INSTRUCTION FOR AUTHORS

SCOPE

Prenatal Cardiology is an international single blind, peer-reviewed, open access journal that publishes original research, reviews and news in the field of fetal cardiology. Our central goal is to provide a hub for researchers taking care on fetuses and newborn with congenital heart disease to present their discoveries, and to be a forum for the discussion of the important issues in the field. The journal accommodates a variety of exposition styles and formats to help scientists with diverse backgrounds interact.

PUBLICATION FORMATS

Prenatal Cardiology considers submissions of:

- Research Articles,
- Case reports
- Communications,
- Rapid Communications*,
- Reviews, and Commentaries
- Letters to the Editor,
- Erratum,
- Retraction Note.

*Rapid Communications are intended to present information of exceptional novelty and exciting results of significant interest to the readers. Authors are asked to provide an explanation in the cover letter why their contribution should be handled via the rapid channel.

ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION

All submissions to Prenatal Cardiology must be made via online submission system Editorial Manager at http://www.prenatalcardiology.org

In special situation, if any technical problems occurred, it can be emailed directly to the Editor in Chief of the Prenatal Cardiology (Maria Respondek-Liberska, majkares@uni.lodz.pl).

Manuscripts submitted under multiple authorship are reviewed on the assumption that all listed authors concur in the submission and are responsible for its content; they must have agreed to its publication and have given the corresponding author the authority to act on their behalf in all matters pertaining to publication. The corresponding author is responsible for informing the co-authors of the manuscript status throughout the submission, review, and production process.
Electronic Formats Allowed

We accept submission of text, tables and figures as separate files or as a composite file. For your initial submission, we recommend you upload your entire manuscript, including tables and figures, as a single PDF file. If you are invited to submit a revised manuscript, please provide us with individual files: an editable text and publication-quality figures.

Text files can be submitted in the following formats: MS Word - standard DOCUMENT (.DOC) or RICH TEXT FORMAT (.RTF); PDF (not applicable for re-submitted or accepted manuscripts, see below). Tables should be submitted as MS Word or PDF (not applicable for re-submitted or accepted manuscripts, see below). Please note that a straight Excel file is not an acceptable format. Graphics files can be submitted in any of the following graphic formats: EPS; BMP; JPG; TIFF; GIF or PDF. Please note that Powerpoint files are not accepted. Post-acceptance, text files of the revised manuscript and tables are required for use in the production. Authors should clearly indicate the location(s) of tables and figures in the text if these elements are given separately or at the end of the manuscript. If this information is not provided to the editorial office, we will assume that they should be left at the end of the text.

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The cover letter should explicitly state that the manuscript (or one with substantially the same content, by any of the authors) has not been previously published in any language anywhere and that it is not under simultaneous consideration or in press by another journal. If related work has been submitted, then we may require a preprint to be made available. Reviewers will be asked to comment on the overlap between the related submissions.

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Resubmitted manuscripts should be accompanied by a letter outlining a point-by-point response to Journal Editor’s and reviewers’ comments and detailing the changes made to the manuscript. A copy of the original manuscript should be included for comparison if the Journal Editor requests one. If it is the first revision, authors need to return the revised manuscript within 28 days; if it is the second revision, authors need to return the revised manuscript within 14 days. Additional time for resubmission must be requested in advance. If the above mentioned deadlines are not met, the manuscript will be treated as a new submission.
For resubmitted manuscripts, please provide us with an editable text and publication-quality figures: Tables also need to be included within an editable article file or be submitted separately as editable files. Supply any figures as separate high-resolution, print-ready digital versions.

In addition to the editorial remarks, authors are asked to take care that they have prepared the revised version according to the Journal's style. Please adopt numbered citation (citation-sequence) style referencing.

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General Rules for Writing

The work must demonstrate its novelty, importance to the field and its interest to biomedical community in general. Conclusions must be justified by the study; please make your argumentation complete and be self-critical as you review your drafts.

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Articles should be organized into the following sections:
- Title page with: Title (and running title)
- Abstract
- Keywords
- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Acknowledgments
- References
- Figure Legends and Table Captions
- Tables
- Figures
- Supplemental data (if applicable)
Each of these elements is detailed below. We draw particular attention to the importance of carefully preparing the title, keywords and abstract, as these elements are indicators of the manuscript content in bibliographic databases and search engines.

**Title**

We suggest the title should be informative, specific to the project, yet concise (75 characters or fewer). Please bear in mind that a title that is comprehensible to a broad scientific audience and readers outside your field will attract a wider readership. Avoid specialist abbreviations and non-standard acronyms. Titles should not be presented in title case (words should not be capitalized). Please also provide a brief “running title” of not more than 50 characters.

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(J. Smith, personal communication),
(J. Smith and P. Brown, presented at the 4th Symposium on Food Microbiology, Overton, IL, 13 - 15 June 1989),
(J. C. Odell, April 1970, Process for batch culturing, U.S. patent 484,363,770),
(J. Smith, 20 June 1999, Australian Patent Office),
... from the GenBank database (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Genbank/index.html),
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M. Dzierzanowski, Horyzonty, Wprost, 8 July 2007, 18 (in Polish)

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