

Instructions for Authors

Editorial Board of *Suicide Policy Research*
Japan Suicide Countermeasures Promotion Center (JSCP)

1. About the journal

Suicide Policy Research is an open access journal published by the Japan Suicide Countermeasures Promotion Center (JSCP). The journal provides articles, reviews, practical reports, and commentaries, among others, addressing the latest suicide policy research. Submitted articles should be written in English. Original articles and reviews will be peer-reviewed by two or more reviewers, and other categories will be reviewed by the editorial board. Authors are requested to adhere to the following guidelines.

2. Manuscript submission

Submitted manuscripts must be original papers not under consideration for publication elsewhere.

Submission of a manuscript indicates that the author(s) agrees to automatic copyright transfer to the JSCP.

3. Manuscript categories

- (1) Original article
- (2) Review
- (3) Practical report
- (4) Commentary
- (5) Others (overview, perspective, information, etc.)

4. General formatting

- Manuscripts must be submitted electronically as a .docx file.
- Use Times New Roman 11-point font on A4 paper.
- Manuscripts must not exceed 8,000 words, including figures, tables, notes, and references.
- Each figure and table is counted as the equivalent of 100 words.
- Figures or tables should be inserted, in principle, in the text.

Cover page

The cover page should be prepared separately from the paper's main body, with the title at the top, followed by the full name(s) of the author(s), professional affiliation(s), and contact information (the primary author's telephone number and e-mail address). The number of pages and the number of charts and tables must be indicated (e.g., 25 pages; 2 figures; 5 tables).

Title and abstract

Repeat the title at the top of the paper's first body page. Use a colon [:] to separate the subtitle from the title. For the abstract, summarize the article's main points—background, methods, results, and conclusion—in approximately 250 words. After the abstract, list 3 to 10 keywords.

Main body

The main body should be organized, in principle, as follows.

- (1) Introduction: background, purpose, and necessity of the study
- (2) Methods: study design and setting
- (3) Results: study findings
- (4) Discussion: implications of the findings
- (5) Conclusion: explanation of the study's importance
- (6) Declarations: conflict of interests, research ethics review, or acknowledgement

Article structure

Divide the article's main body into clearly defined and numbered sections. Number subsections 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), then 1.2, etc.

Do not number the Abstract, Introduction, Conclusion, Declarations, or References.

References

Use the Vancouver Style for indicating your citation.

References should be indicated either by superscripted Arabic numerals or in parentheses. You must specify a page number or range when you directly quote a text. Place the page number after the reference number inside the same parentheses, preceded by 'p.' See the examples below.

Joiner¹ argues that... (1, pp. 10-11).

Sinyor et al. (2) argues that... (2, p. 803).

Sources should be numbered based on the order in which they are cited in the text. If the same source is cited again, use the same number to refer to it throughout your paper. This means that the numbers might not appear in consecutive order in your text.

Books

1. Joiner T, *Lonely at the Top: The High Cost of Men's Success*, St. Martin's Press; 2011.

Journal articles

2. Sinyor M., Silverman M., Pirkis J., Hawto K., "The effect of economic downturn, financial hardship, unemployment, and relevant government responses on suicide," *Public Health*, Vol. 9; October 2024, pp. 802-806.

Websites

3. World Health Organization, LIVE LIFE Initiative for Suicide Prevention, Geneva: WHO; 2021 [cited June 25, 2025].
Available from: <https://www.who.int/initiatives/live-life-initiative-for-suicide-prevention>

Supplementary Provisions

These guidelines (decided by the Editorial Board on October 27, 2025) will come into effect on October 27, 2025.