

## Innovations Author instructions

*Innovations* articles highlight recent diagnostic and therapeutic innovations. These may include new devices, diagnostic tools, decision rules or therapies. Novel uses of older treatments will also be considered. The benefits of the innovation, its availability and its limitations must be highlighted clearly, but briefly.

1. The Innovations article should be no more than 1000 words and may have up to five references formatted in the Vancouver style (please see a recent issue of *CMAJ* at [www.cmaj.ca](http://www.cmaj.ca) for examples). Please state the date accessed if the reference is to a web link.
2. The article should be structured into 5 main sections, as outlined below.
  - i. The introduction should describe the setting for the innovation.
    - Why should we know about this innovation?
    - Why was it developed? What is the background?
    - Is the innovation needed?
  - ii. Description of the innovation.
    - Subtitles:
      - What is it?
      - How is it delivered?
      - Who is eligible? (include here who is likely to benefit from the innovation)
    - Visual or auditory elements (e.g. tables, sound clips, videos or other images) are encouraged. Images need to be of high print quality and in the electronic format suitable for our use. For information on acceptable formats, see *Guidelines for submitting Tables, Figures and Graphics* in the Authors section of [www.cmaj.ca](http://www.cmaj.ca).
    - If a patient photograph is used, the submission must include the patient's written consent for publication. The consent form may be accessed under *Manuscript Submission Checklist* in the Authors section of [www.cmaj.ca](http://www.cmaj.ca).
  - iii. What are the possible harms?
    - Are there any contraindications?
  - iv. What is the evidence so far?
    - Is more evidence needed before general adoption?
    - We would like the writing to be evidence based. This means that it is usually not enough to merely add a reference number in brackets at the end of a sentence to support what is said. You need to comment on the type of article and its quality. ("A well-designed randomized controlled trial finds that ...," "Most of the evidence that supports this intervention comes from small observational studies...").

- v. What can we expect in the future?
- Should this innovation be widely adopted?
  - Predict how likely this innovation is to be adopted. Outline what might prevent or help the innovation in establishing itself in mainstream practice (e.g. money, availability, adverse effects, and results of planned RCTs.)
  - What research is in the pipeline?
3. Please include a box with up to four keypoints.
4. Writing style: Please remember that we have many international readers. Therefore, avoid using jargon and phrases that are peculiar to your country and specialty.
5. A maximum of two co-authors is permitted. We publish up to two institutional affiliations for each author. Each author should list his or her highest academic degree and highest professional degree (for example, MD PhD or MD MPH).
6. Please include your full postal and email address.
7. Please include a declaration of competing interests for each author. Please visit our website for more details (<http://www.cmaj.ca/cgi/content/full/171/11/1313>)
8. Submit manuscripts online at <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cmaj>, or through the link on the CMAJ homepage at [www.cmaj.ca](http://www.cmaj.ca).

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