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The Journal of the British Paediatric Association

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MEETINGS IN 1992

The Neonatal Society

20 February, Royal Society of Medicine, London

Further details: Dr Andrew Wilkinson, Neonatal Unit, Department of Paediatrics, John Radcliffe Maternity Hospital, Headington, Oxford OX3 9DU

Clinical Genetics Society

18 March, London
23–25 September, Nottingham

Further details: Dr Peter Farndon, Clinical Genetics Unit, Birmingham Maternity Hospital, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TG

Paediatric Research Society

27–28 March, Newcastle upon Tyne
September/October (dates undecided), Galway, Ireland

Further details: Dr L T Weaver, MRC Dunn Nutrition Unit, Milton Road, Cambridge CB4 1XJ

British Paediatric Association

7–10 April, University of Warwick, Coventry
Further details: Miss Rosalind Topping, British Paediatric Association, 5 St Andrew's Place, Regents Park, London NW1 4LB

Ambulatory Pediatric Association

4–8 May, Baltimore
Further details: Marge Degnon, Ambulatory Pediatric Association, 6728 Old McLean Village, McLean, VA 22101, USA

European Society for Paediatric Gastroenterology and Nutrition

27–30 May, Brussels
Further details: Dr Isabelle Polanco, Hospital de la Paz, PO Castellana 261, Madrid 28046, Spain

European Society for Pediatric Research

14–17 June, Uppsala
Further details: Professor Gunnar Sedin, Department of Pediatrics and Perinatal Research Laboratory, University Hospital, S-751 85, Uppsala, Sweden

European Respiratory Society Pediatric Assembly

29 August–3 September, Vienna
Further details: Professor M Zach, University Kinderklinik, Graz, Austria

The 5th Congress of the International Perinatal Doppler Society

30 August–2 September, New York
Further details: Dr Harold Schulman, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Winthrop University Hospital, 259 First Street, Mineola, New York 11501–3932, USA

European Society for Paediatric Endocrinology

6–9 September, Zaragoza, Spain
Further details: Dr Angel Ferrandez-Longa, Hospital Insantil, 'Miguel Servet', Paseo Isabel la Catolica 1, 50009 Zaragoza, Spain

International Congress of Pediatrics

6–10 September, Rio de Janeiro
Further details: Secretariat, Gentry, Rua Visconde de Ouro Preto, 37-Sala 102, CEP 22250, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

British Association of Perinatal Medicine

12 September, Sheffield
Further details: Dr Richard G Pearse, The Jessop Hospital for Women, Leavygreave Road, Sheffield S3 7RE

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 after acceptance.

Failure to adhere to any 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.

General

- Authors must submit two copies of the manuscript and any subsequent revision.
- When submitting original manuscripts authors should send a copy of any of their other papers on a similar subject to assure the editors that there is no risk of duplicate publication.
- Manuscripts must have a title page which gives the title of the paper, the name of the author(s), the place where the work was carried out, and the address of the corresponding author. The authors should include their family names and initials. The number of authors 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. Information about the availability of reprints should be given at the end of the references.
- The article and references must be typed in double line spacing throughout (including tables) with margins of at least 2.5 cm. The right hand margin should not be justified. Pages should be numbered in the top right hand corner.
- All measurements must be in SI units apart from blood pressure measurements, which should be in mm Hg and drugs in metric units.
- Abbreviations should be used rarely and should be preceded by the words in full before the first appearance.

- In the statistical analysis of data 95% confidence intervals should be used where appropriate.
- Any article may be submitted to outside peer review and for statistical assessment. This may take up to six weeks. Articles are usually published within five months of the date of the final acceptance of the manuscript.
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Original articles

- The title should have no more than 10 words and should not include the words 'child', 'children', or 'childhood' (already implicit in the title of the journal).
- The abstract of an experimental or observational study must clearly state in sequence and in not more than 150 words (i) the main purpose of the study, (ii) the essential elements of the design of the study, (iii) the most important results illustrated by numerical data but not p values, and (iv) the implications and relevance of the results. The abstract of a paper which focuses on a case report(s) must summarise the essential descriptive elements of the case(s) and indicate their relevance and importance.

Short reports

- Length must not exceed 900 words, including an abstract of less than 50 words, one or two small tables or illustrations and up to six references. If more illustrations are required the text must be reduced accordingly.
- The title should be no longer than seven words.

Annotations

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

Letters

- Letters must be typed in double line spacing, should normally be no more than 300 words, have no more than four references, and must be signed by all authors. Two copies should be provided. Letters may be published in a shortened form at the discretion of the editor.

Tables and illustrations

Tables should be presented separately and typed in double line spacing without ruled lines.

- Avoid histograms if possible.
- 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.
- Illustrations should be trimmed to remove all redundant areas; the top should be marked on the back.
- Patients shown in photographs should have their identity concealed or written consent to publication should be obtained.
- Ultrasound scans or other pictures should be arrowed on an overlay to indicate areas of interest or should be accompanied by explanatory line drawings.
- 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. A copy of the letter giving consent must be included.

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- 1 Williams W, Sunderland R. As sick as a pigeon—psittacosis myelitis. *Arch Dis Child* 1989;64:1626-8.
- 2 Hughes CA. Parenteral nutrition. In: Insley J, Wood B, eds. *A paediatric vade mecum*. London: Lloyd-Luke, 1984:60-7.

- Please note that in the new Vancouver style (4th edition, 1991) all authors must be given but if the number exceeds six give six names followed by *et al* (instead of three).¹
- Abstracts, information from manuscripts not yet accepted, or personal communications may be cited only in the text and not included in the references. References are not checked by us; authors must verify references against the original documents before submitting the article.

- 1 International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals. *BMJ* 1991;302:338-41.
- 2 Anonymus. Research involving children—ethics, the law, and the climate of opinion. [Editorial.] *Arch Dis Child* 1978;53: 441-2.

Manuscript checklist:

- Is the entire manuscript double spaced?
- Is there an abstract?
- Are the references in Vancouver style?
- Are the abbreviations spelt out?
- Are the measurements in SI units?

Revised January 1992