

## **Review articles and guidelines for their preparation to be submitted to the *New Armenian Medical Journal***

Review articles typically fall into one of three categories:

1. Literature Review
2. Systematic Review
3. Meta-analysis

### **1. Literature Review**

A literature review provides a general overview of a research problem (field or topic) and must include the author's own studies related to the issue under discussion.

The review is expected to have an extended and systematic character, focusing on the analysis of key aspects of the chosen problem (field or topic).

### **2. Systematic Review**

A systematic review is more specific than a literature review and is expected to address a more narrowly defined question through a differentiated analysis of a particular field or topic.

### **3. Meta-analysis**

A meta-analysis also follows the principles outlined in a systematic review. However, unlike the latter, a meta-analysis is expected to assess a clearly defined number of studies with a similar focus and to provide a comparative evaluation of findings across studies with opposing perspectives.

### **4. Author Qualifications and Scholarly Contribution.**

The inclusion of the author's personal scholarly contribution is an essential requirement for all three types of review articles. Review authors are expected to be leading experts in their field—and preferably in related disciplines as well—with at least ten years of scientific experience.

Review articles submitted by early-career researchers (such as PhD students, applicants for academic degrees, or master's students) are not accepted by the *New Armenian Medical Journal*.

### **5. Contextual Relevance**

When preparing any of the three types of review articles, authors are expected to consider the state of the discussed issue within the context of their specific region (e.g., country). This allows for a more targeted interpretation of the review objectives, which may later be applied by the author and their colleagues in their own independent research.

**6. Use of pharmaceutical data from international sources.** In cases where a review article includes information on the use of pharmaceutical products in foreign countries, the author is also expected to provide data on the use of the same products in the region (or country) where they reside.

**7. Evaluation of phytotherapeutic agents.** Data presented in a review article on the effectiveness of phytotherapeutic agents based on preclinical trials conducted in one country (typically the country where the author resides) are expected to be compared—either positively or critically—with well-known phytotherapeutic agents that are widely used in medical practice in both neighboring countries and those further abroad.

### **8. Structure of All Three Types of Review Articles**

All review articles submitted to the *New Armenian Medical Journal* are expected to include the following components: title, abstract, keywords, introduction, main section, and conclusion. Each of the three types of reviews may also contain visual material such as figures, graphs, tables, or text boxes.

At the end of every review article, a list of references is expected to be provided in alphabetical order and only in English.

#### **a. Title Requirements**

The title of a review article is expected to consist of no more than 20 words. As a rule, the title should be formulated as a single, complete sentence. In certain cases, it may be divided into two separate sentences or split into two parts using a colon or a dash. Abbreviations are to be avoided in the title.

#### **b. Abstract**

The abstract of a review article is expected to contain 200 to 300 words. It should present the background of the issue and outline the prospects for further development of the topic, including the author's (or authors') perspective. The abstract must not contain references or abbreviations.

#### **c. Keywords**

The list of keywords is expected to include 5 to 10 terms that are directly aligned with search queries for identifying the article in open-access sources.

#### **d. Introduction**

The introduction is expected to consist of 500 to 1000 words. It should provide an overview of the current state of the problem. The final part of the introduction must clearly state the aim and objectives of the review, reflecting the prospects for future research on the topic.

#### **e. Main Text**

There is no word limit for the main text. This section is expected to provide a detailed presentation and discussion of the findings from the referenced studies. The author is expected to adopt a critical approach when evaluating the literature sources under review.

The text must be supported by in-text citations, including the full last name and initials of the referenced author(s). In cases where there are two authors, both names with initials should be provided in the text. If there are more than two authors, only the first author's name and initials are mentioned, followed by the standard abbreviation *et al.*

Figures, tables, graphs, and charts may be included in this section.

Abbreviations are permitted only for widely used medical terms (not for narrowly specialized ones), and only when such terms appear more than ten times in the text.

#### **f. Conclusion**

The conclusion is expected to be between 500 and 1000 words in length. This section should summarize the reviewed literature, including the author's critical assessment of the analyzed material, along with a clear presentation of the prospects for future research in the respective field.

#### **g. References**

The reference list must be arranged in alphabetical order and include full details for each source: the full last name of the author(s), initials of the first name, title of the referenced article, year of publication, source (journal or monograph), country and page numbers.

A typical review article is expected to include no fewer than 100–150 references.