

*Journal of*  
**EPIDEMIOLOGY  
& COMMUNITY  
HEALTH**

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Published by British  
Medical Association  
Tavistock Square, London  
WC1H 9JR and  
printed England by  
Derry and Sons Limited  
Nottingham

Second Class Postage Paid at Rahway NJ. Postmaster:  
send address changes to *Journal of Epidemiology &  
Community Health*, c/o Mercury Airfreight  
International Ltd Inc, 2323 Randolph Avenue, Avenel,  
NJ 07001, USA  
ISSN 0143 005X

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Authors submitting papers for publication should adhere to the format described below. Failure to do so may result in the return of the paper for revision before assessment, with inevitable delay in publication.

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The title page should contain the title of the paper, a short running head, the names of all the authors, and the authors' institutions (only one affiliation per author). A telephone and fax number (if available) should also be given on the title page.

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Abstracts must be structured and use the following headings: **Study objective; Design; Settings; Patients (or Participants); Measurements and main results; Conclusions.** It is very important that the abstract is properly prepared in accordance with the guidelines for structured abstracts published in *Annals of Internal Medicine* 1987; 106: 596-604. In particular, **Design** must include as many of the following terms as apply: randomised; non-randomised; double blind; placebo controlled; crossover; before-after trial; inception cohort; cohort; case-control; survey; case series; cost-effectiveness analysis; cost-benefit analysis; retrospective; prospective. **Patients (Participants)** must include numbers studied, the proportion of participants who completed the study, and the numbers of eligible subjects approached who refused to participate. Characteristics of matched groups should be specified.

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The rest of the paper should be laid out along standard lines: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, References.

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1 Callam MJ, Harper DR, Dale JJ, Ruckley CV. Chronic ulceration of the leg. Extent of the problem and provision of care. *BMJ* 1985; 290: 1855-6.

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2 Armitage P, Berry G. Statistical methods in medical research. Oxford: Blackwell Scientific Publications, 1987: 194.

3 Wisniewski HM, Sturman JA. Neurotoxicity of aluminum. In: Gitelmad HJ, ed. Aluminum and health. A critical review. New York: Marcel Decker, 1989: 125-6.

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4 Brooke OG. Malnutrition and body temperature in Jamaican children. London: University of London, 1973. MD Thesis.

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