I. EDITORIAL POLICY

The Journal of Nuclear Medicine (JNM) publishes material of interest to practitioners and scientists in the fields of nuclear medicine and molecular imaging. Proffered articles describing original laboratory or clinical investigations, brief communications, and letters to the editor will be considered for publication. Occasionally, invited articles, editorials, and invited perspectives of selected topics will be published. Manuscripts, including figures and tables, must be original and not under consideration by another publication.

In preparing manuscripts, authors should follow the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (http://www.icmje.org/recommendations/) of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors and the specific instructions detailed below. Also, helpful guidance in conforming to the Recommendations may be found in Medical Style & Format: An International Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers (Philadelphia, PA: Lippincott Williams & Wilkins; 1989) and in the AMA Manual of Style (available by subscription at http://www.amamanualofstyle.com/os/public/index.html).

According to the Recommendations, allegation of scientific misconduct or fraud arises if there is substantial doubt about the honesty or integrity of the work, either submitted or published. In the event of allegations of scientific misconduct or fraud, JNM follows the Recommendations. When appropriate, JNM reserves the right to present the allegations to the author’s institution or the agency funding the research.

II. MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION

New manuscripts should be submitted online at https://submit-jnm.snmjournals.org. For instructions visit https://submit-jnm.snmjournals.org/submission/help.

Correspondences regarding manuscript status and preparation can be directed to salexand@snmmi.org.

Correspondence about manuscripts should be sent to the JNM office:

Johannes Czernin, MD
The Journal of Nuclear Medicine
Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging
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A. Cover Letter

All manuscripts should be accompanied by a cover letter from the author responsible for correspondence about the manuscript. The cover letter should contain a statement that the manuscript has been seen and approved by all authors. If there are more than 10 authors, the specific contribution of each author must be substantiated in the cover letter. The cover letter should inform the editor of potential overlap with other materials already published or submitted for publication and should provide a reference to or a copy of this material. The cover letter should also disclose any conflict of interest—financial or otherwise—that may directly or indirectly influence the content of the manuscript submitted. Finally, the cover letter should provide any additional information that may be helpful to the editor.

B. Authorship, Rights, and Permissions

Each author must have contributed significantly to the submitted work. As recommended by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, all authors must have made substantial contributions in all 3 of the following categories:
1. Contributing to conception and design, or acquiring data, or analyzing and interpreting data;
2. Drafting the manuscript, or critically contributing to or revising the manuscript, or enhancing its intellectual content; and
3. Approving the final content of the manuscript.

Simple participation or collection of data alone does not justify authorship but should be mentioned in the acknowledgment section. Changes in authorship after the first review require a written request by the corresponding author and a written authorization from the authors who are to be added or deleted.

If any figures or tables in the manuscript were previously published, this should be acknowledged and written permission from the publisher should be included.

For human studies, approval must be obtained from the institutional review board or equivalent ethics committee and written informed consent must be obtained from research subjects, unless this requirement is waived by the institutional review board or equivalent. For studies in the United States, compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act is also required. Authors must also comply with the clinical trial registration statement from the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, and the clinical trial registration number must be provided.

For any first-in-human study of a new radiopharmaceutical, the following language should be included in the article to facilitate allowing others to study the drug under the Radioactive Drug Research Committee regulations, rather than having to file additional applications for an investigational new drug or an exploratory investigational new drug: “The mean and standard deviation of the administered mass of [drug] was XX ± YY μg (range, AA–ZZ μg). The mean administered activity was XX ± YY MBq (range, AA–ZZ MBq). There were no adverse or clinically detectable pharmacologic effects in any of the [##] subjects. No significant changes in vital signs or the results of laboratory studies or electrocardiograms were observed [if true].”

For animal studies, approval must be obtained from the appropriate institutional animal care and use committee for compliance with the National Institutes of Health for use of laboratory animals or equivalent.

Manuscripts presenting research that was funded in whole or part by US/UK/EU government organizations, such as NIH (US) and Wellcome Trust (UK), are welcomed by JNM. Upon final publication, these manuscripts will be deposited to PubMed Central with an embargo period of 6 months. If Immediate Open Access (IOA) is selected, the embargo is waived. Refer to Section IV for details on IOA. In compliance with the Copyright Revision Act of 1976, effective January 1, 1978, the following copyright transfer agreement must be faxed, e-mailed, or mailed to the JNM office. (A printable version is available at https://jnm.snmjournals.org/authors).

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We also warrant that any human and/or animal studies undertaken as part of the research from which this manuscript was derived are in compliance with regulations of our institution(s) and with generally accepted guidelines governing such work.

We further warrant that we have herein disclosed any and all financial or other relationships that could be construed as a conflict of interest and that all sources of financial support for the study have been indicated in the disclosure.

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   (h) In all the instances under clauses 2a through 2g above, the author will give proper credit to the original publication in JNM as follows: This research was originally published in JNM. Author(s). Title. JNM. Year:vol:pp–pp. © by the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging, Inc.

3. Publish Ahead of Print policy: The authors understand that if and when the manuscript is accepted for publication in JNM, it will be pre-published online as a Publish Ahead of Print paper. The authors acknowledge that JNM’s Publish Ahead of Print papers undergo full peer review. Ahead of print articles have not been copyedited, nor have they appeared in a print or online issue of the journal.

   Conditions 1–3 in the agreement must be met by all coauthors, and the agreement must be signed by all coauthors. Designate “first author” and “corresponding author” in parentheses by their signatures. There can be more than one first author (as indicated by a footnote stating, “*Contributed equally to this work.”). Only one corresponding author can be designated on the submission site, but more than one corresponding author can be listed in the manuscript itself. Include an e-mail address for each.

   This copyright transfer requirement does not apply to work prepared by U.S. government employees as part of their official duties. However, the authors of such work are required to complete section B of the copyright transfer agreement found at https://jnm.snmjournals.org/authors.

III. MANUSCRIPT REVIEW, REVISION, AND RESUBMISSION

Submitted manuscripts are reviewed for originality, significance, adequacy of documentation, composition, and adherence to these guidelines. However, editorial decisions are based not only on the technical merits of the work but also on factors such as priority for publication and relevance to the general readership of JNM. All manuscripts are judged in relation to other submissions currently under consideration.

Two helpful publications to read before writing a manuscript are “The Efficacy of Diagnostic Imaging” by Fryback and Thornbury (Med Decis Making. 1991;11:88–94) and “Bias in Research Studies” by Sica (Radiology. 2006;238:780–789).

At the discretion of the Editors, the manuscript may be returned rapidly—without external peer review—if deemed not competitive or outside the scope of JNM. Rebuttals to rejected manuscripts are strongly discouraged, and requests for resubmission of rejected manuscripts are generally not granted without significant demonstration of errors in the review or decision process. Most articles are rejected on grounds of insufficient priority or lack of relevance to JNM, not data quality or technical issues.

Manuscripts must be written in English. When necessary, authors should seek the assistance of experienced, English-speaking medical editors before submission. A medical editor should review the final draft of the original and any revisions of the manuscript. Authors will be required to provide revisions of articles written in substandard English before peer review.

Manuscripts considered suitable for review are evaluated by two reviewers. The Editors select the reviewers and make the final decision on the manuscript. Authors may suggest reviewers for their manuscripts. Referees who review a manuscript remain unknown to the authors.

It is unusual for a manuscript to be accepted for publication without first undergoing a process of revision. Revised manuscripts are judged on the adequacy of responses to suggestions and criticisms made during the initial review. Revision of a manuscript does not guarantee acceptance. A revision should be accompanied by a point-by-point reply to the reviewers’ and editors’ critiques in which any changes are briefly described. The authors also should provide justification for not altering the manuscript in response to any reviewer comments believed to be inappropriate. Red font should be used to indicate all changes within the manuscript itself, and a clean version of the manuscript should be provided.

The revised manuscript and accompanying reply must be submitted to JNM via the online submission and review website at https://submit-jnm.snmjournals.org within 30 days of the date of the editorial decision. If circumstances prevent completing the revisions by the deadline, please contact Susan Alexander at 703-326-1185 or at salexand@snmri.org. If the revisions are not received within 3 months after being requested, the manuscript may be started on a new review cycle and given a new manuscript number.

All accepted manuscripts are subject to editing for accuracy, clarity, and style.

IV. PUBLICATION CHARGES

Authors of accepted manuscripts will incur publication charges. For original submissions, the publication charge is $450 for up to 8 printed pages. Articles that exceed 8 printed pages will incur a charge of $300 per page in excess of 8. For brief communications, the publication charge is $300. Publication charges are waived for commissioned works, book reviews, and letters to the editor.

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It is the author’s responsibility to determine if this option is required by their funding source.

V. ARTICLE TYPES

Original scientific and methodology articles should contain no more than 5,000 words. This word limit includes all data: title page, abstract, text, disclosure, acknowledgments, key points, references, figure legends, and tables. The goal is to limit original articles to 8 printed pages. A maximum of 7 figures (maximum of 14 parts in total with no more than 4 parts per figure preferred), 7 tables, and 60 references is allowed. Abstracts should be structured (see VI. C. below) and should contain a maximum of 350 words.

Brief Communications should present novel and broadly important data, syntheses, or concepts. They should contain no more than 2,500 words; this word limit includes all data: title page, abstract, text, disclosure, acknowledgments, key points, references, tables, and figure legends. The goal is to limit brief communications to 5 printed pages in the journal. A maximum of 4 figures, 2 tables, and 30 references is allowed. Abstracts should be structured (see VI. C. below) and should contain a maximum of 150 words.

Letters should concern previously published material or matters of general interest and should be brief and to the point. Letters should be given a title and should also be accompanied by a copyright transfer agreement as specified above in Manuscript Submission. All material is subject to editing. Letters commenting on previously published articles should be received within 1 year of the date of the referenced article’s publication. Letters should contain no more than 800 words; this word limit includes all data: title page, authors and affiliations, the letter itself, and any references. Letters should contain no figures or tables and no more than 10 references.

Standard of Care articles are solicited and peer-reviewed. They are intended to describe management of diseases ranging from cancer to cardiovascular, neurologic, inflammatory, and infectious diseases, as well as risk classifications, stage-dependent prognosis and outcomes, and understanding of sequential therapies at all disease stages and across modalities, including surgery, external-beam radiation, and multiple lines of medical management strategies relevant to molecular imaging and nuclear medicine. Each article should seek to familiarize the reader with the basic concepts of the particular topic and offer a basic understanding of the principles involved, explore present and future developments, and examine how these developments might ultimately relate to patient care. The article should also use illustrative figures and diagrams, be addressed to a clinical audience, refer to key reviews and papers, and describe the potential clinical relevance. These focused reviews are limited to a total of 4,000 words and no more than 40 references, all of which should be from within the past 5 years. This word count includes all data: title page, abstract, text, disclosure, acknowledgments, references, figure legends, and tables. A combined total of 4 figures and tables is allowed. There are no color charges for figures.

Illustrated Posts highlight an emblematic image that may show a novel tracer biodistribution or a highly informative case. Illustrated Posts should include a brief description of the case and are limited to 1 figure, which can include no more than 4 panels and must have a legend. There is no abstract, and no more than 5 references are allowed. Illustrated Posts should not exceed 500 words; this word limit includes all data: title page, abstract, text, disclosure, acknowledgments, references, figure legends, and tables. Additional online data supplements are permitted for all types of articles.

VI. FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

A. General Requirements

Use a type size of at least 10 points, double spacing every line. Use the following order for the sections of the manuscript: title page; abstract; text; financial disclosure; disclaimer, if any; acknowledgments, if any; references; figures with legends; and tables. Number all pages consecutively. Do not use automated word-processing features or embedding for numbering, footnotes, or endnotes.

B. Title Page

The title page of the manuscript should include the following: (1) concise and informative title (fewer than 200 characters); (2) short running title of no more than 40 characters (letters and...
Introduction

This section should be brief and focused. The final paragraph should state the hypothesis investigated.

Materials and Methods

Authors have the option of presenting the full version of the Materials and Methods section in the Supplemental Data and a condensed version in the manuscript itself.

This section should include statements about Institutional Review Board approval, written informed consent, compliance with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, and animal care committee approval, as appropriate. The standard statement for institutional board approval and consent is the following: “The study has been approved by the institutional review board [or equivalent], and all subjects signed an informed consent form [or the need for written informed consent was waived].” The clinical trial registration number should also be included when appropriate (http://www.clinicaltrials.gov/). For any first-in-human study of a new radiopharmaceutical, the mean, standard deviation, and range of the administered mass of drug and mean administered activity need to be provided, as well as clinically detectable pharmacologic effects. The checklist and flow diagram from one of the following evidence-based statements should be followed as appropriate and submitted as supplemental material: STARD (http://www.stard-statement.org); CONSORT (http://www.consort-statement.org); PRISMA (http://www.prisma-statement.org/statement.htm); REMARK (http://www.nature.com/rrclinonc/journal/v2/n8/full/ncponc0252.html). The number and selection of subjects must be clearly described, as well as the prospective or retrospective nature of the study. Procedures must be described in enough detail to allow reproducibility by others. The last paragraph should describe the statistical methods.


Results

The text of this section should not repeat information presented in the tables and figures. When percentages are given, the ratio of numerator to denominator should be in parentheses.

Discussion

This section should summarize any advances in knowledge provided by the results and then discuss their implications in relation to other studies. Limitations and biases of the study must be addressed. The direction of future research may be mentioned.

Conclusion

This section should be brief, should summarize the key points of the paper, and should not introduce new material or references. For articles reporting the development or evaluation of an artificial intelligence algorithm, the authors are invited to conclude with a precise claim, as described in the RELAINCE guidelines (https://doi.org/10.2967/jnumed.121.263239).

E. References

References (not to exceed 60 in an original scientific or methodology article, 30 in a brief communication, or 10 in a letter) should be cited in consecutive numeric order at first mention in the text and designated by reference number italicized, in red font, and in parentheses. References appearing only in a table or figure should be placed at the end of the reference list.
If an item of supplemental data has references, they must also be cited in the manuscript (at the location where the manuscript first mentions the supplemental item).

When listing references, follow the *AMA Manual of Style: A Guide for Authors and Editors* (available by subscription at http://www.amamanualofstyle.com/oso/public/index.html). Abbreviate journal names according to the journals database available at PubMed.gov. For journal articles, include the year and volume number in the citation but not the month or issue number.

"Unpublished observations" and "personal communications" should not be used as references, although written or oral personal communications may be noted as such in the text. References cited as "in press" must have been accepted for publication and not merely be in preparation or submitted. The author is responsible for the accuracy of all references and must verify them.

List all authors when 6 or fewer; for 7 or more, list the first 3 followed by "et al."

Examples of journal articles:


Example of a book and book chapter:


Example of an Internet reference:


Example of a package insert:


Authors are encouraged to generate their references using EndNote (Thomson Scientific). The JNM Output Style for EndNote is available at http://endnote.com/downloads/styles.

**F. Units of Measurement**

All measurements should be listed in Système International (SI) units. Non-SI units may be used after the SI units but should be placed in parentheses. Use becquerels, not curies, as the unit of activity (1 mCi = 37 MBq).

**G. Abbreviations and Symbols**

With the exception of units of measurement, *JNM* strongly discourages the use of abbreviations. Whenever possible, terms should be spelled out in full rather than being abbreviated. Every abbreviation, even those that are well known and in common use, must be defined the first time it is mentioned in the manuscript; spell out the full term and place the abbreviation, in parentheses, after the full term.

**H. Tables**

Place tables at the end of the manuscript file; do not submit them as separate files. Do not submit tables as images. Tabbed or

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**AQARA Requirements for Radionuclide-Based Images**

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*AQARA requirements do not apply to review articles.

%IA/cm³ = percentage of injected activity per cubic centimeter of tissue.
I. Figures

For online-submission specifications, visit https://submit-jnm.snijnovournals.org/submission/submissionhelp.

Figures should clarify and augment the text and should be embedded (with their legends) within the text as well as uploaded as separate files. Because imaging is a major aspect of nuclear medicine, the selection of sharp, high-quality figures is of paramount importance. The author will be required to correct or replace figures of inferior quality. Each submitted figure should clearly identify areas of interest with only enough surrounding area for orientation.

To best convey the quantitative information in nuclear images and to standardize their display, all PET, SPECT and planar nuclear images submitted for publication must provide “as much quantitative information as reasonably achievable” (AQARA) as described in the summary table below. A full description of the requirements is published online at: https://jnm.snijnovournals.org/AQARA. The AQARA requirements do not apply to review articles.

The number of figures submitted should not be excessive for the length of the manuscript and in no case should exceed 7. These 7 figures may consist of up to 14 separate parts. No more than 4 parts per figure is preferred. Each figure must be numbered and cited in consecutive numeric order in the text.

If possible, the figures submitted should be the size in which they will appear when published so that no reduction is necessary. Figures should be either single-column format (published width, 8.5 cm; maximum submitted width, 11 cm), mid-size format (published width, 11.4 cm; maximum submitted width, 14 cm), or double-column format (published width, 17.4 cm; maximum submitted width, 22 cm). Acceptable fonts and sizes are Arial (8–12 points) and Roboto (7–11 points). Composite figures should be preassembled, with each figure part (e.g., A, B, C) lettered in 12-point Helvetica type in the upper left corner. Cover images should have a submitted width of 17 cm, and the submitted depth can be no more than 8.5 cm.

Color figures will be considered for publication if appropriate. Color files should be supplied in RGB color and should have an ICC profile applied.

Acceptable resolution for digital figures is 300 dpi. Internet graphics are not acceptable under most circumstances because the 72-dpi resolution is too low for satisfactory reproduction. The file format must be .tif, .eps, .jpeg, .ppt, .doc, .docx, .png, or .pdf. If the .jpeg file format is used, the images must be of medium quality or better (quality setting of at least 6). Each figure, including those in .ppt, .doc, and .pdf formats, must be submitted as a separate file. Each figure must also be included in the manuscript file before its respective legend. Crop and size digital figures to match figure specifications and to minimize total file size.

All submitted illustrations become the property of the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging. Videos can be published as supplemental data online.

J. Figure Legends

Legends for figures should be concise and should not repeat the text. Number the legends with an Arabic numeral after the word “FIGURE.” If a figure has more than one part, describe each part clearly. Any letter designations or arrows appearing on the figures should be identified and described fully. Abbreviations used in each figure should be defined in the legend in alphabetical order.

Besides being submitted as a separate file, each figure should be inserted before its respective legend in the figure legends section of the manuscript file.

Original (not previously published) figures are preferred for publication in JNM; however, if figures have been published previously, authors are responsible for obtaining written permission from the publisher to reprint. The source of the original material must be cited in the references and the following credit line in parentheses included in the legend: “Reprinted with permission of Ref. X.” All permission letters should be submitted online at the time of manuscript submission.

K. Disclosure

A statement of disclosure is required for all submissions. Include in the disclosure any potential conflicts of interest as reported in the disclosure form of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. For the work under consideration for publication, these include any payments received from a third party, such as grants, consulting fees, travel fees, or honoraria. Also disclose any relevant financial activities outside the submitted work, such as employment, royalties, stock options, or patents. For industry-sponsored or industry-supported research, authors who are not employees of or consultants to the industrial entity must be specified as having control of any data that might present a conflict of interest for employees or consultants. If no conflicts exist, this should be specified in the statement.

L. Acknowledgments

Individuals whom the authors wish to thank may be listed in the acknowledgments. In addition, persons who have contributed intellectually to the work but do not fulfill conditions 1–3 of the copyright transfer agreement in section II may be listed.

M. Key Points

Original submissions must include 3 key points just before the reference list:

KEY POINTS

QUESTION: A one-sentence focused question based on the study hypothesis or goal.

PERTINENT FINDINGS: One or two sentences on the design (e.g., clinical trial, cohort study, case-control study, meta-analysis), the primary outcome, and the findings (only basic numbers and whether they are statistically significant, but not the results of statistical tests or measures of variance).

IMPLICATIONS FOR PATIENT CARE: One sentence on how the findings might affect patient outcomes or, for basic science, what the translational implications might be.

N. Supplemental Data

All data that are needed to support the central conclusions of the article must be presented in the manuscript itself. Other data
that are integral to the manuscript can be submitted for online-only publication as supplemental data. The data may include images with legends, largescale tabulations, videos, appendices, and glossaries. Authors have the option of presenting the full version of the Materials and Methods section in the supplemental data and a condensed version in the manuscript itself. However, supplemental Results and Discussion are not permitted. Each item of supplemental data should be given a brief descriptive title and should be directly referred to in the manuscript (e.g., Supplemental Table 1). If a supplemental item has references, they must also be cited in the manuscript (at the location where the manuscript first mentions the supplemental item). Because supplemental data files are placed online unedited, as submitted by the author, the uploaded files need to be final and ready for publication. Any type of article may have supplemental data, but any supplemental data that extend beyond the conceptual scope of the article may be removed at the Editor’s discretion. Provide original files rather than .pdfs. Do not include a title page.

VII. CHECKLIST FOR NEW SUBMISSIONS
___ Is all text in the manuscript double-spaced, including the references?
___ Does the title page include the title, short running title, and authors’ names and complete affiliations; complete address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address for the first author, if different from the corresponding author?
___ Does the paper have a structured abstract and key words?
___ Are the references in consecutive numeric order and in the correct style?
___ Have the statement of disclosure and key points been included?
___ Are the figures and tables in consecutive numeric order?
___ Have the figures been included in the manuscript file before their respective legends, as well as being submitted as separate image files of an acceptable format and resolution?
___ Do all PET, SPECT and planar nuclear images follow AQARA requirements (nonreview articles only) (http://jnm.snmjournals.org/site/misc/AQARA.xhtml)?
___ Has permission been obtained from the publisher to reprint previously published figures and tables?
___ Has the copyright transfer agreement been signed by all authors?
___ Was the study approved by an institutional review board or equivalent, and has this approval been mentioned in the “Materials and Methods” section?
___ Did all subjects give written informed consent, or did the institutional review board waive the need to obtain informed consent?
___ Was the study approved by an institutional animal care and use committee or equivalent?
___ Has the clinical trial registration number been provided?
___ Has first-in-human radiopharmaceutical language been included?
___ Did you follow the guidelines or flow diagram from one of the following evidence-based statements, and did you submit the checklist as supplemental material: CONSORT (http://www.consort-statement.org/downloads/consort-statement); PRISMA (http://prismastatement.org/PRISMAStatement); REMARK (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2361579/); STARD (http://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/stard/); RECORDS (http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/mp.12702); ARRIVE (https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/arrive-guidelines).
___ Have you provided a claim resulting from the evaluation of the artificial intelligence algorithm, as described in the paper on RELAINCE guidelines (https://doi.org/10.2967/jnumed.121.263239)? If so, please provide the page number where the claim has been provided.
___ Did you provide your ORCID ID (https://orcid.org/)?
___ Did you provide either the sequence or a reference to the sequence, or the source of the peptide or antibody if it is commercially available, for any antibody and polypeptide amino acid sequences in your study?
___ Did you follow the consensus nomenclature rules for radiopharmaceuticals (https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0969805117303189)?