JASN
Journal of the American Society of Nephrology

ABOUT JASN
JASN publishes highly competitive original manuscripts, brief reviews, and special articles in areas of basic and clinical science relevant to the broad discipline of nephrology. Subject matter appropriate for JASN includes, but is not restricted to, the following: cell biology; developmental biology; genetics; cell and transport physiology; hemodynamics and vascular regulation; immunology and pathology; pathophysiology of renal disease and progression; mineral metabolism and bone disease; clinical nephrology, epidemiology, and outcomes; dialysis; and transplantation. The editors encourage only the submission of meritorious research that will communicate important advances in the field of nephrology. Please read all sections below before submitting a manuscript.

REVIEW PROCESS AND DECISIONS
It is the policy of JASN to expedite manuscript review. Because of the large number of manuscripts received and the intense competition for publishing the very best work, many manuscripts will have to be returned without review. Manuscripts judged to fall below the top 30% of manuscripts submitted to the JASN, or that fail to satisfy technical requirements, will be returned to the authors without review. We encourage authors to provide a detailed cover letter outlining the major finding and its level of interest to the readership, such as additional background, rationale, main results, and implications. Letters should have no more than four display items (figures and tables); supplemental data can be submitted and will be archived with the published manuscript on the JASN website. Manuscripts needing only minimal revision will be published in the next available issue after acceptance and receipt of the final manuscript files.

MANUSCRIPT TYPES
Brief Communications are letters that report a research result of great importance. The content of the letter is less substantial than a regular article. Letters are limited to 1500 words, excluding the abstract, concise methods, references, and figure legends, and are not divided by headings to avoid redundancy. This format begins with an abstract followed by the body of the letter summarizing the background, rationale, main results, and implications. The order of the submitted manuscript should be as follows: title page, abstract (200 words or less), integrated introduction, results, and discussion as an orderly letter, followed by concise methods, acknowledgments, statement of competing financial interests, references (limited to 30), figure legends, and tables. Complete methods, providing sufficient detail to allow replication of the study, must be provided as supplemental information to be published online with the manuscript at the time of publication. Additional supplemental material such as figures and tables may be submitted with the manuscript or requested by the reviewer. The title page should include title, authors and affiliations, running title (no more than 30 characters), separate word count for abstract and text, and the corresponding author’s address, phone, fax, and email information. Abstracts should be written for easy reading with no abbreviations, but should tell a complete story using data as needed. Abstracts in JASN are unstructured, but are expected to cover relevant background, major methodology, major conclusions, and implications. Letters should have no more than four display items (figures and tables); supplemental data can be submitted and will be archived with the published manuscript on the JASN website. Manuscripts needing only minimal revision will be published in the next available issue after acceptance and receipt of the final manuscript files.

Regular Articles are traditional full-length manuscripts of 3000 words or less (excluding title page, methods, figure legends, tables, and references) that address an important research question with a thoughtful and clever experimental design. The order of the submitted manuscript should be as follows: title page, abstract (250 words or less), introduction, results, discussion, concise methods, acknowledgments, statement of competing financial interests, references, figure legends, and tables. Complete methods, providing sufficient detail to allow replication of the study, must be provided as supplemental information to be published online with the manuscript at the time of publication. Supplemental material that is of interest to the readership, such as additional figures or tables, is welcome and will be posted online. If you submit supplemental files that may only be posted online, then upload one PDF file that contains all of the supplemental information. The title page should include title, authors and affiliations, running title (no more than 30 characters), separate word count for abstract and text, and the corresponding author’s address, phone, fax, and email information. Abstracts should be written for easy reading with no abbreviations, but should tell a complete story covering relevant background, major methodology, major conclusions, and implications, using data as needed. Manuscripts needing only minimal revision will be published in the next available issue after acceptance and receipt of the final manuscript files.
INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

**Brief Reviews or Special Articles** are manuscripts of approximately 3000 words or less (excluding title page, figure legends, tables, and references) that are of interest to the readership. The editor solicits these reviews. The order of the submitted manuscript should be as follows: title page, abstract (200 words or less), integrated discussion, acknowledgments including disclosure of financial interests, references, figure legends, and tables. The title page should include title, authors and affiliations, running title (no more than 30 characters), separate word count for abstract and text, and the corresponding author’s address, phone, fax, and email information. Abstracts should be written for easy reading with no abbreviations.

**Editorials, Occasional Observations, and JASN Debates** are manuscripts of approximately 1000–1500 words that are related to published material, raise challenging questions, or explore controversies. The editor solicits such opinion pieces. The order of the submitted manuscript should be as follows: title page, integrated discussion, acknowledgments including disclosure of financial interests, and references; no figures or tables. The title page should include title, authors and affiliations, running title (no more than 30 characters), separate word count for abstract and text, and the corresponding author’s address, phone, fax, and email information.

**Clinical Commentaries** are manuscripts of approximately 1500 words or less (excluding title page, figure legends, tables, and 15 references) that are solicited by the editor. These manuscripts reflect on current published work, controversies in renal medicine, or updates on clinical care. The order of the submitted manuscript should be as follows: title page, abstract (100 words or less), integrated discussion, acknowledgments including disclosure of financial interests, references, figure legends, and tables. The title page should include title, authors and affiliations, running title (no more than 30 characters), separate word count for abstract and text, and the corresponding author’s address, phone, fax, and e-mail information. Abstracts should be written for easy reading with no abbreviations.

**Science in Renal Medicine** is an educational section reviewing the modern understanding behind physiologic and pathophysiologic mechanisms in nephrology by concisely explaining a “unique concept” to the reader. Manuscripts are solicited by the editor and should be 1500 words or less (excluding title page, figure legends, tables, one two-panel figure, and 15 references). The order of the submitted manuscript should be as follows: title page, abstract (100 words or less), integrated discussion, acknowledgments, references, figure legends, and tables. The title page should include title, authors and affiliations, running title (no more than 30 characters), separate word count for abstract and text, and the corresponding author’s address, phone, fax, and email information. Abstracts should be written for easy reading with no abbreviations.

**Pathophysiology of the Renal Biopsy** is an educational section devoted to interesting renal lesions illustrated by light, fluorescence, and electron microscopy, followed by a differential diagnosis and brief description of pathophysiology. Manuscripts are solicited by the editor and should be 1500 words or less (excluding title page, figure legends, tables, and 15 references, with the microscopy in a three-panel figure plus one figure of pathophysiology). The order of the submitted manuscript should be as follows: title page, abstract (200 words or less), integrated introduction, results, and discussion, concise methods, acknowledgments, references, and figure legends. The title page should include title, authors and affiliations, running title (no more than 30 characters), separate word count for abstract and text, and the corresponding author’s address, phone, fax, and email information. Abstracts should be written for easy reading with no abbreviations.

**Policies**

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**Duplicate Submission/Redundant Publication:** All manuscripts submitted to JASN must include a statement in the cover letter.
indicating that neither the manuscript nor any significant part of it is under consideration for publication elsewhere or has appeared elsewhere in a manner that could be construed as a prior or duplicate publication of the same, or very similar, work. Abstracts are not considered prior publication, but should be cited in the Acknowledgments section. Should there be a possibility of doubt concerning such prior publications, the title page and abstract of such material and of related manuscripts submitted for publication at other journals should be included with the submitted paper.

Authors and Contributors: With regard to authorship credit, ASN journals have adopted the criteria recommended by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) in the October 2005 update of the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: “Authorship credit should be based on 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the version to be published. Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3.” Note the full text of the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals (http://www.icmje.org/). In addition, with regard to contributors, ASN journals have adopted the following statement of editorial policy from the Information for Authors (http://www.annals.org/shared/author_info.shtml) of the Annals of Internal Medicine: “Medical writers and industry employees can be legitimate contributors, and their roles, affiliations, and potential conflicts of interest should be described when submitting manuscripts. These writers should receive acknowledgment on the byline or in the acknowledgments section in accord with the degree to which they contributed to the work reported in the manuscript. The Editors consider failure to acknowledge these contributors ghostwriting, and ghostwriting is unacceptable.” Note that the ASN reserves the right to retract articles that do not meet the above criteria for authorship.

Declaration of Helsinki: For all clinical experimentation described in the manuscript, JASN requires that authors state in the Methods section their adherence to the Declaration of Helsinki. A statement that informed consent was obtained must also appear in the manuscript. For the full text of the Declaration of Helsinki, see http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/.

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Requirement for Registration of Clinical Trials: The ASN requires, as a condition of consideration for publication, registration in a public trials registry. Trials must register at or before the onset of patient enrollment. This policy applies to any clinical trial starting enrollment after January 1, 2006. For trials that began enrollment before this date, we require registration by April 1, 2006, before considering the trial for publication. We define a clinical trial as any research project that prospectively assigns human subjects to intervention or comparison groups to study the cause-and-effect relationship between a medical intervention and a health outcome. Studies designed for other purposes, such as to study pharmacokinetics or major toxicity (e.g., phase 1 trials) are exempt. We do not advocate one particular registry, but registration must be with a registry that meets the following minimum criteria: accessible to the public at no charge, searchable by standard electronic (internet-based) methods, open to all prospective registrants free of charge or at minimal cost, validation of registered information, and identification of trials with a unique number. An acceptable registry also includes information on the investigator(s), the research question or hypothesis, methodology, intervention and comparisons, eligibility criteria, primary and secondary outcomes measured, date of registration, anticipated or actual start date, anticipated or actual date of last follow-up, target number of subjects, status (anticipated, ongoing, or closed), and funding source(s).


ASN Policy on Scientific Misconduct: The American Society of Nephrology (ASN) journals uphold the highest standards of peer review and academic publishing. The work of authors and reviewers contributes to our common aim of understanding the latest advances in basic, clinical, and translational research. In
very rare instances, editors receive notification or allegations of misconduct related to studies submitted to ASN journals, and our process for responding to such notification is detailed below.

Concerns raised prior to publication:
If a reviewer or a concerned co-author raises a question about a manuscript that is undergoing peer review and the Editor-in-Chief agrees, we will notify the author(s) and request a response to the reviewer’s concerns. (Such concerns include but are not limited to questions regarding plagiarism, duplicate publication, access to data, and integrity of data or undeclared conflicts of interest.) In most instances these concerns are readily addressed and resolved and involve honest errors or differences in interpretation rather than any intent to deceive.

If the authors do not respond satisfactorily (or at all) to the concerns raised, or if the Editor-in-Chief is presented with evidence that indicates serious concerns regarding the conduct of the study, the Editor-in-Chief will notify the Chair of the Publications Committee and will determine a course of action, in part determined by applicable laws, which may include any or all of the following:

a. rejecting the manuscript; and/or
b. prohibiting future submissions from the authors of the manuscript for a specified period of time;
c. obtaining an advisory opinion from the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE);
d. reporting their concerns to the authors’ institutions
f. reporting their concerns to the Office of Research Integrity or other authorized investigative agency;

If the matter has been deemed serious enough to warrant the attention of the Publications Committee, the Publications Chair will keep the ASN President informed of all developments.

Concerns raised subsequent to electronic and/or print publication:
If questions are raised by a reader regarding a published study, and the Editor-in-Chief agrees, the journal will notify the author(s) and request a response to the stated concerns. (Such concerns include but are not limited to questions regarding plagiarism, duplicate publication, access to data, and integrity of data or undeclared conflicts of interest.) In most instances these concerns are readily resolved and involve honest errors or differences in interpretation rather than any intent to deceive.

If the authors do not respond satisfactorily (or at all) to the concerns raised, or if the editors are presented with evidence that indicates serious concerns regarding the conduct of the study, the Editor-in-Chief will notify the Chair of the Publications Committee and determine a course of action, in part determined by applicable laws, which may include any or all of the following:

a. reporting their concerns to the authors’ institutions;
b. prohibiting future submissions from the authors of the manuscript for a specified period of time;
c. obtaining an advisory opinion from the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE);
d. reporting their concerns to the funding agency;

f. publishing a statement of concern in the journal;
g. issuing a retraction;
h. notifying any other publication involved (in the case of duplicate publication or plagiarism).

If the matter has been deemed serious enough to warrant the attention of the Publications Committee, the Publications Chair will keep the ASN President informed of all developments.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF NOTE
DNA Arrays: Now that DNA array technology has become established in renal research, JASN will review only papers in which the initial results of array analysis have been extended to either identify or characterize a new gene of interest or to analyze the functional significance of known genes observed in the data set. Reports that contain only screening data on all genes found to be up- or downregulated under a particular circumstance will not be considered for publication except under unusual circumstances.

Studies of DNA Polymorphisms: For population-based case-control studies describing an association between a DNA polymorphism and renal disease, in addition to insuring adequate sample size, appropriate correction of P values for multiple comparisons, and findings that “make sense” biologically, JASN will usually require one of the following for papers to be considered for publication: data showing an effect of the polymorphism on protein function or gene expression; confirmation of the association using a family-based method, eg, transmission-disequilibrium; replication of the association in an independent sample; or measurement of and correction for population stratification in the samples. Moreover, recent studies indicate that the haplotype structure of the human genome is relatively limited. The genome has been depicted as a series of regions of high linkage disequilibrium (haplotype blocks), each with limited diversity, separated by sites of recombination. A particular SNP maybe shared by several common haplotypes, of which only one is associated with a disease. It is not possible to identify this “risk haplotype” by genotyping a single SNP. Therefore, special consideration will be given to studies in which haplotype analysis is used to identify the “risk haplotype” associated with a renal disease.

Randomized Controlled Trials: JASN now encourages authors submitting reports of randomized controlled trials to review the CONSORT Statement (http://www.consort-statement.org/). The CONSORT Statement includes recommendations, a checklist of items that should be included in a comprehensive report, and a participant flow diagram. Reports of randomized controlled trials that do not conform to the CONSORT guidelines maybe returned to authors for revision prior to formal review.

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION
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Original research articles should be submitted as a single PDF and must include all information related to the submission. The complete text, all tables, and all figures should be included in one PDF. Supplemental information should be submitted as a separate PDF. Each figure, including all parts, with its legend should be presented together on one page within the manuscript PDF. Each table must be completely presented on its own page within the manuscript PDF.

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FIGURES

Figure legends should use only common abbreviations that do not require definition in the text. Figures must be cited in the text, in numerical order using Arabic numerals. Authors are responsible for the cost of color pages. Figures submitted as color will be printed in color.

Authors of accepted manuscripts must provide figures in one of the following formats: EPS, AI, TIFF, PDF, or Microsoft Office. Raster (pixel-based) images should be produced at appropriate resolution: 1200 dpi for black and white images in bitmap mode such as graphs and log scales, 600 dpi for grayscale or color combination images such as gels or blots combined with text or line-art, and 300 dpi for regular grayscale or color images without text or line-art combined. Please be sure to use high resolution and maximum quality compression settings if creating PDFs.

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2. 1 column figures: create with a width of 14p6 (6.1 cm or 2.6 inches) to 20p6 (8.7 cm or 3.4 inches).
3. 2 column figures: create with a width between 30p (12.7 cm or 5 inches) and 42p3 (17.9 cm or 7 inches).
4. The type within the figure should be set in 6 pt type, using fonts of Times Roman, Helvetica, Arial, Symbol, Mathematical Pi, or European Pi.
5. Figure labels should be set 10 pt Helvetica, Bold caps, upper left corner.
6. If providing a multipart figure, space between parts should be 1 pica (0.24 cm or 0.167 inches) space.
7. When submitting line shots, submit as vector .eps figures whenever possible.
8. Symbols must be consistent when representing the same thing across all figures (e.g., different symbols must be used to represent different P values).
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After a manuscript has been accepted for publication, the authors will need to upload a final set of files as a revised manuscript. The text and tables will need to be sent as a Word document (one file) and each figure in one of the following formats: EPS, AI, TIFF, PDF, or Microsoft Office.

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