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# NIJOCET

NIGERIAN JOURNAL OF COMPUTING  
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

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# Guide for Authors



## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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### *Types of article*

The Nigerian Journal of Computing Engineering and Technology accepts submissions of original articles, review articles, and letters to the editor.

**Review articles** are meta-analysis, systematic or critical assessments of the literature concerning topics of scientific and technological relevance, with emphasis on aspects such as cause and prevention of diseases, diagnosis, treatment, and prognosis.

NIJOCET will also consider unsolicited review articles. Please contact [nijocet@fud.edu.ng](mailto:nijocet@fud.edu.ng) to submit a draft to the Editorial Board before sending the full review article.

**Letters to the editor** usually express an opinion, discuss or criticize articles previously published in NIJOCET. Whenever possible, a response from the authors of the article to which the letter refers will be published along with the letter.

**Editorials and comments**, which usually make reference to selected articles, are solicited from experts in the field. The Editorial Board may consider the publication of unsolicited comments, as long as the authors send a draft to the Editorial Board before sending the full text.

### *Language*

As of January 2021, papers must be submitted in English, as they will be published in English (html and pdf). British spelling is used.

### *Submission checklist*

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

**Ensure that the following items are present:**

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address;
- Full postal address;

All necessary files have been uploaded:

*Manuscript:*

- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Supplemental files (where applicable)

Further considerations

- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet) Relevant declarations of interest have been made
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed.



## BEFORE YOU BEGIN

### *Ethics in publishing*

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'.

### *Submission declaration and verification*

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract, a published lecture or academic thesis that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically without the written consent of the copyright- holder. To verify originality, your article may be checked by the originality detection service

### *Use of inclusive language*

Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Content should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader; contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition; and use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, stereotypes, slang, reference to dominant culture and/or cultural assumptions. We advise to seek gender neutrality by using plural nouns ("clinicians, patients/clients") as default/wherever possible to avoid using "he, she," or "he/she." We recommend avoiding the use of descriptors that refer to personal attributes such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition unless they are relevant and valid. These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

### *Contributors*

Each author is required to declare his or her individual contribution to the article: all authors must have materially participated in the research and/or article preparation, so roles for all authors should be described. The statement that all authors have approved the final article should be true and included in the disclosure.

### *Authorship*

All authors should have made substantial contributions to all of the following: (1) the conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, (3) final approval of the version to be submitted.

### *Changes to authorship*

Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors **before** submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only **before** the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such a change, the Editor must receive the following from the **corresponding author**: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed.

Only in exceptional circumstances will the Editor consider the addition, deletion or rearrangement of authors **after** the manuscript has been accepted. While the Editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the Editor will result in a corrigendum.



## Copyright

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' to assign to the Faculty of Computing, Federal University Dutse, the copyright in the manuscript and any tables, illustrations or other material submitted for publication as part of the manuscript (the "Article") in all forms and media (whether now known or later developed), throughout the world, in all languages, for the full term of copyright, effective when the Article is accepted for publication. . An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' form or a link to the online version of this agreement.

### **Author rights**

As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. *NIJOCET supports responsible sharing*

### **Role of the funding source**

You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated.

### **Open access**

NIJOCET supports open access

### **Informed consent and patient details**

Studies on human subjects or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which must be documented in the paper. Appropriate consents, permissions and releases must be obtained where an author wishes to include case details or other personal information or images of human subjects and any other individuals in NIJOCET.

Written consents must be retained by the author and copies of the consents or evidence that such consents have been obtained must be provided to NIJOCET on request. Unless you have written permission from the patient (or, where applicable, the next of kin), the personal details of any human subject included in any part of the article and in any supplementary materials (including all illustrations and videos) must be removed before submission.

### **Submission**



## *Submission*

- Submission(s) to NIJOCET should be in hard copy and soft copy sent electronically as MS word attachment to email address indicated.
- Articles should be in 12 font size, Times New Roman and double-spaced with the normal A4 size margins.
- The cover page should contain the title of the paper, author(s) name(s), and complete addresses including e-mail and mobile phone numbers. The corresponding author must also be specified clearly.
- The article must contain an abstract of not more than 300 words and should be followed immediately by 4 – 6 keywords.
- Articles submitted for publication must be original and should not be under consideration for publication elsewhere. The content should include:

1. Introduction
2. Background of the Research
3. Methodology
4. Results and Discussion
5. Conclusion
6. References

- Articles are accepted on the understanding that they have not been published elsewhere, and will not be, without the Editor-in-Chief's written consent.
- The copyright of articles accepted for publication belongs to the NIJOCET.
- All photos, drawings, diagrams, illustrations and other images in the manuscripts should also be submitted in digital format, preferably as JPEG or GIF files.
- Captions should be submitted in a list separate from the diagrams or photographs.
- The position of any photos, drawings, diagram, illustrations and other images should be clearly marked in the text.
- Raw graph data must also be provided separately in case it is necessary to reproduce the graph in another computer application program.
- All references must adhere strictly to the IEEE or Harvard referencing styles.
- Authors submitting papers must send along N5,000 or S20 non-refundable as processing fee.
- Contributors whose articles are accepted for publication would be required to pay page charge of N15,000 or S100 payable to NIJOCET.
- A maximum of 10 pages are allowed, extra pages will attract N100 per page.
- The deadline for submission of articles for June issue is 30th April, while for the December issue is 31st October, each year. All correspondence should be directed to The Editor-in-Chief, NIJOCET, Faculty of Computing, Federal University Dutse, P.M.B 7156, Dutse, Jigawa State, Nigeria. E-mail [nijocet@fud.edu.ng](mailto:nijocet@fud.edu.ng)



## PREPARATION

### *Double-blind review*

NIJOCET uses double-blind review, which means the identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa.

To facilitate this, please include the following separately:

*Title page (with author details):* This should include the title, authors' names, affiliations, acknowledgements and any Declaration of Interest statement, and a complete address for the corresponding author including an e-mail address.

*Blinded manuscript (no author details):* The main body of the paper (including the references, figures, tables and any acknowledgements) should not include any identifying information, such as the authors' names or affiliations.

### *Use of word processing software*

It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the word processor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the word processor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns.

The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts . Note that source files of figures, tables and text graphics will be required whether or not you embed your figures in the text. See also the section on Electronic artwork.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

### *Article structure*

#### *Subdivision - unnumbered sections*

The main text in **original articles** should contain the following sections, indicated by a subtitle: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion.

The sections in **review articles** may vary depending on the topic. We suggest that authors include a brief introduction, in which they explain (from the perspective of the medical literature) the importance of the review for the practice of pediatrics. It is not necessary to describe how data were selected and collected. The conclusions section should correlate the main ideas in the review to possible clinical applications, keeping generalizations within the scope of the subject under review.

#### *Introduction*

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results. Make it brief, including only references that are strictly relevant to underscore the importance of the topic and to justify the study. At the end of the introduction, research objectives must be clearly stated.



## *Material and methods*

Provide sufficient detail to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should be described. This section should describe the study population, the sample being analyzed, and the selection criteria; it should also clearly define the variables under study, and describe in detail the statistical methods employed (including appropriate references about statistical methods and software). Procedures, products, and equipment should be described in sufficient detail so as to allow reproduction of the study. A statement concerning approval by the research ethics committee (or equivalent) of the institution in which the work was carried out must be included.

## *Results*

Study results should be presented in a clear, objective manner, following a logical sequence. Information contained in tables or figures should not be repeated in the text. Use figures rather than tables to present extensive data.

## *Discussion*

Results should be interpreted and compared with previously published data, emphasizing new and important aspects of the present study. Discuss the implications of the findings and the limitations of the study, as well as the need for additional research. Conclusions should be presented at the end of the Discussion section, taking into consideration the purpose of the work. Relate the conclusions to the initial study objectives, avoiding statements that are not supported by the findings and giving similar emphasis to positive and negative findings that have similar scientific relevance. If relevant, include recommendations for further research.

## *Essential title page information*

The title page should contain all the following information:

- a) concise and informative title. Avoid unnecessary terms and abbreviations; also avoid reference to the site and/or city where the work was carried out;
- b) short title of not more than 50 characters including spaces to appear on the headers;
- c) authors' names (first and last names and middle initials)
  
- d) authors' highest academic degree;
- e) e-mail address of all authors;
- f) if available, URL to electronic curriculum vitae
- g) the specific contribution of each author to the study;
- h) statement of conflicts of interest (write "nothing to declare" or clearly disclose any financial or other interests which could cause embarrassment if revealed after the publication of the article);
  
- i) institution or service with which the work is associated for indexing
- j) name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail of corresponding author;
- k) name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail of author in charge of pre-publication contacts;
- l) funding sources, or name of institutions or companies providing equipment and materials, if applicable;
- m) word count of the main text not including abstract, acknowledgements, references, tables and legends to figures;
- n) abstract word count;
- o) number of tables and figures.



## **Abstract**

A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

The abstract should have no more than 400 words. Do not include words that could identify the institution or city where the study was performed, to facilitate blind review.

All information in the abstract must accurately reflect the content of the article. The abstract should be structured as described below:

### **Abstract for original articles**

**Objective:** State why the study was initiated and any initial hypotheses. Precisely define the main purpose of the study; only the most relevant secondary objectives should be listed.

**Method:** Describe the study design

**Results:** Describe the most important findings, confidence intervals, and statistical significance of the findings.

**Conclusions:** Only describe conclusions that reflect the purpose of the study and that are supported by your findings. Discuss possible applications of the findings, with equal emphasis on positive and negative findings that have similar scientific merit.

### **Abstract for review articles**

**Objective:** Explain why the review was performed.

**Sources:** Describe all sources of information, defining databases and years researched. Briefly state the criteria used to select articles for review and to assess the quality of information.

**Summary of the findings:** State the main quantitative or qualitative findings.

**Conclusions:** State your conclusions and their clinical application, keeping generalizations within the scope of the subject under review.





## Keywords

Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using British spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

Use abbreviations sparingly. All abbreviations must be spelled out at their first mention in the text. Abbreviations that are not standard in the field of pediatrics must be defined in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Avoid the use of abbreviations in the abstract; those that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

## Acknowledgements

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

Only individuals or institutions that contributed significantly to the study, but are not qualified for authorship, should be mentioned. Individuals cited in this section must agree in writing to the inclusion of their names, since readers may infer their endorsement of the conclusions of the study.

## Formatting of funding sources

List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Research Fund [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy];

It is not necessary to include detailed descriptions on the program or type of grants and awards. When funding is from a block grant or other resources available to a university, college, or other research institution, submit the name of the institute or organization that provided the funding. If no funding has been provided for the research, please include the following sentence: This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

## Units

Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other units are mentioned, please give their equivalent in SI.

## Math formulae

Please submit math equations as editable text and not as images. Present simple formulae in line with normal text where possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., X/Y. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text).

## Footnotes

Footnotes should not be used. Rather, incorporate the pertaining information in the main text.

## Artwork

### Image manipulation

Whilst it is accepted that authors sometimes need to manipulate images for clarity, manipulation for purposes of deception or fraud will be seen as scientific ethical abuse and will be dealt with accordingly. For graphical images, NIJO CET is applying the following policy: no specific feature within an image may be enhanced, obscured, moved, removed, or introduced.



## Electronic artwork

### General points

- Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
- Embed the used fonts if the application provides that option.
- Aim to use the following fonts in your illustrations: Arial, Courier, Times New Roman, Symbol, or use fonts that look similar.
- Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
- Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
- Provide captions to illustrations separately.
- Size the illustrations close to the desired dimensions of the published version.
- Submit each illustration as a separate file.
- Ensure that color images are accessible to all, including those with impaired color vision.

### Formats

If your electronic artwork is created in a Microsoft Office application (Word, PowerPoint, Excel) then please supply 'as is' in the native document format. Regardless of the application used other than Microsoft Office, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'Save as' or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):

- EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings, embed all used fonts.
- TIFF (or JPEG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones), keep to a minimum of 300 dpi.
- TIFF (or JPEG): Bitmapped (pure black & white pixels) line drawings, keep to a minimum of 1000 dpi.
- TIFF (or JPEG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale), keep to a minimum of 500 dpi.

### Please do not:

- Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); these typically have a low number of pixels and limited set of colors;
- Supply files that are too low in resolution;
- Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

### Color artwork

Please make sure that artwork files are in an acceptable format (TIFF (or JPEG), EPS (or PDF), or MS Office files) and with the correct resolution. If, together with your accepted article, you submit usable color figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in color

### Figure captions

Ensure that each illustration has a caption. Supply captions separately, not attached to the figure. A caption should comprise a brief title (**not** on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

### Tables

Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on separate page(s) at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.



## References

### *Citation in text*

Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

### *Reference links*

Increased discoverability of African research and high quality peer review are ensured by online links to the sources cited. In order to allow us to create links to abstracting and indexing services, such as AJOL, please ensure that data provided in the references are correct. Please note that incorrect surnames, journal/book titles, publication year and pagination may prevent link creation. When copying references, please be careful as they may already contain errors. Use of the DOI is highly encouraged.

### *Web references*

As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

### *Data references*

NIJOCET encourages you to cite underlying or relevant datasets in your manuscript by citing them in your text and including a data reference in your Reference List. Data references should include the following elements: author name(s), dataset title, data repository, version (where available), year, and global persistent identifier. Add [dataset] immediately before the reference so we can properly identify it as a data reference. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

### *Reference style*

References should follow the Havard or IEEE style.



## *Supplementary material*

Supplementary material such as applications, images and sound clips, can be published with your article to enhance it. Submitted supplementary items are published exactly as they are received (Excel or PowerPoint files will appear as such online). Please submit your material together with the article and supply a concise, descriptive caption for each supplementary file. If you wish to make changes to supplementary material during any stage of the process, please make sure to provide an updated file.

Do not annotate any corrections on a previous version. Please switch off the 'Track Changes' option in Microsoft Office files as these will appear in the published version.

## *Research data*

NIJOCET encourages and enables you to share data that supports your research publication where appropriate, and enables you to interlink the data with your published articles. Research data refers to the results of observations or experimentation that validate research findings. To facilitate reproducibility and data reuse, this journal also encourages you to share your software, code, models, algorithms, protocols, methods and other useful materials related to the project.

Below are a number of ways in which you can associate data with your article or make a statement about the availability of your data when submitting your manuscript. If you are sharing data in one of these ways, you are encouraged to cite the data in your manuscript and reference list. Please refer to the "References" section for more information about data citation.

### *Data linking*

If you have made your research data available in a data repository, you can link your article directly to the dataset. There are different ways to link your datasets to your article. When available, you can directly link your dataset to your article by providing the relevant information in the submission system

### *Data statement*

To foster transparency, we encourage you to state the availability of your data in your submission. This may be a requirement of your funding body or institution. If your data is unavailable to access or unsuitable to post, you will have the opportunity to indicate why during the submission process, for example by stating that the research data is confidential. The statement will appear with your published article on NIJOCET



## AFTER ACCEPTANCE

### *Availability of accepted article*

NIJOCET makes articles available online as soon as possible after acceptance. This concerns the Journal Pre-proofs (both in HTML and PDF format), which have undergone enhancements after acceptance, such as the addition of a cover page and metadata, and formatting for readability, but are not yet the definitive versions of record.

A Digital Object Identifier (DOI) will be allocated as soon as it is available, thereby making it fully citable and searchable by title, author name(s) and the full text. The article's PDF also carries a disclaimer stating that it is an unedited article. Subsequent production stages will simply replace this version.

### **Proofs**

One set of page proofs (as PDF files) will be sent by e-mail to the corresponding author or, a link will be provided in the e-mail so that authors can download the files themselves.

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## AUTHOR INQUIRIES

Visit the FAQ page on our website to find the answers you need. Here you will find everything from Frequently Asked Questions to ways to get in touch.

All correspondence should be directed to The Editor-in-Chief, NIJOCET, Faculty of Computing, Federal University Dutse, P.M.B 7156, Dutse, Jigawa State, Nigeria. E-mail [nijocet@fud.edu.ng](mailto:nijocet@fud.edu.ng)

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