

# Information for Authors

**S**cience & Practice Perspectives obtains articles through reader submissions and editorial commissioning. Articles fall mainly into two categories: research reviews and clinical perspectives. In research reviews, scientists review and interpret key research findings in areas of immediate relevance for practitioners; in clinical perspectives, providers discuss their experiences with implementing science-based programs and raise questions for research. To extend the dialogue between researchers and providers, each article is followed by a panel discussion of its content and implications by members of the complementary professional group.

Readers may send brief letters proposing articles that will be of interest and value to both researchers and practitioners. Please keep in mind that *Science & Practice Perspectives* does not publish original research – all cited research results must have been published previously in peer-reviewed journals. Final acceptance of submitted articles is contingent upon the results of peer review and editorial judgment that it is suitable for publication in a NIDA journal. Feel free to review our past issues, which are available online at <http://www.drugabuse.gov/perspectives>, to get a better understanding of the types of articles we publish. Send proposal letters, submissions, and other correspondence to:

Associate Editor  
*Science & Practice Perspectives*  
MasiMax Resources, Inc.  
Suite 175  
1375 Piccard Drive  
Rockville, MD 20850  
E-mail: [mwebb@masimax.com](mailto:mwebb@masimax.com)

When conceiving a topic and drafting your article, please consider the following:

- **Topic definition.** Is the topic broad enough to be relevant to practitioners and researchers, yet narrow enough to be treated within the prescribed article length (approximately 2,500 to 4,000 words)?
- **Content selection.**
  - ◆ Research review authors: Within the topic area, have you focused on those research findings that have immediate, practical applications for treatment and prevention programs/providers?
  - ◆ Clinical perspectives authors: Within the topic area, have you focused on treatment and prevention issues that can stimulate the research community?
- **Data sources.** Have you cited the sources of all data provided in your article? *Science & Practice Perspectives* is not intended as a vehicle for publication of original research data. In some circumstances, authors may cite non-peer-reviewed data, but it must be clearly cited as such.
- **Language.** Have you maximized readability by avoiding jargon and specialized terminology as much as possible, and defined and explained necessary terms and concepts likely to be unfamiliar to either researchers or service providers?
- **References.** Have you been selective, rather than exhaustive, in your citations?
- **Illustrations.** Have you supplied figures or tables, particularly in cases where graphic representation will significantly aid readers' understanding?

## Writing for *Science & Practice Perspectives*

### MANUSCRIPT ORGANIZATION AND PREPARATION

- **Title page.** Provide: the paper's full title; full names, academic degrees, and affiliations of all authors; contact information, including e-mail address and social security number for the corresponding author; and acknowledgment of funding support.
- **Abstract.** The abstract should not exceed 150 words, and should summarize the objective, main points, and conclusions of the article.
- **References.** References should be cited parenthetically, ordered alphabetically in the following format: (Blankenship, 1998a, 1998b; Kaltensbach, Berghella, and Finnegan, 1998; Smith et al., 1985). The reference list should be ordered alphabetically by the first author's last name. Books or articles with more than three authors should be shortened to include only the first author, followed by "et al." For journal articles, include the year of publication; the full title; the unabbreviated name of the journal; and the volume, number, and page range. For books, include the chapter title, full book title, editors and authors, publisher name and location, and year of publication. For government publications, give issuing agency, publication number, and date of publication. Bibliographies should not exceed 12 references, focusing on those most relevant to practitioners. Adhere to the reference formats provided by the following examples:

- ♦ **Journal article (1-3 authors).** Nestler, E.J.; Barrot, M.; and Self, D.W., 2001.  $\Delta$  FosB: A molecular switch for addiction. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the USA* 98(20):11042-11046.
- ♦ **Journal article (4 or more authors).** Carpenter, K.M., et al., 2004. The effect of sertraline and environmental context on treating depression and illicit substance use among methadone maintained opiate dependent patients: A controlled clinical trial. *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* 74(2):123-134.
- ♦ **Complete book.** Cohen, J., 1988. *Statistical Power Analysis for the Behavioral Sciences* (2d ed.). Hillsdale, NJ: Erlbaum Associates.
- ♦ **Chapter/article in book.** Post, R.M.; Rubinow, D.R.; and Ballenger, J.C., 1984. Conditioning, sensitization, and kindling: Implications for the course of affective illness. In: R.M. Post and J.C. Ballenger (Eds.), *Neurobiology of Mood Disorders*. Baltimore, MD: Williams and Wilkins, pp. 432-466.
- ♦ **Government publication.** National Institute on Drug Abuse, 1999, *Principles of Drug Addiction Treatment: A Research-Based Guide*. NIH Publication No. 99-4180. Rockville, MD: National Institute on Drug Abuse.
- **Art: figures, photos, tables, and charts.** Figures and photos should be provided as glossy prints or in electronic format (photographs in TIF format, charts/graphs in EPS format or native Freehand/Illustrator files). Figure legends should be numbered and typed on a separate page. Callouts in the text should indicate placement for tables and figures, e.g., (Figure 1 here).
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After receiving reviewers' comments, we send a peer review report to the author. The report contains comments and criticisms from the peer reviewers as well as suggestions and queries from the editor. Authors are asked to respond to all comments, either by making the requested revisions or by offering a compelling argument against them.

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## REPRINTS

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