

Reference Materials for Preparation of Articles

<Title>

The title should clarify what the research is trying to find out and on whom it is conducted.

<Abstract>

All research design, subjects, research sites, analytical methods, primary results, and discussion should be included. For quantitative research, variables used as the primary outcome, variables used as the primary factors, and the confounding factors should be clarified as much as possible. English abstracts must be proofread.

<Keywords>

Keywords that accurately reflect the details of the article should be provided. These must be selected with reference to Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) by the National Library of Medicine and other sources and in consideration of discoverability via online searches after publication.

<Introduction/background>

The importance of the topic being researched (extent of the problems, impact on the patients and families, etc.) and the necessity of the research with consideration for previous research on similar topics should be explained. If necessary, an explanation of the theoretical framework the research relies on should be included.

<Research objective>

What the research aims to clarify should be explained in complete sentences. (E.g. “This research was conducted to clarify... by means of...”)

This should not be confused with the significance of the research. The research hypothesis may be provided to clarify the objective of the research in more detail.

<Schematic diagram (if required) >

The hypothesis on the relationship between the variables focused on in the research should be illustrated. The variables focused on include the causative variables, the variables obtained as a result of the impact, and the variables that require consideration when investigating the causal relationship between these two types of variables (such as confounding factors).

<Definition of the terms (if required)>

All concepts handled in the study for which common understanding may not be reached between the author and the reader must be explained clearly in terms of what they signify in the scope of the research.

<Research methods>

A detailed and specific explanation must be provided to the extent possible with regards to when, where, how, and by whom the research is conducted, and what is involved, so that the research can be replicated by a third party, and with consideration for consistency with the research objective.

1) Subjects

The inclusion and exclusion criteria should be shown, as well as the actual selection procedure. The inclusion criteria must include the conditions relating to the location of the subjects (the nature of the region, the scale of the institution, inpatient or outpatient, etc.). The criteria must be expressed in a specific manner, using numeric values rather than adjectives and adjectival verbs.

2) Data collection method

For the questionnaire method, the process of preparing the questions, methods of use and performance of the scales (reliability, appropriateness, etc.) and the data collection procedure (the methods for distributing, completing, and collecting the questionnaire, the timing and frequency of measurement, the measurement interval and the rationale for setting these items) must be provided. For questions, attention must be paid to the consistency with the definition of the concepts being measured. For the interview method, explanation must be provided on the details of interview, the number and timing of the interviews, and the number of interviewers.

3) Method of intervention (if applicable)

The details of the intervention methods must include the specific targets and theoretical framework. Also, the location, number, interval, timing, and format (individual/group) of intervention, as well as the intervening staff members (number, training status), the number of subjects for each intervening staff members, and the availability of reward for participation should be explained as the details of the intervention procedure. In cases where both the planned procedure and the state of implementation are reported, the state of implementation must be included in the results.

4) Analytical method

In quantitative research projects, the objective of analysis and variables for analyses must be explained specifically for the statistical method used (E.g. “Multiple regression analysis was conducted with Y as the dependent variable and X as the explanatory variable to investigate the impact of A on B.”). If you are not confident regarding the descriptions provided, these should be checked by specialists in medical statistic methods.

In qualitative research projects, a detailed explanation must be provided on how the appropriateness of the analysis was ensured. If two or more researchers are engaged, the division of roles must be clarified, and the methods of collecting the opinions and the expertise of the supervisor must be explained.

5) Ethical considerations

The method of obtaining consent from the subjects and the approval of the public ethics committee, if applicable, must be provided.

<Results>

The results must be presented according to the research method.

Only the results are to be shown in this section, and confusion with discussion should be avoided. The numerals in the figures and tables must be consistent with those in the main text.

<Discussion>

The results obtained must be interpreted in comparison with the results of the previous research projects conducted with similar objectives, with consideration for consistency with the research objective. Avoid repeating the results and making arguments unrelated to the results.

The limitations and issues in the research must be identified.

The contribution and suggestions for the area of diabetes education and nursing should be expressed in this section. A section for “suggestions for diabetes education (or diabetes nursing)” may be established separately.

<References>

The display method shown in the submission rules must be followed.