Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM)

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Instructions for Authors
Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM)

Scope and general policies of the journal

Scope

Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine (CCLM) is one of the leading journals in the field of laboratory medicine. For decades, CCLM has focused on publications relevant to laboratory medicine, patient care and safety. CCLM publishes articles on novel teaching and training methods applicable to clinical chemistry and laboratory medicine and other clinical laboratory disciplines. The journal welcomes contributions on the progress in fundamental and translational research and cutting-edge clinical laboratory medicine.

CCLM is a hybrid journal, published monthly in print and online. Letters to the Editor and Congress Abstracts are published online only. CCLM publishes only English-language articles in the categories below.

Article categories

- Research Articles – Reports of original research
- Reviews and Mini Reviews – Systematic, narrative, and focused reviews
- Opinion Papers
- Editorials
- Point/Counterpoint Papers
- Letters to the Editor and Replies
- Guidelines and Recommendations
- Congress Abstracts

Submissions in the following fields are welcome

- Clinical biochemistry
- Clinical genomics and clinical molecular biology
- Clinical hematology and hemostasis
- Clinical immunology and autoimmunity
- Clinical microbiology
- Drug monitoring and analysis
- Evaluation of diagnostic biomarkers
- Disease-oriented topics (cardiovascular disease, cancer diagnostics, diabetes)
- Clinical evaluation of new reagents, instrumentation and technologies
- Innovative and/or disruptive analytical techniques
- Reference materials and methods
- Reference values and decision limits
- Quality and safety in laboratory medicine
- Laboratory-related errors and patient safety
- Standardization/harmonization of laboratory assays
- Translational laboratory medicine
- Clinical metrology

Peer review, turnaround times and preprint policies

Peer review information

Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine is a single-blind journal. Manuscripts are reviewed anonymously by at least two independent reviewers selected by the Editors. The authors may provide the names, institution, country and e-mail addresses of up to four potential reviewers. Reviewers indicated by the authors must be of institutions and countries different from those of any of the authors. Authors may also provide names of reviewers they wish to exclude from reviewing their manuscripts.

The editors reserve the right to reject submitted manuscripts without peer review if the studies are not novel or important enough to merit publication in the journal. Manuscripts deemed unsuitable (insufficient originality or limited interest to the target audience) will be also rejected without review.
Turnaround time

Clinical Chemistry and Laboratory Medicine aspires to inform authors of the peer review decision within 2–4 weeks from submission date. Revised manuscripts should be returned within 3–6 weeks. Accepted articles will be published online within 2 weeks of acceptance.

Issue based publication

Articles are first published online as DOI citable articles and are later assigned to an issue with final page numbers.

Rejection of manuscripts

Manuscripts dealing with subjects that have been well studied in the literature, and that do not resolve questions raised by previous studies, or manuscripts that are statistically underpowered, are likely to be rejected without peer review. This applies in particular to studies of genetic associations, which will be considered only if they contribute new insights and are statistically valid according to generally accepted criteria. Articles which are likely to affect the choice, performance or interpretation of clinical tests will be favored over those which do not, and animal or cell-culture studies need to justify their eligibility.

Reporting of negative results must be justified by prior evidence that a positive result would be expected. Manuscripts are also returned to authors if they do not comply with the Instructions for Authors (e.g., if the number of words allowed for a certain article type will be exceeded).

Appeals

Manuscripts that have been rejected for publication will be reconsidered only at the discretion of the Editor(s). Authors wishing to request reconsideration of a previously rejected manuscript must do so in written form and submit a rebuttal by e-mail to the journal's editorial office. Authors should provide detailed reasons why they believe the manuscript should be reconsidered. If the rebuttal is accepted, the author will be asked to re-submit the manuscript, or the decision will be reversed.

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Submission of manuscripts

• Submit manuscripts exclusively online at: https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/cclm

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**Post-acceptance**

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Acknowledgments

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Author contributions

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By publishing in *CCLM*, authors are required to provide a data availability statement (DAS) in their articles. The DAS confirms the presence or absence of shared data. The DAS should include information on where the data supporting the findings reported in the article can be found, including, if applicable, hyperlinks to publicly archived datasets analyzed or generated during the study. If research data are not publicly available, this must be stated in the manuscript, as well as the conditions for accessing the data.

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**Preparation of manuscript**

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Please refer to the 2015 Standards for Reporting of Diagnostic Accuracy checklist (STARD).

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