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Türkiye Klinikleri Journal of Medical Sciences

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About *Türkiye Klinikleri Journal of Medical Sciences*

Journal's scope and coverage

Türkiye Klinikleri Journal of Medical Sciences is an international, peer-reviewed journal dedicated to publishing the highest original research articles based on either experimental investigations or clinical studies, brief communications, letters to the Editor, editorial comments, educational notes, reviews and editorials on all topics relevant to experimental or clinical medical researches.

Quality of Content and Editorial Work

Türkiye Klinikleri Journal of Medical Sciences is a peer-reviewed journal. The acceptance of manuscripts in the *Journal* is approximately 40-50% of submitting material. The editorial team always take into consideration of joining to international indexes when they evaluate the manuscripts.

Türkiye Klinikleri Journal of Medical Sciences is one of the oldest and best known medical journal in Turkey, Turkish Countries and Middle East. The editorial and advisory board of the journal have always consist of well-known expert medical team of medical faculty members. During the publication of first issues (1980s) editorial and advisory members were pioneers of Turkish medicine and now some of them have their own journals which are indexed (1990s). The number of the faculty members continues to increase with the famous scientists not only from Turkey but from the all over the world (2000s). The Turkish advisory board are also full of well known professors in the best universities in Turkey. They are also reviewers in various international journals. These all reviewers are employed under section editors. Approximately 40 section editors are the responsables of their own specific branch of medicine. There are all professors and chairmans in the highest academic international faculties. All the section editors work under the supervision of Editor in Chief, publication Editor and Associate Editor. These editors also consult to statistical and epidemiological consultant, ethics editor and language editors.

Language of the Journal

The official languages of the *Journal* are Turkish and English. The *Journal* contains papers written in either English or Turkish, but all manuscripts have abstracts in English, which makes availability of abstracts to access to a broader audience. If someone wants to take print of a Turkish manuscript after reading the abstract (in English), we translate it easily to English and send the full text to the scientists. Because of all this aim, we have American, language editor

and associate editor, and all the abstracts and manuscripts written in English are checked with the editorial board. All articles (English and Turkish) are subject to editorial revision with both English and Turkish language editors. If necessary, editorial revisions will be made to aid clarity and understanding without changing the data presented.

Epidemiological and Statistical Analysis of the Material Submitted

All of the original researches are required to undergo biostatistical review to ensure appropriate study design, analysis, interpretation and reporting. The *Journal* requires that an individual with expertise in the field or a biostatistician review these manuscripts prior to submission. Manuscripts will undergo further biostatistical review by the *Journal* after submission. The *Journal* has a group of biostatisticians work under supervision of statistical and epidemiological consultant (editor).

Ethical Responsibility

The *Journal* committs to rigorous peer review, freedom from commercial influence, and promotion of the highest ethical and scientific standarts in medical science. The *Journal* adheres to the principles set forth in Helsinki Decleration and holds that all reported research conducted in accordance with such principles. Reports describing data obtained from research conducted in human participants must contain a statement in Material and Methods section indicating approval by the institutional ethical review board and affirmation that *informed consent* was obtained from each participant.

All papers reporting experiments using animals must include a statement in the Material and Methods section giving assurance that all animals have received humane care in compliance with the *Guide for the Care and use of Laboratory Animals* and indicating approval by the institutional ethical review board.

Photographs of the identifiable persons (as in case reports) must be accompanied by *informed consent*.

All manuscripts are subjected to review with the ethical advisory board (especially international advisory group) under supervision of Ethics Editor.

Production Quality

The *Journal* has high quality printing standarts, which lead us to publicate our products on acid-free papers that meets the required international standard quidelines (requirements for permanence).

Quality of the layout, printing, graphics and illustrations can be seen by evaluating the journal issues, The current issues have colorfull pictures with high quality. There is a significant performance in quality of graphics and pictures when compared with the previous ones.

Audience and Geographic Coverage

The Journal is presented to physicians, researchers, practitioners, eductators and students. The *Journal* is published in Turkey and delivered to all around the world, especially to Turkey, Turkish Countries Asia, Middle East and Eastern Europe. It seems localized to specific geographic region but our policy is to serve all around the world, so, we have editorial and advisory board which consist of well-known expert medical team in and out of the Country (USA, UK, France, Japan, Germany, Russia, Switzerland, China, Israel, Hungary, Phillippines, Greece, Serbia, Austria, Pakistan, Syria, Yugoslavia, The Netherlands, India, Estonia, Australia, Spain).

This geographic coverage also has impact on *Journal's* content. Some geographic oriented diseases and health threatening conditions can be found especially in this Journal.

Editorial and Peer Review Process

Turkiye Klinikleri Journal of Medical Sciences reviews all the received materials. Articles are accepted for publication on the condition that they are original, are not under consideration by another journal, or have not been previously

published. In accordance with the Copyright Act of 1976, all manuscripts must be accompanied by the “Copyright Transfer and Author Declaration Statement Form” that is available in each issue of the Journal or in web site of the *Journal*. After signing of this statement by all of the authors, we begin evaluation process.

The demonstration of randomly chosen one submitted papers would be seen in the file. The paper is in original format but you will see the explanations in English in each step.

It will be logical to show the algorithm of the evaluation process as explained below:

- 1) The submitted manuscript is received by the editorial board.
- 2) The manuscript is reviewed for format. For reviews, names and their affiliations of the authors are blinded. If there is something that not match our Journal’s format, the comments and the recommendations are noted.
- 3) If the manuscript is an original research (not case report or review), the paper is required to undergo biostatistical review to ensure appropriate study design analysis, interpretation and reporting. So, the paper is reviewed by the biostatisticians under supervision of statistician editor. The editor takes his comments and give them to publication editor.

So, editorial board has 2 different comments and recommendation for the first step.

1. Format comments
2. Statistical comments

The statistician editor’s decision is made as “acceptance without revision”, “acceptance after minor revisions”, “review again after revisions”, and “rejection”. If the decision is “rejection” then the paper is rejected with recommendations. But if the answer is “acceptance”, “format comments” and “statistical comments” are sent to the author(s). The corrected manuscripts are returned back to the editorial board.

- 4) If the recommended revisions are accepted by the publication editor and statistical editor, the manuscripts are sent to the section editor, to be reviewed by the two most relevant investigators for review of the contents. The section editor select peer referees by recommendation of the Editorial Board members or from the specialist database owned by the Editorial Board. Acceptance of the manuscript is decided based on the critiques and recommended decisions of the referees. A referee’s decision is made as “acceptance without revision”, “acceptance after minor revisions”, “review again after revisions”, and “rejection”. If there is a marked discrepancy in the decisions between two referees, the section Editor send the manuscript to another referee for additional comments and recommended decision. Four repeated decisions of “review again after revision” are regarded as “rejection”. The reviewed manuscripts are returned back to the corresponding author with comments and recommended revisions. A final decision on acceptance or rejection for publication is forwarded to the corresponding author from the Editorial Office. The usual reasons for rejection are insufficient originality, serious scientific flaws, poor quality of illustrations, absence of a message that might be important to readers or repeated in appropriate statistical analysis. Rarity itself of a disease condition is not an acceptable condition of case reports. The peer review process takes usually four to six weeks after the manuscript submission.

- 5) Once accepted, the manuscript is send to English and Turkish Editor for checking and correcting the language of abstract and text without changing the meaning. The accepted manuscripts will be published in order of the date they submitted.

These long story will be shortened as a demonstration in the file with original notes.

Publication Periods

The Journal is published bimonthly in February, April, June, August, October and December. It is always published in time without delay.

Electronic Publication

The *Journal* has web site www.tipbilimleri.com. Readers can find all the abstracts since 1996. They will also easily find the full-text of the articles in PDF version. The *Journal* has an Internet Editor supervising a group of communication scientists.

Conclusion

Despite being considered a conservative country, Turkey has undergone many social scientific, economic, communication and publishing reform for the recent years. Turkey has changed from totalitarianism to democracy, from Islamic rules to secularism, from the Arabic to the Latin alphabet and from an agricultural to an industrial economy. The Turkish science and publication are not the same as 20 years ago, and Turkey will also be changing substantially in the near future. As the Turkish development, *Turkiye Klinikleri Journal of Medical Sciences* is not the same as 24 years ago, still continues to change to reach standards of international level.

There is only one thing does not change is our belief in science and efforts in publishing and delivering it to the medical community of the whole world.