

Archives of Disease in Childhood

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Meetings in 1988

Neonatal Society

18 February, London

8–9 July, Leicester

3 November, London

Further details: Dr JK Stothers, Neonatal Research Unit, London Hospital Medical College, Turner Street, London E1 2AD

Paediatric Research Society

18–19 March, Girton College, Cambridge

Further details: Dr A Greenough, Neonatal Unit, King's College Hospital, Denmark Hill, London SE5 9RS

XI European Congress of Perinatal Medicine

10–13 April, Rome

Further details: Dr GC Di Renzo, Scientific Secretariat, via degli Olivi, 72, 06100 Perugia, Italy

British Paediatric Association

12–15 April, York, England

Further details: Miss RJ Topping, Conference Secretary, British Paediatric Association, 5 St Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4LB

Clinical Genetics Society

13–14 April, Oxford

22–23 September, Aberdeen

Further details: Professor NC Nevin, Dept of Medical Genetics, Floor A, Tower, Belfast City Hospital, Northern Ireland

American Pediatric Society

2–6 May, Washington, DC

Further details: M Benedict, Suny Health Science Center at Brooklyn, 450 Clarkson Avenue, Box 49, Brooklyn, New York 11203

Fetal and Neonatal Physiological Measurements

5–8 June, Malmo/Ronneby Brunn, Sweden

Further details: M Pickens, Dept of Clinical Physiology, Lund University, Allmänna Sjukhuset, S-214 01 Malmö, Sweden

European Society for Pediatric Research

19–22 June, Oslo

Further details: Professor S Halvorsen, Dept of Pediatrics, Oslo City Hospital U1 Uvel, Kirkevein 166, N-Oslo 1, Norway

European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology

26–29 June, Copenhagen

Further details: Dr NE Skakkebaek, University Dept of Paediatrics, Dept of Paediatrics 531, Hvidovre Hospital, Kettegaard Alle 30, DK-2650 Hvidovre, Denmark

International Association for the Scientific Study of Mental Deficiency

21–25 August, Dublin

Further details: Mr J O'Gorman, Congress Chairman, 8th World Congress, IASSMD, 12 Pembroke Park, Dublin 4, Ireland

III International Symposium on Pediatric Dermatology

14–17 September, Mazara del Vallo (Trapani), Italy

Further details: Organising Secretariat, Foundation for Research in Dermatology, Largo Gemelli, 8, 00168 Rome, Italy

International Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect

25–28 September, Rio de Janeiro

Further details: Dr MA Lynch, Newcomen Centre, Guy's Hospital, St Thomas Street, London SE1 9RT

European Paediatric Respiratory Society

No meeting in 1988 (alternate years)

Further details: Dr J Warner, Brompton Hospital, Fulham Road, London SW3 6HP

Instructions to authors

Papers for publication should be sent to the Editors, *Archives of Disease in Childhood*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR.

Submission of a paper will be held to imply that it contains original work not being offered elsewhere or published previously.

Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with the Vancouver style.¹

The Editors retain the right to shorten the article or make changes to conform with style and to improve clarity.

For guidance on ethical aspects refer to the editorial in this journal.²

All authors must sign the copyright form.

Failure to adhere to any one of these instructions may result in delay in processing the manuscript and it may be returned to the authors for correction before being submitted to a referee.

Original articles

These should usually conform to the conventional structure of summary, introduction, patients and methods, results, discussion, and references. The title should occupy no more than two lines of the title page (eight to 10 words) and should not contain the words 'child', 'children', or 'childhood' (already implicit in the title of the journal). The summary should be no longer than 150 words and should set out what was done, the main findings, and their implications. 'Results will be discussed' is not acceptable.

Short reports

Short papers, brief laboratory observations, and preliminary communications should be submitted for this section (single case reports will usually be considered in this form only). Length must not exceed two printed pages of text. In general this will be less than 900 words, including a summary of less than 50 words, one or two small tables or illustrations, and up to six references. An abbreviated title of no more than 38 characters is required for the title page. A report of a trial with negative results, based on a reasonable hypothesis, is more likely to gain acceptance if submitted as a *very* short report of less than 500 words.

Annotations

Annotations are commissioned by the editors who welcome suggestions for topics or authors.

Letters

Letters should normally be no more than 300 words, have no more than three references, and be signed by all authors. Letters may be published in a shortened form at the discretion of the Editor. They should be prepared in a similar way to other manuscripts. Preference is given to those that take up points made in contributions published in the *Archives*, but those that discuss current topics or present original observations may be acceptable.

Manuscripts, tables, and illustrations

Manuscripts should be typed in double spacing on one side of the paper (A4) with 5 cm margins. The pages should be numbered, including the title page. The margin on the right hand side should *not* be justified. Authors should keep one copy of their manuscript and submit two copies; if the paper is rejected it will not be returned unless this is requested at the time of submission. Two copies of revised versions of manuscripts should be submitted.

Papers, short reports, and annotations should have a title page which gives the title of the paper, the name(s) of the author(s), and the place where the work was carried out. The authors should include their family names and initials; their number should be kept to a minimum and should include only those who have made a contribution to the research: justification should be made for more than five authors. Acknowledgments should be limited to workers whose courtesy or assistance has extended beyond their paid work, and to supporting organisations. The name and address of the corresponding author and whether or not reprints will be available should be given at the end of the references.

Drugs should be given their approved, not proprietary names, and the source of any new or experimental preparations should be given. Abbreviations should not be used. Scientific measurements should be given in SI units: conversion factors to traditional units should also be supplied. Blood pressure, however, should be expressed in mm Hg.

All statistical methods used should be detailed in the 'methods' section of the paper and any not in common use should either be described in detail or supported by references. Previously published procedures and techniques need only a reference to the original.

Tables and illustrations should be submitted separately from the text of the paper, and legends to illustrations should also be typed on a separate sheet. Tables should be typed in double spacing without ruled lines, be simple, and should not duplicate information given in the text of the article; they should be numbered consecutively and be comprehensible to the reader without the text.

Illustrations should be used only when data cannot be expressed clearly in any other way. When graphs are submitted the numerical data on which they are based should be supplied. For reasons of clarity and accuracy information presented in histograms is not acceptable and should be presented in tabulated form. Line drawings should be in India ink on heavy white paper or card, with any labelling on a separate sheet; they may also be presented as photographic prints. Other illustrations should be prints, not negatives, transparencies, or x ray films. They should be no larger than single or double column width—that is 7 cm or 14.5 cm in width and be trimmed to remove all redundant areas; the top should be marked on the back. Staining techniques of photomicrographs should be stated. Either an internal scale marker should be included in the photomicrograph, or the final print magnification should be given. Again, any labelling should be on copies, not on the prints. Patients shown in photographs should have their identity concealed or should give their written consent to publication. Ultrasound scan pictures should be accompanied by explanatory line drawings and should be arrowed on an overlay to indicate areas of interest. If any tables or illustrations submitted have been published elsewhere, written consent to republication should be obtained by the author from the copyright holder (usually the publisher) and the authors.

Any article may be submitted to outside peer review and for statistical assessment. This may take up to six weeks. Manuscripts are usually published within five months of the date of final acceptance of the article.

References

Most articles do not require more than 20 refer-

ences and many need substantially less. References should be numbered in the order in which they appear in the text, and typed in double spacing. At the end of the article the full list of references should give the names and initials of all authors (unless there are more than six when only the first three should be given, followed by *et al*). The authors' names are followed by the title of the article, the title of the journal abbreviated according to the style of *Index Medicus* (see the January issue of *Index Medicus*), the year of publication, the volume number, and the first and last page numbers. Titles of books should be followed by place of publication, publisher, year, and page numbers of chapter if applicable.

¹ Barson AJ, Tasker, M, Lieberman BA, Hillier VF. Impact of improved perinatal care on the causes of death. *Arch Dis Child* 1984;**59**: 199–206.

² Dowling S. *Health for a change*. London: Child Poverty Action Group, 1983.

Information from manuscripts not yet accepted or personal communications may be cited only in the text. References are not checked by us; authors must verify references against the original documents before submitting the article. Information from abstracts may not be cited in the references but can be noted in the text to attribute originality.

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References

¹ International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals. *Br Med J* 1982;**284**:1766–70.

² Anonymous. Research involving children—ethics, the law, and the climate of opinion. [Editorial]. *Arch Dis Child* 1978;**53**: 441–2.