**Author Guidelines for Features**

This section of the journal is the ‘opinion’ section. Nevertheless, it should be made clear which statements are substantiated by reference to the scientific literature and which are the author’s opinion. A feature article can focus on policy, science and society, or purely scientific issues. The topic chosen should be of broad interest and/or applicability to a wider European audience. Furthermore, EMJ also expects that the feature should be written in a manner that is accessible to a broad range of healthcare professionals who may not have a specialist knowledge of the subject in question.

We publish features on:

* How a clinician would diagnose and treat a disease.
* Discussion around established or new European guidelines.
* Critically appraising established information and ideas.
* Illustrating how established information and ideas can be relevant in a new context.
* Opinions on what future techniques/technologies/treatments you would like to see developed.

We are happy to consider other ideas for features, but please discuss with the editorial team first before writing the feature.

Below is a short list of feature requirements. If your feature does not meet these, it may not be considered for publication.

* Between 1,000 and 2,000 words
* No abstract
* Maximum of 10 references
* Brief list of keywords (3–10)
* Up to three display items (tables, figures or boxes) with a relevant legend
* Should be written in an accessible and non-technical style so it is understandable to a wide audience.

**Guidelines on writing**

* The introduction should allow the reader to orientate themselves with the topic/field being discussed. Furthermore, it should aim to capture the interest of the reader.
* Overly specialist terms should be avoided where possible. If it is necessary to include such terms, they should be defined for the general reader.
* Within the main body of the article, an engaging discussion should be developed.
* The feature should conclude by informing the reader about future prospects for the topic/field, the implications of what was discussed, and any remaining unanswered questions.
* Overly hyperbolic language should be avoided as well as major oversimplification.

**Peer review**

All submissions are initially reviewed by the editorial team. At this stage, papers may be rejected without peer review if we feel that they are not of high enough priority or quality or not within the scope of the journal. This ensures that authors are given a quick decision if their paper is unsuitable. Papers that are not rejected in the initial review process will be sent out for peer review to two independent reviewers. The process is double blinded. Papers will be selected for publication based on peer review feedback, compliance of the author in making the modifications, and Editor’s final choice. Articles which fail peer review will be rejected.

**Other policies to be aware of**

Note that EMJ will not publish anything that is deemed to be potentially libellous or slanderous. Additionally, EMJ will not publish anything that is overly promotional. Finally, EMJ will not publish anything that is overly disparaging of the healthcare professions and pharmaceutical industry.

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