

## Instructions for authors

### CASE REPORTS

1. The WVMJ will consider case reports that will remind readers of important clinical lessons, shed light on the possible pathogenesis of a disease, prevent errors, describe unusual presentations, do away with misconceptions, present a rare disease or problem in context, describe a novel procedure or treatment, describe unusual associations of symptoms or diseases, describe unexpected outcomes, or present information that make a clear point useful to the readership.
2. A cover letter to the editor must accompany the manuscript, listing
  - a. How this report will advance the understanding of a disease, drug or medical problem in general.
  - b. Is this of interest to a particular specialty or to a broader clinical audience?
3. Case reports must be designed as follows:
  - a. **Abstract:** 100-120 words listing what is being reported, the outcome and the lesson(s) learned.
  - b. **Introduction** (180-220 words): a brief background leading to a statement of the paper's purpose. All the elaboration regarding the disease or clinical situation must not be presented in this section, and should instead be part of the discussion.
  - c. **Case presentation** (200 words): orderly narrative (symptoms, signs, relevant exam, diagnosis, etc) with stated and clearly presented rationale for the course(s) of action taken
  - d. **Discussion** (350-400 words): relevant information about the disease or problem being presented, putting the case in context. A comparison with similar cases in the literature must be included, with such information presented—if possible—in table form.
  - e. **Conclusion** (50 words): clearly state the main conclusions derived from this experience.
  - f. **References:** No more than 10 references will be published. WVMJ will print a notation to the reader to contact the author for additional references.
4. Figures must depict valid information and have markers pointing to the area of interest. Submit only high quality photos and tables, which are large enough to fill a 2-3/8 inch space at 100%. Please see manuscript guidelines on the last page of every *Journal* for more specific details