Submission

The Association for Play Therapy (APT) contracts the American Psychological Association (APA) to market, technically edit, publish, and distribute its semi-annual, peer-reviewed *International Journal of Play Therapy®*. Authors are invited to review these instructions and then submit their manuscripts thru the [Manuscript Submission Portal](#).

Clinical Editor:

Franc Hudspeth, PhD, NCC, LPC-S, ACS, RPh, RPT-S, CPC
Professor & Program Director of Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Sacred Heart University, [franchudspeth@gmail.com](mailto:franchudspeth@gmail.com)

Authors must provide their email addresses and telephone and fax numbers for use by the APA editorial office and later by the production office. Most correspondence is conducted by email. Authors must also provide email addresses in their cover letters and should keep a copy of the manuscript to guard against loss. Manuscripts are not returned.

Authors must categorize their submissions as one of the following options:

- **Research, Case Studies, or Theoretical Applications.** Theoretical, philosophical, and research articles, case studies, and literature reviews. Priority is given to play therapy research manuscripts. Manuscripts, including references, must not exceed 25 pages.

- **Current Practices.** Articles regarding beneficial play therapy practices, current issues, and concerns related to play therapy that include theoretical underpinnings for practices and/or issues. Manuscripts, including references, must not exceed 20 pages.

The *Journal* publishes and disseminates reports of original research, theoretical articles, and substantive reviews of topics germane to play therapy on behalf of psychologists, psychiatrists, social workers, counselors, school counselors, marriage and family therapists, and other mental health professionals.

Manuscript Preparation

As of June 1, 2020, all manuscripts should be submitted according to the [Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association 7th edition](#). Manuscripts may be copyedited for bias-free language (Chapter 5). [See APA’s Checklist for Manuscript Submission.](#)

- **Abstract and Keywords.** All manuscripts must include an abstract containing a maximum of 180 words typed on a separate page. After the abstract, please supply up to five keywords or brief phrases.

- **References.** References should be listed in alphabetical order. Each listed reference should be cited in text, and each text citation should be listed in the References.

- **Figures.** Graphics files should be submitted initially as part of the manuscript file. However, if the manuscript is accepted for publication you will be required to submit figures as Tiff, EPS, or PowerPoint files. The minimum line weight for line art is 0.5 point for optimal printing. When possible, please place symbol legends below the figure image instead of to the side.
Continuing Education

If accepted, in order to offer continuing education for each article, authors should also include:
- A minimum of 5 references from peer-reviewed publications/journals, that are no older than 5 years
- Submit 3-4 learning objectives written in behavioral learning terms
- 10 exam questions (maximum of 2 may be True or False questions)

Supplemental Materials

APA can now place supplementary materials online, which will be available via the published article in the PsycARTICLES database. To submit such materials, please see Supplementing Your Article with Online Material for details.

Permissions

Authors are required to obtain and provide to the editor on final acceptance all necessary permissions to reproduce in print and electronic form any copyrighted work, including, for example, test materials (or portions thereof) and photographs of people.

Copyright

By submitting a manuscript, authors agree that once an article is accepted, then the copyright is immediately assigned to the APT, which thereafter enjoys the exclusive rights to reproduce and distribute the article and strictly prohibit its reproduction, storage, or transmission in any form or by any means without its expressed permission in writing.

APT policy prohibits an author from submitting the same manuscript for concurrent consideration by two or more publications. Authors are required to indicate this in the cover letter provided at submission.

Posting Articles on the Web

If a paper is unpublished, the author may distribute it on the Internet or post it on a Web site but should label the paper with the date and with a statement that the paper has not (yet) been published. (Example: Draft version 1.3, 1/5/99. This paper has not been peer reviewed. Please do not copy or cite without author's permission.)

Upon submitting the paper for publication, the author is obligated to inform the editor if the paper has been or is posted on a Web site. Some editors may consider such a Web posting to be prior publication and may not review the paper.

Authors of articles published in the APT journal may post a copy of the final manuscript, as a PDF only on their Web site or their employer's server after it is accepted for publication. The following conditions would prevail:
- The posted article must carry an APT copyright notice and include a link to the APT journal home page.
- Further, the posted article must include the following statement: “This article may not exactly replicate the final version published in the APT journal. It is not the copy of record.”
- APT does not permit archiving with any other non-APA repositories.
- APT does not provide electronic copies of the APA published version for this purpose, and authors are not permitted to scan in the APA published version.

Conflict of Interest

APT requires authors to reveal any possible conflict of interest in the conduct and reporting of research (e.g., financial interests in a test or procedure, funding by pharmaceutical companies for drug research).