

Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery – British Volume
Preparing a manuscript for submission
Checklist

Abstract

- Not structured, concise prose
- No keywords
- No level of evidence
- Clear hypothesis/question asked
- Briefly describe the design and the results
- State where this paper fits into the current knowledge

Introduction

- Background
- What question is being asked/hypothesis tested
- Design

Patients and Methods

- Clearly state how many patients and why
- Have you carried out a power study? Details given in paper
- How were the patients chosen? Clearly state inclusion/exclusion criteria
- Were they randomised? how
- Demographics
- What tests were carried out? State measurements/units
- What outcome scores were used? Were they validated?
- State who recorded results, were they blinded?
- How were the controls chosen?
- Ensure it is explicitly stated number of patients, cases, joints involved etc
- Bilateral cases
- Where percentages are quoted, numbers have been given
- Patients lost to follow-up included, details given
- What period of time does the study cover? Why?
- Life table/survival analysis included where appropriate
- Ethical approval/informed consent received

Statistics

- Tests used quoted, references included
- Where p values are included, test must be stated
- Exact p values included for statistically significant values

Results

- Where percentages are quoted, numbers have been given
- Means/medians and ranges provided
- Presented clearly
- Numbers/outcomes/tests/follow-up all match text and tables/figures – essential
- Units given for any results



Discussion

- It is appropriate to the question?
- Do your results support your conclusion? How strongly This should be stated
- Place your results into the current knowledge
- Will your results change clinical practice? How?

References

- Should be up to date
- Are they inclusive?
- Try to reduce bias
- Do not include too many

Tables

- Do not repeat results in the text
- Legends comprehensive and clear

Figures

- Maximum of six figures (including a. b. c etc)
- Legends on separate sheet
- Graphs have appropriate axis labels
- Stains given if presenting histology
- Magnification given if presenting histology
- Embedded at the end of the Word doc.

General

- No longer than 3,500 words
- Spell out all abbreviations at first use
- Manuscript is blinded – remove any institutional or author names from text
- Letter of transmittal signed by all authors

