The official journal of the Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants

JOURNAL OVERVIEW

The Journal of Dermatology for Physician Assistants (JDPA) is a peer-reviewed publication that delivers innovative clinical, surgical, cosmetic, and professional content exclusively for dermatology PAs. Submissions to the JDPA are peer-reviewed by a panel of experienced dermatology PAs, educational PAs, and dermatologists before being accepted for publication. Manuscripts submitted for publication are reviewed with the understanding that they are original and have neither been submitted elsewhere nor are being considered by other journals. Electronic submissions are accepted and should be sent to jdpa@dermpa.org.

JDPA follows the recommendations of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), and the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) for guidance on policies and procedures related to publication ethics. The policies submission requirements listed in JDPA’s Author Guidelines have been adopted from those three advisory bodies and, where necessary, modified and tailored to meet the specific content, audiences, and aims of JDPA.

EDITORIAL MISSION

The Journal of Dermatology for Physician Assistants (JDPA) is the official clinical journal of the Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants. The mission of the JDPA is to improve dermatological patient care by publishing the most innovative, timely, practice-proven educational information available for the physician assistant profession.

Manuscripts that meet our editorial purpose include, but are not limited to, original research pertaining to the field of dermatology and/or physician assistant education and practice, review articles on dermatological conditions and their treatments, case reports and studies, clinical pearls related to surgical and/or cosmetic procedures, commentaries on published literature, opinion essays on current issues, and letters to the editor.

CONTENT FOCUS

The main departments featured in JDPA are as follows:

- Clinical Dermatology
- Cosmetic Dermatology
- Dermatology PA News & Notes
- Professional Development
- Surgical Dermatology

Dedicated departments may comprise features or regular columns that highlight content specific to their subject matter.

JOURNAL STYLE

All aspects of the manuscript, including the formatting of tables, illustrations, and references and grammar, punctuation, usage, and scientific writing style, should be prepared according to the most current American Medical Association (AMA) Manual of Style (http://www.amamanualofstyle.com)

Author Listing. All authors’ names should be listed in their entirety and should include institutional/professional affiliations and degrees held.

Authoring Groups. If you choose to include an organization, committee, team, or any other group as part of your author list, you must include the names of the individuals as part of the Acknowledgments section of your manuscript. This section should appear after the main text prior to your References section. (If your Acknowledgments includes both group members and other persons/organizations who are not in that group, you should instead list the group members in a separate appendix to avoid confusion.) The terms “for” or “on behalf of” must also be used when referencing the authoring group in the by-line.

Proprietary Products. Authors should use nonproprietary names of drugs or devices unless mention of a trade name is pertinent to the discussion. If a proprietary product is cited, the name and location of the manufacturer must also be included.

References. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of references. Citations should be numbered in the order in which they appear in the text. Reference style should follow that of the AMA Manual of Style, current edition. Abbreviated journal names should reflect the style of Index Medicus. Visit: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/tsd/serials/lji.html

Reference Formatting Guide

Journal article with 1 author

Journal article with more than 5 authors

Authored book

Edited book

Book chapter

Website
MANUSCRIPT CATEGORIES

CLINICAL DERMATOLOGY
- Continuing Education (CME). Content should be specific to the field of dermatology following any of the following formats: Original research (clinical or basic science), Professional issues or health policy papers, Scholarly review of a topic. Recommended content length: up to 5,000 words not including references. Requirements: Learning Objectives (4), Statement explaining how the article addresses practice gaps, and Self-assessment post-test questions (4).
- Dermatology Case Report. Discuss a case(s) that illustrates an important or interesting observation. Cases should stimulate research and the exchange of information and illustrate the signs and symptoms, diagnosis, and treatment of a dermatological condition. At least 15 current references are recommended. Illustrative material is preferred. Must include abstract (1,000 to 3,000 words).
- Clinical Dermatology PA Perspectives. A review of published article summarizing the practical thoughts and clinical issues (250-1000 words).
- From the Patient’s Perspective. Patients’ stories published in their own words. JDPA staff can even assist patients with writing their stories (250-1000 words).
- Clinical Snapshots. A brief written description and clinical facts about an interesting cutaneous anomaly (250-500 words).
- Drugs in Dermatology. Write about the current information regarding a particular dermatological medication, drug interaction, or medication side effect/adverse reaction (250-1000 words).
- Dermatology Evidence-Based Medicine (derm EBM). A brief, evidence-based assessment of the one or two most relevant studies retrieved to answer a focused clinical question that may have arisen from a real-life situation. A derm EBM is not a comprehensive review of a subject or a synthesis of all the available knowledge (500–1500 words).

COSMETIC DERMATOLOGY
- Feature Articles. A review about a new or innovative cosmetic procedure, device, and/or approach to patient care (500-1000 words).
- Cosmetic Pearls. A brief article on a fact or pearl for the cosmetic setting (250-500 words).
- Cosmetic Dermatology Case Report. Write a report and discuss a case(s) that illustrate an important or interesting observation (500-1500 words).
- Cosmetic Dermatology PA Perspectives. Write a review of published article summarizing the practical thoughts and clinical issues (250-1000 words).

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
- Feature Articles. An article that explores the professional issues dermatology PAs face, such as reimbursement, education, medical trends, contracts, office management, etc. (500-1500 words).
- Outside & Inside the 9 to 5. Share your story of the good work that you do either outside or inside your practice of dermatology. (250-1000 words).
- Notes From Your Office Manager. A brief article on a fact or pearl for the office setting (250-500 words).
- Judicial and Ethical Affairs. An article that explores the complex or multifaceted ethical or judicial professional issues that affect the practice of dermatology for PAs (250-1000 words).

SURGICAL DERMATOLOGY
- Feature Articles. A review about a new or innovative surgical procedure, device, and/or approach to patient care (500-1000 words).
- Surgical Wisdom. A brief article on a fact or pearl for the surgical setting (250-500 words).
- Surgical Dermatology Case Report. A report discussing a case(s) that illustrates an important or interesting observation (500-1500 words).
- Surgical Dermatology PA Perspectives. Write a review of published article summarizing the practical thoughts and clinical issues (250-1000 words).

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES & INSTRUCTIONS

All submissions must adhere to the following format:
- Main Submission Document prepared in Microsoft Word (no PDFs) or similar word processing program
- Font: Times New Roman font, size 12, black
- Formatting: Use double spacing throughout
- Do not include footnotes within the manuscript body
- All abbreviations and acronyms should be spelled out at first mention.

E-mail Your Manuscript to: jdpa@dermpa.org

Note: Hard copies are not accepted

JDPA MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION CHECKLIST

✓ TITLE PAGE
Author listing. Full names for all authors, including degrees, and institutional/professional affiliations.
Corresponding author. The name and contact information of the corresponding author should also be included. This is the individual designated to communicate with the editorial staff regarding the manuscript.
Word Count. List main body word count (Do not include references and supplementary material).
Abstract. Include a structured abstract with all articles, except letters to the editors. Abstracts should be limited to 250 words and summarize the manuscript’s main points (e.g., a research article might contain the following abstract categories: objective, design, setting, participants, measurements, results, conclusion.
Keywords. Include any search terms relevant to the manuscript content.
Disclosures. Include any relevant disclosures, such as financial support, industry relationships, or other conflicts of interest.

✓ FIGURES, TABLES, & SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL
Journal Policy. For any figure, table, or supplemental material reproduced or adapted from another source, authors are required to obtain permission from the copyright holder, and proof of permission must be uploaded at the time of submission. The legend must include a statement that the material was used or adapted with permission.
Figures. Authors should number figures in the order in which they appear in the text. Figures include graphs, charts, photographs, and illustrations. Each figure MUST include a legend.
Tables. Tables should be numbered in the order in which they are cited in the text and include appropriate headers. Table formatting should follow the current edition of the AMA Manual of Style.
Supplemental Material. References to any online supplemental information must appear in the main article. Such supplemental information can include but are not limited to additional tables, figures, videos, audio files, slide shows, data sets (including qualitative data), and online appendices. If your study is based on a survey, consider submitting your survey instrument or the key questions as a data supplement. Authors are responsible for clearly labeling supplemental information and are accountable for its accuracy. Supplemental information will be peer reviewed, but not professionally copyedited.