

# SCIENTIA MEDICA – RULES FOR REVIEW ARTICLES

For the section of Review Articles, Scientia Medica accept only invited papers. Articles should follow a structure similar to a systematic review, which will be described below. Eventually, they may have a different structure. Systematic reviews accompanied by meta-analysis are considered as original articles.

**WARNING:** This document only addresses specific rules for Review Articles. Authors must also consult "INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS" for knowledge of the rules of publication, information about how to prepare and format the article and instructions for electronic submission:

<http://ebooks.pucrs.br/edipucrs/periodicos/ScientiaMedica/guidelines.pdf>

## AUTHORSHIP

Students can participate in the work, but at least one of the authors must have a master's or a PhD degree.

The Corresponding Author shall not be an undergraduate student.

Please see additional guidelines about authorship in "INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS" (link above).

## ITEMS TO BE OBSERVED IN THE PREPARATION OF A REVIEW ARTICLE

- a) Sources of search (databases and others)
- b) Languages included
- c) Period covered by the review and period when the search was carried
- d) Key words
- e) Criteria for inclusion and exclusion
- f) Number of articles found in the initial search
- g) Number of articles excluded and identification of the selected
- h) Division of subtitles

## RESEARCH SOURCES

In the initial search, use the following mandatory databases:

Medline/PubMed <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/> and LILACS <http://lilacs.bvsalud.org/> . Other bases are optional.

Inform in Methods if the references listed in the articles were considered.

## LANGUAGES

Search must necessarily include articles in English. Other languages are optional.

In Methods, inform which languages have been considered in the search.

## COVERED PERIOD

In view of the need for updating, the research period should include recent works, that were published at least up to six months before the submission of the review to the Scientia Medica. The retroactive extension of the covered period can vary according to the subject and should be reported, as well as the period in which the survey was conducted.

## KEY WORDS USED IN SEARCH

Inform which search terms were used. At least two of them should be among the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) of the National Library of Medicine, which correspond to the Descriptors in Health Sciences (DeCS – Descritores em Ciências da Saúde) of Bireme: <http://decs.bvs.br/>. Other relevant terms found in databases can be used, though not part of MeSH or DeCS.

The Key Words that are used to index the article (and necessarily must appear after the Abstract) generally correspond to those used in the search, but not necessarily in full.

## CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION AND EXCLUSION AND NUMBER OF SELECTED ITEMS

Consider the inclusion and exclusion criteria, the number of articles found in the initial search, the number excluded and the number selected. Preference should be given to original sources, avoiding use of citations. Exceptionally, comprehensive and recent review articles of authors recognized as authorities on the subject, may be included in the review.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE ORIGINAL

- a) Cover Page – must be submitted in a separate document, in "Supplementary Files" as instructed in Guidelines for Authors:  
<http://ebooks.pucrs.br/edipucrs/periodicos/ScientiaMedica/guidelines.pdf>
- c) Abstract and Key Words
- e) Main Text
- f) References
- g) Tables, boxes and/or figures (if photos or complex images, send them in JPG files as supplementary documents). See rules for use of images in "GUIDELINES FOR AUTHORS" (link provided above).

### SUBTITLES OF ABSTRACT AND MAIN TEXT

ABSTRACT	MAIN TEXT
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• AIMS</li><li>• METHODS</li><li>• RESULTS</li><li>• CONCLUSIONS</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• INTRODUCTION</li><li>• METHODS</li><li>• RESULTS OF SELECTION</li><li>• CONTENT OF THE REVIEW<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Subheadings</li></ul></li><li>• DISCUSSION <u>or</u> FINAL COMMENTS <u>or</u> CONCLUSIONS</li></ul>

#### ABSTRACT

Should be structured according to the table above. After to refer the "AIMS", in "METHODS" summarize sources of data, languages, search terms, inclusion and exclusion criteria, covered period and period in which the survey was conducted. In "RESULTS", results of selection and the main points of the content that has been researched should be described, with the most important of them highlighted in "CONCLUSIONS".

#### MAIN TEXT

##### *INTRODUCTION*

Briefly present the issue, explaining its importance, and address the objectives of the review.

##### *METHODS*

Provide all information about how the research was done (as explained above); survey sources, language, keywords, research period, during which the survey was conducted, criteria for inclusion and exclusion of articles.

##### *RESULTS OF SELECTION*

Describe the search, exclusion and final selection results. These steps can be described in a flowchart.

##### *CONTENT OF THE REVIEW*

The subtitles within this one may vary according to the particular features of the subject. One must keep a logical sequence (eg, in the case of a morbid state review, present epidemiology, clinical diagnosis, treatment). Subheadings should not be numbered.

##### *CONCLUSIONS OR FINAL COMMENTS*

Within this last heading, authors should use their knowledge and deepening in the subject to give the reader a critical evaluation of what was presented. The format of this item is highly variable and depends on the subject that was reviewed, so authors may name it as more convenient: Discussion, Final comments or Conclusions. In all cases, the conclusions are placed at the end.

#### REFERENCES

Must contain the articles selected for review, and may include other sources that authors consider necessary to write the introduction.

Format of references and other formatting and style rules must follow the INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS of Scientia Medica:

<http://ebooks.pucrs.br/edipucrs/periodicos/ScientiaMedica/guidelines.pdf>