Salus is the official Journal of the Faculty of Health Sciences of the University of Carabobo, Venezuela. The Journal publishes peer-reviewed articles divulging original research and invited reviews in the field of biomedical sciences. Periodicity: One volume per year containing three issues. Special issues organized by an invited editor are also included. The distribution of the printed version is done via donation to all academic institutions and it is also available on the internet (Salus On line):

http://salus-online.fcs.uc.edu.ve;  http://servicio.cid.uc.edu.ve/fcs/. It is indexed in: EMBASE; REVENCYT (Journals in Science and technology); FUNDACITE MÉRIDA; included in the register of Venezuelan publications in science and technology from FONACIT (Venezuelan Ministry of Science)


http://www.latindex.unam.mx/pais.php?clave_pais=43&opcion=1;

http://www.latindex.unam.mx/larga.php?opcion=1&folio=10060);  The data base PERIÓDICA.

Salus is member of the Association of Editors of Venezuelan Biomedical Journals – ASEREME.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE AUTHORS

Manuscripts submitted for publication must be accompanied by a cover letter requesting publication. It must be signed by all the authors indicating their agreement with the final version of the manuscript. The corresponding author must be clearly indicated as well as the cession of the copyrights to Salus.

Manuscripts should be sent to the Editorial Board of Salus: Comité Editor de Salus, Universidad de Carabobo, Facultad de Ciencias de la Salud, Pabellón 13, Bárbara, Valencia, Estado Carabobo. The Editorial Committee will verify whether the manuscript follows the guidelines, and will forward it to at least two reviewers, maintaining the anonymity of the authors. The Editorial Board preserves the right to accept or reject a manuscript, maintaining the confidentiality of authors and reviewers.

The following types of articles can be published in Salus:
• **Original Article.** An inedited complete and original study which applies the scientific method.

• **Brief Report.** Short reports of preliminary results, or modified techniques and/or methods. They should not be a preliminary presentation of already completed studies. The text should not exceed 4 pages with a maximum of 2 figures or tables. A short summary should include the fundamentals, the major findings and the conclusions.

• **Clinical Case Report.** A description of new or low-frequency pathologies, or of those difficult to diagnose and/or treat. It must include a detailed description of the case, followed by a discussion including pertinent literature.

• **Review.** It deals with a general-interest issue, supported by pertinent current literature. It should be written by an expert on the field, and the presentation and discussion should include contributions by the author. Reviews consisting of a mere review of the literature, without analysis and discussion, are not acceptable.

• **Essay.** A report dealing with important aspects of science and/or professional practice. Since no data from the author’s own work is involved, it can be regarded as divulgation.

• **Current Topics.** New issues, facts or research notes written by members of the scientific community.

• **Honor to whom honor is due.** A biographical outline of the life and work of a relevant person or institution in the biomedical sciences.

Manuscripts must be written in a clear, concise language, appropriately used according to the field, and conform to the *Salus* format. For this purpose, it is recommended to use the norms contained in: “Requisites of uniformity for manuscripts presented to biomedical journals from the international committee of editors of biomedical journals”, available in:

- [http://www.um.es/eglobal/normas/vancouver.pdf](http://www.um.es/eglobal/normas/vancouver.pdf)
- [http://www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org)

In addition, the authors must comply with the above-mentioned style specifications of *Salus*. Only the authors are held responsible for the opinions, ideas or suggestions appearing in any of the publications. *Salus* will guarantee compliance with the international agreement of Helsinki, and the like.

Although Spanish is the main language, manuscripts in English (secondary language) are also encouraged. The authors must send an original and two copies of the manuscript, in letter-size paper, numbered in the upper right margin, double-spaced and font12. In addition, an electronic version (Microsoft Word with figures and tables is encouraged) of the manuscript in a labeled diskette or CD with clear file names must be also submitted (it can be done also via E-mail). Manuscript length depends on the type of article.

**Original Article, Essay or Review:** 5,000 words including 500 words for table or figure.
**Clinical Case:** 1,200 words.
**Brief Report:** 800 words.
**Current Topics or Letters to the Editor:** 400 words.
**Honor to whom honor is due:** 800 words.
The editorial committee will designate at least two expert reviewers to evaluate the manuscript. The authors will make only the corrections recommended by the reviewers or the editorial committee.

Reports of experimental or observational studies will have the following structure: Title, Abstract/key words, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgments (optional), and References. Subtitles can be included if needed. The editorial committee must be consulted for another type of presentation.

**TITLE.** Must be written in boldface, lower case (use capitals only when needed) and should not exceed 90 characters. It must be concise and contain relevant information about the work to maximize sensibility and specificity in electronic searches. Below the title: all authors' full names and all affiliations clearly indicated in a new paragraph; postal address, E-mail address, and telefax of the corresponding author; funding information (project code and funding agency); a shortened version of the title for use as a running title (maximum 5 words).

**ABSTRACT / Key words.** Structured abstracts are required, written in both English and Spanish, and not exceeding 250 words (with no references). It must summarize the aim of the work, the methodological approach, the main results, their significance and the main conclusion(s). Key words (3 to 5) for indexing should be included. For key words in Spanish, Descriptors in Health Sciences of BIREME is recommended (available in [http://decs.bireme.br/](http://decs.bireme.br/)).


**INTRODUCTION.** It should be a short section in which the authors state the purpose of the study, with a brief reference to relevant previous work.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS.** It should present an accurate description of: the subjects of the study, indicating the ethical criteria used; the experimental methods (detailed enough to allow qualified researchers to reproduce the results) and statistical analysis tools; the chemicals and equipment used (indicating the fabricant). Units, full name and abbreviations, must be used according to the International System (IS). Equations should be presented in linear form \((m/s^2 = m \cdot s^{-2})\). Thus the symbol \(M\) (molar) must be replaced by \(mol/L\) or \(mol.L^{-1}\), and \(mM\) will be \(mmol/L\). The list of abbreviations of the international system can be found in: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_System_of_Units](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_System_of_Units)

**RESULTS.** This section must summarize relevant information from the text, presented in a logical order, along with tables and figures.

**Tables.** They are used for presenting information. It is strongly recommended to use the function “Insert table” of the word processor software to construct the table (use of space bar and tabs should be avoided) with a maximum width corresponding to one column of the journal (about 8 cm). The position of the table in the manuscript should be clearly indicated. Tables should be printed in separate pages and delivered electronically in separate fully identified files. Results presented in tables should not be repeated in the text (only relevant aspects). Tables should be numbered and have a head title. Comments and clarifying remarks of table components should be located below the table.
Figures. High quality photographs, graphics, line drawings, diagrams, etc., should appear in separate pages of the text, along with a figure legend (below the figure) including: Number (i.e. Figure 1…), a short explicative title and, if needed, a short text clarifying relevant aspects of the figure (not reproducing the procedures described in Materials and Methods). They should be understood by the reader without having to read the main paper. Graphics, line drawings and the lettering of the figures should be clear enough to allow reproduction in 1 column without compromising the information intended to convey. The position of the figure in the manuscript should be indicated. Original and two copies or digital versions (high resolution JPG or BMP) of the figures should be submitted with the manuscript.

Reproduction of published figures/tables. It is assumed that figures and tables are constructed with original information from the study. In case of absolute need, a figure/table from a different work can be included, in which case the corresponding reference must be cited and a letter from the author/editor authorizing its publication must be presented.

DISCUSSION. It should be concise and focused on the interpretation of the results rather than a repetition of the Results section. The novel findings and conclusions should be highlighted and related to other published studies.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS. Collaborations not justifying a co-authorship, or contributions such as a critical review of the manuscript, technical help, donation of materials, etc., are recognized in this section.

BIBLIOGRAPHY. References to the literature should be cited using Arabic numbers in brackets in the text and listed in numerical order in this section. Only articles that have been published or are in press should be included as references. Unpublished results or personal communication should be avoided, or, when needed, cited as such in the text. Abstracts should be avoided.

Journal citations must include: Last names and initials of the authors separated by (,); full title of the article (only the first letter of the first word should be in upper case); abbreviations of journal titles according to the Index Medicus, as in: http://www.nlm.nih.gov/; year of publication followed by (;); Volume, followed by (:); page numbers.


Books: Last names and initials of the authors; title of the article or chapter; Last name(s) and initial(s) of the editor(s); title of the book; edition; editorial; city of publication; year; pages.


Internet site citations: They should be detailed enough to allow a direct search. Printed versions have priority over on-line documents, adding: “available in: http://www..... consulted (date)”.

Personal communications: written consent of cited individual must be submitted to the Editorial Committee

Letters to the Editor dealing with comments, opinions, questions or criticisms over published articles in Salus must be sent to: salus@uc.edu.ve.