

Critically Appraised Topic Specifications

Critically Appraised Topics (CATs)	Publication Format	Effective 2013 - In Print and Online as per discretion of Editor-in-Chief.
	Print Specifications	Effective 2013 - Space dependent. 1 manuscript maximum per print issue.
	Media Clip Specifications	Submitted Manuscripts, containing Media Clips to be considered for online publication are to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Manuscript <input type="checkbox"/> Media Clip <input type="checkbox"/> Title of Media Clip <input type="checkbox"/> Legend for Media Clip <input type="checkbox"/> Size of Media Clip (maximum file size for upload is 10 MB) <input type="checkbox"/> Viewing Length of Media Clip (maximum view time is 12 minutes) <input type="checkbox"/> Patient Release For media clips that involve patients, provide documentation within your cover letter showing informed consent for the taping and display of the clip in an online format.
	Page Specifications	Up to 2 journal pages (6 Double-spaced manuscript pages) maximum. This page number includes references, figures and tables.
	Abstract Required	No
	Colour Specifications	Effective 2013 – At the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief, all manuscripts <i>published only online</i> , will have all graphics included in manuscript uploaded in full colour. No additional charges will apply. Manuscript <i>published in print</i> , graphics will be printed in black and white, unless author requests colour graphics. Additional charges for colour in print will apply.
	Word Specifications	NA
	No. of References	15 maximum suggested for references.
	Characteristic of a strong manuscript	In addition to adhering to the Media Clip Specifications and the General and Specific Manuscript Specifications, CATs rely on evidence-based appraisals. The quality /Class/Category of the evidence should be clearly revealed.
	What We Look For	<p>Editorial Coordinator - Initial Quality Control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> General Manuscript Specifications Apply. <input type="checkbox"/> Specific Manuscript Specifications Apply. <input type="checkbox"/> Journal page maximum met. <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <p>Editor-in-Chief Review Specifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Overall First Impressions (rating) of Manuscript. <input type="checkbox"/> Relevance to CJNS Subscribers. <input type="checkbox"/> Professionally Presented Manuscript (proper spelling, grammar, clarity, readability, etc.). <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>

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	<p>What We Look For (Continued)</p>	<p>Associate Editor Review Specifications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> All General Manuscript Specifications apply as outline in submission process. <input type="checkbox"/> Current research in clinical neurosciences. <input type="checkbox"/> Each CAT will appraise one or two recent research articles dealing with a particular topic. <input type="checkbox"/> Meta-analyses and systematic reviews will also be considered if pertaining to evidence-based neurological/neurosurgical practice. <input type="checkbox"/> A brief title that summarizes the conclusion reached about the article. <input type="checkbox"/> Clinical Bottom Lines consisting of short statements summarizing the key "take-home" points. <input type="checkbox"/> The clinical problem which cues the reader to the nature of the case. The clinical problem comes from real life dilemmas that are faced by clinicians. <input type="checkbox"/> The clinical question includes the patient, intervention, comparator, and outcome. <input type="checkbox"/> The search strategy - including search terms, search engines used, and the reasons why the article chosen is the best evidence for the clinical question. <input type="checkbox"/> The evidence is described briefly including the type of study, patient population, and outcomes reported for the article reviewed. <input type="checkbox"/> The data is usually presented in tabular form and highlights the clinically significant data such as number needed to treat, specificity, hazard ratios, etc. <input type="checkbox"/> Comments are added regarding the quality of the study and any concerns which were identified by the critical appraisal process. <input type="checkbox"/> The reference, the appraiser, the date appraised, and the date expired. <input type="checkbox"/> Lastly, it will include a clinical comment from an "expert" on the particular topic. <input type="checkbox"/> Professionally Presented Manuscript proper spelling, grammar, clarity, readability, etc.). <input type="checkbox"/> Is the subject matter suitable for the Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences? <input type="checkbox"/> Is the methodology sound? Are the experimental procedures described in sufficient detail? <input type="checkbox"/> Are the illustrations and tables clear? <input type="checkbox"/> Is the length of the paper appropriate? <input type="checkbox"/> Is the bibliography adequate? <input type="checkbox"/> Are too many references used, or are important references omitted? <input type="checkbox"/> Are citations appropriate? <input type="checkbox"/> Have relevant/appropriate CJNS articles been cited? <input type="checkbox"/> Note: Editorials not written for CATs. <hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/> <p>Reviewer Specifications – NA</p>
	<p>Conflict of Interest Guidelines</p>	<p>Apply</p>
	<p>Fee to Submit</p>	<p>None</p>
	<p>Review Goal</p>	<p>The goal of the CJNS is to work collaboratively with authors to publish Manuscripts in a timely manner. Manuscripts are to be published within 6-8 months of receiving final revisions from the author.</p>
	<p>Posting to CJNS Online</p>	<p>The goal of the CJNS is to post CJNS online for the 1st of the month, in January, March, May, July, September and November. Should your article not be posted on CJNS online after the 1st, please contact support@metapress.com.</p>

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	<p>Posting to PubMed</p>	<p>Once a CJNS Issue and/or Supplement is posted within the CJNS online Journal, notification is provided to PubMed through Metapress. This notification may take up to one week from a Journal Issue or Supplement being uploaded to the CJNS online Journal. Upon receipt of notification, PubMed may take up to 72 hours to post Journal issues online. The goal is to have articles posted by the 15th of the month, in January, March, May, July, September and November.</p> <p>As PubMed is an organization outside of the CJNS, we do not have influence on how and when they post articles within their database. Should you have concerns, please contact NLM Customer Service directly at custserv@nlm.nih.gov.</p>
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