

Instructions for Authors

AIMS AND SCOPE

Annals of Human Biology is an international, peer-reviewed journal published six times a year in simultaneous print and electronic editions.

Annals of Human Biology is an important vehicle for the dissemination of papers concerning research into human population biology, reporting investigations on the nature, development and causes of human variation, embracing the disciplines of human genetics, auxology, environmental physiology, ecology, epidemiology ageing and global health.

Annals of Human Biology has a wide readership of human biologists, epidemiologists, auxologists, paediatricians, population geneticists, biological and physical anthropologists, gerontologists, physiologists and public health workers.

Annals of Human Biology is the official journal of the Society for the Study of Human Biology.

Abstracting Information

Annals of Human Biology is currently abstracted and indexed in: Anthropological Index Online, BIOBASE/Current Awareness in Biological Sciences, BIOSIS, Current Contents: Life Sciences, Ergonomics Abstracts, GEO Abstracts/GEOBASE, Index Medicus/Medline, Research Alert, Science Citation Index and Uncover.

TYPES OF PAPERS

Annals of Human Biology will consider the following types of paper for publication:

Research papers

Research papers will typically be between 5000 and 8000 words, debating and exploring theoretical and methodological issues, methodological approaches, and original studies relevant to human biology. However, there is not necessarily an upper limit on length. Authors of longer papers are encouraged to contact the Editors with a synopsis.

Review articles

Review articles or essays are generally commissioned by invitation of the Editors but authors are invited to contact the Editors with proposals.

Short reports

Short reports will normally be on topics of more restricted breadth than research papers, including papers which would be regarded as including essentially preliminary findings. Typically, they should have a maximum of approximately 1500

words, have no more than two tables or figures, and a maximum of around fifteen references. Short reports generally follow the same format as full papers, except that a structured abstract is not required.

Human biological surveys

"Human biological surveys" describe surveys of the morphological, genetic and biodemographic characteristics of a sample. Such investigations are not usually hypothesis driven but rather seek to record the biological structure (physical status) of the sample at a particular moment in time. Such surveys would include those carried out with the aim of investigating, for example, secular trends in somatic and developmental characteristics, nutritional surveys of specific groups, morphological and genetic surveys, and biodemographic information on migration and marriage structure. Please [click here](#) for further information, including preparation guidelines.

Book reviews

Book reviews are by invitation.

SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPTS

Annals of Human Biology considers all manuscripts on the strict condition that they have been submitted only to *Annals of Human Biology*, that they have not been published already, nor are they under consideration for publication, nor in press elsewhere.

All submissions should be made online at *Annals of Human Biology's* [Manuscript Central site](#). New users should first create an account. Once a user is logged onto the site submissions should be made via the Author Centre.

Authors should prepare and upload two versions of their manuscript. One should be a complete text, while in the second all document information identifying the author should be removed from files to allow them to be sent anonymously to referees. When uploading files authors will then be able to define the non-anonymous version as "File not for review".

PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPTS

Manuscripts must be written in English.

Text should be supplied in a format compatible with Microsoft Word for Windows (PC). Charts and tables are considered textual and should also be supplied in a format compatible with Word. All figures (illustrations, diagrams, photographs) should be supplied in jpg, tiff or eps format.

All manuscripts must be typed in 12pt font and in double space with margins of at least 2.5 cm.

Authors should prepare manuscripts according to the Council of Biological Editors (CBE) *Scientific Style and Format* (6th edition) and are also referred to recent (post-

2006) copies of the Journal and encouraged to copy **exactly** the published format of papers therein.

Manuscripts should include:

- **Title Page.** This should contain the article title, a running head not exceeding 50 characters (including spaces), 3-5 keywords and full contact details of the authors. One corresponding author should be identified, whose email address is provided.
- **Abstracts.** Authors submitting papers should note that structured abstracts (up to 200 words) are required. These should outline the questions investigated, the design, essential findings and main conclusions of the study under the following sub-headings: Background, Aim, Subjects and methods, Results, Conclusion.
- **Text.** This should in general, but not necessarily, be divided into sections with the headings: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion.
- **Tables and Figures.** Tables and figures should be referred to in text as follows: Figure 1, Figure 2; Table I, Table II. The place at which a table or figure is to be inserted in the printed text should be indicated clearly on a manuscript. Each table and/or figure must have a legend that explains its purpose without reference to the text. Any figure submitted as a colour original may appear in colour within the journal's online edition. Colour reproduction in print will incur a charge.
- **References.** References should be indicated in the text within parentheses by author-date, e.g., (Smith 2004, Smith and Jones 2005, Smith et al. 2006). The full references should be listed alphabetically by primary author, and presented following the text of the manuscript.

The Journal uses the following conventions for references:

1. **To a book**
Weiner, JS, Lourie, JA. 1981. Practical human biology. London: Academic Press.
2. **To a chapter in a book**
Faiman C, Winter JSD. 1974. Gonadotropins and sex hormone patterns in puberty. In: Grumbach MM, Grave CD, Mayer EF, editors. The Control of the Onset of Puberty. New York: Wiley. 32p.
3. **To an article in a journal**
Steiner U, Klein J, Eiser E, Budkowski A, Fetters LJ. 1992. Complete wetting from polymer mixtures. *Science* 258:1122-9.

Cameron N, Grieve CA, Kruger A, Leschner KF. 1993. Secondary sexual development in rural and urban South African black children. *Ann Hum Biol* 20:583-93.

(Titles of periodicals should be abbreviated, and conform to those used in the latest edition of *Index Medicus*.)

4. **To a website/electronic publication**
The Society for the Study of Human Biology. 2000. About the society. <http://www-staff.lboro.ac.uk/~hungn/sshb/#AbouttheSociety>. 1 January 2006.

ETHICS AND CONSENT

When reporting experiments on human subjects, authors should indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 1983. Do not use patients' names, initials, or hospital numbers, especially in illustrative material. Papers including animal experiments or clinical trials must be conducted with approval by the local animal care or human subject committees, respectively.

Identifying information should not be published in written descriptions, photographs, and pedigrees, unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and the patient (or parent or guardian) gives written informed consent for publication. Informed consent for this purpose requires that the patient be shown the manuscript to be published.

DISCLOSURE OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Authors of research articles should disclose at the time of submission any financial arrangement they may have with a company whose product is pertinent to the manuscript or with a company making a competing product. Such information will be held in confidence while the paper is under review and will not influence the editorial decision, but if the article is accepted for publication, a disclosure statement will appear in the Journal.

AUTHORSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS

Contributions must be substantial in order to warrant authorship. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for the content. All other contributors should be listed as acknowledgements.

PROOFS

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