

TURKISH JOURNAL OF HEALTH LITERACY

Türkiye Sağlık Okuryazarlığı Dergisi

AUTHOR GUIDELINES

1. ABOUT THE JOURNAL

The Turkish Journal of Health Literacy (TJHL) is a peer-reviewed, open-access journal publishing original research articles, reviews, case reports, and letters to the editor in the field of health literacy. The journal covers all dimensions of health literacy across individuals, communities, and health systems.

The journal publishes three issues per year.

2. ARTICLE TYPES

The journal accepts the following article types:

- Original research articles (maximum 4,000 words, excluding abstract)
 - Review articles (maximum 6,000 words, excluding abstract)
 - Brief communications / Preliminary reports (maximum 2,000 words)
 - Case reports (maximum 2,500 words)
 - Letters to the editor (maximum 600 words)
 - Invited editorials
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3. GENERAL PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS

3.1 Language

The journal accepts manuscripts in both Turkish and English. English manuscripts may follow either American or British English conventions, but consistency must be maintained throughout the text. Authors whose first language is not English are strongly encouraged to have their manuscripts proofread by a native speaker or professional language editing service before submission.

3.2 Page Layout and Formatting

- Paper size: A4
- Margins: 2.5 cm on all sides
- Font: Times New Roman, 12 pt
- Line spacing: Double (2.0)
- No blank lines between paragraphs; paragraph indent: 1.25 cm
- Page numbers: bottom right corner
- File format: Microsoft Word (.docx)

3.3 Cover Page

A separate cover page must be submitted with the manuscript, containing:

- Full title of the manuscript (in both Turkish and English)
- Full name, academic title, institutional affiliation, and ORCID iD of all authors

- Name, e-mail address, and postal address of the corresponding author
 - Declaration of conflicts of interest
 - Funding sources (if any)
 - Author contribution statement (specifying each author's role)
 - Ethics committee approval information (where applicable)
 - Word count (excluding abstract and references)
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4. MANUSCRIPT STRUCTURE

4.1 Original Research Articles

Original research articles should include the following sections:

- Title (in Turkish and English)
- Abstract (Turkish) — 250–300 words, structured (Amaç / Yöntem / Bulgular / Sonuç)
- Abstract (English) — 250–300 words, structured (Objective / Methods / Results / Conclusion)
- Keywords — Turkish: 3–5 keywords aligned with Turkish MeSH terms; English: 3–5 MeSH terms
- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- Author Contributions
- Conflict of Interest
- Funding
- Ethical Statement
- References
- Tables and Figures (numbered, with captions)

4.2 Review Articles

Review articles should be presented in a systematic structure. The abstract may be structured or unstructured (maximum 300 words). The literature search strategy must be described in the Methods section.

4.3 Case Reports

Case reports should include: Abstract (unstructured, maximum 150 words), Introduction, Case Presentation, Discussion, Conclusion, References. Identifying patient information must be avoided; written patient consent must be obtained where necessary and stated in the manuscript.

5. CITATION AND REFERENCE STYLE: APA 7th EDITION

The Turkish Journal of Health Literacy adopts the APA 7th Edition (American Psychological Association) citation style. APA 7 is a widely accepted standard in health and social sciences that provides comprehensive bibliographic information, making it easier for readers to locate and evaluate sources while browsing an article.

5.1 In-Text Citations

In-text citations follow the author–date format:

- Single author: (Yilmaz, 2022) or "As Yilmaz (2022) noted..."
- Two authors: (Yilmaz & Demir, 2022) — both authors cited every time
- Three or more authors: (Yilmaz et al., 2022) — use "et al." from the first citation
- Multiple works in one parenthesis: ordered by year; separated by semicolons: (Demir, 2019; Yilmaz, 2022)
- Direct quotation: include author, year, and page number: (Yilmaz, 2022, p. 45)

5.2 Reference List Rules

The reference list must appear at the end of the manuscript, arranged alphabetically, with a hanging indent applied to each entry. Examples for common reference types are given below:

Journal Article:

Yilmaz, A., Demir, B., & Kaya, C. (2022). Health literacy levels in Turkey: A systematic review. *Turkish Journal of Health Literacy*, 2(1), 15–28. <https://doi.org/10.xxxxx>

Book:

Nutbeam, D., & Lloyd, J. E. (2021). Understanding and responding to health literacy as a social determinant of health. *Annual Review of Public Health*, 42, 159–173.

Book Chapter:

Sørensen, K. (2019). Health literacy. In M. Quaglio & R. Karapiperis (Eds.), *Health literacy: New directions in research, theory and practice* (pp. 3–22). IOS Press.

Institutional / Website Source:

World Health Organization. (2023). Health literacy. <https://www.who.int/healthpromotion/health-literacy/en/>

Thesis / Dissertation:

Kaya, E. (2021). Health literacy and self-management in individuals with chronic disease [Doctoral dissertation, Hacettepe University]. YÖK National Thesis Center.

DOI links must be included for all articles that have a DOI. Access dates should only be provided when the content is subject to change (e.g., wiki pages).

6. TABLES AND FIGURES

- Tables and figures should be placed near their first mention in the text, or submitted at the end of the manuscript with sequential numbering.
- Each table and figure must be assigned a sequential number (Table 1, Table 2 / Figure 1, Figure 2).
- Table titles are placed above the table; figure captions are placed below the figure.
- Tables should use horizontal rules only (to separate the header row and close the table); no vertical lines.
- Figures must be submitted as separate files at minimum 300 DPI resolution in TIFF or EPS format.
- Previously published tables or figures require a source credit and written copyright permission.

7. ETHICAL STANDARDS

All submissions must comply with the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. Studies involving human participants must state the name of the ethics committee, the approval number and date, and confirmation that written informed consent was obtained from all participants, within the Methods section.

Studies involving animal experiments must adhere to the ARRIVE guidelines.

Case reports must avoid including identifying patient information. Where disclosure is unavoidable, written patient consent must be obtained and reported in the manuscript.

8. AUTHORSHIP AND CONTRIBUTOR ROLES

Authorship is defined according to the ICMJE (International Committee of Medical Journal Editors) criteria. The contribution of each author must be declared in detail using the CRediT (Contributor Roles Taxonomy) taxonomy (e.g., Conceptualization, Data collection, Formal analysis, Writing – original draft, Writing – review & editing).

9. CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND FUNDING

All authors are required to disclose any potential conflicts of interest. Funding sources supporting the research must be identified, including grant numbers. If no funding was received, the statement "This study received no specific funding from any funding agency in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors." must be included.

10. PLAGIARISM POLICY

All submissions are screened with plagiarism detection software before entering the peer-review process. The acceptable similarity threshold is below 20%, excluding self-citations and the reference list. Manuscripts found to contain plagiarism are removed from the review process and authors are notified.

11. SUBMISSION PROCESS

Manuscripts are accepted exclusively through the journal's online submission system (OJS): <https://saglikokuryazarligidergisi.com>

The following documents must be uploaded during submission:

- Cover page (including author details) — as a separate file
- Blinded manuscript (no author-identifying information)
- All figures and tables (as separate files if required)
- Ethics committee approval document (for relevant studies)
- Copyright transfer form (following acceptance)

Simultaneous submission to more than one journal is not accepted.

12. PEER REVIEW PROCESS

The journal operates a double-blind peer review system. Authors and reviewers remain anonymous to each other throughout the process. Each manuscript is evaluated by a minimum of two independent reviewers. Following receipt of reviewer reports, the editor communicates one of the following decisions: Accept, Minor Revision, Major Revision, or Reject.

13. OPEN ACCESS AND COPYRIGHT

The Turkish Journal of Health Literacy is a fully open-access journal. Accepted articles are published under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License (CC BY 4.0), allowing free sharing and adaptation with proper attribution. Authors retain copyright and grant the journal the right of first publication.

There are no article processing charges (APCs).

14. CONTACT

For queries, please contact the editorial office:

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Website: <https://saglikokuryazarligidergisi.com>

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