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Please make a photocopy of this checklist, complete it, and send with all manuscripts submitted for publication to:
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General

- Four complete sets of the manuscript (with 4 sets of figures) are submitted (this also applies to amended versions).
- The manuscript is typed double spaced throughout on one side only on A4 opaque white bond paper with wide margins all around.
- The manuscript is arranged as follows: (1) title page, (2) abstract, (3) text, (4) references, (5) legends, (6) tables. Pages are numbered consecutively, beginning with the title page as page 1.
- The last name of the first author is typed at the top right corner of each page.
- A covering letter is signed by all authors stating that they have seen and approved the paper and that the work has not been, and will not be, published elsewhere.
- Three suitable reviewers are nominated.

Title page

- The title and authors' names are typed on the title page and in the journal style.
- Case reports have only three authors.
- The address(es) of the institutions from which the work originated with the authors' names are listed underneath. (If there is more than one address several authors' names can be grouped under each appropriate address; strict order of authors' names is not necessary here.)
- The full name, exact *postal* address with postal code, telephone number, and **fax number** of the author to whom communications and proofs should be sent are typed at the bottom, and the editorial office must be told of any subsequent change of address.

Abstract

- An abstract is typed double spaced on a separate page.
- The abstract (maximum 250 words) is structured according to the framework described on page 1 of the January 1991 issue. This may not always be necessary—for example, case reports.
- Abbreviations other than standard SI units of measurement are not used.

Keywords

- Up to 4 keywords or phrases are supplied for inclusion in the index (see *Br Heart J* 1994;71:212 for advice).

Text

- Appropriate headings and subheadings are provided.
- Every reference, figure, and table is cited in the text in numerical order. (Order of mention in text determines the number given to each).
- Acknowledgements and details of support in the form of grants, equipment, or drugs are typed at the end of the text, before references.

References

- References are identified in the text by arabic numerals; no more than three references are cited for any one statement.
- References are typed double spaced on sheets separate from the text (*numbered consecutively in the order in which they are mentioned in the text*) in the Vancouver style.
- Journal references contain *inclusive* page numbers; book references contain *specific* page numbers.
- Citations of abstracts and letters should be indicated in parentheses.
- Personal communications, manuscripts in preparation, and other unpublished data are not cited in the reference list but are mentioned in the text in parentheses.
- Abbreviations of journals conform to those used in *Index Medicus*, US National Library of Medicine. The style and punctuation of the references follow the format illustrated in the following examples:

Journal: (list all authors if six or less; otherwise list first six and add *et al*; do not use full stops after authors' initials)

31 Balcon R, Brooks N, Layton C. Correlation of heart rate/ST slope and coronary angiographic findings. *Br Heart J* 1984;52:304–8.

Chapter in book:

28 Schiebler GL, Van Mierop LHS, Krovetz LJ. Diseases of the tricuspid valve. In: Moss AJ, Adams F, eds. *Heart disease in infants, children and adolescents*. Baltimore: Williams and Wilkins, 1968:134–9.

Book (personal author or authors): (all book references should have specific page numbers)

36 Feigenbaum H. *Echocardiography*. 3rd ed. Philadelphia: Lea and Febiger, 1981:549–63.

Figure legends

Figure legends are typed double spaced on sheets separate from the text, and figure numbers correspond with the order in which figures are presented in the text.

All abbreviations appearing on the figures are identified at the end of each legend.

Written permission from the publisher and author to reproduce any previously published figures is included.

Illustrations

Four sets of unmounted glossy prints (not originals) of each photograph and drawing are submitted in four separate envelopes. Sets 2–4 of black and white illustrations that contain no shades of grey may be supplied as photocopies.

Figures, particularly half tones and electrocardiographic tracings, have been submitted with the following guidelines in mind: the detail of the figure is sufficiently clear to withstand reduction, and special features are designated by arrows.

Black ink is used for all line drawings. Decimals, lines, etc *must* be strong enough for reproduction.

The first author's last name, figure number, and "top" are indicated on the back of each illustration in light black pencil, preferably on a gummed label.

Figure title and caption material appear in the legend not on the figure.

Figures are limited to the number necessary for clarity and do not duplicate data given in the tables or text. (Estimates for colour work will be provided on acceptance of the manuscript for publication. Some of the cost of colour printing will be charged to the author(s).)

Tables

Tables are typed double spaced on separate sheet with the table number and title above the table and explanatory notes below. The table numbers are arabic and correspond with the order in which the tables are presented in the text.

A footnote to each table identifies all abbreviations used and gives them in alphabetical order.

Tables are self-explanatory, and the data are not duplicated in the text or figures.

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Ethical standards

The study complies with the Declaration of Helsinki.

The research protocol has been approved by the locally appointed ethics committee and the informed consent of the subjects (or their parents) has been obtained.

Measurements and abbreviations

Measurements are given in SI units. Blood pressure should be given in mm Hg.

Abbreviations or acronyms are always written out in full (for example, ECG, electrocardiogram; LVH, left ventricular hypertrophy; CAD, coronary artery disease, MI, myocardial infarction).

Only units of measurement and mathematical formulas and calculations are abbreviated and they follow the form recommended in *Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals* (*Br Heart J* 1984;51:1–6).

Statistics

If the same variable is measured by two different methods the agreement between the methods has been assessed according to the guidelines published in the *British Heart Journal* (1988;60:177–80).

Statistical measures of variation, such as SD or SEM, are specified and given in parentheses.

Papers that do not adhere to these instructions will be returned for revision before assessment.