Aims and scope
CNS Spectrums aims to be the premier journal covering all aspects of clinical neuroscience, neurotherapeutics and neuropsychopharmacology. From 2012 the journal will primarily focus on the publication of authoritative, cross-disciplinary review and opinion material publishing advances and controversial issues with pertinence to the clinician. In particular we aim to publish reviews and articles in translational neuroscience, biological psychiatry and neuropsychopharmacology that explain clinically relevant neuroscience discoveries in a way that makes these findings accessible and understandable to clinicians and clinical investigators. We will emphasize new therapeutics of all types in clinical neurosciences, mental health, psychiatry, and neurology, especially first-in-man studies and proof-of-concept studies. Our focus will be not just drugs, but novel psychotherapies and neurostimulation therapeutics as well. CNS Spectrums will in addition, continue to publish original research and commentaries that focus on emergent areas of research. Subject coverage shall span the full spectrum of neuropsychiatry focusing on translational issues and those crossing traditional boundaries between neurology and psychiatry.

Manuscript preparation
Article type descriptions
We will consider and encourage the following types of articles.

Original Research articles:
Articles in this category should present methodologically sound, new original study data that is in the following format: objective, methods, results, discussion, and conclusion. Suitable topics include mood disorders, schizophrenia and related disorders, personality disorders, substance use disorders, anxiety disorders, neuroscience, psychosocial aspects of psychiatry, child psychiatry, geriatric psychiatry, and other topics of interest to clinicians in psychiatry, psychology, mental health disciplines, neurology and/or to clinical investigators in the neurosciences.

- 6,000 words; Up to 100 references
- 5–10 key words

Review articles:
Review articles should be concise, accessible, accurate and precise reviews of recent research and emergent areas. May include speculation and debate, but this should be clearly indicated. Focus on published authoritative and recent data from past 2–3 years. The introduction should be aimed at non-specialists and indicate the timeliness and rationale for the article. Inclusion of didactic and explanatory illustrations is strongly encouraged.

- 2,500–3,000 words; Up to 60 references
- Optional clinical implications summary
- 5–10 key words

Opinions:
An opinion article should be a personal viewpoint on a topical research topic, aimed to stimulate debate and new research. It should address a current topic of high interest, which has substantial evidence but has not yet been established. The opinion may be purposefully controversial, reinterpret the status quo, or speculate on future directions for research. It may also opine about socio-economic and policy issues relating to drug discovery, research and clinical intervention. Criticism of published material should be constructive and aim to lead the field in new directions.

- 2,000–3,000 words; Up to 30–60 references
- Optional clinical implications summary
- 5–10 key words

Commentaries:
A commentary will generally address a specific article or articles, either in the current issue or in a previously published issue of the journal. The commentary would be written either by the Editor-in-Chief, a member of the editorial board, or a reviewer or expert selected by the Editor-in-Chief or editorial board—often one of the reviewers for the manuscript that is the focus of the commentary. The manuscript would address how that article fits into that topic, and it would also address how the article advances the topic or changes a point of view or paradigm. Overall, a commentary is a commissioned manuscript that is written in reaction to previously published articles; usually encourages a certain level of debate.

- 1,500 words; Up to 6 references
- Optional clinical implications summary
- 5–10 key words

The following article types are for information only and unsolicited submissions shall not be considered.

Brainstorms:
Brainstorms are editorials or comments on a topic in the field, not directed towards content in the current issue, which provide a short background and overview of a current topic in the field or ongoing controversy or evolving point of view in the field and often provide illustrations of the topic as well in order to inform readers and set a context for them for the editorial opinion and commentary also included on that topic. Brainstorms, which are written by the Editor-in-Chief, have been an ongoing feature of the journal since its launch and will now continue exclusively in CNS Spectrums.

- 1,500 words; Up to 6 references
- 5–10 key words

Editorials:
Editorials, when submitted by an invited contributor, shall not be a simple listing of contents within the issue, but may for instance be used by the Guest Editor of a special issue or thematic section to introduce the subject being brought into focus. On occasion a luminary in the field might be approached to provide a guest editorial. Generally discursive in nature, an editorial will most likely form a short opinion piece or reflection upon the field but not constitute a full article.

- 1,500 words; Up to 10 references
- 5–10 key words

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(format required for each article type):
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- Brainstorms and Commentaries: The abstract will be a very short summary, no more than 50 words long.
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Where appropriate, authors of reviews, opinions and commentaries may elect to also include a number of clinical implication points to be presented in addition to the abstract and conclusion. These will be most appropriate for articles that discuss material from preclinical studies and will be used to explain the findings and comment on their possible clinical applications.

Authors may include 3 to 5 points that are constructed as full sentences. They should be clear, unambiguous and aid the comprehension of the material being discussed.
Clinical implications will be assessed as part of the peer review process and authors may be asked to alter and update the points, or to remove them if they are not felt to add to the article.

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