Objective
Increased social demands for a free access to information and the initiative of international research-funding institutions (Berlin Declaration) encouraged the German Society of Surgery to launch a new open access surgical journal entitled *Innovative Surgical Sciences – The Rapid Journal of the German Society of Surgery*. It is the aim of the journal to create the future of free digital information to the surgical community worldwide in order to promote surgical and scientific knowledge.

*Innovative Surgical Sciences (ISS)* is an open access, peer-reviewed journal and welcomes English language Original Articles, Reviews and Case Reports covering clinical and experimental studies in all surgical sub-specialties. *ISS* also publishes Guidelines and Recommendations, Perspectives, Opinion Papers and Letters to the Editor. All contributions submitted for publication are double-blind reviewed by at least two renowned experts in the field, selected and invited by the Editor-in-Chief. All submissions will be subject to a rapid, initially double-blind peer-review process, allowing a first decision to be reached within 30 days of submission. For submissions accepted for publication, the complete reviewer reports and author response letter(s) will be published as supplementary material and as part of the article record.

Topics
- general surgery
- digestive surgery
- vascular surgery
- pediatric surgery
- oral - maxillofacial surgery
- neurosurgery
- orthopedic surgery
- plastic, reconstructive and aesthetic surgery
- thoracic surgery

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