



INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF PALEOPATHOLOGY

The Official Journal of the [Paleopathology Association](#)

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

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DESCRIPTION

Paleopathology is the study and application of methods and techniques for investigating **diseases** and related conditions from **skeletal** and **soft tissue remains**. *The International Journal of Paleopathology (IJPP)* will publish original and significant articles on human and animal (including hominids) disease, based upon the study of **physical remains**, including **osseous, dental, and preserved soft tissues** at a range of methodological levels, from direct observation to molecular, chemical, histological and radiographic analysis. Discussion of ways in which these methods can be applied to the reconstruction of **health, disease and life histories** in the past is central to the discipline, so the journal would also encourage papers covering interpretive and theoretical issues, and those that place the study of disease at the centre of a bioarchaeological or biocultural approach. Papers dealing with historical evidence relating to disease in the past (rather than history of medicine) will also be published. The journal will also accept significant studies that applied previously developed techniques to new materials, setting the research in the context of current debates on past human and animal health.

Membership Benefits:

Members of the [Paleopathology Association](#) receive online access to the *International Journal of Paleopathology* for free as a member benefit.

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2021: 1.448 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2022

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To find out more, please visit the Preparation section below.

INTRODUCTION

Paleopathology is the study and application of methods and techniques for investigating diseases and related conditions from skeletal and soft tissue remains. *The International Journal of Paleopathology* (IJPP) will publish original and significant articles on human and animal (including hominids) disease, based upon the study of physical remains, including osseous, dental, and preserved soft tissues at a range of methodological levels, from direct observation to molecular, chemical, histological and radiopathic analysis. Discussion of ways in which these methods can be applied to the reconstruction of health, disease and life histories in the past is central to the discipline, so the journal also encourages papers covering interpretive and theoretical issues and those that place the study of disease at the center of a bioarchaeological or biocultural approach. Papers dealing with historical evidence relating to disease in the past (rather than history of medicine) are also suitable for the IJPP. The journal will also accept significant studies that applied previously developed techniques to new materials, setting the research in the context of current debates on past human and animal health.

Types of article

RESEARCH ARTICLE: A full-length, original scholarly article, for example a contextually grounded study of disease one or more ancient communities. Both historical and prehistoric perspectives are appropriate for publication in IJPP. Research articles will usually contain the following sections: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions. **Article submissions should not normally exceed 6000 words excluding tables and citations.**

CASE STUDY: Case studies of special significance are suitable for publication in IJPP. These must be justified in terms of disease, temporal, and/or locational uniqueness. **IMPORTANTLY**, a case study must clearly explain how it significantly contributes to understanding disease in the past. As a rule, case studies are normally less lengthy than research reports and should not exceed 3000 words, excluding tables and citations.

TECHNICAL NOTE: Normally shorter than research reports (and **not to exceed 1500 words excluding tables and citations**), technical notes describe innovative methodologies or validation techniques.

BRIEF COMMUNICATION: No longer than a published page (**1500 words maximum, excluding tables and citations**), brief communications report the presence of a condition not sufficiently unique to merit a longer treatment (case study). Brief communications register data that may be useful for other researchers wishing to initiate comparative analyses.

REVIEW ARTICLE: Provides a substantive review of the literature, a specific topic, or body of work. **IMPORTANTLY**, a review must be thorough and focused, and must clearly explain how it significantly contributes to the field of paleopathology.

CLUSTER MEDIA REVIEW: Cluster reviews of periodicals, books or other media related to paleopathology and/or of special interest to the readership of the IJPP are welcome. Cluster reviews should place the publications in thematic, historical and/or disciplinary contexts. Authors who wish to volunteer cluster reviews should consult with the Editor-in-Chief concerning the suitability of material and length of the contribution.

PERSPECTIVE ARTICLE: Perspectives include substantive temporal, geographic, methodological or theoretical "state of the field" manuscripts that are evaluative and forward thinking. Authors who wish to contribute a perspective should consult with the Editor-in-Chief concerning the suitability of material and length of the contribution.

INVITED COMMENTARY: Commentaries invited by the Editor-in-Chief.

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You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

Ensure that the following items are present:

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Manuscript:

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Supplemental files (where applicable)

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Respect for descendent groups

Whenever possible and where applicable, authors should indicate that they have consulted with descendent groups regarding the presentation of research results based on human remains. While careful description of pathological lesions is essential to research in paleopathology, authors are encouraged to consider whether photographs of human remains are critical to the presentation of the

research. If not essential, out of respect for descendent communities, they should be replaced with drawings or included as supplementary material. Authors may wish to consult the editor regarding these issues.

Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses

Reporting guidance

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/ sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the [Sex and Gender Equity in Research \(SAGER\) guidelines](#) and the [SAGER guidelines checklist](#). These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

Definitions

Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the [resources on this page](#) offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

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Please submit the names and institutional e-mail addresses of several potential reviewers.

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liaise with the editor and the publisher and create a press release as soon as you hear the article is likely to be accepted. Do this with your university media office if you have one, or alternatively you can find guides on the internet on how to write a great press release.

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Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts your files to a single PDF file, which is used in the peer-review process.

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Formatting Requirements

Abstract

A concise and factual abstract of no more than 250 words is required. Please address each of these topics in no more than two sentences using the format and categories (when appropriate) below. An example is as follows:

Objective: This project is designed to estimate the prevalence of skeletal tuberculosis in Maya remains from the site of Xcepe, Guatemala.

Materials: 1435 extremely well preserved human remains of children and adults.

Methods: We observed all remains with the aid of low power magnification.

Results: No examples of skeletal tuberculosis were identified.

Conclusions: No cases of skeletal tuberculosis have yet been recognized in ancient Maya remains.

Significance: This is the first project to explicitly address mycobacterial disease in ancient Maya human skeletal collections. It holds implications for histories of disease spread, the relationship between nutrition and disease, and cross-immunity between mycobacterial diseases.

Limitations: The absence of evidence is not evidence of absence. In addition, many of the skeletal elements most diagnostic of tuberculosis are poorly preserved in the collection studied.

Suggestions for Further Research: Further intensive review of Maya skeletal collections is advised, followed by the application of biomolecular approaches.

Keywords

Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords - none of which should be included in the title of your manuscript - avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, "and", "of"). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes. For further advice on how to use keywords in order to optimize your article for search engines, please see [here](#).

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This journal operates a single anonymized review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. Editors are not involved in decisions about papers which they have written themselves or have been written by family members or colleagues or which relate to products or services in which the editor has an interest. Any such submission is subject to all of the journal's usual procedures, with peer review handled independently of the relevant editor and their research groups. [More information on types of peer review](#).

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Subdivision - numbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

Introduction

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

Material and methods

Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

Results

Results should be clear and concise.

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This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Conclusions

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

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Please ensure the figures and the tables included in the single file are placed next to the relevant text in the manuscript, rather than at the bottom or the top of the file. The corresponding caption should be placed directly below the figure or table.

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There are no strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. However, internal citations within the text must include authors names, copyright date, and page number (when appropriate), and **cannot be formatted as footnotes or superscript numbers**. The reference section of the paper can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Where applicable, author(s)

name(s), journal title/book title, chapter title/article title, year of publication, volume number/book chapter and the article number or pagination must be present. Use of DOI is highly encouraged. The reference style used by the journal will be applied to the accepted article by Elsevier at the proof stage. Note that missing data will be highlighted at proof stage for the author to correct.

Appendices

If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

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Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

Acknowledgements

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

Formatting of funding sources

List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

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REVISED SUBMISSIONS

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To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

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Electronic artwork

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- Please note that individual figure files larger than 10 MB must be provided in separate source files.

A detailed [guide on electronic artwork](#) is available.

You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.

Formats

Regardless of the application used, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'save as' or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):

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TIFF (or JPG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale): a minimum of 500 dpi is required.

Please do not:

- Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); the resolution is too low.
- Supply files that are too low in resolution.
- Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

Color artwork

Please make sure that artwork files are in an acceptable format (TIFF (or JPEG), EPS (or PDF) or MS Office files) and with the correct resolution. If, together with your accepted article, you submit usable color figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in color online (e.g., ScienceDirect and other sites) in addition to color reproduction in print. [Further information on the preparation of electronic artwork.](#)

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Ensure that each illustration has a caption. A caption should comprise a brief title (**not** on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

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Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on separate page(s) at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.

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