

INFORMATION FOR THE CONTRIBUTORS

The Bangladesh Journal of Medical Microbiology (BJMM) is the official journal of the Bangladesh Society of Medical Microbiologists (BSMM). The BJMM is published bi-annually in January and July each year. The authors are requested to strictly follow the guidelines¹ below for submission of manuscripts to BJMM for publication:

Contribution by advertisement materials

The BJMM welcomes good quality advertisement materials for contribution as an aid to the journal publication. However, all advertisement materials must conform to the concerned legal aspects of Bangladesh. The BJMM authority does not hold any responsibility for any violence of legal regulations.

Any personal contribution is highly appreciated.

Submission of manuscripts

Submission criteria. Manuscripts related to Medical Microbiology or allied subjects are accepted. Materials to be submitted include: (i) a covering letter from the corresponding author (a sample given at the end of this document) with signatory recommendation from all authors, mentioning contribution of each author and containing a statement that the manuscript has been seen and approved by all authors and the material has not been submitted to or published elsewhere wholly or partially; (ii) Two hard copies of the manuscript together with tables and illustrations; (iii) A soft copy of the manuscript in word 97/2000/word XP format written in a CD.

Categories of manuscripts. The BJMM considers for publication manuscripts reporting original clinical and/or laboratory studies (original articles), reviews (review articles), case reports and brief communications as well as letters to the editor related to Medical Microbiology or allied subjects. Manuscripts of any category must not contain more than 5000 words excluding abstract and references. Please, provide a word count along with.

Preparation of the manuscript²

Language. English (British).

Typing criteria. (i) Double-spaced with left alignment in MS Word in "Arial" font with a size of 12 and on one side of good quality bond papers of A4 size (21x 29.7 cm) with at least 2.5 cm margins.

Each of the sections (title page, abstract, text, acknowledgments, references, individual tables, and legends for illustrations) to begin on separate page, pages numbered consecutively beginning with the title page.

Please, keep texts (excluding the title page only) unnamed for the purpose of masked (unbiased) review.

Title page: The title page should contain: (i) title of the article; (ii) name(s) of the author(s) in full (please do not submit abbreviated name of any author); (iii) institutional affiliation of each author; (iv) a short running title of fewer than 40 letter spaces; (v) name, address, mobile as well as office-time telephone numbers, and e-mail address of the corresponding author.

Conflict of interest: All financial and personal relationships that might bias concerned work of the manuscript must be disclosed. Authors must state explicitly whether any potential conflicts do or do not exist on a "Conflict of interest notification page" following the title page. Please mention role of study sponsor(s), if any, in study design, in collection, analysis and interpretation of data, in writing of the report, and in the decision to submit report for publication. Authors are requested to state if supporting source had no such involvement.

Abstract: The next page of an original article should carry an 'unstructured' abstract of not more than 150 words headed by title of the article and without names of the authors. Please submit 3-10 key words along with the abstract for indexing.

Text: The text of observational and experimental studies (original articles) should be divided into sections with headings: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion (IMRAD). Reviews, case reports and similar articles should start with an Introduction and entailed with a Discussion.

Acknowledgments: All acknowledgments including financial supports should be mentioned under the heading 'Acknowledgments' and not as a footnote on the first page or in the text.

References: The form of references used in the Index Medicus/NLM Medline,³ including style of abbreviations should be followed. References to be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. Identify references in text, tables, and legends by Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3...). 'Unpublished observations' and 'personal communication' to be avoided in the references (please insert them in the text within parenthesis).

Information supplied in the references section of any manuscript is not usually checked by the editorial staff for authenticity, and hence, the concerned author(s) bear total responsibilities of the bibliographic accuracy.

Following are few examples of citing references:

1. **Standard Journal Article:** (List all authors when six or less; when seven or more, list only first three and add *et al*). Rahman M, Alam A, Nessa K, *et al*. Etiology of sexually transmitted infections among street-based female sex workers in Dhaka, Bangladesh. *J Clin Microbiol* 2000; 38(1): 1244-1246.
2. **Corporate Author in Journal:** World Health Organization. World Health Report, 2005: Make every mother and child count. Geneva, Switzerland: WHO; 2005.
3. **Letter to Editor:** Yagupsky P, Menegu MA. Intraluminal colonization as a source of catheter-related infection. [Letter] *Antimicrob Agents Chemother* 1989; 33: 2025.
4. **Corporate Author in Book:** World Health Organization. On being in charge: a guide to management in primary health care, 2nd ed. England: World Health Organization; 1992.
5. **Chapter in Book:** Wenzel RP. Organization for infection control. In: Mandell GL, Douglas RG, Bennett JE, editors. *Principles and Practice of Infectious Disease*, 3rd ed. USA: Churchill Livingstone Inc; 1990: pp. 2176-2180.
6. **Formally published Abstracts:** Roy CK, Tabassum S, Miah RA, Munshi SU, Islam N. Serological diagnosis of clinically suspected cases of Dengue infection by ELISA and HI assay. Abstract from 23rd National Convention of Bangladesh Society of Pathologists, 2005. Dhaka, Bangladesh: BSP; 2005: p.39.
7. **Articles from symposium volumes:** Hamilton LD. Immunogenic polynucleotides. In: Beers RF Jr (ed). *Biological effects of polynucleotides. Proceedings of the symposium on molecular biology*. New York, Heidelberg, Berlin: Springer Verlag; 1971: pp. 107-128.
8. **Thesis/ Dissertation:** Chowdhury MZU. Studies on humoral immune responses in Kala-azar infection and analysis of immunoreactive antigens and molecular characterization of *Leishmania donovani*. [Ph.D thesis] Dhaka: The University of Dhaka; 2005: p. 252.
9. **Web only article:** Division of tuberculosis elimination. Surveillance reports: reported tuberculosis in the United States, 2000. Atlanta: Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, 2001. Web page at: "<http://www.cdc.gov/hchstp/tb/surv/surv2000>" [accessed on June 27, 2001]

Wikimedia Foundation Inc. Cutaneous leishmaniasis. Web page at: "http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/cutaneous_leishmaniasis" [accessed on 12 December, 2006]
10. **Monograph in electronic format:** Farrar WE, Wood MJ, Innes JA, Tubbs H. *Infectious diseases* (monograph in CD-ROM, publication no. M6791). England: Mosby- Times Mirror International Publisher; 2006.

Abbreviations

Abbreviations to be avoided except for units of measurements. Mention full meaning first time, and followed by abbreviations.

Drug name

Generic names should generally be used. When proprietary brands are used in research, the brand name can be included in parentheses in methods section.

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Rejected manuscripts will only be returned if accompanied by stamped and self-addressed envelope.

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¹Guidelines have been prepared following: "Uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals. International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, updated on October, 2007, retrieved from "<http://www.icmje.org/index.html>."

²Additional information(s) regarding manuscript preparation and relevant editorial policy is available in the editorial office.

³For samples of reference citation, please consult: "http://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform_requirements.html" or "<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/>"

BSMM News & Notices

Seminars conducted

Many seminars were conducted since the inception of Bangladesh Society of Medical Microbiologists (BSMM) on different current topics in Medical Microbiology. The first seminar during the current tenure (2007-2009) was conducted in the Institute of Epidemiology, Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) on "The efficacy and safety of a short course of Miltefosine and liposomal Amphotericin B for Visceral Leishmaniasis in Bangladesh". The seminar was presented by Dr. Be Nazir Ahmed, Assistant Professor (Against the post of senior Scientific Officer) and Co-investigator of the study. This was actually a dissemination seminar of a WHO-sponsored phase III trial of the Miltefosine and liposomal Amphotericin B. Dr. Be Nazir Ahmed presented detailed protocol of the study including the methodology and trial status. The seminar was presided over by Professor Md. Nazrul Islam, President, BSMM. Many eminent Medical Microbiologists including Professor Md. Ruhul Amin Miah, Professor Md. Zafor Ullah Chowdhury, Professor Naima Muazam were present and participated actively in the discussion session.

The second seminar was arranged with joint collaboration of the National Institute of Diseases of Chest and Hospital (NIDCH). This was a dissemination seminar of the national tuberculosis reference laboratory (NTRL) and presented by Dr. SM Mostafa Kamal, Assistant Professor and NTRL coordinator. The seminar was chaired by Professor Md. Zamshed Haider Siddique, Head of the Department of Pathology and Microbiology, NIDCH. Many of the Medical Microbiologists participated in the seminar. Guest of honour was Dr. Rubhana Rakib, Associate Scientist and Head, Immunology laboratory, ICDDR,B. Dr. SM Mostafa Kamal briefly presented the history of NTRL, human resources and a pictorial overview of the centre. He also presented Laboratory procedures and data generated during routine activities since 1998 including the Drug Sensitivity Test result of the pilot study with the title "Resistance pattern of the Mycobacteria isolated from category II failure patients in 2006". He also recalled the ongoing collaborating research investigations with ICDDR,B (ALS assay for the diagnosis of MTB) and the University of Dhaka (PCR detection of MTB and resistant

genes).

The third of such seminar was conducted in the department of Microbiology and Immunology, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) on "Immunological memory: Journey into a black hole" and was presented on 29 November, 2007 by Dr. Saifullah Munshi, Assistant Professor, Virology, BSMMU, Dhaka. The presenter started with recalling history of vaccination by Edward Jenner. He also mentioned duration of humoral immunity and three basic parameters of immunology namely specificity, tolerance and memory. He presented the unique concept of bystander activation.

The present EC is trying to execute seminars regularly along with a projected vision to exchange professional knowledge and skills with allied bodies throughout the world. With the vision, the eminent Japanese scientist Professor Nobumichi Kobayashi presented his research findings during his visit to Bangladesh on 08 January 2008. Professor Kobayashi presented on Methicillin Resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* genotyping by multilocus sequence typing (MLST). The BSMM expect to conduct similar other sessions of presentation by dinified Medical Microbiologists working worldwide.

Another seminar was held at the Institute of Public Health (IPH) with collaboration of the institute on 25th June, 2008 with title "Vaccine Production at IPH: past, present and future". The seminar was presented by Dr. Moyez Uddin, the then Director, IPH and presided over by Professor Md. Nazrul Islam, President, BSMM. Purpose of the seminar was to inform the Medical Microbiologists in the country the microbiological aspects of IPH seeking suggestions from the BSMM members for further improvization. The eminent Medical Microbiologists including Professor Md. Ruhul Amin Miah, Professor Abdullah Akhtar Ahmed, Professor Jalal Uddin Ashraful Haq, Professor Naima Muazzam and many others were present and participated actively in the discussion. Officers and staff of the institute were also present in line with the members of the BSMM. A committee, led by Professor Jalal Uddin Ashraful Haq was formed to made recommendations for upholding the visions of the IPH.