Information for Authors - Medical Gas Research

About the Journal
Founded in 2011, Medical Gas Research (MGR; ISSN 2045-9912) is an international, peer-reviewed, open-accessed journal (www.medgasesres.com) published quarterly, with its mission focused on reporting high quality and novel scientific advancements in the field of medical gas research. The journal is committed to publishing articles on original experimental and clinical research, technological advances and methods, and expert reviews related to medical gas research.

MGR has been indexed by Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI), PubMed, SCOPUS and other major international indexing systems. We hope that, with your support, MGR will become a highly recognized journal in the field of medical gas.

Aims and Scopes
MGR is an open access journal which publishes basic, translational, and clinical research focusing on the neurobiology as well as multidisciplinary aspects of medical gas research and their applications to related disorders.

Medical gas is a large family including oxygen, hydrogen, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, nitrogen, xenon, hydrogen sulfide, nitrous oxide, carbon disulfide, argon, helium and other noble gases. These medical gases are used in multiple fields of clinical practice and basic science research including anesthesiology, hyperbaric oxygen medicine, diving medicine, internal medicine, emergency medicine, surgery, and many basic sciences disciplines such as physiology, pharmacology, biochemistry, microbiology and neurosciences. Due to the unique nature of medical gas practice, MGR will serve as an information platform for educational and technological advances in the field of medical gas.

MGR also covers molecular actions in neurological diseases, as well as the pre-clinical and clinical applications of the above named gases in relation to these disorders. The journal particularly welcomes novel approaches to translate scientific discoveries from basic medical gas research, into the development of new strategies for the prevention, assessment and treatment of clinical medical gas application.

Readership
MGR has a strong international focus on neurobiology as well as multidisciplinary aspects of medical gas research and their applications to related disorders.

Abstracting and Indexing
- Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)
- PubMed
- PubMed Central (PMC)
- Scimago Journal Ranking (SJR)
- DOAJ
- Baidu Scholar
- China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI)
- Index of Copernicus (IC)
- EBSCO Publishing’s Electronic Databases
- Exlibris – Primo Central
- Google Scholar
- Hinari
- Infotrieve
- National Science Library
- ProQuest
- TdNet
- SCOPUS

Editorial Board
Editors-in-Chief
John H. Zhang, Professor, Departments of Anesthesiology, Physiology, Neurosurgery and Neurology, Loma Linda University, USA.

Section Editors
Europe:
Mark Coburn, M.D.
Department of Anaesthesiology, University Hospital Aachen, Germany
Robert Ostrowski, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Experimental and Clinical Neuropathology, Mossakowski Medical Research Centre, Polish Academy of Sciences, Poland

Asia:
Gang Chen, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Neurosurgery & Brain and Nerve Research Laboratory, The First Affiliated Hospital of Soochow University, China
Atsunori Nakao, M.D.
Okayama University, Japan
Xue-Jun Sun, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Navy Aeromedicine, Faculty of Naval Medicine, The Second Military Medical University, China

America:
Richard L. Applegate, M.D.
Professor and Chair Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, Loma Linda University, USA
John Calvert, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Surgery Cardiothoracic Research Laboratory, Department of Surgery, Emory University School of Medicine, USA
Ke Jian "Jim" Liu, Ph.D.
Professor
Associate Dean for Research Director, UNM Brain Imaging Center Health Sciences Center, The University of New Mexico, USA
Dan Rossignol, M.D., FAAFP
International Child Development Resource Center, USA

Zhong-Cong Xie, M.D., Ph.D.
Department of Anesthesia, Critical Care & Pain Medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital, USA

Shao-Hua Yang, M.D., Ph.D.
Professor and Associate Director
Department of Pharmacology,
University of North Texas, USA

Clinical Study: Richard Applegate, Gang Chen, Mark Cohurn, Atsunori Nakao, Dan Rossignol, Zhong-Cong Xie
Basic Science Study: John Calvert, Ke Jian "Jim" Liu, Shao-Hua Yang, Robert Ostrowski, Xue-Jun Sun
Inert Gases Section: Xue-Jun Sun, Mark Coburn
Gasotransmitters Section: Atsunori Nakao, John Calvert
Oxygen and Diving Medicine Section: Daniel Rossignol, Ke Jian "Jim" Liu
Anesthetic Gases Section: Richard Applegate, Zhong-Cong Xie
Medical Gas in Other Fields Section: Shao-Hua Yang, Robert Ostrowski

Editorial Board Members
The editorial board of 47 members led by Prof. Zhang comprises the members who are dedicated to developing a journal presenting outstanding peer-reviewed, evidence-based scholarly research in medical gas.

Full list of Editorial Board Members could be found at http://www.medgasres.com.

Criteria for Publication
- The study presents the results of primary scientific research.
- Experiments, statistics, and other analyses are performed to a high technical standard and are described in sufficient detail.
- Results reported have not been published elsewhere.
- Conclusions are presented in an appropriate fashion and are supported by the data.
- The research meets all applicable standards for the ethics of experimentation and research integrity.
- The article adheres to appropriate reporting guidelines and community standards for data availability.
- The article is presented in an intelligible fashion and is written in Standard English.

Rigorous Peer Review
Referees of *MGR* are asked to evaluate the manuscript of technically sound. Judgments about the significance of any particular paper are made after publication by the readership, who are the most qualified to determine what is of interest to them.

Editorial Process
Each submission to *MGR* passes through a quality control and peer-review evaluation process before receiving a decision. The initial in-house quality control check deals with issues such as plagiarism check; competing interests; ethical require-
ments for studies involving human participants or animals; financial disclosures; and full compliance with *MGR*’s data availability policy, etc. Submissions may be returned to authors for queries, and will not be seen by our Editorial Board or peer reviewers until they pass this quality control check.

Peer Review Process
Once the manuscript has passed quality control, it is assigned to the strict double-blinded peer review process for a decision, either to accept, revise, or reject the article.

The majority of *MGR* submissions are evaluated by 3–5 external reviewers. Average time from the submission to the first editorial decision is 1 month. The review time could be shortened to 7 days for the paper with sophisticated comments from other recognized journals in the file. According to these comments, the academic editors will make a decision as to accept, reject, request a revision or send to another peer review. Authors who receive a decision of Minor Revision or Major Revision have 21 days to resubmit the revised manuscript.

If you are submitting a revised manuscript, the following items with your revised submission are required:
- Response to reviewers form: Address the specific points made by each reviewer.
- Revised manuscript (traced copy): Include a traced copy of your manuscript file showing the changes you have made on the original submission.
- Revised manuscript (clean copy): Upload a clean copy of your revised manuscript that does not show your changes.

Reviewer Recognition
The quality of *MGR* depends on the effort that is generously contributed by our reviewers who have dedicated their expertise and time helping to ensure we publish great science. Special thanks go out to an outstanding group of reviewers who have provided an extraordinary number of thoughtful reviews along with frequent reviewers who have reviewed four or more manuscripts each year.

We encourage the reviewers to share and discuss their review comments on Publons (www.publons.com). *MGR* will also give credit to registered reviewers on Publons.

Submission Guidelines
Manuscripts should be submitted online at www.medgasres.com.

Cover letter
Authors are required to declare the following statements, including:
- The manuscript is original, has not been submitted to or is not under consideration by another publication and has not been previously published in any language or any form, including electronic.
- All authors approve the final version of the manuscript and of its submission to *MGR*.
- Recommending 3–5 scientists as peer reviewers for your manuscript, including their contact information. The suggested reviewers should be in the same field of your study, and from different institutions and have not copublished.
articles previously.

• Once submitted to MGR, the manuscript should not be submitted to other journals within 1 month, whether it is undergoing or awaiting the paper review process.

**Update your ORCID record after publication**

The first author or the corresponding author should provide ORCID upon manuscript submission to facilitate accurate author publication data maintained by journal or database statisticians.

**Transfer of copyright agreement**

Once your paper is successfully submitted, publishing agreements should be signed by all authors and uploaded to the editorial system.

**Article type**

• **Research Articles:** reports of data from original research.

• **Review:** comprehensive, authoritative, descriptions of any subject within the journal’s scope. Reviews can cover any topical themes such as basic science and clinical reviews, ethics, pro/con debates, equipment reviews and thematic series to highlight specific topics in the field.

• **Short Communication:** brief reports of data from original research, usually about 1,500 words.

• **Case Report:** reports of clinical cases that can be educational, describe a diagnostic or therapeutic dilemma, suggest an association, or present an important adverse reaction.

• **Commentary:** short, focused and opinionated articles on any subject within the journal’s scope. These articles focus on specific issues and are about 800 words.

• **Letter to the Editor:** these can take three forms: a substantial re-analysis of a previously published article, or a substantial response to such a re-analysis from the authors of the original publication, or an article that may not cover “standard research” but that may be relevant to readers.

**Acceptance and Publication**

After acceptance, the authors are free inquiry inquiries regarding the progress of their manuscript submitted online using the account number assigned to the corresponding author at any time. Generally, manuscripts will be published within 3–6 months after revision.

**Ethical Guidance**

According to ICMJE recommendations, the authors should follow all ethical principles for medical research involving humans and experimental animals.

**Requirements for ethical issues related to animal experiments**

• Medical researchers should abide by international guidelines for the care and use of laboratory animals, the Weatherall report on the use of non-human primates in research (2006), and The National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Re-search (NC3Rs).

• The authors’ institutional animal care and use committee that approved the animal experiments and the associated permit number(s) should be stated in research papers.

• The methods section of MGR papers must include ethics statements, e.g. “The protocol was approved by the Animal Ethics Committee of XXX University (approval number: XXX). All surgery was performed under sodium pentobarbital anesthesia, and all efforts were made to minimize animal pain, distress, and death.” Guidelines for euthanasia methods approved by MGR for use in animal experiments is shown in Table 1.

• Data and methods published in MGR should be shared for replication of the results by others. Original experimental data or DOI numbers registered in data repository should be provided upon submission to facilitate understanding of peer reviewers and transparency to other audiences.

• Original data from studies involving genes, proteins, mutants and diseases should be registered on recognized public databases e.g. figshare or re3data, and the registered identifier should be provided upon submission.

• A small amount of data or certain special data may be submitted as supplementary data online.

• For data mining from other open-access databases, the source must be indicated.

• Studies involving animal experiments should be reported according to ARRIVE guidelines (https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/arrive-guidelines).

**Requirements for ethical issues related to clinical trials**

• All studies performed involving human should be registered in clinical trials registry platform, such as clinicaltrials.gov, prior to participant recruitment. The registry platform and register identifier should be provided upon submission and included in the abstract of the manuscript.

• The ethics committee and the approval number(s) should be stated in papers. Prospective clinical studies with no registration will not be accepted by MGR. In addition, informed consent of study and protocol version should be indicated.

• Clinical manuscripts should be written according to the reporting guidelines at www.equator-network.org. Additionally, checklists and a flow chart should be provided upon submission.

**Plagiarism**

• Each MGR paper will be checked twice, using Crosscheck to verify originality after submission and prior to publication. The check report will be sent to the authors.

• The similarity of any MGR paper should not be over 5% against one single published paper, nor over 20% against all published papers.

• Similarity between new submitted manuscript and the published by the same research team or author should be not over 50%.

• No retracted articles should be cited.

• For dishonorable events including redundant (duplicate) publication, suspected plagiarism, and undisclosed conflicts of interest, MGR will abide by the regulations suggested by COPE guidelines (http://publicationethics.org/resources).

**Corrections and Retractions**

• MGR publishes corrections, retractions, and expressions
of concern as appropriate, and as quickly as possible. We follow the ICMJE and COPE guidelines where applicable.

- **Correction:** A notice of correction will be issued by MGR to correct substantial errors that appear in published articles when these errors significantly affect the content or understanding of the work (e.g., error in data presentation or analysis) or when the error affects the publication’s metadata (e.g., misspelling of an author’s name). In these cases, MGR will publish a correction that will be linked to the original article. In very rare cases, we may choose to correct the article itself and repost it online. If that course is taken, a correction notice will also be created to document the changes to the original article.

- **Author-Initiated Retractions:** MGR will retract an article at the authors’ request at any time unless it is under review for a possible violation of Responsible Conduct Regarding Scientific Communications. At the authors’ option, the retraction notice may simply state that the article has been retracted at the authors’ request. Alternatively, the authors may provide a brief explanation of the error(s) prompting the retraction. However, statements of retraction may not assign blame to specific authors or laboratories.

- **Retractions:** The editors reserve the right to retract an article at any time after publication without the consent of the authors if an investigation by an appropriate authority reveals a violation of MGR’s Ethics Policy.

- To request a correction/retraction, please contact the editorial office directly at mgr.editor@gmail.com.

**Data Availability**

MGR encourages authors to upload original experimental data on journal website or Figshare prior to or after publication, including original data, images, or tables. Open access of data will increase study transparency, accelerate the scientific research pace, and establish credibility of scientific research. Figshare is an internationally respected data repository that can upload, store, and share original data of the study. With the permission of open-access copyright, the authors can display and share their data, which facilitates retrieval, reading, download, and sharing.

**Data Sharing Statement in Clinical Trials**

As of 1 June 2018, manuscripts submitted to MGR that report the results of clinical trials must contain a data-sharing statement as described in Table 1. http://www.icmje.org/news-and-editors/data_sharing_june_2017.pdf.

**Open-Access Publication**

MGR is co-published by Wolters Kluwer-MedKnow, a global open access medical publisher. Therefore, MGR applies the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 License to works we publish. This license allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as the author is credited and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.

Anyone interested in reading your research can get free access to your paper at our official website (www.medgasres.com) or PubMed Central.

**Open Access Service Fees**

Authors of published papers will be granted complete waiver for the open-access fee.

**Reprints/Subscriptions**

Reprints can be purchased as print reprints and as translated articles, and will be customized to your specific requirements and shrink-wrapped.

**Dissemination after Publication**

Once the paper is published, it will be scheduled for dissemination via e-Newsletter. After publication, the papers online can be rapidly retrieved and exposed via Web of Science, Google Scholar, Pubmed, PubMed Central.

**Copyright/Permissions after Publication**

- The publisher retains all rights concerning assembling, printing, reproducing, translating, disseminating, exhibiting, publishing, retrieving and indexing part or all of the contents of the article.
- After signing transfer of copyright with the journal, the authors retain the rights.
- In not-for-profit circumstances, the use, dissemination and reproduction of part or all of the contents of the article is permitted when cited appropriately.

**Contact Us**

Journal website: http://www.medgasres.com/
Submission website: http://www.journalonweb.com/mgr/
Telephone: +86(24)23380576/+86-13804998773
By Mail: Shenyang PO Box 10001, Shenyang 110180, Liaoning Province, P. R. China
Author inquiries: mgr.editor@gmail.com

**Formatting Guidelines**

**Research Article**

- Word limit: 4,000–6,000 words, 8–10 published pages.
- Title: 90 characters (20 words) maximum.
- Abstract: 250 words maximum, unstructured abstract.
- Graphical abstract:
- Introduction: 1,000 words maximum.
- Materials/Subjects and Methods:
- Results:
- Discussion: 1,000 words maximum.
- Acknowledgments:
- Declaration of patient consent (only for clinical studies):
- Author contributions:
- Conflicts of interest:
- Financial support:
- References: 50 minimum; 30% of cited references should have been published within the preceding 3 years; use the reference style of American Medical Association (AMA) Citaxion Style.

**Reviews**

- Word limit: 6,000 words minimum including the abstract, but excluding references, tables and figures. 8–10 published
Table 1: Examples of Data Sharing Statements that Fulfill these ICMJE Requirements*  

| Will individual participant data be available (including data dictionaries)? | Example 1 | Example 2 | Example 3 | Example 4 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Yes | Yes | Yes | No |

| What data in particular will be shared? | All of the individual participant data collected during the trial, after deidentification. | Individual participant data that underlie the results reported in this article, after deidentification (text, tables, figures, and appendices). | Individual participant data that underlie the results reported in this article, after deidentification (text, tables, figures, and appendices). | Not available |

| What other documents will be available? | Study Protocol, Statistical Analysis Plan, Informed Consent Form, Clinical Study Report, Analytic Code. | Study Protocol, Statistical Analysis Plan, Analytic Code. | Study protocol | Not available |

| When will data be available (start and end dates)? | Immediately following publication, No end date. | Beginning 3 months and ending 5 years following article publications. | Beginning 9 months and ending 36 months following article publication. | Not applicable |

| With whom? | Anyone who wishes to access the data. | Researchers who provide a methodologically sound proposal. | Investigations whose proposed use of the data has been approved by an independent review committee (“learned intermediary”) identified for this purpose. | Not applicable |

| For what types of analyses? | Any purpose. | To achieve aims in the approved proposal. | For individual participant data meta-analysis. | Not applicable |

| By what mechanism will data be made available? | Data are available indefinitely at (Link to be included). | Proposals should be directed to xxx@yyy. To gain access, data requestors will need to sign a data access agreement. Data are available for 5 years at a third party website (Link to be included). | Proposals may be submitted up to 36 months following article publication. After 36 months the data will be available in our University’s data warehourse but without investigator support other than deposited metadata. Information regarding submitting proposals and accessing data may be found at (Link to be provided). | Not applicable |

*These examples are meant to illustrate a range of, but not all, data sharing options.

---

**Short Communication**
- A short communication sent to *MGR* publisher about issues of concern from its readers.
- Word limit: 500–1,000 words maximum, excluding references. No abstract, tables and figures, 1 published page.
- Title: 90 characters (20 words) maximum.
- Body text:
- References: 5 maximum; use the reference style of AMA Citaxion Style.

**Case Report**
- A case report sent to *MGR* publisher about issues of concern from its readers.
- Word limit: 500–1,000 words maximum, excluding references. No abstract, tables and figures, 1 published page.
- Title: 90 characters (20 words) maximum.
- Body text:
- References: 5 maximum; use the reference style of AMA Citaxion Style.

**Commentary**
- A commentary report sent to *MGR* publisher about issues of concern from its readers.
- Word limit: 500–1,000 words maximum, excluding references. No abstract, tables and figures, 1 published page.
- Title: 90 characters (20 words) maximum.
- Body text:
- References: 5 maximum; use the reference style of AMA Citaxion Style.

**Letters to the Editor**
- A letter sent to *MGR* publisher about issues of concern from its readers.
- Word limit: 500–1,000 words maximum, excluding references. No abstract, tables and figures, 1 published page.
- Title: 90 characters (20 words) maximum.
• Body text:
• References: 5 maximum; use the reference style of AMA Citaxion Style.

Preparation of Research Articles
Manuscripts must be submitted in Word format. All components of the manuscript should be typed, double-spaced, in Arial or Times New Roman font (11 pt). All pages should be numbered consecutively beginning with the title page, followed by the graphical abstract, abstract, introduction, materials/subjects and methods, results, discussion, references, individual tables/figures and figure legends.

Title Page
Complete title
• Should be brief (less than 20 words, 90 characters maximum), novel and informative.
• Should attract the reader’s attention.

Running title
• Should accurately reflect the main points of the paper.
• 40 characters maximum.
• Should facilitate retrieval.

Authors
• Full name of the first author and his/her affiliations (including department, institution, city with postal code and state/country, telephone number and fax number).
• For corresponding author, please list name, highest academic degree earned, professional titles, detailed correspondence address, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.
• Indicate author contributions, grants, acknowledgments and conflicts of interest.
• Declaration of patient consent: The authors certify that they have obtained all appropriate patient consent forms. In the form the patient(s) has/have given his/her/their images and other clinical information to be reported in the journal. The patients understand that their names and initials will not be published and due efforts will be made to conceal their identity, but anonymity cannot be guaranteed.

Abstract Page
Graphical abstract: Submission of a graphical abstract is mandatory for research articles. A graphical abstract is a single-panel figure that provides a visual summary of the main message of the article. Either a concluding or key figure from the article or a graphic specifically designed to clearly represent the main conclusions of the article should be submitted to assist readers in rapidly identifying papers relevant to their interests.
• Image size: a minimum of 531 × 1,328 pixels (height × width); image width within the full-text width (18 cm); resolution ≥ 300 dpi.
• File type: JPG, TIFF, PDF, or MS Office files are preferred.
• Font: Arial or Times New Roman.
• Please see examples at http://www.elsevier.com/graphicalabstracts.

Abstract: 250 words maximum, unstructured abstract. Briefly present the background of this study and the existing controversy; explain the objective, hypothesis and innovation of the study; state the problem being investigated; list the main experimental data that supports your hypothesis; and conclude by stating the relevance of the findings for the field of neural regeneration.

Key words: At least 10 key words, not present in the title, to facilitate the indexing of your paper.

Main Text
Introduction
• Present the nature and scope of the problem being investigated.
• Review briefly the pertinent literature.
• Provide an innovative context for the study in relation to previous work.
• State the hypothesis and the objectives of the paper.
• 1,000 words maximum.

Materials/Subjects and Methods
Materials/Subjects
General information regarding the experimental animals or subjects involved. Indicate that the work has been approved by the appropriate ethical committees related to the institution(s) and that the experimental animals used are cared in accordance with institution guidelines.

Methods
Describe the main experimental procedures and methods that would allow readers to replicate your work; cite appropriately; provide the location (city, state (for US suppliers), and country) of the manufacturers or suppliers of the materials and equipment used.

Results
• Objectively and accurately describe the major findings from each experiment, and try to minimize shortcomings that will draw attention from the peer reviewers.
• Describe the findings, from major to minor. Use illustrations (e.g., graphs, drawing or photographs) where appropriate. Graphs and drawings should be self-explanatory.

Discussion
• Word limit: 1,000 words maximum.
• Discuss the major novel findings of the study and describe the different characteristics from other studies.
• Explain and extrapolate the major findings of the study; state whether the findings support some viewpoint or not; purpose the new problems or concerns.
• Discuss the significance of the major findings and how they advance the knowledge in the field of neural regeneration.
• Provide a conclusion that clearly indicates how the results met the objectives. Do not offer a conclusion that is not supported by sufficient data.
• Disclose the limitations and bias to embody the authenticity of the contents.
• Make suggestions for the future direction of research that builds on your findings.
• Indicate the theoretical significance and practical application value of the present results and make a strong conclusion.
REFERENCES

Research articles should have a minimum of 50 references and over 30% of cited references should have been published within the preceding 3 years. MGR uses the reference style of AMA Citaxion Style.

Figures and Tables

• All illustrations (e.g., graphs, drawings and photographs) are considered to be figures. Each figure should be provided with a fully descriptive title and legend. The area(s) of interest must be clearly indicated with arrows or other symbols. Figure legends must be self-explanatory, which should provide sufficient detail to be intelligible without reference to the main text. All micrographs should contain a magnification scale bar. Please position the scale bar in the lower right corner of one micrograph or of the last panel (for multiple panels). The length of the scale bar should be indicated on the images or in the figure legend. The images contained in a figure are arranged in the sequence from top left to bottom right. Tags (A, B, C…) are positioned in the upper left corner of each image. All abbreviations and labels appearing on the image should be explained in figure legends. If figures have been reproduced from another source, written permission for reproducing the material must be attached to the covering letter. Figures should be cited consecutively in the text and number them in that order. Each figure should be placed on a separate sheet after the reference list, including the figure title and legend. The figure title should be not lettered onto the figure itself. All measurements in the figure are in SI (metric) units. A comma should be used to separate thousands. The figure should be typed in Arial or Times New Roman font and be clearly legible.

• Color figure: resolution: > 300 dpi; file format PNG, EPS, TIFF, or PDF; CMYK mode should be used rather than RGB; use of high contrasting colors for color discrimination.

• Line figures: resolution > 1,200 dpi; line width between 0.5 and 1 point; file format EPS, PDF or TIFF.

• Grayscale figures: resolution > 600 dpi; file format EPS, TIFF or PDF. Figures should remain clear at 300-fold magnification. Figures should be sized to fit within the column (9 cm) or the full-text width (18 cm). All labels on the figure should be typed in Arial or Times New Roman font and be clearly legible.

• ARRIVE guideline (Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments): The ARRIVE guidelines are recommended for in vivo experiments in animals. See https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/arrive-guidelines for more information.

• CONSORT statement (Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials): The CONSORT statement is recommended for reporting randomized controlled trials. The authors are encouraged to complete 25-item checklist in their cover letter. In addition, the registration identification number and protocol version of the randomized controlled trial is listed at the end of the Abstract. See http://www.consort-statement.org/ for more information.

• STARD statement (STAndards for the Reporting of Diagnostic accuracy studies): This checklist is recommended for reporting diagnostic accuracy studies. See http://www.stard-statement.org/ for more information.

• STREQA statement (STrengthening the REporting of Genetic Associations): These guidelines are recommended for the reporting of genetic association studies. See http://www.streqa-statement.org/ for more information.

• STROBE statement (STrengthening the Reporting of Observational studies in Epidemiology): These guidelines are recommended for the reporting of observational studies in epidemiology. See http://www.strobe-statement.org/ for more information.

• TREND statement (Transparent Reporting of Evaluations with Nonrandomized Designs): These guidelines are recommended for the reporting of non-randomized evaluations of behavioral and public health interventions. See http://www.cdc.gov/trendstatement/ for more information.

• MOOSE checklist (a Reporting Checklist for Authors, Editors, and Reviewers of Meta-analyses of Observational Studies): This checklist is recommended for meta-analyses of observational studies. See https://www.editorial-manager.com/jognn/account/MOOSE.pdf for more information.

• PRISMA statement (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses): The PRISMA Statement is recommended for the reporting of systematic evaluation and meta-analysis articles. See http://www.prisma-statement.org/ for more information.

• Equator Network (standards for Enhancing the QUAlity and Transparency Of health Research): This organization works to improve the reliability and value of reports on medical research studies by promoting transparent and accurate reporting of research studies. See http://www.equator-network.org/ for more information.

For more information, please see author instruction at http://www.medgasres.com/.