Guidelines for authors

SUCHT
The journal SUCHT welcomes scientific contributions (in German and English) that address issues related to psychoactive substances, disorders that are related to the use of these substances as well as other substance-unrelated dependent behaviour (i.e. pathological (computer) gambling). This includes (among other aspects) nosology and diagnostics, aetiology, prevention and therapy, public health questions, and research methodology.

All scientific contributions are reviewed externally by independent reviewers. A special feature of the journal is the use of the results for practical purposes: in certain categories, authors will be asked to summarize a few points as “Implications/Conclusions for the practical field” (provided that their manuscript is suited for this purpose).

Contributions to the journal are considered, if they have not been previously published (in whole or in part), and have not been concurrently submitted or accepted for publication elsewhere. If parts have been published previously, this must be disclosed and the publication has to be included. With acceptance of the contribution, all rights will be transferred to the publisher.

Please observe the following rules for manuscript structure and presentation carefully. Deviation from the guidelines can lead to the return of the manuscript to the author.
1. General instructions

Structure and length of manuscripts

Structure and length are specified in detail. Please observe the instructions in the respective sections.

Language

Manuscripts may be submitted in German or English. If English is not your first language, please have English submissions edited.

Abstract

The journal particularly values concise abstracts that are structured according to keywords and reflect the contents comprehensively. For example, under the heading ‘Results’ it is expected that the main results will actually be described, not just a sentence stating: “... the main results will be presented”.

For English language manuscripts, please submit an extended German language abstract with approximately 3,000 characters. Native English speakers may submit this extended abstract also in English and the Editorial office will provide the German translation.

Editing and translation services

Hogrefe has negotiated a 20% discount for authors who wish to have their manuscript professionally edited or translated into English by the experts at Enago before submission. Please note that the service is independent of Hogrefe and use of it has no bearing on acceptance decisions made by individual journals.

2. Instructions and requirements for specific sections

For all sections specific information with regards to the maximum length of a contribution is given. The values refer to characters including space characters.

One page of printed text with several subheadings but without tables and figures corresponds to approximately 3,800 characters. A figure or table consists of approximately 1,000 characters. All subsequent specifications with regards to length always refer to the entire manuscript, including abstract, tables, figures and references, acknowledgements, and declaration of possible competing interest.

Upper limits provide serve as a rough reference, they can also be exceeded (reasons need to be given). Likewise, a reduction of length (below the upper limits) can be recommended during the reviewing process.

2.1 Research reports – including short reports

Articles in this section include the reporting of original findings from scientific studies. The studies can pertain to all fields of science and may be qualitative or quantitative.

Length (including all parts)
35,000 characters

Title
German and English

Keywords
German and English

Abstract
• German and English
• 1,500 characters (English and German respectively; for English manuscripts: German summary 3,000 characters)
• Structure: aims, methodology (including design, sample, data collected), results (please be specific), conclusions

Structure text
1. Introduction
2. Methodology (design, hypotheses, setting, intervention (if applicable), sample, inclusion and exclusion criteria, instruments, procedure),
3. Results
4. Discussion
5. Acknowledgements
6. Declarations

Tables and figures
As necessary

Guidelines
• For randomized comparative studies: The Consort Statement (www.consort-statement.org)
• For non-randomized evaluation of behavioural and public health interventions: The Trend Statement (http://www.cdc.gov/trendstatement/)
• For epidemiological studies: STROBE – Statement (www.strobe-statement.org)

Implications for the practical field
Three to five topics in bullet form, if applicable
2.2 Reviews

In this section, manuscripts will be published that – based on analysis and evaluation of literature – draw conclusions for the development of theories, for research and practical purposes. The journal SUCHT publishes reviews that are based on a systematic and documented literature search (using the PRISMA flow diagram); see http://www.prisma-statement.org. The analysis of the literature can be conducted narratively (in that case with a rational basis for integrating results), as a meta-analysis, or using another statistical analysis method.

Length (including all parts)
35,000 characters

Title
German and English

Keywords
German and English (max. 5 per language)

Abstract
• German and English
• 1,500 characters (English and German respectively; for English manuscripts: German summary 3,000 characters)
• Aims, methodology (incl. search terms, results, conclusions)

Structure text
1. Introduction
2. Methodology (according to PRISMA-Statement)
3. Results
4. Discussion
5. Acknowledgements
6. Declarations

Tables and figures
PRISMA-Flow diagram; further tables as necessary.

Guidelines
• The PRISMA-Statement (www.prisma-statement.org).

2.3 Position paper

Position papers describe and justify a scientific position. They can relate to all areas of addiction research and either concern the justification of a certain position within a current debate, or question a current doctrine, or focus on a topic that has received little attention so far. Positions have to be argued and justified theoretically and empirically according to selected literature. A complete literature review is not necessary. The position can be argued provocatively while adhering to the general scientific rules of good publication practice.

This section also covers memoranda and statements of medical or psychological societies or national working groups, that advance a view on a specific subject (as described above). These texts will not be refereed, the decision on publication is taken by the editorial team.

Length (including all parts)
20,000 characters

Title
German and English

Keywords
German and English (max. 5 per language)

Abstract
• German and English
• 1,500 characters (English and German respectively; for English manuscripts: German summary 3,000 characters)
• Structure: Aims, [own choice], conclusions

Structure text
1. Introduction
2. (own choice)
3. Discussion
4. Acknowledgements
5. Declarations
2.4 Study designs and methods

This section covers a wide variety of manuscripts dealing with methodological topics: study designs, development of new instruments, or new/revised statistical methods. The articles have to be written in such a way that they can be understood by interested scientists without any specific knowledge in the respective area.

Length (including all parts)
30,000 characters

Title
German and English

Keywords
German and English (max. 5 per language)

Abstract
• German and English
• 1,500 characters (English and German respectively; for English manuscripts: German summary 3,000 characters)
• Structure: Aims, methodology, conclusions

Structure text
1. Introduction
2. Methodology, (own choice)
3. Discussion
4. Acknowledgements
5. Declarations

Table and figures
max. 3

Guidelines
Stard-Statement – if relevant
(http://www.stard-statement.org)

Acknowledgements, funding, declarations of competing interests
Available

References
As necessary

Review/Selection
Peer Review

Other
If appropriate, the editorial team will invite commentaries from colleagues which will be published together with a reply from the author at the end of the article.

2.5 Interventions

This section covers interventions from the areas prevention and therapy. Contributions should be innovative in nature and concerned with either new intervention methods, a first modification of an intervention, or the first use of an intervention with new/different target groups. The presentation of the interventions must be theoretically founded and should be supported as far as possible through scientific literature - without the necessity of a thorough literature review. Extensive material (e.g. manuals) can be either quoted or made accessible online via the publisher on request of the author(s).

Length (including all parts)
20,000 characters

Title
German and English

Keywords
German and English (max. 5 per language)

Abstract
• German and English
• 1,500 characters (English and German respectively; for English manuscripts: German summary 3,000 characters)
• Structure: Aims, methodology, (own choice), conclusions

Structure text
1. Introduction
2. (own choice)
3. Discussion

Table and figures
max. 3

Guidelines
–

Conclusions for practical use
In table form
2.6 Addiction history

In this section, original contributions in relation to historic research projects are published. It is important that the conclusions elaborate on the relevance for current or future theory building for research and practice.

Length (including all parts)
35,000 characters

Title
German and English

Keywords
German and English (max. 5 per language)

Abstract
- German and English
- 1,500 characters (English and German respectively; for English manuscripts: German summary 3,000 characters)
- Structure: Aims, methodology, results, conclusions

Structure text:
1. Introduction
2. Methodology
3. Results
4. Discussion

Table and figures
max. 3

Guidelines
-

Acknowledgements, funding, declaration of competing interests
If available

References
As necessary

Review/Selection
Peer Review

Other
If appropriate, the editorial team will invite commentaries from colleagues which will be published together with a reply by the author at the end of the article.

2.7 Editorials (mostly by invitation only)

Editorials usually aim to stimulate debate, or to express a view on a specific topic that has been neglected or where a different opinion has been held, or that is currently controversial. Accordingly, editorials can be regarded as short position papers (see 2.3) with more emphasis on originality of content and, due to the reduced length, in a concise, lively, and engaging style.

Editorials can concern all areas of addiction research and practice, including related political, legal, and ethical aspects. An editorial of a special issue additionally introduces and explains the selection and originality of the manuscripts and puts them in a broader context. Additionally, the editorial for a special issues also has to fulfill the abovementioned criteria.

Length
7,500 characters

Title
German and English

Keywords
-

Abstract
-

Structure text
-

Table and figures
Only in exceptional cases

Guidelines
-

Acknowledgements, funding, declaration of competing interests
As necessary

References
5 or less

Review/Selection
Peer Review

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2.8. Case reports

Articles in this section present unusual cases in relation to the disorder, the intervention and/or the treatment process. It is important to clarify in the introduction and discussion in what way the respective case report justifies a publication in a scientific journal.

Length (includint all parts)
20,000 characters

Title
German and English

Keywords
German and English (max. 5 per language)

Abstract
- German and English
- 1,500 characters (English and German respectively; for English manuscripts: German summary 3,000 characters)
- Structure: Aims, case report, conclusions

Structure text
1. Introduction
2. Case report
3. Description
4. Discussion

Table and figures
max. 3

Guidelines
- Conclusions for practical use
  In table form

Acknowledgements, funding, declaration of competing interests
If available

References
As necessary

Review/Selection
Peer Review

Other
If appropriate, the editorial team will invite commentaries from colleagues which will be published together with a reply from the author at the end of the article. Besides the abovementioned main sections, the following contributions are also being published:

2.9 Commentaries
(by invitation only)

Commentaries are requested by the editor-in-chief and focus on an article to be published in one of the above sections. Commentaries are supposed to be short, intended to stimulate a discussion or debate, and can by all means present an opinion in an original and provocative way.

Length
3,000 characters

Title
German and English

Table and figures
max. 2

Acknowledgements and declaration of competing interests
Available

References
5

Review/Selection
Chief editor

2.10 Letters

Letters can refer to earlier publications or to other developments and issues that might be of interest for the readership of the journal.

Length
3,000 characters

Title
German and English

Table and figures
max. 2

Declaration of competing interests
If available

References
5

Review/Selection
Chief editor
2.11 Book-Reviews

Book reviews should on the one hand include a summary of the content, and on the other hand also place the book in the current context of other literature in the field. Furthermore, an evaluation in terms of quality, innovation, and usability is expected as well as a description of the target group and whether the book is appropriate for it.

Length
3,000 characters

Title
German

Acknowledgements and declaration of competing interests
If available

References
Five or less.

Review/Selection
Chief editor

2.12 Conference Reviews

Conference reviews should – beside the formal aspects (title, host/hosting organization, date) – also include a summary of the aims and most important topics of the conference. For larger conferences, the author is free to discuss and evaluate certain personally relevant topics. The review should conclude with an evaluation of the conference in relation to target group suitability and innovation.

Length
3,000 characters

Title
German

Declaration of competing interests
If available

References
Five or less

Review/Selection
Chief editor

2.13 News

News will be published mostly by the publisher of the journal, the Deutschen Gesellschaft für Suchtforschung und Therapie e.V. (German Society for Addiction Research and Treatment). Further/other news may also be published. Authors and/or the relevant institutions are responsible for the news/their content.

Length
1,000–3,000 characters

Title
German

Review/Selection
Chief editor

3. Formal presentation and structure of manuscripts

Manuscripts should be formatted and presented according to either APA Style (American Psychological Association [2011]. Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition. APA: Washington, DC) or the guidelines of the DGP (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Psychologie [2007]. Richtlinien zur Manuskriptgestaltung. Göttingen: Hogrefe-Verlag; German Psychological Society [2007] Guidelines for formal presentation and structure of manuscripts). The following points should be observed in particular:

3.1 Manuscript page setup

Margins: minimum 2.6 cm on all four sides. Line spacing: minimum 1.5 line space for all successive rows of the manuscript.

3.2 Organization of manuscript pages

Please organize the parts of the manuscript in the following way, with each part starting on a new page:

3.3 Title page

The title page includes the title of the article, name of author(s), including first name(s) (indicated in full), affiliations of all authors, address of the institute and email of the corresponding author, number and date of the current version, as well as the number of characters (including space characters), number of tables and figures.
3.4 Structure of text

The text should contain chapter headings and subheadings according to the instructions described above (see ‘2. Instructions and Rules’ for different categories) and should be numbered for a better overview (3 levels: 1, 1.1, 1.1.1, 2, 2.1 etc.).

3.5 Tables/Figures

Each table/figure has to be printed on a separate page. Each table/figure has to have a number, a title and – if necessary – an explanatory note. In the text, indicate the position of tables/figures as follows: “Insert table/figure X here”.

3.6 Footnotes

Footnotes must be numbered consecutively and should be included on the appropriate page or printed on a separate page.

3.7 Citations

Citations must include the name(s) of the author(s) and the year of publication. For authors’ names please use capital and lower case letters and do not underline names. The following rules have to be followed: Müller (1954) stated … It was claimed (Müller, 1954) … Schmidt and Maier (1973) show … Further studies (Schmidt & Maier, 1973) … Beck (in print) shows … Several authors have emphasized (Beck, 1979; Müller et al., 1981) … Müller (1954, p. 13) notes …

3.8 References

Every source cited in the text must be named in detail in the reference list. The following type of works can also be cited in the text and listed in the reference list: articles in preparation, non-published presentations, manuscripts that have been submitted to scientific journals but not yet accepted for publication. Each reference consists of the following elements: author(s), year of publication, title, publication information (journals: name of journal, issue, page numbers; books: city of publication, publisher). Use left justification for the first line, indent all following lines (= hanging indent).

Examples for references:

Journals


Books

Research reports and dissertations


Unpublished works

Unpublished conference contributions

Electronic media


Pagination per issue (each issue starts with page 1)

Entire issue of a journal:

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4 Open data and electronic supplementary material (ESM)

Authors may submit study data, analysis scripts, and other study materials for manuscripts that involve new data as Electronic Supplementary Materials (ESM). In general, ESM may contain additional items that are not essential for inclusion in the full text but would nevertheless benefit the reader. Being electronic, ESM can also include items that cannot, at this time, be produced in print form. 

ESM will be published online as received from the author(s) without any conversion, testing, or reformatting. They will not be checked for typographical errors or functionality. The responsibility for the content and functionality remains entirely with the author(s).

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Submission: ESM files will be subjected to peer review along with the article itself. The number of ESM files you submit should be limited to 5. The file size should be kept as small as possible, not exceeding 10 MB in total. All file formats are accepted with the exception of executable files (e.g., .exe, .com, or .msi). Commonly used file formats that are accessible by most readers are preferred. Following the online instructions, submit the ESM files in a single zip file separate from the other files that are part of your submission.

Citation in Manuscript: All ESM files must be referred to with intext citations (as for tables, figures, and appendices) and should be numbered in the order in which they are cited in the text follow the example: "For more information, listen to the audio file in Electronic Supplementary Material 1", "Listen to the audio file in Electronic Supplementary Material 1", “The audio file is provided in Electronic Supplementary Material 1”. If appropriate, you may combine several ESM elements into a single file. For example: “See Tables 1–3 in Electronic Supplementary Material 1”.

3.9 Spelling

German Manuscripts should follow the new German spelling rules. Please refer to the latest edition of the Duden. If different spellings are possible, please use the one recommended by the Duden.

3.10 Declaration of originality

When submitting a manuscript, a declaration of originality is required. With this declaration the authors state that the manuscript is their intellectual property, that they own the copyright and that the manuscript (as a whole or in parts) has not been published in German, nor that it has been submitted for publication to another German journal.

In case parts of the manuscript have been published as a part of other publications, those must be included. This also concerns publications in other languages. During the review process the manuscript must not be submitted to another journal. When a manuscript is accepted and published, the publishing rights for all languages and countries are transferred to the publisher. This includes the right to photo-mechanical and all other types of reproduction.

3.11 Printing process

The author(s) will receive galley proofs (once) where only typographical errors can be corrected. Changes in content are no longer possible at this stage.
Include a section headed “Electronic Supplementary Material” at the end of your article before the reference section. List all files in the order in which they are cited in the text. Provide a title for each ESM file along with the file name. Optionally, you may also provide a short description for each file (max. 20 words). Follow the example:

"ESM 1. Audio file (utterancesparticipants.mp3)." (= title and file name)
"This audio file contains utterances of the study participants." (= description of file)

"ESM 1. Tables 1–3 (tables1–3.xlsx)." (= title and file name)
"The tables show additional p-values, weather variables, and demographic characteristics." (= description of file)

Make sure that the file names listed here match the names of the submitted files. Please note that only the title and the description will appear in the article; the file name will not. It is for reference purposes only. Please ensure that any ESM submitted with the article are in compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

5 Ethical guidelines

The journal SUCHT has signed the „Ethical Practice Guidelines in Addiction Publishing“ (http://www.parint.org/isajewebsite/ethics.htm) of the International Society of Addiction Journal Editors (ISAJE) and is following the ethical guidelines for chief editors, editors, authors, and reviewers:

- With the submission of a contribution via Editorial Manager (electronic manuscript management system), authors declare the sources of funding of their manuscript and its underlying work, possible influences of the funding institution with regards to the manuscript, as well as possible competing interests.
- Reviewers declare possible competing interests; editors keep this in mind when assigning manuscripts.
- Editors declare the sources of funding of their activities and possible competing interests; chief editors keep this in mind when assigning manuscripts.
- Chief editors and the representatives of the publishers of the journal declare the sources of funding of their activities and possible competing interests; their declarations are published on the webpage of the journal SUCHT.

6 Copyrights

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