funder Registry (OFR) if the manuscript is finally published.

Please add: “**This research received no external funding**” or “**This research was funded by [name of funder] grant number [xxx]**” and “**The APC was funded by [XXX]**” in this section. Please check carefully that the details given are accurate and use the standard spelling of funding agency names at the [Open Funder Registry \(OFR\)](#), as any errors may affect your future funding.

- **Data Availability Statement:** In this section, please provide details regarding where data supporting reported results can be found, including links to publicly archived datasets analyzed or generated during the study. Please refer to the suggested [Data Availability Statements](#) (on page 14 of the pdf document). You might choose to exclude this statement if the study did not report any new data.

- **Conflicts of Interest:** Authors must identify and declare any personal circumstances or interests that may be perceived as influencing the representation or interpretation of reported results. If there are no conflicts of interest, please state “**The authors declare no conflicts of interest**”. Any role of the funding sponsors in the choice of research project; design of the study; in the collection, analyses, or interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript; or in the decision to publish the results must be declared in this section. *GCEJ* does not publish studies funded partially or fully by the tobacco industry. Any projects funded by industry must pay special attention to the full declaration of funder involvement. If there is no role, please state “**The sponsors had no role in the design, execution, interpretation, or writing of the study**”. For more details, please see [Conflicts of Interest](#) (on page 25 of the pdf document).
- **Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate:** If the paper describes a study that involves humans, animals, or primary cell lines from human patients, provide a statement stipulating the name of the research ethics committee or Institutional Review Board (IRB) that grants the approval to carry out said study, and include the research ethics approval number for reference. Be specific in detailing the aspects the committee or IRB permits or approves. If more than one ethics committee and/or IRB were involved, state all of their names and carefully detail the aspects each of them approves of for carrying out the study. **If human subjects were involved, state what form of consent (e.g., written and/or verbal) and whether or not permission was obtained from each of the subjects to PARTICIPATE in the study.** If consent-taking was not performed when human subjects were involved, provide a justification herein.
- **Consent for Publication:** **If human subjects were involved, state what form of consent (e.g., written and/or verbal) and whether or not permission was obtained from each of the subjects to PUBLISH their data and/or images.** Efforts must be made by the authors to at least mask or conceal any identifying information of the patients that appear in writing or within photographs. If consent-taking was not performed when human subjects were involved, provide a justification herein.
- **Further Disclosure:** This section is reserved to inform the readers and editors of a few aspects:
 1. Part of or the entire set of findings have been presented in a conference, academic meeting, congress, etc.; and/or
 2. The paper has been uploaded to or deposited in a preprint server (provide the name of the preprint server and associated accession number or DOI of the preprint.
- **References⁶:** References must be cited in numerical order in the main content, with superscripts (including table captions and figure legends). All references in the **Back Matter** must be numbered. We recommend preparing the references with a bibliography software package, such as [EndNote](#), [ReferenceManager](#), or [Zotero](#) to avoid typing mistakes and duplicated references. We encourage citations to data, computer code, and other citable research material. If the resource is available online, you may use the “reference style 9” in “[Websites](#)” (on page 9 of the pdf document).

References should be numbered consecutively in the text by superscript numerals. Corresponding references should be listed at the end of the text. Unpublished sources such as personal communications should be cited within the text and not included in the **Reference List**.

GCEJ uses a slightly modified version of the Vancouver style for reference. When there are more than 4 authors, shorten to 3 and add “et al.” Journal titles should be abbreviated as in PubMed. Please see the cases below:

- Journal Article: Abate, M., Salini, V., Rimondi, E., et al. Post-traumatic myositis ossificans: sonographic findings. *J Clin Ultrasound*. 2011;39(3):135–140. doi:10.1002/jcu.20792.
- Book: Cardenosa, G. *Breast Imaging Companion*, 3rd edition. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins: Philadelphia, USA; 2007; pp. 24–29.
- Chapter in a Book: Galloway, A.C., Colvin, S.B., Grossi, E.A., et al. Acquired heart disease. In *Principles of Surgery*, 6th ed.; Schwartz, S.I., Shires, G.T., Spencer, F.C., eds. McGraw-Hill: New York, USA; 1994; pp. 845–899.

⁶ Citations and References in **Supplementary Materials** are permitted provided that they also appear in the **Main Text** and in the **Reference List**.

- Web Page: Breast Cancer Society of Canada. Breast cancer statistics. Toronto, ON: Author; 2012. Available online: <http://www.bccsc.ca/p/46/1/105/t>.

For more resources on **GCEJ Reference List**, you may also consider the following guidelines:

- Conference Proceedings:
 1. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C.D.; Author 3, E.F. Title of Presentation. In *Title of the Collected Work* (if available), Proceedings of the Name of the Conference, Location of Conference, Country, Date of Conference; Editor 1, Editor 2, Eds. (if available); Publisher: City, Country, Year (if available); Abstract Number (optional), Pagination (optional).
- Journal Articles:
 2. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C.D. Title of the article. *Abbreviated Journal Name* Year, Volume, page range. doi.
- Books and Book Chapters:
 3. Author 1, A.; Author 2, B. *Book Title*, 3rd ed.; Publisher: Publisher Location, Country, Year; pp. 154–196.
 4. Author 1, A.; Author 2, B. Title of the chapter. In *Book Title*, 2nd ed.; Editor 1, A., Editor 2, B., Eds.; Publisher: Publisher Location, Country, Year; Volume 3, pp. 154–196.
- Unpublished materials intended for publication:
 5. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C. Title of Unpublished Work (optional). Correspondence Affiliation, City, State, Country. year, *status (manuscript in preparation; to be submitted)*.
 6. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C. Title of Unpublished Work. *Abbreviated Journal Name* year, *phrase indicating stage of publication (submitted; accepted; in press)*.
- Unpublished materials not intended for publication:
 7. Author 1, A.B. (Affiliation, City, State, Country); Author 2, C. (Affiliation, City, State, Country). Phase describing the material, year. (phase: Personal communication; Private communication; Unpublished work; etc.)
- Thesis:
 8. Author 1, A.B. Title of Thesis. Level of Thesis, Degree-Granting University, Location of University, Date of Completion.
- Websites:
 9. Title of Site. Available online: URL (accessed on Day Month Year).
Unlike published works, websites may change over time or disappear, so we encourage you to create an archive of the cited website using a service such as [WebCite](#). Archived websites should be cited using the link provided as follows:
 10. Title of Site. URL (archived on Day Month Year).

2.6 Figures, Schemes, and Tables

- **All Figures, Schemes, and Tables should be inserted into the main text close to their first citation and must be numbered in order** (Figure 1, Scheme 1, Figure 2, Scheme 2, Table 1, etc.).
- All Figures, Schemes, and Tables **must have a short explanatory caption**.
- All table columns should have an **explanatory heading**. For large tables, please use a horizontal page, separated by section breaks. Authors should also use the Table option of Microsoft Word to create tables, in order to guarantee the tables are editable. **Please note that the table must not be presented as a screenshot or other image**.
- Authors are encouraged to prepare figures and schemes in color (RGB at 8-bit per channel). There is no additional cost for publishing full-color graphics.
- The words in all Figures and Tables should be written in English. If other languages need to be presented,

please add an explanation.

3. Manuscript Submission Overview

3.1 Types of Manuscript

GCEJ publishes the highest quality *Original Research Articles, Reviews, Case Reports, Engineering Reports, Book Reviews, Conference Papers, Conference Reports, Communications, Proceeding Papers, Perspectives, Editorials*, etc. related to the field of clinical engineering. Manuscripts submitted to *GCEJ* should neither be published previously nor be under consideration for publication in any other journals.

- **Article: Applied or academic original research manuscripts.** *GCEJ* focuses on all the aspects and topics related to clinical engineering, which is a more applied science. Meanwhile, academic research can also be considered, as we welcome all original research manuscripts, provided that the work reports scientifically sound experiments and provides a substantial amount of new information and research results in the field of clinical engineering. Please note that the quality and impact of the study will be considered during peer review.

Full experimental details must be provided so that the results can be reproduced. *GCEJ* requires that authors publish all experimental controls and make full datasets available where possible or applicable. For more information, please see [Supplementary Materials](#) (on page 14 of the pdf document).

Articles should have **more than 10 references**. *GCEJ* has no restrictions on the maximum length of research manuscripts, provided that the text is concise and comprehensive.

- **Review:** These provide concise and precise updates on the latest progress made in a given area of research. *Reviews* should be comprehensive and submitted by authors who are in the field. Basically speaking, *GCEJ* doesn't have mandatory regulations on the numbers of figures or tables, but we encourage authors to include them. Meanwhile, *GCEJ* doesn't divide sub-types of review, including narrative review and systemic review.

Reviews should objectively report the current state of knowledge on a topic based on previously published research, identify gaps and controversies, provide a new perspective or reconceptualization, and identify directions for future research. For this reason, manuscripts limited to presenting summaries that merely restate information from published reports will not be considered.

The narrative reviews should include an **Abstract, Introduction, Relevant sections** (body of the narrative review), a **Conclusion** and **Future Directions** section, and a **References** section. Meanwhile, if authors are composing a systematic review, then the **Method** section should be included.

Reviews should have **more than 20 references**. *GCEJ* has no restrictions on the maximum length of research manuscripts, provided that the text is concise and comprehensive.

- **Proceeding Paper:** As an important type of manuscript, which contains peer reviewed research output from conferences, *GCEJ* encourages speakers and presenters to submit their *Proceeding Papers* to the journal. *GCEJ* also aims to become a platform that can present excellent research results and insights into the field of clinical engineering, and offer an opportunity for those who have never considered publishing their good proceeding papers or extending conference abstracts into a full article.

The **Abstract** or the analysis could be submitted to a conference in advance and should provide details in support of a presentation made at the conference. The structure is similar to that of an *Article*, and should include sections such as **Introduction, Methods, Results, Conclusions**, etc.

- **Communication** is a short article that presents groundbreaking preliminary results or significant findings that are part of a larger study over multiple years. It can also include cutting-edge methods or experiments, and the development of new technology or materials. The structure is similar to that of an *Article*. *GCEJ* welcomes clinical engineers and all other authors to submit their good communications to the journal, especially those who have limited experience in publishing their excellent research results.
- **Engineering Report and Case Report: Engineering Reports** are short, observational studies that report preliminary results or a short complete study or protocol. *Engineering Reports* usually contain **two figures and/or a table**; however, the **Materials and Methods** sections should be detailed to ensure the reproducibility of the presented work. The structure is similar to that of an *Article*. The structure of a

Case Report differs from **Articles** and includes **Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Detailed Case Description, Discussion, and Conclusions**. Special care should be taken when submitting **Case Reports** to ensure that appropriate permission for publication (**Blank Consent Form**) has been obtained from patients, if used, in the paper.

- **Perspective** is usually an invited type of article that showcases current developments in a specific field. Emphasis is placed on future directions of the field and on the personal assessment of the author. Comments should be situated in the context of existing literature from the previous 3 years. The structure is similar to a **Review**. **GCEJ** can consider regular submission of **Perspective**, which is not invited, but the overall quality should be good. It should be used for generating engineering-related debate, thoughts provoking issue, or to announce important viewpoints.
- **Book review** is a short literary criticism analyzing the content, style, and merit of a recently published book. Full book details should be provided at the beginning of the article. The structure should only include an **Introduction** and be a discussion of critical points with no sections or conclusions.
- **Editorial**: These are non-peer-reviewed texts used to announce the launch of a new journal, a new section, a new **Editorial Board Member**, a Special Issue, or an invited editorial. The main text should provide a brief introduction of the purpose and aim of the **Editorial**—to encourage readers to engage with related discipline topics, present the journal, introduce the Special Issue, report on a pressing topic, etc. **Editorials** should not include unpublished or original data, although must provide a **Conflicts of Interest** statement. Editorials prepared for the launch of new journals may also include a short biography of the **Editor-in-Chief**.

Manuscript Type	Word Limit	Abstract	Keywords	References
<i>Research Article</i>	No less than 2000	No more than 500 words	3–10 Keywords	More than 10 references
<i>Review</i>	No less than 2000	No more than 500 words	3–10 Keywords	More than 20 references
<i>Proceeding Paper</i>	No less than 1000	No more than 500 words	3–10 Keywords	More than 10 references
<i>Case Report</i>	No more than 1500	No more than 250 words	3–10 Keywords	More than 6 references
<i>Editorial</i>	No more than 1500	N/A	N/A	Approximately up to 5 references
<i>Perspective</i>	No more than 1500	Unstructured abstract. No more than 150 words.	3–10 Keywords	More than 6 references

11

3.2 Submission Process

Manuscripts should be submitted online at <https://globalce.org/index.php/GlobalCE/submission/wizard>.

The submitting author, who is generally the corresponding author, is responsible for the manuscript during the submission and peer review process. The submitting author must ensure that all eligible co-authors have been included in the author list and that they have all read and approved the submitted version of the manuscript. To submit manuscripts, authors need to register and log in to the [Submission Website](#). All co-authors can see the manuscript details in the submission system, if they register and log in using the e-mail address provided during manuscript submission.

3.3 Accepted File Formats

Authors are encouraged to use the [Manuscript Template Files](#)⁷ to prepare their manuscripts. Using the template files will substantially shorten the time to complete copy-editing and publication of accepted manuscripts. The total amount of data for all files shouldn't be too large.

- **Microsoft Word File:** Manuscripts prepared in Microsoft Word must be converted into a single file before submission. When preparing manuscripts in Microsoft Word, we encourage you to use the [Manuscript Template Files](#). Please insert your graphics (schemes, figures, *etc.*), tables, formulae, *etc.* in the main content after the paragraph of their first citations.
- **Supplementary Materials File:** The supplementary materials can be in any format, but it is recommended that you use common, non-proprietary formats where possible. Please refer to [Supplementary Materials](#) (on page 14 of the pdf document) for further details.

3.4 Free Format Submission

GCEJ also accepts free format submissions:

- We do not have strict formatting requirements, but regular manuscripts should contain the required sections: **Type of Manuscript, Title, Author Information (including corresponding author information), Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials & Methods, Results, Conclusions, Figures and Tables with Captions, Author Contributions, Funding Information, Conflicts of Interest and other Ethics Statements, References.**
- Your references may be in any style, provided that you use consistent formatting throughout. It is essential to include author name(s), journal or book title, article or chapter title (where required), year of publication, volume and issue (where appropriate), and pagination. DOI numbers (Digital Object Identifier) are not mandatory but highly encouraged. The bibliography software packages [EndNote](#), [Zotero](#), [Mendeley](#), and [Reference Manager](#) are recommended.
- If your manuscript is accepted for review and reaches the revision stage, you will be requested to format the manuscript according to the journal guidelines.

3.5 Cover Letter

A cover letter must be included during the submission of each manuscript. *GCEJ* encourages authors to write concisely and explain why the content of the paper is significant, placing the findings in the context of existing work, and should also explain why the manuscript fits the scope of the journal.

If any prior/previous manuscripts are resubmitted to *GCEJ*, it is strongly recommended that the **previous Manuscript ID be provided** in the cover letter, which will accelerate your current submission process. The names of proposed and excluded reviewers should also be provided in the cover letter. Please also ensure that your cover letter includes a brief **Author Contributions statement**, outlining the specific roles of each co-author in the research and manuscript preparation. This helps the **Editorial Office** verify authorship compliance and supports transparency in the publication process. Examples: We have included a statement of Author Contributions in the manuscript, outlining the specific roles of each co-author in the study. All authors meet the journal's authorship criteria and have approved the final version of the submission.

All cover letters are required to include the following statements:

- **We confirm that neither the manuscript nor any parts of its content are currently under consideration for publication with or published in another journal;**
- **We confirm that this manuscript has not been published;**
- **All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with its submission to *GCEJ* and the publication if peer review has been conducted.**

3.6 Author Identification⁸

Authors are encouraged to add a biography (up to 200 words) to the **Back Matter** during submission. This should be a single paragraph and should contain the following points:

⁷ Disclaimer: Usage of these templates is exclusively intended for submission to *GCEJ* for peer review, and is strictly limited to this purpose. The template or authors' manuscript modified in this template cannot be sent on preprint servers or submitted to other journals directly.

⁸ The biography is optional. Please do not reveal any personal information in the **Main Content**.

1. Authors' full names followed by current positions;
2. Education background including institution information and year of graduation (type and level of degree received);
3. Work experience;
4. Current and previous research interests;
5. Memberships of professional societies and awards received;
6. ORCID and other homepages.

If a manuscript is accepted for publication, we can add an icon linking to your online [ORCID](#) profile in the final version.

3.7 Author Affiliation

All authors should list their current affiliations and the affiliation where most research was carried out for the preparation of their manuscript. We recommend adding as primary the affiliation where most of the research was conducted or supported, but please check with your institution for any contractual agreement requirements. The detailed layout can be found in [GCEJ-Front Matter & Back Matter Template](#).

Author names and affiliations must be correct. Incorrect information can mean a lack of proper attribution or incorrect citation and can even lead to problems with promotion or funding. Please carefully proofread the final version requested by editors before sending it to publication. **After the publication of an article, updates or corrections to the author's address or affiliation may not be permitted.**

3.8 Independent Researcher/Practitioner

If one or some authors are not affiliated with a university, institution, or company, they should list themselves as an "Independent Researcher/Practitioner".

4. Original Images Requirements

13

To ensure the integrity and scientific validity of digital images, the **Editorial Office** reserves the right to request original, uncropped, and unadjusted images upon submission. Original images must be provided as **Supplementary Materials** files at a sufficiently high resolution (a minimum of 1,000 pixels in width/height, or a resolution of 300 dpi or higher) or a link where original unprocessed images were deposited at the time of initial submission. Preferred formats for microscopy images (light and electron microscopy e.g., TEM, SEM, Cryo-EM, etc.) are **TIFF**, **PNG**, **GIF**, and **EPS**. Failing to provide original images before the final decision might result in the rejection of the paper, and the issue may be raised with the authors' institutions.

Digital images within the manuscript submitted should be minimally processed. A certain degree of image processing is acceptable for publication, but the final image must correctly represent the original data and conform to community standards. Please note that electron microscopy images submitted with a manuscript should be presented in full, without cropping the image, and with all the relevant details clearly visible.

Where cropped images are shown in figures, a full scan of the entire original image(s) must be submitted as part of the **Supplementary Materials**. Where control images are re-used for illustrative purposes, this must be clearly declared in the figure legend. **If any form of image processing is legitimately required for the interpretation of the data, the software and the enhancement technique used must be declared in the Methods section of the manuscript.** Image grouping and splicing must be clearly stated in the manuscript and the figure caption.

The use of software filters to improve image quality is not recommended. Slight adjustments to contrast settings, brightness, intensity, color, etc., are generally acceptable but must be applied equally to the entire image. Excessive image manipulations that are specific to one area of an image and are not performed on other areas are considered part of a non-ethical practice of image processing, as this emphasizes experimental data relative to the control.

Images gathered at different times or from different locations should not be combined into a single image unless it is stated that the resultant image is a product of time-averaged data or a time-lapse sequence. If juxtaposing images are essential, the borders should be clearly demarcated in the figure and described in the legend.

We encourage the inclusion of the following with the final revised version of the manuscript for publication:

In the **Methods** section, specify the type of equipment commercially available or prototype (microscopes/objective lenses, cameras, detectors, filter model, prototype hardware, or batch number), the acquisition software used, and the magnification or the scale bar in the figure caption. Although we realize that there is some variation between instruments, equipment settings for critical measurements should also be listed.

We encourage the deposition of unprocessed image files in a publicly available database (a **link** to the downloadable table from data availability instructions should be shared here) (including relevant metadata for acquisition information, including time and space resolution data (x y z t and pixel dimensions); image bit depth; experimental conditions such as temperature and imaging medium; and fluorochromes (excitation and emission wavelengths or ranges, filters, and dichroic beam splitters) if any.

Processing or simulating software should be named in the **Methods** section and any manipulations should be indicated in the relevant figure legends (such as type of deconvolution, three-dimensional reconstructions, surface and volume rendering, “gamma changes”, filtering, thresholding, and projection).

5. Supplementary Materials, Data Deposit, and Software Source Code

GCEJ is committed to supporting open scientific exchange and enabling our authors to achieve best practices in sharing and archiving research data. We encourage all authors of articles published in *GCEJ* to share their research data including, but not limited to protocols, analytic methods, raw data, processed data, code, hardware, software, algorithms, and study materials.

Additional data and information can be uploaded as **Supplementary Materials** to support the manuscripts. As part of the peer-review process, the **Supplementary Materials** will also be available to the reviewers. *GCEJ* doesn't have specific requirements on the format, as long as it can be easily accessed by reviewers and editors, and can present the information correctly. Some recommended file formats, e.g. data sheet (Microsoft Word, Excel, CSV, cdx, fasta, PDF, or zip files), presentation (PowerPoint, PDF, or zip files), image (cdx, eps, jpeg, PDF, png, or tiff), table (Microsoft Word, Excel, CSV or PDF), audio (mp3, wav or wma), or video (avi, divx, flv, mov, mp4, mpeg, mpg or wmv). Please note that **Supplementary Materials** must be cited in the **Main Content** in numerical order (e.g., **Supplementary Figure 1, Supplementary Figure 2, Supplementary Table 1, Supplementary Table 2, etc.**). The style of supplementary figures or tables should comply with the same requirements on figures or tables in the **Main Content**. Videos and Audio should be prepared in English, and limited to a size of 500 MB.

14

We recommend that data and code should be deposited in a trusted repository that will allow for maximum reuse. If this is not possible, authors are encouraged to share the specific reason in the **Data Availability Statement** and make this material available upon request to interested researchers. In addition, research materials necessary to enable the reproduction of an experiment should be indicated in the **Materials and Methods** section. Data-sharing policies concern the minimal dataset that supports the central findings of a published study. Generated data should be publicly available and cited in accordance with the journal guidelines.

Where ethical, legal, or privacy issues are presented, data should not be shared. The authors should clarify the availability status of the data upon submission and make any limitations or exceptions clear in the **Data Availability Statement**. Authors should ensure that the data shared is in accordance with consent provided by participants on the use of confidential data. Authors should ensure that the publication of such data does not compromise the anonymity of the participants or breach local data protection laws.

In situations where access is restricted to protect confidential or proprietary information, authors will be requested to clearly explain the restrictions on the dataset and make the data available upon request, with permission for the purposes of peer review.

5.1 Data Availability Statement

The **Data Availability Statement** is required for all manuscripts published with *GCEJ*. During the peer review and editorial decision process, authors can be asked to share existing datasets or raw data that have been analyzed in the manuscript, and whether they will be available to other researchers following publication. Authors will also be asked for the details of any existing datasets that have been analyzed in the manuscript.

Below are the recommended **Data Availability Statements**:

Data Availability Status	Recommended Data Availability Statement
Data available in a publicly accessible repository	The original data presented in the study are openly available in [repository name, e.g., FigShare] at [DOI/URL] or [reference/accession number].
Data available on request due to restrictions (e.g., privacy, legal or ethical reasons)	The data presented in this study are available on request from the corresponding author due to (specify the reason for the restriction).
Data from a third party	Restrictions apply to the availability of these data. Data were obtained from [third party] and are available [from the authors/at URL] with the permission of [third party].
The embargo on data due to commercial restrictions	The data that support the findings will be available in [repository name] at [URL / DOI link] following an embargo from the date of publication to allow for commercialization of research findings.
Restrictions apply to the datasets	The datasets presented in this article are not readily available because [include reason, e.g., the data are part of an ongoing study or due to technical/ time limitations]. Requests to access the datasets should be directed to [text input].
Data derived from public domain resources	The data presented in this study are available in [repository name] at [URL/DOI], reference number [reference number]. These data were derived from the following resources available in the public domain: [list resources and URLs]
Data sharing is not applicable (only appropriate if no new data is generated or the article describes entirely theoretical research)	No new data were created or analyzed in this study. Data sharing is not applicable to this article
Data is contained within the article or supplementary materials	The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/supplementary materials, further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author/s.
Dataset available on request from the authors	The raw data supporting the conclusions of this article will be made available by the authors on request.

15

5.2 Data Citation

Authors are encouraged to formally cite any datasets stored in external repositories that are mentioned within their manuscript, including the main datasets that are the focus of the submission, as well as any other datasets that have been used in the work. For previously published datasets, authors should cite both the related research articles and the datasets themselves. Appropriate citation of data is checked and enforced by Journal Editors before publication.

- **Computer Code and Software**

For manuscripts where new computer code is developed, authors should release it either by depositing it in a recognized, public repository or uploading it as supplementary information to the publication. The name and version of all software used should be clearly indicated.

- **Supplementary Materials**

Additional data and files can be uploaded as “**Supplementary Materials**” during the manuscript submission. The **Supplementary Materials** will also be available to the reviewers as part of the peer review process. Any file format is acceptable; however, we recommend authors use a common, non-proprietary format where possible.

- **Unpublished Data**

GCEJ encourages transparency and completeness in data reporting. Authors are strongly advised to avoid the use of vague statements such as “data not shown.” All relevant observations or experimental findings that support the conclusions of the manuscript should be made available, either within the main text or as Supplementary Materials during submission.

If the manuscript references **unpublished data**—including datasets associated with ongoing, planned, or submitted manuscripts—such data must be clearly cited within the main text and included in the References section with an appropriate status note (e.g., “in preparation”, “submitted”, or “under review”). **Personal communications** should also be cited within the text and listed in the References section, with permission from the source. (see also the *GCEJ* Reference List, on page 9 of the pdf document).

Any **restrictions on data availability**, including confidentiality, ethical constraints, or legal limitations, must be clearly stated both during submission and within the manuscript.

GCEJ recognizes that some unpublished datasets may raise **potential ethical concerns** due to risks posed to individuals, communities, broader society, or endangered species. In such cases:

- The editorial team will **evaluate the nature, validity, and severity** of the concerns raised.
- If a significant ethics breach is suspected, the **authors' institutions may be contacted** and invited to conduct a formal investigation.
- Expert consultation from **relevant subject matter specialists** may be sought to assess the implications of the data.
- Depending on the outcome, *GCEJ* may recommend or require the following actions:
 - Updating the dataset to **anonymize, deidentify, or redact** sensitive content;
 - Restricting public access to the dataset;
 - Withholding publication until appropriate modifications are made;
 - Withdrawing the submission entirely in extreme cases.

GCEJ is committed to safeguarding **ethical standards**, individual privacy, and responsible data sharing, in alignment with **COPE guidance**.

- **References in Supplementary Materials**

Citations and references in **Supplementary Materials** are permitted provided that they also appear in the reference list of the main text.

6. Research and Publication Ethics

To proactively identify potential ethical concerns, *GCEJ* collects relevant information at multiple stages of the editorial process. Authors are required to disclose ethics approvals, conflicts of interest, funding sources, author contributions, and data availability at the time of submission. All manuscripts are subject to plagiarism checks and image integrity screening before peer review. Additional clarifications or documentation may be requested during revision or prior to acceptance. The **Editorial Office** and Ethics Officer are responsible for reviewing this information and addressing any concerns in accordance with **COPE guidelines**.

6.1 Research Ethics

- **Research Involving Human Subjects**
 - **Institutional Review Board Statement**

When reporting on research that involves subjects, material, tissues, or data of humans, authors must declare that the investigations were carried out following the rules of the [Declaration of Helsinki of 1975](#), which was

revised in 2013. According to point 23 of this declaration, approval from the local **Institutional Review Board (IRB)** or another appropriate ethics committee must be obtained before undertaking the research to confirm that the study meets national and international guidelines. As a minimum, a statement including the project identification code, date of approval, and name of the ethics committee or institutional review board must be stated in the “**Institutional Review Board Statement**” in the **Back Matter** of the manuscript.

Example of an Institutional Review Board Statement: “The study was conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki, and the protocol was approved by the Ethics Committee of XXX (Project identification code) on [date of approval].”

For non-interventional studies (e.g. surveys, questionnaires, social media research), all participants must be fully informed whether their anonymity is assured, why the research is being conducted, how their data will be used, and if there are any risks involved in participating. As with all research involving humans, ethical approval from an appropriate ethics committee must be obtained prior to conducting the study. If ethical approval is not required, authors must either provide an exemption from the ethics committee or cite the local or national legislation that indicates ethics approval is not required for this type of study. When a study has been granted the exemption, the name of the ethics committee that provided this should be stated in the ‘Institutional Review Board Statement’ Section with a full explanation for the rejection of ethical approval.

○ **Informed Consent Statement**

Manuscripts reporting studies involving subjects, material, tissues, or data of humans must include a **Statement of Informed Consent for Participation**. Verbal informed consent to participate in a study can be acceptable under some circumstances (such as in ethnographic studies). The authors must explain the rationale for using this kind of consent in the **Back Matter** of the manuscript. For verbal informed consent, a copy of the script used must be provided during the submission stage.

For all manuscripts that include identifying patients/participants information (personal details, images, or videos related to a person), the written **Informed Consent for Publication** of these details must be obtained from patients/participants (or their relatives/guardians) before submitting to *GCEJ*. A blank version of the form used to obtain permission (without the patient/participant name or signature) should be provided upon submission. You may refer to our [GCEJ-Patient Consent Form](#) and provide an appropriate form after consulting with your affiliated institution.

17

To publish in *GCEJ*, a consent, permission, or release form should include unlimited permission for publication in all formats (including print, electronic, and online), in sublicensed and reprinted versions (including translations and derived works), and in other works and products under open access license. To respect patients’/participants’ and any other individuals’ privacy, please do not send signed forms.

Private information identifying participants need not be included unless the identifiable materials are of relevance to the research (e.g., photographs of participants’ faces that show a particular symptom). Patients’/participants’ initials or other personal identifiers must not appear in any images. Patient/participant details must be anonymized as much as possible, e.g., do not mention specific age, ethnicity, or occupation where they are not relevant to the conclusions. Steps necessary to protect privacy may include de-identifying data, adding noise, or blocking portions of the database. Editors reserve the right to reject any submission that does not meet these requirements.

The **Editorial Office** reserves the right to request further documentation when necessary. The **Editorial Office** will scrutinize the submitted manuscript, and upon request, documentary evidence ([Signed Consent Forms](#) and any related discussion documents from the ethics board) must be provided.

Example of an Informed Consent Statement: “Informed consent for participation was obtained from all subjects involved in the study.” OR “Informed consent for participation is not required as per local legislation [provide local legislation].” OR “Verbal informed consent was obtained from the participants. Verbal consent was obtained rather than written because [state the reason]”, OR “Informed consent for publication was obtained from all identifiable human participants.”

• **Requirements for Studies on Vulnerable Groups**

GCEJ fully supports international ethical standards and strictly follows [the guidance of COPE regarding research involving vulnerable groups and individuals](#). Authors must ensure that such research is conducted in accordance with the highest ethical principles, including but not limited to:

- The [WMA Declaration of Helsinki–Ethical Principles for Medical Research Involving Human](#)

Subjects (last affirmed July 2018)

- The [Belmont Report](#) from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
- The [Guidelines of the Economic and Social Research Council \(ESRC\), UK](#)

These standards emphasize the necessity of **enhanced protections** for vulnerable populations, which may include—but are not limited to—children, persons with cognitive impairments, economically or educationally disadvantaged individuals, and patients with rare or stigmatized conditions. Protections must be applied by all parties involved in the research and publication process, including authors, funders, research ethics boards, editors, reviewers, and publishers.

Manuscript Requirements:

- If a study involves vulnerable groups, **the manuscript will undergo an additional ethical review** by the **Editorial Office**.
- Authors must, **upon request**, provide documentary evidence of ethical compliance. This includes:
 - Approval letters from an institutional review board (IRB) or ethics committee
 - **Blank consent forms** and other related materials (e.g., information sheets or debriefing documents)
 - Any communications or approvals from funding agencies, where relevant
- Authors must also clearly state **how informed consent was obtained**, and what steps were taken to minimize harm and protect the rights of participants.

Justification for Group Identification:

When describing participants using characteristics such as **race, ethnicity, gender, disability, disease status, or socioeconomic background**, authors must **clearly justify** the need for such categorization in the manuscript. The rationale must be scientifically relevant and ethically defensible, in order to prevent stigma or misuse of sensitive descriptors.

GCEJ reserves the right to **reject or request revision** of any manuscript that fails to meet the above requirements or raises concerns regarding the ethical treatment of vulnerable populations.

18

- **Clinical Trials Registration**

- **Registration**

GCEJ follows the [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors \(ICMJE\) Guidelines](#) which require and recommend registration of clinical trials in a public trials registry at or before the time of first patient enrollment as a condition of consideration for publication.

Purely observational studies do not require registration. A clinical trial not only refers to studies that take place in a hospital or involve pharmaceuticals but also refers to all studies that involve participant randomization and group classification in the context of the intervention under assessment.

Authors are strongly encouraged to pre-register clinical trials with international clinical trials register and cite a reference to the registration in the **Methods** section. Suitable databases include [clinicaltrials.gov](#), [the EU Clinical Trials Register](#), and those listed by the World Health Organization [International Clinical Trials Registry Platform](#).

Approval to conduct a study from an independent local, regional, or national review body is not equivalent to prospective clinical trial registration. *GCEJ* reserves the right to decline any paper without trial registration for further peer review. However, if the study protocol has been published before the enrolment, the registration can be waived with the correct citation of the published protocol.

- **CONSORT Statement**

GCEJ requires a completed CONSORT 2010 [Checklist](#) and [Flow Diagram](#) as a condition of submission when reporting the results of a randomized trial. Templates for these can be found here or on the [CONSORT website](#), which also describes several CONSORT checklist extensions for different designs and types of data beyond two group parallel trials. At a minimum, your manuscript should report the content addressed by each item of the checklist.

- **Dual Use Research of Concern**

GCEJ follows the practical framework defined in [Guidance for Editors: Research, Audit and Service Evaluations](#) and introduced by the **Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)**. Research that could pose a significant threat, with broad potential consequences to public health or national security, should be clearly indicated in the manuscript, and potential dual-use research of concern should be explained in the cover letter upon submission. Potential areas of concern include but are not limited to biosecurity, nuclear and chemical threats, and research with a military purpose or application, etc. For these manuscripts to be considered for peer review, the benefits to the general public or public health must outweigh the risks. The authors have a responsibility to comply with relevant national and international laws.

6.2 Borders and Territories

Potential disputes over borders and territories may have particular relevance for authors in describing their research or in an author or editor correspondence address, and should be respected. Content decisions are an editorial matter and where there is a potential or perceived dispute or complaint, the editorial team will attempt to find a resolution that satisfies the parties involved.

GCEJ stays neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.

6.3 Publication Ethics Statement

The editors of *GCEJ* enforce a rigorous peer review process together with strict ethical policies and standards to ensure high-quality scientific works in the field of scholarly publication. Unfortunately, cases of plagiarism, data falsification, image manipulation, inappropriate authorship credit, etc., do arise. Thus, we strictly follow [the general approach to publication ethics announced by COPE](#). The editors of *GCEJ* take such publishing ethics issues very seriously and are trained to proceed in such cases with a zero-tolerance policy.

Authors wishing to publish their papers in *GCEJ* must abide by the following:

- Any facts that might be perceived as possible conflicts of interest of the author(s) must be disclosed in the paper before submission;
- Authors should accurately present their research findings and include an objective discussion of the significance of their findings;
- Data and methods used in the research need to be presented in sufficient detail in the paper so that other researchers can replicate the work;
- Raw data should preferably be publicly deposited by the authors before submission of their manuscript. Authors need to at least have the raw data readily available for presentation to the referees and the editors of the journal if requested. Authors need to ensure appropriate measures are taken so that raw data is retained in full for a reasonable time after publication;
- Submitting the same manuscript to more than one journal simultaneously is considered violating the basic ethics of the author, and will not be acceptable;
- The journal accepts exact translations of previously published work. All submissions of translations must conform with our [Policies on Translations](#) (on page 20 of the pdf document);
- If errors and inaccuracies are found by the authors after the publication of their paper, they should communicate with the editors of *GCEJ*, so that appropriate actions can be taken. Please refer to our policy regarding [Updating Published Papers](#) (on page 2 of the pdf document);
- Your manuscript should not contain any information that has already been published. If you include already published figures or images, please obtain the necessary permission from the copyright holder to publish under the CC-BY license. For further information, see the [Copyrights](#) (on page 24 of the pdf document).
- **Plagiarism, data fabrication, and image manipulation are never tolerated.**
 - **Plagiarism is not acceptable** in submissions of *GCEJ*.
 - Plagiarism includes copying text, ideas, images, or data from another source, even from your own publications, without giving any credit to the original source.
 - Reuse of text that is copied from another source must be between quotes and the original source

must be cited. If a study's design or the manuscript's structure or language has been inspired by previous works, these works must be explicitly cited.

- All submissions are checked for plagiarism. If plagiarism is detected during the peer review process, the manuscript may be rejected. If plagiarism is detected after publication, an investigation will take place, and action taken in accordance with our policies.
- **Image files must not be manipulated or adjusted in any way**, that could lead to misinterpretation of the information provided by the original image.
- Irregular manipulation includes: (1) introduction, enhancement, moving, or removing features from the original image; (2) grouping of images that should obviously be presented separately (e.g., from different parts of the same gel, or different gels); or (3) modifying the contrast, brightness or color balance to obscure, eliminate or enhance some information.
- If irregular image manipulation is identified and confirmed during the peer review process, we may reject the manuscript. If irregular image manipulation is identified and confirmed after publication, we may correct or retract the paper.

Our in-house editors will investigate any allegations of publication misconduct and may contact the authors' institutions or funders if necessary. If evidence of misconduct is found, appropriate action will be taken to correct or retract the publication. Authors are expected to comply with the best ethical publication practices when publishing with *GCEJ*.

In cases where serious ethical concerns arise—such as plagiarism, data fabrication, image manipulation, or duplicate submission—*GCEJ* may contact the authors' affiliated institutions, funding bodies, or other journals involved to initiate or assist with an appropriate investigation. These communications will follow **COPE guidelines**, maintain confidentiality where appropriate, and ensure that due process is observed. We aim to uphold the integrity of the scientific record and prevent further ethical violations across the publication landscape.

6.4 Translations

GCEJ can consider high-quality content that has been previously published in different languages for publication, provided that the original study is appropriately referenced in the **Acknowledgments** section.

If you are planning to submit a translated version to *GCEJ*, please pay attention to the following issues:

1. Authors should clearly declare that their paper is a translated version in the cover letter at submission;
2. All authors from the original publication must appear on the submitted manuscript;
3. Appropriate permission must be sought and granted from the previous publisher, copyright holders, and/or authors of the original article before submitting the translated manuscript;
4. Relevant documentation relating to these permissions must be uploaded in the **Supplementary Materials** section during submission;
5. The journal editor must be informed about the publishing history of the previously published content;
6. The original article must be referenced in the **Acknowledgments** section.

You can consider the following announcement “**This is a translation/reprint of (insert title here) originally published in (insert language) by (insert publisher) (insert journal name, year, issue/volume number, page numbers). This translation was prepared by (insert name) with support from (insert name of funding source, if any). Permission was granted by (insert publisher, copyright holder, and/or author name).**”

Please note that any translated articles that do not follow the above guidelines are unacceptable. Those passing the pre-check will be strictly peer-reviewed following our editorial process.

6.5 Citation Policy

Authors should ensure that where the material is taken from (including their own published papers). The source should be clearly cited, and authors should state where appropriate permission is obtained.

Regarding the citation policy, please pay attention to the following issues:

1. Authors should not engage in excessive self-citation of their own work;
2. Authors should not copy references from other publications if they have not read the cited work;
3. Authors should not preferentially cite their own or their friends', peers', or institution's publications;
4. Authors should not cite advertisements or advertorial material.

In accordance with **COPE guidelines**, we expect that “original wording taken directly from publications by other researchers should appear in quotation marks with the appropriate citations.” This condition also applies to an author's own work. COPE has produced a discussion document on [Citation Manipulation](#) with recommendations for best practices. For detailed information of *GCEJ*'s policy on Citation Manipulation, please refer to Section **1.6 Citation Manipulation Policy of Ethical Policy for GCEJ**.

6.6 Reviewer Suggestions

During the submission process, we suggest authors recommend 3–5 potential reviewers with the appropriate expertise to review the manuscript. Please provide detailed contact information (affiliation, homepage, phone, E-mail address) to our editors, but **please note that editors have the right to check their qualifications and won't approach them necessarily**. The proposed reviewers should neither be current collaborators of the co-authors nor have published with any of the co-authors of the manuscript in the last year, meanwhile, they should come from different institutions with the authors.

6.7 Extensive English Editing

It is the authors' responsibility to submit their work in correct English and academic narrating style. In order to avoid **Reject Decisions** proposed by reviewers owing to language issues, we suggest authors have their work reviewed by an experienced English-speaking colleague or use a paid language-editing service before submitting their papers to us. If extensive editing is required, the manuscript will be returned to the authors for English editing, which may delay the peer review.

6.8 Preprints and Conference Papers

GCEJ accepts submissions that have previously been made available as preprints provided that they have not undergone peer review.

21

Expanded high-quality conference papers can also be considered as articles if they fulfill the following requirements: (1) the paper should be expanded to the size of a regular paper which is suitable to be published in a scientific journal; (2) the conference paper should be cited and noted on the first page of the paper; (3) if the authors do not hold the copyright of the published conference paper, authors should seek the appropriate permission from the copyright holder; (4) authors should disclose the source of this conference paper in the cover letter and include a statement on what has been changed compared to the original conference paper.

6.9 Authorship

GCEJ follows the [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors \(ICMJE\) Guidelines](#) which state that, in order to qualify for authorship of a manuscript, the following criteria should be observed:

1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work;
2. Drafting the work or reviewing it critically for important intellectual content;
3. Final approval of the version to be published;
4. Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved;
5. **Please note that we suggest every manuscript have only one Corresponding Author**, however, if authors have a special request, please explain the reason in the cover letter when submitting, or contact the **Editorial Office** of *GCEJ*.

Those who contributed to the work but do not qualify for authorship should be listed in the **Acknowledgments**. For more detailed guidance on authorship, please refer to the [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors \(ICMJE\)](#).

Any change to the author list should be approved by all authors including any who have been removed

from the list. The corresponding author should act as a point of contact between editors and the other authors and should keep co-authors informed and involve them in major decisions about the publication. We reserve the right to request confirmation that all authors meet the authorship conditions.

GCEJ follows the guidelines set by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) for [managing authorship disputes](#). In cases where authorship conflicts arise—such as disputes over author order, inclusion or exclusion of individuals as authors, or disagreements over the attribution of contributions—the **Editorial Office** will not act as an arbitrator.

Instead, the following steps will be taken:

1. **Initial Communication:** The **Editorial Office** will request all involved parties to provide a written explanation of their positions, including documentation or prior agreements (e.g., emails, contribution records, authorship declarations).
2. **Referral to Institutions:** If the dispute cannot be resolved by mutual agreement, the matter will be referred to the relevant institutions (such as the affiliated universities or research organizations) for investigation and resolution. The journal will await the outcome of such investigations before proceeding.
3. **Manuscript Status:** During an ongoing dispute, the journal may suspend the review or publication process. Manuscripts under dispute will not be considered for publication until the matter is fully resolved.
4. **Post-publication Disputes:** If a dispute arises after publication, corrections (e.g., corrigenda) or retractions may be issued based on the outcome of the institutional investigation or the recommendation of COPE.

Authors are therefore advised to discuss and agree upon authorship order and contributions prior to submission, and to provide a clear **Author Contributions Statement** as part of the submission process.

6.10 Updating Published Papers

GCEJ recognizes our responsibility to correct scientifically relevant errors or ethical issues that have been brought to our attention. To offer transparency regarding any changes for our authors and readers, we have the following standardized criteria in place for updates to any of our published papers.

22

- **Direct Update**

It refers to the updates made directly to the publication and can be completed in certain situations if deemed by the **Editorial Office** to be a reasonable request. Once approved, the paper will be updated and re-published on our website. Following this, all relevant indexing databases will be notified to ensure that the database versions have also been revised.

- **Corrections**

There are two types of *Corrections*:

- **Minor corrections** address issues that do not impact the scientific content of an article but require an updated version to be uploaded to the version of the record. If this update is approved, it will be accompanied by the addition of a footnote on the PDF version and the addition of a “correction statement” located in the **Back Matter** of the website version. A minor correction will not be accompanied by a separate published correction notice.
- **Major corrections** aim to address issues and errors that could affect the scientific interpretation of an article. Once approved, the paper will be updated and re-published on our website, along with the publication of a **Correction**. This notice is a separate publication that links to the updated paper but is published in the most current issue of the journal. The **Correction** notifies all readers that a significant change has occurred to the paper and that the revised version is now available on the website.

Following both the **Minor and Major Corrections**, all relevant indexing databases will be notified to ensure that the database versions have also been revised.

- **Author Name Change Policy**

Some authors might wish to change their names after the publication of their papers. In such cases, *GCEJ* will update and republish the article and re-deliver the updated metadata to the appropriate indexing databases (please note that all updates are dependent upon the policies of the databases). Our teams are aware that name

changes can be sensitive and/or private, for a variety of reasons that may include alignment with gender identity, marriage, divorce, or religious conversion. Therefore, to protect the author's identity, a **Correction** will not be published and co-authors will not be notified. Authors should contact the journal's **Editorial Office** with their name change request.

- **Retractions**

Sometimes a paper needs to be retracted from the body of research literature. This could be due to inadvertent errors made during the research process, gross ethical breaches, fabrication of data, large amounts of plagiarism, or other reasons. Such articles threaten the integrity of scientific records and need to be retracted.

GCEJ follows the recommendations of the [Committee On Publication Ethics \(COPE\) For Retraction](#).

If a **Retraction** is published, the original publication is amended with a "RETRACTED" watermark, but will still be available on the journal's website for future reference. However, retracted articles should not be cited and used for further research, as they cannot be relied upon. **Retractions** are published using the same authorship and affiliation as the paper being retracted, so that the notice and the original retracted paper can be properly found by readers within indexing databases. The **Retraction** notice will also be published in the current Issue of the journal. **Partial Retractions** might be published in cases where results are only partially wrong.

A paper will only be completely removed from *GCEJ*'s website and relevant indexing databases in very exceptional circumstances, such as:

- (1) The removal has been requested by an order from a court or government authority;
- (2) The content poses a threat to personal privacy or the legal rights of other parties, which cannot be adequately addressed through editorial notices or updates;
- (3) The research was conducted or published unlawfully, and its ongoing presence may lead to potential legal issues or privacy concerns;
- (4) Although marked as retracted, the content poses risks to the general public.

Under these situations, the retraction notice explains why the entire paper has been removed, and only the metadata (title and authors) is kept. For detailed information, please refer to [Section 6.3 Retraction Policy in Editorial Process for GCEJ](#).

23

- **Expression of Concern**

For complex, inconclusive, or prolonged situations, an **Expression of Concern** may be published. If investigations into alleged or suspected research misconduct have not yet been completed or prove to be inconclusive, our in-house editor may wish to publish an **Expression of Concern**, detailing the points of concern and what actions, if any, are in progress.

- **Comments and Replies**

If readers have concerns about the reported results or methods used in a specific paper, they should approach our **Editorial Office** and if deemed reasonable, a **Comment** may be submitted for potential publication. **Comments** are short letters to the editors from readers who would like to publicly question a specific paper.

Once a **Comment** is approved for further peer review, the **Editorial Office** will then approach the authors of the paper in question and invite them to prepare a **Reply** to this **Comment**. The **Reply** allows the authors to publicly respond to the concerns pointed out by the reader. If the reader's complaints are substantiated, and the authors are not able to adequately respond to the concerns, a **Correction** of the original paper may be published, or the paper can be retracted entirely. If authors do not provide a response by the deadline provided, or decide not to respond, the **Comment** may be published alongside a note that explains the absence of the **Reply**.

Both **Comments** and **Replies** will be reviewed to ensure that:

- the **Comment** addresses significant aspects of the original paper without becoming essentially a new paper;
- the **Reply** responds directly to any concerns, without becoming evasive;
- the tone of both publications is appropriate for a scientific journal.

While **Comments** can criticize the work, they should not criticize the work's authors. **Comments** should not reiterate previously published disagreements. No more than one round of **Comment** and **Reply** will be

facilitated where that discussion is from the same reader/s. Please note that *GCEJ* only accepts the submission of *Comments* on articles that were published by us.

6.11 Copyrights and Licensing

For all papers published by *GCEJ*, the copyright is retained by the authors. The *Journal* allows authors to retain the copyright of their papers without restrictions. However, the *Journal* reserves the right to reprint all or portions of the paper and to post all or part of the article paper. The *Journal* reserves the right to edit manuscripts as required to publish. Authors are responsible for obtaining any clearances as appropriate. Unless stated otherwise, all papers are licensed under an open access [Creative Commons CC BY 4.0](#) license, which means that any re-user can freely **share—copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially, and adapt—remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially.** In addition, the authors must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made.

In exceptional circumstances, papers may be licensed differently. If you have a specific condition (such as one linked to funding) that does not allow this license, please mention this to our **Editorial Office** at submission. Exceptions will be granted at the discretion of the *Editor-in-Chief*. In case of any dispute regarding copyright ownership or licensing, *GCEJ* will follow COPE guidelines and may request supporting documentation or legal proof of ownership prior to publication.

By submitting the manuscript to *GCEJ*, the corresponding author affirms that all co-authors have read and agreed to the journal's copyright and licensing policies.

Author(s) must obtain all parties' consent (all authors have participated in the paper and agreed to submit it for publication) and submit the acceptance of the Copyright Agreement with their paper. Written permission must be obtained by the author for material that has been published in copyrighted material; which includes tables, figures, and quoted text that exceeds 150 words. A copy of all permissions must accompany the manuscript when published in copyrighted material. The author(s) hereby represents and warrants that the paper is original and that he/she is the author of the paper, except for material that is clearly identified as to its original source, with permission notices from the copyright owners where required. Author(s) must clearly indicate that approval for publication has been received in cases of institutional ownership.

All listed authors must meet authorship criteria and agree to be accountable for all aspects of the work. Contributors who do not meet authorship criteria should be acknowledged appropriately.

- **Reproducing Published Material from other Publishers**

It is absolutely essential that authors obtain permission to reproduce any published material (figures, schemes, tables, or any extract of a text) which does not fall into the public domain, or for which they do not hold the copyright. Permission should be requested by the authors from the copyright holder (usually the Publisher, please refer to the imprint of the individual publications to identify the copyright holder).

Permission is required for:

1. Your own papers published by other Publishers and for which you did not retain copyright;
2. Substantial extracts from anyone's works or a series of works;
3. Use of Tables, Graphs, Charts, Schemes, and Artworks if they are unaltered or slightly modified;
4. Photographs for which you do not hold copyright.

Permission is not required for:

1. Reconstruction of your own table with data already published elsewhere. Please notice that in this case, you must cite the source of the data in the form of either "Data from..." or "Adapted from...";
2. Reasonably short quotes are considered fair use and therefore do not require permission;
3. Graphs, Charts, Schemes, and Artworks that are completely redrawn by the authors and significantly changed beyond recognition do not require permission.

- **Obtaining Permission**

In order to avoid unnecessary delays in the publication process, you should start obtaining permissions as early as possible. Please note that *GCEJ* cannot publish material from other publications without permission. If you

have any questions about the copyright, please ask for permission.

The copyright holder may give you instructions on the form of acknowledgment to be followed; otherwise, follow the style: “Reproduced with permission from [author], [book/journal title]; published by [publisher], [year].” at the end of the caption of the Table, Figure or Scheme.

6.12 Editorial Independence

- **Lack of Interference with Editorial Decisions**

Editorial independence is of utmost importance and *GCEJ* will never interfere with editorial decisions. All articles published by *GCEJ* are double-blind peer-reviewed and assessed by our independent Editorial Boards, and *GCEJ* staff are not involved in decisions to accept manuscripts. When making an editorial decision, we expect the *Academic Editor (Editor-in-Chief)* to make the decision based only upon:

- The suitability of selected reviewers;
- Adequacy of reviewer comments and author response;
- Overall scientific quality of the paper.

In every aspect of operation, *GCEJ* policies are informed by the mission to make science and clinical engineering research findings open and accessible as widely and rapidly as possible.

- **Editors and Editorial Staff as Authors**

Editorial staff/editors shall not be involved in processing their own academic work. Submissions authored by editorial staff/editors will be assigned to at least two independent outside reviewers. Decisions will be made by other Editorial Board Members who do not have conflicts of interest with the author. Journal staff are not allowed to be involved in processing their own work submitted to *GCEJ*.

6.13 Conflicts of Interest

According to **The International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)**, “Authors should avoid entering into agreements with study sponsors, both for-profit and non-profit, that interfere with authors’ access to all of the study’s data or that interfere with their ability to analyze and interpret the data and to prepare and publish manuscripts independently when and where they choose.” We strictly follow the [guidance of COPE on handling conflicts of interest](#), and always ensure the best practices for handling competing interests.

All authors must disclose all relationships or interests that could inappropriately influence or bias their work. Examples of potential conflicts of interest include but are not limited to financial interests (such as membership, employment, consultancies, stocks/shares ownership, honoraria, grants or other funding, paid expert testimonies, and patent-licensing arrangements) and non-financial interests (such as personal or professional relationships, affiliations, personal beliefs).

Authors can disclose potential conflicts of interest via the online submission system during the submission process. Declarations regarding conflicts of interest can also be collected via the [GCEJ Disclosure Form](#). The corresponding author must include a summary statement in the manuscript in a separate section “**Conflicts of Interest**” placed just before the reference list. The statement should reflect all the collected potential conflicts of interest disclosures in the form.

See below for examples of disclosures:

Conflicts of Interest: Author A has received research grants from Company A. Author B has received a speaker honorarium from Company X and owns stocks in Company Y. Author C has been involved as a consultant and expert witness in Company Z. Author D is the inventor of patent X.

If no conflicts exist, the authors should state:

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

7. Editorial Procedures and Peer Review

7.1 Pre-check

Immediately after submission, the journal’s *Editor-in-Chief* will perform the technical pre-check to assess:

- Overall suitability of the manuscript to the journal, including Special Issues and Conferences;
- Manuscript adherence to high-quality research and ethical standards;
- Standards of rigor to qualify for further review.

The *Editor-in-Chief* (or other *Editorial Board Members/Guest Editors*) will be notified of the submission and invited to perform an editorial pre-check. During the editorial pre-check phase, the *Editor-in-Chief* will assess the suitability of the submission with respect to the scope of the journal, as well as the overall scientific soundness of the manuscript, including the relevance of the references and the correctness of the applied methodology. The *Editor-in-Chief* can decide to reject the manuscript, request revisions before peer review, or continue with the peer review process and recommend suitable reviewers.

7.2 Peer Review

Once a manuscript passes the initial checks, it will be assigned to at least two independent experts for peer review. A double-blind review is applied, where the identities of authors and reviewers will not be presented to each other. Peer review comments are confidential and will only be disclosed with the express agreement of the reviewer.

In the case of regular submissions, in-house *Assistant Editors* will invite experts from the Reviewer Board of *GCEJ*, including recommendations by the *Editor-in-Chief* or other *Editors*. These experts may also include *Editorial Board Members* and *Guest Editors* of the journal. Potential reviewers suggested by the authors may also be considered (not necessarily, editors will check the qualifications and conflicts of interest). Reviewers should not have published with any of the co-authors during the last year and should not currently work or collaborate with any of the institutions of the co-author.

To ensure the integrity of the double-blind peer review for submission to *GCEJ*, every effort should be made to prevent the identities of the authors and reviewers from being known to each other. This involves the authors, editors, and reviewers (who upload documents as part of their review) checking to see if the following steps have been taken with regard to the text and the file properties:

- The authors of the document have deleted their names from the text, with “Author” and year used in the references and footnotes, instead of the authors’ name, paper title, etc.
- Please remove the parts and sections that may include authors’ information, e.g., **Authors list and institutional information** in the **Front Matter**, **Acknowledgments**, **Fundings**, and **Author Contributions** in the **Back Matter**, and upload these contents in separate files.
- With Microsoft Office documents, author identification should also be removed from the properties for the file (see under File in Word), by clicking on the following, beginning with File on the main menu of the Microsoft application:
 - ✧ File > Save As > Tools (or Options with a Mac) > Security > Remove personal information from file properties on save > Save.
- With PDFs, the authors' names should also be removed from Document Properties found under File on Adobe Acrobat's main menu.

7.3 Editorial Decision and Revision⁹

All the regular manuscripts (including *Articles*, *Reviews*, *Communications*, etc.) submitted to *GCEJ* will go through the peer review process and receive at least two review reports. The *Editor-in-Chief* will make the academic decision after peer review, which includes the following:

- ***Accept in Current Form***

The manuscript’s academic quality has been improved after strict peer review and the *Editor-in-Chief* doesn’t have further comments, which means it can be accepted for publication right away.

- ***Accept after Minor Revisions***

⁹ Authors should reply to the “**Revision Request**” sent by the *GCEJ* Editorial Office. **Besides, if the Office cannot hear from the authors after several reminders, and the revision time exceeds two months, then we have the right to reject the manuscript.**

The paper is in principle accepted after revision based on the reviewer's comments. However, several tiny points need to be considered before acceptance. In this circumstance, authors are given five days for minor revisions.

- **Reconsider after Major Revisions**

The acceptance of the manuscript would depend on the revisions. The author needs to provide a **point-by-point response** to the comments or prepare a **Rebuttal** if some of the reviewer's comments cannot be revised. For every manuscript, a maximum of two rounds of major revision is normally provided. Authors will be asked to resubmit the revised version within a suitable time frame (**no more than one month**), and the revised version will be returned to the reviewer for further comments. If the required revision time is estimated to be longer than two months, we recommend that authors withdraw their manuscript before resubmitting, so as to avoid unnecessary time pressure and to ensure that all manuscripts are sufficiently revised.

- **Reject and Encourage Resubmission**

If additional experiments are needed to support the conclusions, the manuscript will be rejected and the authors will be encouraged to re-submit the paper once further experiments have been conducted.

- **Reject**

If the manuscript has serious flaws, and/or makes no original significant contribution, then no offer of resubmission to the journal is provided.

Please note that, **all reviewers' comments should be timely responded to in a point-by-point fashion. Where the authors disagree with a reviewer, they must provide a clear and timely response as well.** We kindly request authors to **prepare a Cover Letter**, when addressing the comments in the review report, detailing **responses to every point proposed by the reviewer**. Meanwhile, **all revisions** to the manuscript **should be highlighted, using the function of track changes**.

7.4 Author Appeals and Ethical Complaints

- **Appeals Policy**

Authors have the right to appeal a rejection decision if they believe it was made unfairly or in error. Appeals must be submitted **within 3 months** of the decision date and must include a **detailed justification** along with **point-by-point responses** to all reviewer and/or editor comments. Appeals must be submitted via email to the **Editorial Office** using the official [Appeal Form](#). Appeals are only applicable to decisions marked "**Reject and Decline Resubmission.**"

Upon receipt, the **Managing Editor** will verify the completeness of the appeal materials and forward the case, including the manuscript, review reports, and reviewer identities (where applicable), to the **Editor-in-Chief**. This handling editor will review the appeal independently, and may:

- Uphold the original rejection decision;
- Recommend further peer review;
- Recommend acceptance of the manuscript.

The final decision will be documented and validated by the **Editor-in-Chief**, and is not subject to further appeal.

All appeals are handled **confidentially, impartially, and promptly**, following COPE best practices. Editors involved in the original decision will not participate in the appeal evaluation.

- **Ethical Complaints Against Editors, Reviewers, or Staff**

Complaints concerning potential ethical breaches—such as **undisclosed conflicts of interest, misuse of privileged information, or unresponsiveness by editorial staff**—will be treated seriously and investigated confidentially.

We designate the **Editor-in-Chief** (or a senior ethics panel, if necessary) as the primary contact for all ethics-related inquiries and complaints. The journal follows [COPE's guidance for responding to suspected misconduct](#). In serious cases, we may contact:

- **Author institutions**, employers, or funders for further investigation of misconduct;
- **Other journals or editors**, in cases involving simultaneous submissions or unethical reviewer/editor

behavior;

- **Legal counsel or independent experts**, when needed.

Our goal is to ensure fairness, transparency, and integrity throughout the editorial process and to correct the scientific record promptly when necessary.

7.5 Production and Publication

Once accepted, the manuscript will undergo professional **Copy-editing**, **English editing**, and **Proofreading** by the in-house editors, and will be sent back to the authors for their final approval. Once receive the **Author Proofreading Confirmation Request**, the authors should go through the manuscript and confirm that “**All authors have agreed on this final version to be published**”, **within 3-5 working days**. Please note that, during the Author Proofreading Confirmation stage, **no changes to author information, data, methods, or any other academic points could be accepted**. The final corrections, pagination, and publication will be done on the *GCEJ* website.

8. Appendix 1—GCEJ-Front Matter & Back Matter Template

Front & Back Matter Template

Front Matter

Type of Manuscript:

Article Title (the first letter of all notional words should be capitalized)

Author Name List¹⁰: First Name Last Name^{1†}, First Name Last Name^{2†}, First Name Last Name¹, First Name Last Name³, First Name Last Name^{1,2}, First Name Last Name⁴, First Name Last Name^{1,5}, First Name Last Name^{1*}

1 Department, University/Company, City, State/Province, Country/Territorial Region.

2 Department, University/Company, City, State/Province, Country/Territorial Region.

3 Department, University/Company, City, State/Province, Country/Territorial Region.

4 Department, University/Company, City, State/Province, Country/Territorial Region.

5 Department, University/Company, City, State/Province, Country/Territorial Region.

[†]*These authors contributed equally to this work.*¹¹

*Corresponding Author Email: Email address¹²

For Special Issue Submission: This manuscript is submitted to Special Issue Title and/or invited by Guest Editor's Name.

For Regular Submission: This manuscript is a regular submission.

29

¹⁰ Name Formatting:

- The *first name* should be the given name, and the *last name* should be the surname or family name.
- Middle names may be provided in full or as initials.
- Exceptions: Names from communities following the paternal name convention are exempt from this format.

Affiliation Numbers:

- Assign affiliation numbers sequentially.
- Use symbols (e.g., asterisks * or obelisks †) only after the affiliation numbers for each author.

¹¹ Symbol Usage:

- The obelisk (†) signifies joint first authorship.
- The asterisk (*) indicates the corresponding author.

¹² We suggest that every manuscript have only one Corresponding Author. However, if authors have special requests, please explain them in the cover letter or contact the **Editorial Office** of *GCEJ*. The official email address which is related to authors' affiliation is preferred.

Back Matter

Supplementary Materials

Describe any supplementary material published online alongside the manuscript (figures, tables, video, spreadsheets, etc.). **Please indicate the name and title of each element as follows Figure S1: title, Table S1: title, etc.**

Author Contributions

This section should be included in original research articles and review articles. We encourage authors to use **Contributor Roles Taxonomy (CRediT)** (<https://casrai.org/credit/>) in describing each contributor's specific contribution to the scholarly output in the Author Contributions section.

Below is a sample of **Author Contributions** section written based on the CRediT:

The following statements should be used¹³ **“Conceptualization, X.X. and Y.Y.; Methodology, X.X.; Software, X.X.; Hardware, X.X., Validation, X.X., Y.Y., and Z.Z.; Formal Analysis, X.X.; Investigation, X.X.; Resources, X.X.; Data Curation, X.X.; Writing–Original Draft Preparation, X.X.; Writing–Review & Editing, X.X.; Visualization, X.X.; Supervision, X.X.; Project Administration, X.X.; Funding Acquisition, Y.Y.”**

Acknowledgments

This is an optional section where authors can acknowledge people and/or institutions that provided non-financial support and/or helped with the research and/or preparation of the manuscript. People to be acknowledged include those who do not qualify as authors. Examples of non-financial support include externally supplied equipment/biological sources, writing assistance, administrative support, and contributions from non-authors. Authors are responsible for obtaining permission to acknowledge people and/or institutions to be included in this list.

If none of the above is pertinent, state **“Not applicable”**.

Funding

All sources of funding for the study should be disclosed. Clearly indicate grants that you have received in support of your research work and if you received funds to cover publication costs. Note that some funders will not refund article processing charges (APC) if the funder and grant number are not clearly and correctly identified in the paper. Funding information can be entered separately into the submission system by the authors during the submission of their manuscripts. Such funding information, if available, will be deposited to the Open Funder Registry (OFR) if the manuscript is finally published.

Please state **“This research received no external funding”**, **“This research was funded by [name of funder] grant number [xxx]”**, or **“The APC was funded by [XXX]”** in this section. Please check carefully that the details given are accurate and use the standard spelling of funding agency names at the [Open Funder Registry \(OFR\)](#), as any errors may affect your future funding.

Data Availability Statement

In this section, please provide details regarding where data supporting reported results can be found, including links to publicly archived datasets analyzed or generated during the study. You might choose to

¹³ Choose the ones that are appropriate to your work, context, contributions, and type of manuscript.

exclude this statement if the study did not report any new data.

If none of the above is pertinent, state “**Not applicable**”.

Conflicts of Interest

At the time of submission, authors must declare any (potential) conflicts or competing interests with any institutes, organizations, or agencies that might influence the integrity of results or objective interpretation of their submitted works. For more information, see our ***Conflicts of Interest*** policy.

Please state “**The authors declare they have no competing interests**” or words to that effect if the authors do not have anything to declare.

Ethics Approval and Consent to Participate

If the paper describes a study that involves humans, animals, or primary cell lines from human patients, provide a statement stipulating the name of the research ethics committee or Institutional Review Board (IRB) that grants the approval to carry out said study, and include the research ethics approval number for reference. Be specific in detailing the aspects the committee or IRB permits or approves. If more than one ethics committee and/or IRB were involved, state all of their names and carefully detail the aspects each of them approves of for carrying out the study.

If human subjects were involved, **state what form of consent (e.g., written and/or verbal) and whether or not permission was obtained from each of the subjects to PARTICIPATE in the study.** If consent-taking was not performed when human subjects were involved, provide a justification herein.

If none of the above is pertinent, state “**Not applicable**”.

Consent for Publication

If human subjects were involved, **state what form of consent (e.g., written and/or verbal) and whether or not permission was obtained from each of the subjects to PUBLISH their data and/or images.** Efforts must be made by the authors to at least mask or conceal any identifying information of the patients that appear in writing or within photographs. If consent-taking was not performed when human subjects were involved, provide a justification herein.

If none of the above is pertinent, state “**Not applicable**”.

Further Disclosure

This section is reserved to inform the readers and editors of a few aspects:

- (i) Part of or the entire set of findings have been presented in a conference, academic meeting, congress, etc.; and/or
- (ii) The paper has been uploaded to or deposited in a preprint server (provide the name of the preprint server and associated accession number or DOI of the preprint.

If none of the above is pertinent, state “**Not applicable**”.

References

GCEJ uses a slightly modified version of the Vancouver style for reference. When there are more than 4 authors, shorten to 3 and add “et al.” Journal titles should be abbreviated as in PubMed. Please see the cases below:

- Journal Article: Abate, M., Salini, V., Rimondi, E., et al. Post-traumatic myositis ossificans: sonographic

findings. *J Clin Ultrasound*. 2011;39(3):135–140. doi:10.1002/jcu.20792.

- Book: Cardenosa, G. *Breast Imaging Companion*, 3rd edition. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins: Philadelphia, USA; 2007; pp. 24–29.
- Chapter in a Book: Galloway, A.C., Colvin, S.B., Grossi, E.A., et al. Acquired heart disease. In *Principles of Surgery*, 6th ed.; Schwartz, S.I., Shires, G.T., Spencer, F.C., eds. McGraw-Hill: New York, USA; 1994; pp. 845–899.
- Web Page: Breast Cancer Society of Canada. Breast cancer statistics. Toronto, ON: Author; 2012. Available online: <http://www.bccsc.ca/p/46/1/105/t>.

For more resources on [GCEJ Reference List](#), you may also consider the following guidelines:

- Conference Proceedings:
 1. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C.D.; Author 3, E.F. Title of Presentation. In *Title of the Collected Work* (if available), *Proceedings of the Name of the Conference*, Location of Conference, Country, Date of Conference; Editor 1, Editor 2, eds. (if available); Publisher: City, Country, Year (if available); Abstract Number (optional), Pagination (optional).
- Journal Articles:
 2. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C.D. Title of the article. *Abbreviated Journal Name*. Year; Volume(Issue):page range. doi.
- Books and Book Chapters:
 3. Author 1, A.; Author 2, B. *Book Title*, 3rd ed. Publisher: Publisher Location, Country; Year; pp. 154–196.
 4. Author 1, A.; Author 2, B. Title of the chapter. In *Book Title*, 2nd ed.; Editor 1, A., Editor 2, B., eds. Publisher: Publisher Location, Country; Year; pp. 154–196.
- Unpublished materials intended for publication:
 5. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C. Title of Unpublished Work (optional). Correspondence Affiliation, City, State, Country. year, status (manuscript in preparation; to be submitted).
 6. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C. Title of Unpublished Work. *Abbreviated Journal Name* year, phrase indicating stage of publication (submitted; accepted; in press).
- Unpublished materials not intended for publication:
 7. Author 1, A.B. (Affiliation, City, State, Country); Author 2, C. (Affiliation, City, State, Country). Phase describing the material, year. (phase: Personal communication; Private communication; Unpublished work; etc.)
- Thesis:
 8. Author 1, A.B. Title of Thesis. Level of Thesis, Degree-Granting University, Location of University, Date of Completion.
- Websites:
 9. Title of Site. Available online: URL.

Unlike published works, websites may change over time or disappear, so we encourage you to create an archive of the cited website using a service such as [WebCite](#). Archived websites should be cited using the link provided as follows:

 10. Title of Site. URL.

9. Appendix 2—GCEJ-Original Research Article Template

Type of Manuscript: Original Research Article

Title (the first letter of all notional words should be capitalized)

For Special Issue Submission: This manuscript is submitted to Special Issue Title and/or invited by Guest Editor's Name.

For Regular Submission: This manuscript is a regular submission.

Abstract

The abstract should be **up to 500 words** and structured to contain the following headings: **Background/Objectives, Methods, Results, and Conclusions.** **Background/Objectives:** Place the question addressed in a broad context and highlight the purpose of the study; **Methods:** Describe briefly the main methods or treatments applied. Include any relevant preregistration numbers and species and strains of any animals if used; **Results:** Summarize the article's main findings; **Conclusions:** Indicate the main conclusions or interpretations. The abstract should be an objective representation of the article: it must not contain results that are not presented and substantiated in the main text and should not exaggerate the main conclusions. **It should not contain any non-standard abbreviations, acknowledgments of support, references, or footnotes.**

Keywords: Keyword 1, Keyword 2, Keyword 3, Keyword 4, Keyword 5, Keyword 6

1. Introduction

Standard English is desirable throughout the text. **Abbreviations should be spelled out when first used.** Integers below ten should also be spelled out ("six" instead of "6" for example). If non-English words are used, such as *de facto*, please italicize them. Authors are encouraged to have their manuscripts proofread and English edited by native speakers before submission.

Do not use footnotes in every section of the manuscript. Avoid using sub-sections in the first section, commonly known as the **Introduction** or **Background**.

Define abbreviations and acronyms upon their first appearance, separately, in the **Abstract, Main Text, Table legends, and Figure captions and legends.**

In-text citations listed in the References section at the end of the submission should be numbered consecutively in superscript. For example: Multidisciplinary research spans many disciplines¹. This result was later contradicted by McClusky and McCarthy^{2,3}. This effect has been widely studied⁴⁻⁶. This hypothesis is supported by many schools of thought^{3,7-9}.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1. Materials

State all the materials used in the study, and include the manufacturer's name, city, and country of origin.

2.2. Method 1

Describe the method clearly and concisely.

2.3. Method 2

Describe the method clearly and concisely.

Use Arabic numerals in parentheses, e.g., (1), (2), (3), (4), to list equations and formulae. **Please define all the variates in the equations and cite the equations in the manuscript.**

e.g., $E=mc^2$ (1)

2.3.1. Description A

GCEJ allows up to 3 levels of headings.

2.3.2. Description B

Avoid introducing further sub-sections after the level 3 (e.g., **2.3.2.1. Sub-description**).

2.4. Statistical analysis

Include at least one paragraph describing the statistical tests and software used for data analysis.

3. Results

3.1. Result A

Describe the result clearly and concisely. All **Figures** and **Tables** presented in the paper must be cited in the text in chronological order. **The resolution of Figures should be high**, to guarantee all the details and words are properly presented. Please pay special attention to the font, font size, line space, etc. in Figures and Tables. **All the abbreviations special marks, and special layout (font colors, background colors, highlights, italic words, bold words, etc.) should be defined. Please note that the Table cannot be an image or screenshot and prepare it in plain text or use the Microsoft Word Table functions.**

For instance, **Figure 1** shows xxxxxx, and **Table 1** presents xxxxxx. xxxxxx can be found in **Figure 2/****Table 2**. Meanwhile, the **Figures** and **Tables** should appear after the paragraph of their first citations.

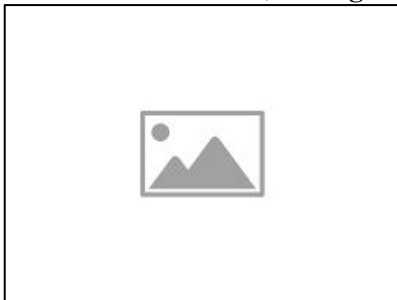


Figure 1. Give the title of Figure 1 and the figure caption should be beneath the image.

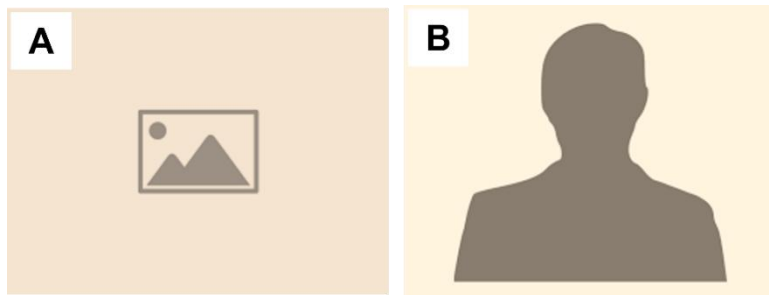


Figure 2. Title of Figure 2. (A) Give a proper title to every subfigure. (B) Give a proper title to every subfigure.

Table 1. The table caption should be placed on top of the table.

Parameters	Temperature		
	xx°C	xx°C	xx°C
Parameter A	xx	xx ^b	xx
Parameter B	xx ^a	xx	xx

Add a legend below the table. Define all abbreviations used in the table in alphabetical order and define the symbols used. ^a $P < 0.05$, ^b $P < 0.01$.

Table 2. The table caption should be placed on top of the table.

Parameters	Light Intensity		
	Low	Moderate	High
Parameter A	xx	xx ^b	xx
Parameter B	xx ^a	xx	xx

Add a legend below the table. Define all abbreviations used in the table in alphabetical order and define the symbols used. ^a $P < 0.05$, ^b $P < 0.01$.

Materials that have been published previously should be accompanied by written permission from the copyright holder, such as author(s) and publisher. The statement of written permission should be written in the copyright holder's preferred style.

Personal communications and unpublished works can only be used in the manuscript and are not to be placed in the **References** section. These should be made identifiable by stating the authors, year of personal communications or unpublished works, and the words "personal communication" or "unpublished" in parenthesis, e.g., (Smith J, 2000, unpublished).

3.2. Result B

Describe the result clearly and concisely. All Figures and Tables presented in the paper must be cited in the text in chronological order; for instance, **Figure 3 (A)** shows xxxxxx, while **Figure 3(B)** shows xxxxxx, and **Table 3** presents xxxxxx.

3.3. Result C

3.3.1. Description A

GCEJ allows up to 3 levels of headings.

3.3.2. Description B

Avoid introducing further sub-sections after the level 3 (e.g., **2.3.2.1. Sub-description**).

4. Discussion

Discussion can be presented alone, independent of the **Results** section. Alternatively, **Discussion** can also be merged with **Results** as "**3. Results and Discussion**", and sub-sections can be used for better presentation too.

In-text citations that will be listed in the **References** section at the end of the submission should be numbered consecutively in superscript. **All references must be cited in numerical order (consecutive positive sequence)**.

5. Conclusion

Conclusion should present the most important findings and conclusions in this section. A summary of the manuscript, results, findings, limitations, etc. can be discussed.

References

GCEJ uses a slightly modified version of the Vancouver style for reference. When there are more than 4 authors, shorten to 3 and add "et al." Journal titles should be abbreviated as in PubMed. Please see the cases below:

- Journal Article: Abate, M., Salini, V., Rimondi, E., et al. Post-traumatic myositis ossificans: sonographic findings. *J Clin Ultrasound*. 2011;39(3):135–140. doi:10.1002/jcu.20792.
- Book: Cardenosa, G. *Breast Imaging Companion*, 3rd edition. Lippincott Williams & Wilkins:

Philadelphia, USA; 2007; pp. 24–29.

- Chapter in a Book: Galloway, A.C., Colvin, S.B., Grossi, E.A., et al. Acquired heart disease. In *Principles of Surgery*, 6th ed.; Schwartz, S.I., Shires, G.T., Spencer, F.C., eds. McGraw-Hill: New York, USA; 1994; pp. 845–899.
- Web Page: Breast Cancer Society of Canada. Breast cancer statistics. Toronto, ON: Author; 2012. Available online: <http://www.bccsc.ca/p/46/1/105/t>.

For more resources on [GCEJ Reference List](#), you may also consider the following guidelines:

- Conference Proceedings:
 1. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C.D.; Author 3, E.F. Title of Presentation. In *Title of the Collected Work* (if available), *Proceedings of the Name of the Conference*, Location of Conference, Country, Date of Conference; Editor 1, Editor 2, eds. (if available); Publisher: City, Country, Year (if available); Abstract Number (optional), Page range (optional).
- Journal Articles:
 2. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C.D. Title of the article. *Abbreviated Journal Name* Year; Volume(Issue):page range. doi.
- Books and Book Chapters:
 3. Author 1, A.; Author 2, B. *Book Title*, 3rd ed. Publisher: Publisher Location, Country; Year; pp. 154–196.
 4. Author 1, A.; Author 2, B. Title of the chapter. In *Book Title*, 2nd ed.; Editor 1, A., Editor 2, B., eds. Publisher: Publisher Location, Country; Year; pp. 154–196.
- Unpublished materials intended for publication:
 5. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C. Title of Unpublished Work (optional). Correspondence Affiliation, City, State, Country. year, status (manuscript in preparation; to be submitted).
 6. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C. Title of Unpublished Work. *Abbreviated Journal Name* year, phrase indicating stage of publication (submitted; accepted; in press).
- Unpublished materials not intended for publication:
 7. Author 1, A.B. (Affiliation, City, State, Country); Author 2, C. (Affiliation, City, State, Country). Phase describing the material, year. (phase: Personal communication; Private communication; Unpublished work; etc.)
- Thesis:
 8. Author 1, A.B. Title of Thesis. Level of Thesis, Degree-Granting University, Location of University, Date of Completion.
- Websites:
 9. Title of Site. Available online: URL.

Unlike published works, websites may change over time or disappear, so we encourage you to create an archive of the cited website using a service such as [WebCite](#). Archived websites should be cited using the link provided as follows:

 10. Title of Site. URL.

10. Appendix 3—GCEJ-Review or Perspective Template

Type of Manuscript: Review/Perspective

Title (the first letter of all notional words should be capitalized)

For Special Issue Submission: This manuscript is submitted to Special Issue Title and/or invited by Guest Editor's Name.

For Regular Submission: This manuscript is a regular submission.

Abstract

The abstract should be **up to 500 words** and structured to contain the following headings: **Background/Objectives, Methods, Results, and Conclusions.** **Background/Objectives:** Place the question addressed in a broad context and highlight the purpose of the study; **Methods:** Describe briefly the main methods or treatments applied. Include any relevant preregistration numbers and species and strains of any animals if used; **Results:** Summarize the article's main findings; **Conclusions:** Indicate the main conclusions or interpretations. The abstract should be an objective representation of the article: it must not contain results that are not presented and substantiated in the main text and should not exaggerate the main conclusions. **It should not contain any non-standard abbreviations, acknowledgments of support, references, or footnotes.**

Keywords: Keyword 1, Keyword 2, Keyword 3, Keyword 4, Keyword 5, Keyword 6

1. Heading

Standard English is desirable throughout the text. **Abbreviations should be spelled out when first used.** Integers below ten should also be spelled out ("six" instead of "6" for example). If non-English words are used, such as *de facto*, please italicize them. Authors are encouraged to have their manuscripts proofread and English edited by native speakers before submission.

Do not use footnotes in every section of the manuscript. Avoid using sub-sections in the first section, commonly known as the **Introduction** or **Background**.

Define abbreviations and acronyms upon their first appearance, separately, in the **Abstract, Main Text, Table legends,** and **Figure captions and legends.**

In-text citations listed in the References section at the end of the submission should be numbered consecutively in superscript. For example: Multidisciplinary research spans many disciplines¹. This result was later contradicted by McClusky and McCarthy^{2,3}. This effect has been widely studied⁴⁻⁶. This hypothesis is supported by many schools of thought^{3,7-9}.

2. Heading

2.1. Sub-heading

All **Figures** and **Tables** presented in the paper must be cited in the text in chronological order. **The resolution of Figures should be high,** to guarantee all the details and words are properly presented. Please pay special attention to the font, font size, line space, etc. in Figures and Tables. **All the abbreviations special marks, and special layout (font colors, background colors, highlights, italic words, bold words, etc.) should be defined.** Please note that the **Table cannot be an image or screenshot and prepare it in plain text or use the Microsoft Word Table functions.**

For instance, Figure 1 shows xxxxxx, and Table 1 presents xxxxxx. xxxxxx can be found in Figure 2/Table 2. Meanwhile, the **Figures** and **Tables** should appear after the paragraph of their first citations.

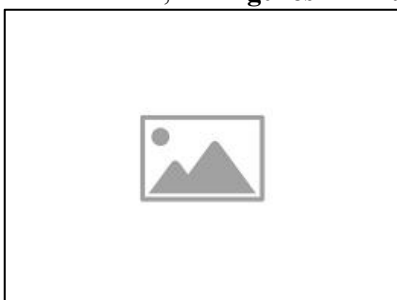


Figure 1. Give the title of Figure 1 and the figure caption should be beneath the image.

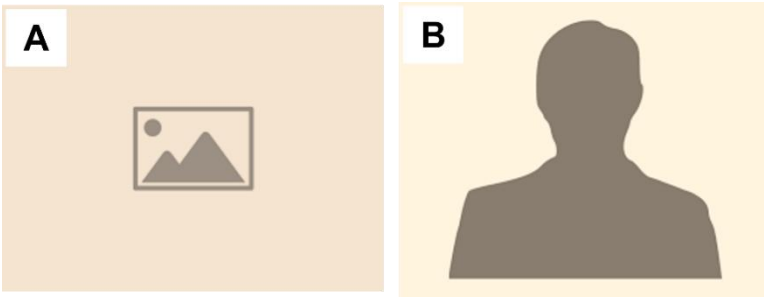


Figure 2. Title of Figure 2. (A) Give a proper title to every subfigure. (B) Give a proper title to every subfigure.

Table 1. The table caption should be placed on top of the table.

Parameters	Temperature		
	xx°C	xx°C	xx°C
Parameter A	xx	xx ^b	xx
Parameter B	xx ^a	xx	xx

Add a legend below the table. Define all abbreviations used in the table in alphabetical order and define the symbols used. ^a $P < 0.05$, ^b $P < 0.01$.

Table 2. The table caption should be placed on top of the table.

Parameters	Light Intensity		
	Low	Moderate	High
Parameter A	xx	xx ^b	xx
Parameter B	xx ^a	xx	xx

Add a legend below the table. Define all abbreviations used in the table in alphabetical order and define the symbols used. ^a $P < 0.05$, ^b $P < 0.01$.

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Personal communications and unpublished works can only be used in the manuscript and are not to be placed in the **References** section. These should be made identifiable by stating the authors, year of personal communications or unpublished works, and the words “personal communication” or “unpublished” in parenthesis, e.g., (Smith J, 2000, unpublished).

2.2. Sub-heading

If supplementary figures and/or tables are included, they should be presented in chronological order on a separate file called “**Supplementary Materials**”. **Supplementary figures and/or tables must be appropriately cited in the text.** Make use of the capital letter “S” to denote the difference between materials presented in the paper and those in the Supplementary Materials; for example, Figure S1 (in Supplementary File) shows the procedure of performing the method.

2.3. Sub-heading

Use Arabic numerals in parentheses, e.g., (1), (2), (3), (4), to list equations and formulae. **Please define all the variates in the equations and cite the equations in the manuscript.**

e.g., $E=mc^2$ (1)

2.3.1. Minor sub-heading

GCEJ allows up to 3 levels of headings.

2.3.2. Minor sub-heading

Avoid introducing further sub-sections after the level 3 (e.g., 2.3.2.1. Sub-description).

3. Heading

GCEJ does not have a limitation on the number of sections in *Reviews* and *Perspectives*, but we advise authors to adopt conciseness in their works.

In-text citations that will be listed in the **References** section at the end of the submission should be numbered consecutively in superscript. **All references must be cited in numerical order (consecutive positive sequence).**

4. Heading

The last section should be the concluding remarks, which should be concise. Please present the most important findings and conclusions in this section.

References

GCEJ uses a slightly modified version of the Vancouver style for reference. When there are more than 4 authors, shorten to 3 and add “et al.” Journal titles should be abbreviated as in PubMed. **References must be numbered.** Include DOI if available. Please see the cases below:

- Journal Article: Abate, M., Salini, V., Rimondi, E., et al. Post-traumatic myositis ossificans: sonographic findings. *J Clin Ultrasound*. 2011;39(3):135–140. doi:10.1002/jcu.20792.
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- Chapter in a Book: Galloway, A.C., Colvin, S.B., Grossi, E.A., et al. Acquired heart disease. In *Principles of Surgery*, 6th ed.; Schwartz, S.I., Shires, G.T., Spencer, F.C., eds. McGraw-Hill: New York, USA; 1994; pp. 845–899.
- Web Page: Breast Cancer Society of Canada. Breast cancer statistics. Toronto, ON: Author; 2012. Available online: <http://www.bccsc.ca/p/46/1/105/t>.

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- **Conference Proceedings:**

1. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C.D.; Author 3, E.F. Title of Presentation. In *Title of the Collected Work* (if available), Proceedings of the Name of the Conference, Location of Conference, Country, Date of Conference; Editor 1, Editor 2, Eds. (if available); Publisher: City, Country, Year (if available); Abstract Number (optional), Pagination (optional).

- **Journal Articles:**

2. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C.D. Title of the article. *Abbreviated Journal Name* Year, Volume, page range.

- **Books and Book Chapters:**

3. Author 1, A.; Author 2, B. *Book Title*, 3rd ed.; Publisher: Publisher Location, Country, Year; pp. 154–196.

4. Author 1, A.; Author 2, B. Title of the chapter. In *Book Title*, 2nd ed.; Editor 1, A., Editor 2, B., Eds.; Publisher: Publisher Location, Country, Year; Volume 3, pp. 154–196.

- **Unpublished materials intended for publication:**

5. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C. Title of Unpublished Work (optional). Correspondence Affiliation, City, State, Country. year, *status (manuscript in preparation; to be submitted)*.

6. Author 1, A.B.; Author 2, C. Title of Unpublished Work. *Abbreviated Journal Name* year, *phrase indicating stage of publication (submitted; accepted; in press)*.

- **Unpublished materials not intended for publication:**

7. Author 1, A.B. (Affiliation, City, State, Country); Author 2, C. (Affiliation, City, State, Country). Phase describing the material, year. (phase: Personal communication; Private communication; Unpublished work; etc.)

- **Thesis:**

8. Author 1, A.B. Title of Thesis. Level of Thesis, Degree-Granting University, Location of University, Date of Completion.

- **Websites:**

9. Title of Site. Available online: URL (accessed on Day Month Year).

Unlike published works, websites may change over time or disappear, so we encourage you to create an archive of the cited website using a service such as [WebCite](#). Archived websites should be cited using the link provided as follows:

10. Title of Site. URL (archived on Day Month Year).