Instructions to the Authors

Submission process

Manuscripts must be submitted by one of the authors of the manuscript, and should not be submitted by anyone on their behalf (except in rare cases by the editorial office at the request of the submitting author in rare cases for unforeseen reasons after due documentation). The submitting author takes responsibility for the article during submission and peer review.

To facilitate rapid publication and to minimize administrative costs, Journal of Pathology Informatics accepts only online submission. The submission process is compatible with version 5.5 or later of Internet Explorer and Netscape Navigator, and with most other modern web browsers. It can be used from PC, Mac, or Unix platforms. Files can be submitted as a batch, or one by one. The submission process can be interrupted at any time - when users return to the site, they can carry on where they left off.

See below for examples of acceptable word processor and graphics file formats. Additional files of any type, such as movies, animations, or original data files, can also be submitted as part of the publication.

Please refer to Submission checklist

Submission checklist

Please check the following points before proceeding.

1. **Manuscript files**

   Do you have all the files for the manuscript in an acceptable format?

   Main manuscript

   Manuscript is split in to the following parts (steps):

   a. **First page file**

      • Use text/rtf/doc/pdf file (Max size **1 MB**). This should list the following:

      • The title of the article.

      • Author details: The full names, institutional addresses, and e-mail addresses for all authors must be included on the title page.

      • The details of corresponding author should include- e-mail address, mailing address, phone & fax numbers (country & area code).

      (In addition please include other details mentioned in the template)

   b. **Article file**

      • Use text/rtf/doc/pdf file (Max size 1 MB). Should contain the Title and text from abstract onwards.

      No information which can reveal contributors' identity should be included in this file (e.g. acknowledgement).

   c. **Figure/video files** (must be separate files and should NOT be embedded in the main manuscript).

- IMAGES: Formats: JPEG (maximum 2048 KB per file)
- VIDEOS: Formats mpg, mpeg, mp4, wmv

2. **Suggest reviewers:** You will have opportunity to suggest reviewers at the end of the manuscript submission.

   Please suggest particularly qualified reviewers who have had experience in the subject of the submitted manuscript, but who are not affiliated with the same institutes as the contributor/s.

   Please keep their names and e-mail addresses ready to copy-paste.

3. **Are you one of the authors of this article?**

   If not, you cannot submit the article on behalf of the authors. The submitting author takes responsibility for the article during submission and peer review.

4. **Conditions of submission and Journal of Pathology Informatics Copyright and License Agreement**

   Do you confirm that all the authors of the manuscript have read and agreed to its content, that readily reproducible materials described in the manuscript will be freely available to any scientist wishing to use them for non-commercial purposes , and that you have ethical approval for any human or animal experimentation (for more information see our Instructions for Authors)? Do you confirm that the manuscript is original, has not already been published in a journal and is not currently under consideration by another journal? By clicking the button below, you are confirming these points and agreeing to these and all other terms of the Journal of Pathology Informatics Copyright and License Agreement, which we suggest you read.

Publication and peer review processes

Peer review policies

The Journal of Pathology Informatics uses online peer review to speed up the publication process. The time taken to reach a final decision depends on whether reviewers request revisions, and how quickly authors are able to respond. As elected by the journal's editorial board for bold, honest, and high quality of peer-review process, The Journal of Pathology Informatics has a closed peer review policy. The Journal of Pathology Informatics has an Editorial Board of experienced experts in the field that understands the complexities of Pathology Informatics.

Each manuscript submitted to The Journal of Pathology Informatics will follow one of two courses: 1) it may be assigned by an Editor-in-Chief to a member of the Editorial Board (or other expert), who will appoint at least two reviewers, or 2) the manuscript may be assigned to reviewers directly by an Editor-in-Chief. Once the reviewers and members of the Editorial Board assigned to the manuscript have provided their feedback, an Editor-in-Chief or designee will make the final decision.

The ultimate responsibility for any decision lies with an Editor-in-Chief, to whom any appeals against rejection should be addressed. Authors who have appealed against a rejection but remain concerned about the editorial process can refer their case to The Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). For more information, visit www.publicationethics.org.uk.

Publication

Once an article is accepted, it is published in The Journal of Pathology Informatics in both fully browse able web form (HTML), and as a formatted PDF within 2-3 weeks.

Editorial policies

Any manuscript submitted to The Journal of Pathology Informatics must not already have been published in another journal or be under consideration by any other journal, although it may have been deposited on a preprint server. Manuscripts must not have already been published in any journal or other citable form, with the exception that the journal is willing to consider peer-reviewing manuscripts that are translations of articles originally published in another language. In this case, the consent of the journal in which the article was originally published must be obtained and the fact that the article has already been published must be made clear on submission and stated in the abstract. Viewpoints or commentary on other previous publications is acceptable pending prior agreement with an Editor-in-Chief.

Manuscripts that are derived from papers presented at conferences can be submitted unless they have been published as part of the conference proceedings in a

peer reviewed journal. Authors are required to ensure that no material submitted as part of a manuscript infringes existing copyrights, or the rights of a third party.

Authors who publish in The Journal of Pathology Informatics retain copyright to their work (more information http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/2.0/).

Correspondence concerning articles published in The Journal of Pathology Informatics is encouraged.

Submission of a manuscript to The Journal of Pathology Informatics implies that all authors have read and agreed to its content, and that any experimental research that is reported in the manuscript has been performed with the approval of an appropriate ethics committee and Institutional Review Board (IRB) as indicated by local standards and laws.

Research carried out on humans must be in compliance with the Helsinki Declaration http://www.wma.net/e/policy/b3.htm , and any experimental research on animals must follow internationally recognized guidelines. A statement to this effect must appear in the Methods section of the manuscript, including the name of the body which gave approval, with a reference number where appropriate. Informed consent must also be documented. Manuscripts may be rejected if the editorial office considers that the research has not been carried out within an ethical framework, e.g. if the severity of the experimental procedure is not justified by the value of the knowledge gained.

Use of vendor names is acceptable. However, we ask that authors of papers complete a declaration of competing interests if these exist, which should be provided as a separate section of the manuscript, to follow the Acknowledgements.

The journal charges the following fee on acceptance:

·   Brief report, Case report, Images:
·   US $100
·   Original Article, Research article, Review Article, Symposium - New Frontiers in Digital Pathology, Technical note: US $200
·   Publication fees are waived for current members of the Association for Pathology Informatics (API)

Competing interests

A competing interest exists when your interpretation of data or presentation of information may be influenced by your personal or financial relationship with other people or organizations. Authors should disclose any financial competing interests but also any non-financial competing interests that may cause them embarrassment were they to become public after the publication of the manuscript.

Authors are required to complete a declaration of competing interests. All competing interests that are declared will be listed at the end of published articles. Where an author gives no competing interests, the listing will read 'The author(s) declare that they have no competing interests'.

When completing your declaration, please consider the following questions:

Financial competing interests
- In the past five years have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future? Is such an organization financing this manuscript (including the article-processing charge)? If so, please specify.
- Do you hold any stocks or shares in an organization that may in any way gain or lose financially from the publication of this manuscript, either now or in the future? If so, please specify.
- Do you hold or are you currently applying for any patents relating to the content of the manuscript? Have you received reimbursements, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript? If so, please specify.
- Do you have any other financial competing interests? If so, please specify.

Non-financial competing interests

Are there any non-financial competing interests (political, personal, religious, ideological, academic, intellectual, commercial or any other) to declare in relation to this manuscript? If so, please specify.
If you are unsure as to whether you, or one your co-authors, has a competing interest please discuss it with the editorial office.

Where an author gives no competing interests, the listing will read **'The author(s) declare that they have no competing interests'.** Much has been written about competing interests (or conflict of interest, as other journals call it) within scientific research, but the following articles provide some background:

R Smith: Beyond conflict of interest. BMJ 1998, 317 :291-292

R Smith: Making progress with competing interests. BMJ 2002, 325 :1375-1376

CD DeAngelis, PB Fontanarosa, A Flanagin: Reporting financial conflicts of interest and relationships between investigators and research sponsors. JAMA 2001, 286 :89-9

K Morin, H Rakatansky, FA Riddick Jr, LJ Morse, JM O'Bannon 3rd, MS Goldrich, P Ray, M Weiss, RM Sade, MA Spillman: Managing conflicts of interest in the conduct of clinical trials. JAMA 2002, 287 :78-84

For all articles that include information or clinical photographs relating to individual patients, written and signed consent from each patient to publish must also be mailed or faxed to the editorial staff. The manuscript should also include a statement to this effect in the Acknowledgements section, as follows: **"Written consent for publication was obtained from the patient or their relative."**

The Journal of Pathology Informatics supports initiatives to improve the performance and reporting of clinical trials, part of which includes prospective registering and numbering of trials. While there are initiatives to ensure that all clinical trials are registered (most notably the recent statement from the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors - see http://www.icmje.org/clin_trialup.htm), we are focusing on controlled trials of healthcare interventions, for now. Authors of protocols or reports of controlled trials of health care interventions must register their trial prior to submission in a suitable publicly accessible registry. The trial registers that currently meet all of the ICMJE guidelines can be found at http://www.icmje.org/faq.pdf . The trial registration number should be included as the last line of the abstract of the manuscript.

The Journal of Pathology Informatics also supports initiatives aimed at improving the reporting of biomedical research. Checklists have been developed for randomized controlled trials (CONSORT http://www.consort-statement.org/index.aspx?o=1065), systematic reviews (QUOROM http://www.consort-statement.org/index.aspx?o=1065), meta-analyses of observational studies (MOOSE http://www.consort-statement.org/index.aspx?o=1065), diagnostic accuracy studies (STARD http://www.consort-statement.org/index.aspx?o=1065) and qualitative studies (RATS (see at end). Authors are requested to make use of these when drafting their manuscript and peer reviewers will also be asked to refer to these checklists when evaluating these studies. For authors of systematic reviews, a supplementary file, linked from the Methods section, should reproduce all details concerning the search strategy. For an example of how a search strategy should be presented, see the Cochrane Reviewers' Handbook http://www.cochrane.dk/cochrane/..../r_studies_and_organizing_search_results.htm .

Authors from pharmaceutical companies, or other commercial organizations that sponsor clinical trials, should adhere to the Good Publication Practice guidelines for pharmaceutical companies http://www.gpp-guidelines.org/ , which are designed to ensure that publications are produced in a responsible and ethical manner. The guidelines also apply to any companies or individuals that work on industry-sponsored publications, such as freelance writers, contract research organizations and communications companies.

The involvement of medical writers or anyone else who assisted with the preparation of the manuscript content should be acknowledged, along with their source of funding, as described in the European Medical Writers Association (EMWA) guidelines on the role of medical writers in developing peer-reviewed publications http://www.emwa.org/Mum/EMWAguidelines.pdf . If medical writers are not listed among the authors, it is important that their role be acknowledged explicitly. We suggest wording such as '**We thank** Jane Doe **who provided medical writing services on behalf** of XYZ Pharmaceuticals Ltd.'

Submission of a manuscript to The Journal of Pathology Informatics implies that readily reproducible materials described in the manuscript, including all relevant raw data, will be freely available to any scientist wishing to use them for non-commercial purposes. Nucleic acid sequences, protein sequences, and atomic coordinates should be deposited in an appropriate database in time for the accession number to be included in the published article. In computational studies where the sequence information is unacceptable for inclusion in databases because of lack of experimental validation, the sequences must be published as an additional file with the article.

Any 'in press' articles cited within the references and necessary for the reviewers' assessment of the manuscript should be made available if requested by the editorial office.

The Journal of Pathology Informatics endorses the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME) Policy Statement on Geopolitical Intrusion on Editorial Decisions http://www.wame.org/resources/policies

Preparation of Manuscripts

File formats

The following word processor file formats are acceptable for the main manuscript document:
- Microsoft Word (version 2 and above)
- WordPerfect (version 5 and above)
- Rich text format (RTF)
- Portable document format (PDF)

Users of other word processing packages should save or convert their files to RTF before uploading. Many free tools are available which ease this process.

Note that figures must be submitted as separate image files, not as part of the submitted DOC/ PDF file.

Article types

The Journal of Pathology Informatics considers for publication the following types of articles:
- **Research article** - Report of data from original research.
- **Review** – Provides a comprehensive summary of any subject related to pathology informatics.
- **Technical note** - Presents a new method, test, procedure, tool, software applications, algorithm, successful or unsuccessful implementation, lesson learned, validation experience, or other such miscellaneous article.
- **Viewpoint or Editorial**- Short, focused and opinionated article on a subject, issue, event, or hypothesis within the scope of pathology informatics. These articles are not tied to another particular article.
- **Commentary** – Provides a critical review of another article that was recently published that is relevant to pathology informatics, and of sufficient interest to warrant further comment or explanation.
- **Guideline** – Recent guideline documents related to pathology informatics on behalf of an association or other organization.
- **Book review** - Short summary highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of a book that evaluates its overall usefulness to the intended readers.
- **Letter to the editor** - Brief letter on an opinion or comment related to a recently published article in The Journal of Pathology Informatics.
- **Symposium -** These articles and/or proceedings need to be arranged beforehand with the Editor.

Please read the descriptions of each of the article types, choose which is appropriate for your article and structure it accordingly.

Manuscript sections for Research articles

Manuscripts for Research articles submitted to The Journal of Pathology Informatics should be divided into the following sections:
- Title page - This should include the title of the article, as well as the full names, institutional addresses, and e-mail addresses for all authors. Indicate which author will be the corresponding author.
- Abstract - The abstract should be around 350 words and must be structured containing into separate sections (background, methods, results, conclusions).
- Background - The context and purpose of the study.
- Methods - How the study was performed.
- Results – Report of study findings.
- Conclusions - Brief summary and potential implications.
- Competing interests
- Authors' contributions
- Acknowledgements
- References
- Figure legends (if any)
- Tables and captions (if any)
- Description of additional data files (if any)

Manuscript sections for Review articles

Manuscripts for Review articles submitted to The Journal of Pathology Informatics should be divided into the following sections:
- Title page - This should include the title of the article, as well as the full names, institutional addresses, and e-mail addresses for all authors. Indicate which author will be the corresponding author.
- Abstract - The abstract should be around 350 words.
- Review - This should contain the body of the article that can include informative subheadings if required.

- Conclusions - This should clearly state the main conclusions of the Review and provide a clear explanation of their importance and relevance.
- Competing interests
- Authors' contributions
- Acknowledgements
- References
- Figure legends (if any)
- Tables and captions (if any)
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Manuscript sections for a Technical Note

Manuscripts being submitted as a Technical Note to The Journal of Pathology Informatics should be divided into the following sections:
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- Abstract - The abstract should be around 350 words.
- Main Text - This should contain the body of the article that can be broken down into sections if needed and may include subheadings if required (such as introduction, technical background, procedure, approach, conclusion, etc.).
- Competing interests
- Authors' contributions
- Acknowledgements
- References
- Figure legends (if any)
- Tables and captions (if any)
- Description of additional data files (if any)

Manuscript sections for Viewpoint or Editorial articles

Manuscripts being submitted as a Viewpoint to The Journal of Pathology Informatics should be divided into the following sections:
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- Abstract - The abstract should be around 350 words.
- Main Text - This should contain the body of the article that can be broken down into sections if needed and may include subheadings if required.
- Competing interests
- Authors' contributions
- Acknowledgements
- References
- Figure legends (if any)
- Tables and captions (if any)
- Description of additional data files (if any)

Manuscript sections for Commentary articles

This shorter review-type article covers current topics of relevance. Commentary articles are usually solicited by the Editor. However, authors interested in contributing a commentary relevant to their area of interest may submit after obtaining prior permission from the editor, after indicating the article to be discussed, and sending a list of their publications. Manuscripts being submitted as a Commentary to The Journal of Pathology Informatics should be divided into the following sections:
- **Title page** - This should include the title of the article being submitted to this journal (not the article being commented on). The title should be original and different from the article being commented on and should begin with Commentary (i.e. Commentary: Do whole slide images measure up to glass?). The title page must also include the full names, institutional addresses, and e-mail addresses for all authors. Indicate which author will be the corresponding author.

- **Abstract** – Not required. Do not reproduce the abstract from the article being commented on.

- **Summary** - This should provide an overview in around 350 words of the article and its aims, and should end with a brief statement of why a commentary is necessary. Plagiarism is to be avoided.

- **Comments** – In around 350 words this section should explain the findings in the article, comment on their implications, putting it into context, and offer any advice to readers on future directions.

- Competing interests

- Authors' contributions

- Acknowledgements

- References – The first reference should be of the article being commented on. Limit references to around 5 articles.

Manuscript sections for Guidelines

The journal provides the opportunity to have guidelines relevant to the field of pathology informatics to be published for wide dissemination. Guidelines are subject to peer review and prior approval before submission is required from the Editor. Pre-approved manuscripts of such guidelines being submitted to The Journal of Pathology Informatics should include:

- **Title page** - This should include the title of the guideline being submitted to this journal. The title page must also include the full names, institutional addresses, and e-mail addresses for the association and/or all authors. It is important to indicate which author will be the corresponding author.

- **Abstract** - It is advisable to include an abstract that provides a summary or overview of the guideline which will be made available to users searching online databases (e.g. PubMed).

- **Guideline document** - There is no restriction to the length, content or format of this document, provided it meets the requirements of files accepted by the journal (refer to the submission checklist above). For example, the document may (optional) contain a table of contents, glossary, appendix, references and so on.

Manuscript sections for a Book review

Manuscripts for Book reviews submitted to The Journal of Pathology Informatics should be divided into the following sections:

- Title page - This should list the title of the article in the form 'Review of "book title" by [book's Author(s)]'. For example: Review of "Telepathology" by R. Weinstein. The full names, institutional addresses, and e-mail addresses for all authors must be included on the title page. The corresponding author should also be indicated.
- Book details - This should give the full reference to the book you are reviewing (including ISBN and number of pages). No further inclusion in the references is needed. For example: Weinstein, R. Telepathology. Telecommunication, Electronic Education and Publication in Pathology. Springer: Berlin; 2010. 186 pages, ISBN 3-540-65245-0
- Main text - This should contain the body of the book review which can include informative subheadings if required.
- Competing interests
- Authors' contributions
- Acknowledgements
- References
- Figure legends (if any)
- Tables and captions (if any)
- Description of additional data files (if any)

To submit a Letter to the Editor

Letters to the Editor are considered for publication provided they do not contain material that has been submitted or published elsewhere.
- Letters in reference to an article recently published in The Journal of Pathology Informatics must not exceed 350 words (excluding references), and must be received within at least two months after publication of the article.
- A letter should not contain an excessive number of references, figures or tables.

Competing interests

A competing interest exists when your interpretation of data or presentation of information may be influenced by your personal or financial relationship with other people or organizations. Authors should disclose any financial competing interests but also any non-financial competing interests that may cause them embarrassment were they to

become public after the publication of the manuscript.

Authors' contributions

In order to give appropriate credit to each author of a paper, the individual contributions of authors to the manuscript should be specified in this section.

An "author" is generally considered to be someone who has made substantive intellectual contributions to a published study. To qualify as an author one should 1) have made substantial contributions to conception and design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) have been involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) have given final approval of the version to be published. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content. Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group, alone, does not justify authorship.

All contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in an acknowledgements section. Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support.

Acknowledgements

Please acknowledge anyone who contributed towards the study by making substantial contributions to conception, design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, or who was involved in drafting the manuscript or revising it critically for important intellectual content, but who does not meet the criteria for authorship. Please also include their source(s) of funding. Please also acknowledge anyone who contributed materials essential for the study.

The role of a medical writer must be included in the acknowledgements section, including their source(s) of funding.

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Please list the source(s) of funding for the study, for each author, and for the manuscript preparation in the acknowledgements section. Authors must describe the role of the funding body, if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript; and in the decision to submit the manuscript for publication.

References

All references must be numbered consecutively, in square brackets (after a period if at the end of a sentence), in the order in which they are cited in the text, followed by any in tables or legends. Reference citations should not appear in titles or headings. Each reference must have an individual reference number. Please avoid excessive referencing. If automatic numbering systems are used, the reference numbers must be finalized and the bibliography must be fully formatted before submission.

Only articles and abstracts that have been published or are in press, or are available through public e-print/preprint servers, may be cited; unpublished abstracts, unpublished data and personal communications should not be included in the reference list, but may be included in the text. Notes/footnotes are not allowed. Obtaining permission to quote personal communications and unpublished data from the cited author(s) is the responsibility of the author. Journal abbreviations follow Index Medicus/MEDLINE. Citations in the reference list should contain all named authors, regardless of how many there are.

We encourage authors to use a recent version of EndNote (version 5 and above) or Reference Manager (version 10) when formatting their reference list, as this allows references to be automatically extracted. You should upload the manuscript file containing your EndNote or Reference Manager-formatted bibliography as a .doc file. Please ensure you do not convert to another format (e.g. RTF or PDF). On upload, you will receive a confirmation on-screen and by email. You will also be able to preview an HTML version of the extracted references during submission, and we urge authors to check this. EndNote or Reference Manager users should also make sure that any changes made to the reference list are done within their reference management program, rather than by manually editing the formatted bibliography. This is because manually introduced changes will not be picked up in the automatically extracted list.

Examples of the The Journal of Pathology Informatics reference style are shown below. Please take care to follow the reference style precisely; references not in the correct style may be retyped, necessitating tedious proofreading.

The Journal of Pathology Informatics reference style
Article within a journal

1. Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. N Engl J Med. 2002;347:284-7.

   In press article

2. Tian D, Araki H, Stahl E, Bergelson J, Kreitman M. Signature of balancing selection in Arabidopsis. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. Forthcoming 2010.

   Published abstract

3. Pantanowitz L, Parwani AV. Critical evaluation of different telepathology platforms. **[abstract]**. Modern Pathology 2010, 21:s1A-396A (Abstract no.1834)

   Article within conference proceedings

4. Harnden P, Joffe JK, Jones WG, editors. Germ cell tumours V. Proceedings of the 5th Germ Cell Tumour Conference; 2001 Sep 13-15; Leeds, UK. New York: Springer; 2002.

   Book chapter, or article within a book

5. Meltzer PS, Kallioniemi A, Trent JM. Chromosome alterations in human solid tumors. In: Vogelstein B, Kinzler KW, editors. The genetic basis of human cancer. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002. p. 93-113.

   Complete book

6. 6. Murray PR, Rosenthal KS, Kobayashi GS, Pfaller MA. Medical microbiology. 4th ed. St. Louis: Mosby; 2002.

   Link / URL

7. 7. Cancer-Pain.org [Internet]. New York: Association of Cancer Online Resources, Inc.; c2000-01 [updated 2002 May 16; cited 2002 Jul 9]. Available from: http://www.cancer-pain.org/.

8. 8. Abood S. Quality improvement initiative in nursing homes: the ANA acts in an advisory role. Am J Nurs. 2002 Jun [cited 2002 Aug 12];102(6):[about 1 p.]. Available from: http://www.nursingworld.org/AJN/2002/june/Wawatch.htmArticle

Preparing illustrations and figures

Figures should be provided as separate files and should not be included in the main text of the submitted manuscript. Each figure should comprise only a single file. **There is no charge for the use of color.**

Formats

The following file formats of max. 2MB size can be accepted online: (How to reduce the image file size)

- JPEG (preferred format for photos or images)
- PowerPoint (Each figure must be a single slide in each Powerpoint file)

Figure legends

There is no limit to the number of figures that can be submitted, within reason. The legends should be included in the main manuscript text file immediately following the references, rather than being a part of the figure file. For each figure, the following information should be provided: Figure number (in sequence, using Arabic numerals - i.e. Figure 1, 2, 3 etc); short title of figure with detailed legend, up to 300 words.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the author(s) to obtain permission from the copyright holder to reproduce figures or tables that have previously been published elsewhere.

Preparing tables

There is no limit to the number of tables that can be submitted, within reason. Each table should be numbered in sequence using Arabic numerals (i.e. Table 1, 2, 3 etc.). Tables should also have a title that summarizes the whole table, maximum 15 words. Detailed legends may then follow, but should be concise.

Smaller tables considered to be integral to the manuscript can be pasted into the end of the document text file, in portrait format (note that tables on a landscape page must be reformatted onto a portrait page or submitted as additional files). These will be typeset and displayed in the final published form of the article. Such tables should be formatted using the 'Table object' in a word processing program to ensure that columns of data are kept aligned when the file is sent electronically for review; this will not always be the case if columns are generated by simply using tabs to separate text. Columns and rows of data should be made visibly distinct by ensuring the borders of each cell display as black lines. Commas should not be used to indicate numerical values. Color and shading should not be used.

Style and language

General

Currently, the Journal of Pathology Informatics can only accept manuscripts written in English. Spelling should be US English only. Please DO NOT use British English or a mixture with other spellings. For information http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/American_English.

Gene names should be in italic, but protein products should be in plain type.

There is no explicit limit on the length of articles submitted, but authors are encouraged to be concise. There is no restriction on the number of figures, tables or additional files that can be included with each article online. Figures and tables should be sequentially referenced. Authors should include all relevant supporting data with each article.

Journal of Pathology Informatics will not edit submitted manuscripts for style or language; reviewers may advise rejection of a manuscript if it is compromised by grammatical errors. Authors are advised to write clearly and simply, and to have their article checked by colleagues before submission. In-house copyediting will be minimal. Non-native speakers of English may choose to make use of a copyediting service.

Help and advice on scientific writing

Abbreviations
Abbreviations should be used as sparingly as possible. They can be defined when first used or a list of abbreviations can be provided preceding the acknowledgements and references.

Typography
- Please use double line spacing for all text including references, figure legends and tables.
- Type the text unjustified, without hyphenating words at line breaks.
- Use hard returns only to end headings and paragraphs, not to rearrange lines.
- Capitalize only the first word, and proper nouns, in the title.
- All pages should be numbered.
- Use the Journal of Pathology Informatics reference format.
- Footnotes to text should not be used.
- Greek and other special characters may be included. If you are unable to reproduce a particular special character, please type out the name of the symbol in full.

Please ensure that all special characters used are embedded in the text, otherwise they will be lost during conversion to PDF.

Units

SI Units should be used throughout (liter and molar are permitted, however).