

Guidelines for Authors

General Information

The Journal of Aligner Orthodontics publishes clinically relevant articles in the field of Aligner Orthodontics. The journal is peer reviewed and claims to be the reference journal for Aligner Orthodontics, showing the whole potential of the field. The journal aims to provide in-depth knowledge to orthodontists and people interested in orthodontics, from beginners to the most advanced practitioners. Articles deal with basic procedures, case reports about special situations, multidisciplinary treatment including aligner procedures, and original studies (clinical studies, studies on materials and devices, literature reviews). Auxiliary procedures such as scanning, 3D printing etc are also covered. In addition, the journal contains editorials, expert discussions, tips and tricks, learning from mistakes, summaries of publications from other journals, book reviews, and news from the industry.

Please read the guidelines and instructions below for details on the submission of manuscripts, and the journal's requirements and standards.

Original articles are considered for publication on the condition that they have not been published or submitted for publication elsewhere.

- The publisher reserves the right to edit manuscripts for length and to ensure conciseness, clarity, and stylistic consistency, subject to the authors' final approval.
- Manuscripts are reviewed and selected in a blinded process by editors and appropriate content experts. Therefore, it is important that submitted manuscripts and illustrations do not contain information that will identify the manuscript's origin (except for the title page, which will not be sent to reviewers).
- Manuscripts that do not follow these instructions will be rejected.

Appeal of Decision

The editorial board's decision is final and cannot be appealed.

Manuscript Submission Procedure

Upload manuscripts as Word files, with tables and downsized figures at the end of the document. Authors are re-

quired to use the journal's online submission service: www.manuscriptmanager.com/jao.

Permissions and Waivers

If all or part of previously published material is used, permission must be obtained from the copyright holder. It is the authors' responsibility to obtain this.

Waivers must be obtained for photographs showing identifiable people. If a waiver has not been obtained, faces must be masked to prevent identification.

The Mandatory Submission Form should be sent to the Managing Editor.

Copyright Assignment

The Mandatory Submission Form, available at <http://jao.quintessenz.de>, must be signed by all authors and sent by email to the Managing Editor (nward@quintpub.co.uk) or faxed to the Production Manager (+ 49 (0) 30 761 80-693) upon notification of article acceptance.

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Ethical Guidelines

Authorship

Authors submitting a manuscript do so on the understanding that it has been read and approved by all the authors and that they all agree to the submission of the manuscript. The number of authors is limited to six.

Acknowledgments

Specify contributors to the article other than accredited authors. Also include any funding sources for the study, as well as any potential conflicts of interest.

Conflicts of Interest/Source of Funding

It is necessary that information on potential conflicts of interest be part of the manuscript. The *Journal of Aligner Orthodontics* requires all sources of institutional, private, and corporate financial support for the work within the manuscript to be fully acknowledged and any potential conflicts of interest noted. Grant or contribution numbers should be acknowledged, and principal grant holders should be listed. Please include the information under *Acknowledgments*.

Ethical Approval

Experimentation involving human subjects will be published only if such research has been conducted in full accordance with ethical principles, including the World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki, and any additional requirements of the country in which the research was conducted. Manuscripts must include a statement that the experiments were undertaken with the understanding and written consent of each subject, and according to the abovementioned principles. A statement regarding the fact that the study has been independently reviewed and approved by an ethical board should also be included. Editors reserve the right to reject manuscripts if there is doubt as to whether appropriate procedures have been followed.

Clinical Trials

Report clinical trials using the CONSORT guidelines at www.consort-statement.org.

Manuscript Format and Structure

Presentation

The presentation must clearly convey clinical reports, research findings, or review objectives. Try to avoid using technical jargon, but clearly explain its meaning where its use is unavoidable. Titles, abstracts, and the main text should be written using language that can be easily understood by any dentist.

Abbreviations/Acronyms

Abbreviations should be kept to a minimum, particularly those that are not standard. Terms and names that are abbreviated, or acronyms, should be written out when first used, with the abbreviation in parenthesis. Standard units of measurement need not be spelled out.

Tooth names

The full names of individual teeth must be given in the text. Only in tables and figures should individual teeth be identified using the FDI 2-digit system, if full tooth names are too unwieldy.

Structure

Include a title page, *Abstract*, main text, *References*, and *Acknowledgments*, as well as tables, figures, and legends, as appropriate.

Title Page

Include the title of the article and the full name, title, qualifications, and professional affiliations of every author. List up to six key words in alphabetical order. Provide the physical address and email address of the corresponding author.

Tables and Figures

Tables and figures should be numbered and cited in the text in order of appearance and grouped in the manuscript at the end of the text. When necessary, high-resolution images should be sent to the Managing Editor, Natalie Ward (nward@quintpub.co.uk), upon article acceptance.

Note that original artwork or slides may still be required after acceptance of the manuscript, and that manuscript acceptance depends on the receipt of acceptable images. Although low-quality images may be adequate for review purposes, print publication requires images to be of the quality specified here: Submit EPS (line art) or TIFF/JPG (photographs) files only. Photographs should have a resolution of 300 dpi, and line drawings 600 to 1200 dpi in relation to the reproduction size. EPS files should be saved with fonts embedded.

Figure Legends

Figure legends should begin with a brief explanation of the whole figure, and continue with a short description of each panel, including the symbols used.

Reference List

Literature reference numbers should be cited in square brackets in the text (after punctuation) in order of appearance, and correspond to the numbered reference list. All references cited in the text should be listed at the end of the manuscript. Do not include unpublished data or personal communications in the reference list.

Standard Scientific Journal

Franchi L, Baccetti T, McNamara JA Jr. Mandibular growth as related to cervical vertebral maturation and body height. *Am J Orthod Dentofacial Orthop* 2000;118:335–340.

Standard Textbook

Pancherz H, Ruf S. *The Herbst Appliance: Research Based Clinical Management*. Berlin: Quintessence, 2008.

Manuscript Types

All articles should be clinically relevant and scientifically based.

Original Scientific Articles

Original scientific articles must be of the highest international standard in the field and should be relevant to dental/orthodontic practice. The articles should describe significant and original experimental observations and provide sufficient details so that the observations can be critically evaluated and, if necessary, repeated.

The article *Abstract* should be no more than 250 words, giving details of what was done, using the following structure: *Objectives*: A clear statement of the main goal of the study and any tested hypotheses. *Method and Materials*: Describe the methods, study design, and data analysis. *Results*: Main results of the study, including the outcome of any statistical analysis. *Conclusion*: State the major conclusions of the study, as well as their implications and relevance to the practice of orthodontics.

The main text should include *Introduction*, *Method and Materials*, *Results*, *Discussion*, and *Conclusion* sections.

The *Introduction* should summarize the background of the research objectives and should emphasize the relevance of the study to the practice of orthodontics.

The *Method and Materials* section should contain sufficient detail so that, in combination with the references cited, all clinical trials and experiments reported can be fully reproduced. Manufacturers of materials should be named (including where the manufacturer is based – town/city and country), known methods should be referenced, and data analysis should be described.

The *Results* should be presented in this section in a logical sequence in the text, using tables and illustrations, where appropriate.

The *Discussion* section should include references to previous studies, and implications of the findings to the practice of orthodontics should be included.

The *Conclusion* section should not summarize the findings. Instead, the conclusions should relate to the aims of the study and the relevance to orthodontic practice. The conclusions should be supported by the data.

Original scientific articles may focus on clinical procedures, materials, and devices.

Review Articles

The review can be a topic review or systematic review. It should cover a topic of interest for the practitioner and should address a clinical problem, diagnosis, or treatment. Reviews should offer a broad view of the field. Systematic reviews should follow the PRISMA guidelines.

The review *Abstract* should be no more than 250 words and include: *Objectives*, *Data Sources*, and *Conclusion*.

The main text should be divided into *Introduction*, *Data Sources*, *Resources Selection*, *Review*, *Discussion*, and *Conclusion*. Search strategies must be described, and evidence-based systematic approaches are expected. The *Discussion* and *Conclusion* should address the relevance to the general practitioner, and should be supported with clinically relevant photographs.

Case Reports

Case reports should either have importance and significance for the practitioner, or offer well-known and established conditions, or they should be methods of treatment that are educational for beginners. Case reports should include: *Abstract*, *Introduction*, *Case Presentation*, *Discussion*, and *Conclusion/Recommendation* when necessary. The *Abstract* should be no more than 250 words and summarize the case. The report should emphasize the new information provided and its relevance to practitioners, or the importance of a known procedure. A sufficient follow-up period is required, and high-quality images should be included.

Method Presentation Articles

The method presentation must offer significant improvements for clinical practice (a novel technique, new appliance, technological breakthrough, or practical approaches to clinical challenges). The main text should be divided into an *Introduction*, *Report*, and *Discussion*. All parts should be well illustrated with clinical images, radiographs, diagrams, and supporting tables and graphs where appropriate.