

# Scientific Papers: Guidelines for Authors

70<sup>th</sup> AAEP Convention  
Orlando, Florida  
December 7-11  
ALL papers must be submitted online  
by March 15, 2024, 3:00 p.m. ET.

<https://www.abstractscorecard.com/cfp/submit/login.asp?EventKey=WFRZSOAH>



Please make sure you have reviewed the General Guidelines.

Authors who do **not** intend to publish in a refereed journal are welcome to submit a Scientific Paper.

The quality of the Scientific Paper will determine the selection. Missing data or proposed, but not completed, procedures will exclude the Scientific Paper from consideration. AAEP invites information dealing with any subject germane to equine practice, but special consideration will be given to presentations by practitioners and material with practical content or new information. At least one author of a report describing diagnosis, treatment, or the interpretation of medical information should be a veterinarian.

Scientific papers should be formatted as described in the General Guidelines and should be no fewer than 600 words, with no upper word limit.

Headings should include (but are not limited to) the following:

1. Paper Title
2. Take Home Message
3. Introduction
4. Materials and Methods
5. Results
6. Discussion
7. Acknowledgments
  - i. Declaration of Ethics
  - ii. Conflicts of Interest
  - iii. Funding/Material/Technical Support
8. References

## PAPER TITLE:

The title should clearly identify the technique or procedure that will be presented.

*Example:* An investigation of regions desensitized following intra-articular analgesia of the coffin joint.

**TAKE HOME MESSAGE:**

This should be a concise summary of the main conclusion and should be no longer than two or three sentences (approximately 50 words)

*Example:* Local anesthetic injected into the coffin joint is not selective for only this joint. Such injections will desensitize much of the navicular bone and its suspensory ligaments.

**INTRODUCTION:**

The rationale for the submission should be given briefly and significant published work acknowledged here. The clinical significance should also be included, as well as a clear statement of the objective or purpose of the submission. The statement of objectives is usually found in the last sentence of the Introduction.

**MATERIALS & METHODS:**

This Materials and Methods section should describe experimental methodology in the case of a didactic study or, in the case of a clinical study, should include a description of the population from which the animals were selected and how they were selected for inclusion in the report.

Data obtained and how they were obtained must be described. A description of the statistical methods used to summarize data, test hypotheses, and characterize the significance of results should also be included. Normality of the data should be described, and statistical analysis should be appropriate for the distribution of the data (parametric or non-parametric). For weights and measures, metric units should be used. Dosages should be expressed entirely in metric units and with specific time intervals.

Example:

22 mg/kg, q 12 h, IV (not 10mg/lb, BID, IV)

**RESULTS:**

The Results section should include actual results with numbers and data must be presented. When possible, quantify findings (mean, median, proportion) and present them with appropriate estimates of measurement error or uncertainty (such as standard deviation (SD), standard error (SE) or confidence interval) in addition to the results of hypothesis testing. If the data can be well represented with a graph or figure, these *are encouraged* if subsequent publication is not anticipated. If numbers and data are not presented due to concerns regarding publication in a refereed journal, indications of relative differences between groups such as odds ratios, % change, and significant differences must be included in the submission to be considered acceptable. In these instances, the authors should submit the data in the form of means, standard deviations, or other descriptions of comparisons among groups in an appendix, which will not be published and only used for review purposes.

**DISCUSSION:**

In the Discussion section, important findings documented in the results of the study should be stated. Results should be related to other work which has been done and how the results differ or agree with previously published work and why any differences may have occurred should be discussed. The practical take home message for the equine practitioner should be clearly defined and stated in the summarizing final statement. This statement may be longer but should be similar in content to the take home message at the beginning of the paper.

The following items must be fully explained in the paper: the number of horses that have been worked on, how many will be affected, and evidence that the procedure works and is safe.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

- i. Declaration of Ethics
- ii. Conflicts of Interest
- iii. Funding/Material/Technical Support

Full instructions for Acknowledgments can be found in the General Guidelines.

**REFERENCES:**

References should conform to JAVMA's guidelines.

Full instructions for References can be found in the General Guidelines.