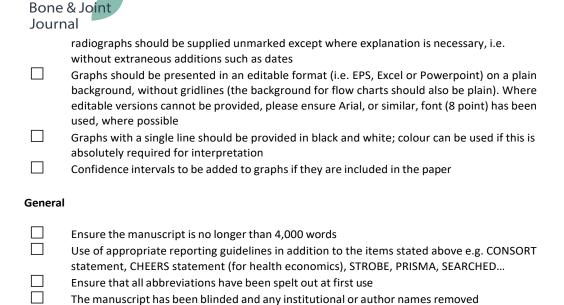


The Bone & Joint Journal (BJJ) Preparing a manuscript for submission Checklist

Abstract		
	Use structured concise prose with sub-titles: Aims, Methods, Results, Conclusion Provide a take home message, including up to three bullet points summing up the clinical	
	relevance of the paper in the context of the existing literature Provide a clear hypothesis and/or a statement of the study aims and objectives	
Introduction		
	Provide background information and a description of the clinical problem Place the proposed study and choice of study design in the context of the previous literature, e.g. this is the first randomized controlled trial in this area	
	Give a clear statement of the study aims and objectives at the end of the Introduction	
Patients and Methods		
	Clearly document the study design and any prior registration details (i.e. registration with clinicaltrials.gov or ISRCTN)	
	Provide details of Research Ethics approval or why this was not required	
	Describe how the population/patients were recruited/selected to take part in the study, and how many were included	
	How was the study size derived? Give full details of the sample size calculation if performed.	
	How were the patients/subjects chosen? Provide full details of the inclusion/exclusion criteria	
	If a randomized study, describe the process of randomization in detail	
	Provide full details of the intervention if there was one	
	Provide full details of the comparison if there was one Provide full details of the outcomes to be reported. Were they validated? Clearly identify the primary outcome measure, if there was one	
	For clinical outcome studies, state who collected the outcome data and if they were blind to treatment allocation	
	For other study designs, clearly identify the source data and the timeframes for those data	
	Identify the unit of measurement, e.g. patient, limb, or joint	
	Where appropriate, provide information regarding bilateral cases and how they were managed (e.g. treatment allocation) within the study, where relevant	
Statistica	I analysis	
	State all the statistical tests and to which data they were applied. Include references where appropriate; particularly where the method is nonstandard (e.g.	
	beyond t-tests, linear or logistic regression etc).	
	Report exact p values for all statistical tests and includes details of the statistical method that generated the p-value (e.g. not p < 0.05, but p = 0.025 from a t-test)	
	State the level of significance used for all tests (e.g. significance was set at the 5% level) Provide details of all primary and secondary analyses	

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	Justify model/analysis assumptions; e.g. independence between data points, normal distribution of outcome
	Give details of how missing data were handled (e.g. complete-case analysis was used or missing data were imputed)
	Provide details of the statistical software used for analysis, and any nonstandard modules/packages/add-ins used; e.g. StatsSoft version 1.0 was used for all analysis (add reference) with package Regmod (add reference)
Results	
П	Always provide absolute numbers when reporting percentages; e.g. 50% (20/40)
	Provide means and standard deviations (and ranges), and medians and interquartile ranges
<u> </u>	(upper and lower quartiles) as appropriate for descriptive summary analyses
	Both p-values and 95% confidence intervals (credible intervals) should be provided where inference statistics are reported
	Present results clearly and in a logical order; i.e. from the simplest descriptive statistics to the most complex analyses
	Check that numbers/outcomes/tests/follow-up all match between text and any
	tables/figures
H	Axis should be clearly labelled on figures and legends provided for all tables and figures
Ш	Provide an interpretation for results of reported analyses; e.g. if odds ratios or regression coefficients are reported explain what they mean, and how they can be interpreted
	Units should be provided for all results
Discussion	
	State if / how strongly your results support your conclusion
	State how your results fit into the current knowledge/existing literature
	Discuss your study strengths and limitations
	Will your results change clinical practice? If so, state how
References	
	Are they relevant and up-to-date?
	Reduce citation bias wherever possible
	Do not include personal communications as references
Tables	
	Include units in all tables
	Ensure the legends are comprehensive and clearly state what the table shows
Figures	
	Provide a maximum of ten (counting a, b, c as separate figures) Ensure legends are comprehensive and clearly state what the figure shows. State what any
	additional notes or lettering represent Figure that all axis labels have been applied to all charts or graphs
H	Ensure that all axis labels have been applied to all charts or graphs Provide details of stains when presenting histology
Ä	Magnification given if presenting histology
ī	Submit individually. Please split composite images into their separate components
\Box	Please ensure that any radiographs, photographs or histology are submitted as high-quality
	(minimum 300 dpi (pixels/inch) resolution) originals (as a tiff/JPEG). Where possible.



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