Formatting Guide for Debates

Mandatory formatting requirements

- **Non-declarative title that includes the word 'debate'**
- **Pro author is first author, Con author is last author, * used to indicate equal contributions; middle authors are permitted.**
- **Structured abstract: Pro narrative/Con narrative or Consensus narrative, no more than 4096 characters including spaces (about 650 words)**
- **Structured manuscript using following headings**
  - **Pro**
  - **Con**
  - **Pro-rebuttal**
  - **Con-rebuttal**
  - **Consensus (optional)**

Overview

This manuscript type is to facilitate the publication of opposing sides of a controversy; it may be a written record of a live debate. The body of the work should be structured as Pro and Con. Each section may be structured or unstructured, but they should be homologous, and similar in length. If the piece reflects a live debate, it should conclude with Pro - Rebuttal and Con – Rebuttal sections. The two pieces should be formatted as one manuscript and published as one manuscript, to ensure that searchers and readers always retrieve both sides of the argument together.

Title Page

The title page should:

- Include a title that should reflect one of the positions, stated declaratively using a statement in keeping with the 'pro' position, and include the word Debate, and, if applicable, a reference to the organisation responsible for the live debate, if eg, "Patients with PCKD should be screened for cerebral aneurysms: A debate at CSN/SCN 20xx".
- List the full names, institutional addresses and email addresses for all authors.
  - If a collaboration group should be listed as an author, please list the Group name as an author. If you would like the names of the individual members of the Group to be searchable through their individual PubMed records, please include this information in the "Acknowledgements" section.
- The 'pro' author will be listed as first author and the 'con' author listed as last author, with an asterix indicating that their contributions were equal. Others who contributed to the work may be included as middle authors.
- Indicate the corresponding author.

Abstract

The Abstract should not exceed 4096 characters including spaces (about 650 words), and will usually be less than 500 words. (PubMed truncates abstracts at 4096 characters.) Please minimize the use of abbreviations and do not cite references in the abstract.

Abstracts should be short narrative summaries of the content. They should be substantive, including the most important information found in the work, rather than simply referring to the types of material covered. They can be structured as pro and con, in which case each side of the argument should use equal space and be homologously presented, or it can be a single piece, integrating information from both sides and reflecting collaboration and consensus between the debaters.

The abstract will be translated into French by CJKHD staff once the English is finalised.

Keywords

Five keywords representing the main content of the article.

Body

- Pro
- Con
- Pro-rebuttal
- Con-rebuttal
- Consensus (optional)