

Would you like to write for *Community Practitioner*?



Community Practitioner is the monthly journal of Unite/CPHVA, publishing a range of material including:

- Clinical/practice updates on clinical topics such as hypertension, breastfeeding problems and nutrition
- Professional papers on a range of topics, including reports of original research and methodological papers. These papers are double-blind peer reviewed prior to publication and the preferred length is 2000 to 3500 words
- Letters – get your voice heard and contribute to a debate
- Other features – including short reports on innovative practice
- Political and policy analysis and opinion pieces
- Book and resource reviews.

Guidelines for authors

Articles are considered for publication in *Community Practitioner* on the understanding that they are not currently being offered to any other journal and have not been published or accepted elsewhere. All manuscripts should be submitted, with full author contact details, directly to the editor Danny Ratnaike, by email to danny.ratnaike@tenalpspublishing.com or as an Microsoft Word document on disk to *Community Practitioner*, Unite/CPHVA, 33-37 Moreland Street, London EC1V 8HA. Authors should keep a copy of the material they submit.

Presentation and house style

The first page should contain the following information only: title of article, first name and surname of author(s), qualifications, details of position held and number of words in the article. Spelling should conform to that of Chambers 21st Century dictionary. Where either 's' or 'z' can be used, please use 's', eg organisation. Numerals one to ten should be spelt out, 11 and over typed as figures. Percent should be written as %. Full stops should not be used to indicate abbreviations: eg, ie, DSS. All abbreviations apart from CPHVA or NMC should be spelt out when first used followed by the abbreviation in brackets. Quotation marks should be single, except for quotes within quotes. Capitals should not be used for terms like health visitor or doctor. Please do not underline headings or any words except those you want printed in italics.

Article content and length

All articles need to be written with our audience in mind: health visitors, practice and district nurses, school nurses and community nursery nurses. We welcome inclusion of relevant figures, tables and images, though original work on paper is submitted at the owner's risk. Electronic images should be at least 300dpi resolution and in tif, jpg or eps format.

Professional and research papers

Research papers should be between 2000 and 3500 words in length, and are subject to double-blind peer review. Longer articles can be submitted for consideration and may be published in two parts, though this will be unusual. Papers should begin with an abstract of 150 to 200 words, and up to five key words that accurately reflect the article's subject and focus.

Research articles should be arranged in the usual order of introduction, study aim/purpose, method including ethical approval, results, discussion, implications and recommendations, conclusion, references and acknowledgements.

Clinical updates are usually 1400 words in length, should be referenced and review management issues within a particular clinical area.

Other features are 700 or 1400 words in length (one or two printed pages) and their content should be discussed with the editor prior to submission.

Letters are always welcome. They should be no longer than 300 words in length.

References

Please check that references are complete and accurate before submitting an article. References should be set out in the Vancouver style – that is, references should be numbered in the order in which they appear in the text. References to articles in journals should be in the following order: author's surname and initials, full title of article, name of journal (in full, not abbreviated), year, volume number, issue number, and the first and last page numbers of the article. References to books should be as follows: author's surname, initials, full title of book, city of publication, name of publisher, year of publication. Sometimes you may wish to refer to one particular chapter in a book that has the editor as the main author. This would appear as follows: 'Smith ABC. Hearing tests in young children. In: Brown XYZ (ed). Developmental testing of the under fives. New York: Blenkinsop, 1980.' Normally, references should not exceed 25 in number, and should usually be far fewer.

Editing

The editor reserves the customary right to style and if necessary to shorten material accepted for publication.

Publication

The editor reserves the customary right to determine the priority and time of publication. Due to the large number of articles received, publication may be delayed, although every effort is made to publish within nine months of acceptance. Authors of papers and articles receive one complimentary copy of the journal following the publication of their piece.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to telephone or email us – we look forward to discussing your ideas with you.

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