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Only manuscripts of sufficient quality that meet the aims and scope of *JFN* will be reviewed.

There are no fees payable to submit or publish in this journal.

As part of the submission process you will be required to warrant that you are submitting your original work, that you have the rights in the work, and that you have obtained and can supply all necessary permissions for the reproduction of any copyright works not owned by you, that you are submitting the work for first publication in the Journal and that it is not being considered for publication elsewhere and has not already been published elsewhere. Please see our guidelines on [prior publication](#) and note that ***JFN* may accept submissions of papers that have been posted on pre-print servers**; please alert the Editorial Office when submitting (contact details are at the end of these guidelines) and include the DOI for the preprint in the designated field in the manuscript submission system. Authors should not post an updated version of their paper on the preprint server while it is being peer reviewed for possible publication in the journal. If the article is accepted for publication, the author may re-use their work according to the journal's author archiving policy. If your paper is accepted, you must include a link on your preprint to the final version of your paper.

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1. What do we publish?

1.1 Aims & Scope

Before submitting your manuscript to *JFN*, please ensure you have read the Aims & Scope.

The *Journal of Family Nursing (JFN)* is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes scholarly work on research, practice, education, and policy issues related to families in health and illness. **The mission of the journal is to extend understanding about the relationships between families, health, illness, and health care with a goal of transforming practice with families by nurses and other helping professionals.** Papers will be selected for their scientific merit and creative treatment of significant issues in the field. A compelling argument for how the paper *significantly extends knowledge* about particular populations of families and the family nursing/family focused care offered to these families. Priority will be given to manuscripts which focus on family intervention and knowledge transfer/translation of family nursing theory to practice settings.

1.2 Article types

- Research
- Theory
- Education
- Practice
- Policy

Checklist for your manuscript:

1. Format the manuscript using the ***Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (7th edition)***
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3. Blinding protocol for all references: Each journal uses its own blinding protocol. For the *Journal of Family Nursing*, remove the name of the university/institution from which ethical approval was received and substitute a general statement instead. Remove the full citation information for all authors' previous publications. Instead, use the protocol of "**Author Blinded and year of publication ONLY**" in both the citations in text as well as the reference list. Remove all other identifying information about the publication. For example, the following reference would be identified only as Author Blinded (2013) in both the citation in text as well as the reference list:

Bell, J. M. (2013). Family nursing is more than family centred care [Editorial]. *Journal of Family Nursing*, 19, 411-417. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1074840713512750>

1.3 Writing your paper

The SAGE Author Gateway has some general advice and on [how to get published](#), plus links to further resources.

1.3.1 Make your article discoverable

For information and guidance on how to make your article more discoverable, visit our Gateway page on [How to Help Readers Find Your Article Online](#)

2. Editorial policies

2.1 Peer review policy

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2.2 Authorship

Papers should only be submitted for consideration once consent is given by all contributing authors. Those submitting papers should carefully check that all those whose work contributed to the paper are acknowledged as contributing authors.

The list of authors should include all those who can legitimately claim authorship. This is all those who:

- (i) Made a substantial contribution to the concept or design of the work; or acquisition, analysis or interpretation of data,
- (ii) Drafted the article or revised it critically for important intellectual content,
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Acquisition of funding, collection of data, or general supervision of the research group alone does not constitute authorship, although all contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in the Acknowledgments section. Please refer to the [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors \(ICMJE\) authorship guidelines](#) for more information on authorship.

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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, or a department chair who provided only general support.

Please supply any personal acknowledgements separately to the main text to facilitate anonymous peer review.

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Individuals who provided writing assistance, e.g. from a specialist communications company, do not qualify as authors and so should be included in the Acknowledgements section. Authors must disclose any writing assistance – including the individual's name, company and level of input – and identify the entity that paid for this assistance. It is not necessary to disclose use of language polishing services.

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It is the policy of *JFN* to require a declaration of conflicting interests from all authors enabling a statement to be carried within the paginated pages of all published articles.

Please ensure that a 'Declaration of Conflicting Interests' statement is included at the end of your manuscript, after any acknowledgements and prior to the references. If no conflict exists, please state that 'The Author(s) declare(s) that there is no conflict of interest'. For guidance on conflict of interest statements, please see the ICMJE recommendations [here](#)

2.6 Research ethics and patient consent

Medical research involving human subjects must be conducted according to the [World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki](#)

Submitted manuscripts should conform to the [ICMJE Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals](#), and all papers reporting animal and/or human studies must state in the methods section that the relevant Ethics Committee or Institutional Review Board provided (or waived) approval. Please ensure that you have provided the full name and institution of the review committee, in addition to the approval number.

For research articles, authors are also required to state in the methods section whether participants provided informed consent and whether the consent was written or verbal.

Information on informed consent to report individual cases or case series should be included in the manuscript text. A statement is required regarding whether written informed consent for patient information and images to be published was provided by the patient(s) or a legally authorized representative. Please do not submit the patient's actual written informed consent with your article, as this in itself breaches the patient's confidentiality. The Journal requests that you confirm to us, in writing, that you have obtained written informed consent but the written consent itself should be held by the authors/investigators themselves, for example in a patient's hospital record. The confirmatory letter may be uploaded with your submission as a separate file.

Please also refer to the [ICMJE Recommendations for the Protection of Research Participants](#)

All research involving animals submitted for publication must be approved by an ethics committee with oversight of the facility in which the studies were conducted. The journal has adopted the Consensus Author Guidelines on Animal Ethics and Welfare for Veterinary Journals published by the International Association of Veterinary Editors.

2.7 Clinical trials

JFN conforms to the [ICMJE requirement](#) that clinical trials are registered in a WHO-approved public trials registry at or before the time of first patient enrolment as a condition of consideration for publication. The trial registry name and URL, and registration number must be included at the end of the abstract.

2.8 Reporting guidelines

The relevant [EQUATOR Network](#) reporting guidelines should be followed depending on the type of study. For example, all randomized controlled trials submitted for publication should include a completed [CONSORT](#) flow

chart as a cited figure and the completed CONSORT checklist should be uploaded with your submission as a supplementary file. Systematic reviews and meta-analyses should include the completed [PRISMA](#) flow chart as a cited figure and the completed PRISMA checklist should be uploaded with your submission as a supplementary file. The [EQUATOR wizard](#) can help you identify the appropriate guideline.

Other resources can be found at [NLM's Research Reporting Guidelines and Initiatives](#)

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At SAGE we are committed to facilitating openness, transparency and reproducibility of research. Where relevant, the journal **encourages** authors to share their research data in a suitable public repository subject to ethical considerations and where data is included, to add a data accessibility statement in their manuscript file. Authors should also follow data citation principles. For more information please visit the [SAGE Author Gateway](#), which includes information about SAGE's partnership with the data repository Figshare.

3. Publishing policies

3.1 Publication ethics

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4. Preparing your manuscript for submission

4.1 Formatting

The preferred format for your manuscript is Word. LaTeX files are also accepted. Word and (La)Tex templates are available on the [Manuscript Submission Guidelines](#) page of our Author Gateway.

4.2 Artwork, figures and other graphics

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Figures supplied in color will appear in color online regardless of whether or not these illustrations are reproduced in color in the printed version. For specifically requested color reproduction in print, you will receive information regarding the costs from SAGE after receipt of your accepted article.

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This journal is able to host additional materials online (e.g. datasets, podcasts, videos, images etc.) alongside the full-text of the article. For more information please refer to our [guidelines on submitting supplemental files](#)

4.4 Reference style

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4.5 English language editing services

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5. Submitting your manuscript

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6. On acceptance and publication

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7. Further information

Any correspondence, queries or additional requests for information on the manuscript submission process should be sent to the *JFN* editorial office as follows: jfn@ucalgary.ca

Editor: Janice M. Bell, RN, PhD

Email: jmbell@ucalgary.ca

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7.1 Appealing the publication decision

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