**AUTHORS’ CHECKLIST**

**Title**

Does it really reflect the content of the manuscript?

Does it avoid statements not supported by the data?

If a ‘creative’ title is chosen, make sure that it is scientifically appropriate

**Abstract - Introduction and objectives**

Start with a brief introduction of the subject of the study

Make sure that the objectives of the study are clearly stated

**Abstract – Methods**

Start with study design, context, and participants

Check that the basic methodology used is mentioned

**Abstract – Results**

Start with the results of the primary objectives

Make sure you included the main results you wish to report

Ensure that the section ends linking the results and conclusions

**Abstract – Conclusions**

Ensure that ‘the message’ of the article has been explained

Avoid repeating the results

Ensure that you have not extrapolated beyond the available data

**Keywords**

Have you chosen the most important keywords from the title?

Has the main topic of the manuscript been included as one of the key words?

**Introduction**

Make sure that the general subject has been raised

Briefly mention the current literature and its gaps, if any

Justify the need for this study

Make sure the study hypothesis is mentioned

Describe the main references

Check that all abbreviations have been explained on first use

**Methods**

Have you detailed the design of the study, the physical context and the time frame?

Have you detailed the inclusion and exclusion criteria?

Have you reported the outcome measures? Are the primary-secondary variables or objectives of the study defined?

Have you defined the primary and secondary objectives?

Have you detailed the basic methodology?

Describe all special tests carried out initially and during follow-up

- Describe the follow-up, clinical or otherwise

Include the brand, company and country of the material used

Make sure that the relevant ethics committee approval has been obtained

Has the statistical methodology been detailed?

**Results**

Is the results section direct and concise?

Does it include a flow chart of patients?

Does it adequately describe the population included?

Are the primary and secondary objectives explained?

Have you explained the key results?

Except for the most important results, avoid duplicating the results of the tables in the text

**Discussion**

Does the first paragraph of the discussion summarize the main findings of the study?

Have you compared and contrasted your work with the available literature?

Include a paragraph with the limitations of the study

Does the last paragraph elaborate on the conclusions drawn?

Are the implications of the main conclusions mentioned?

Check that your claims are supported by solid data

**Acknowledgements**

Have you acknowledged the funding agencies, if any?

Have you acknowledged people who have collaborated in the study but do not meet the authorship criteria?

**References**

Make sure that the references fit the requirements of the journal

Make sure that the main references are mentioned in the introduction

Where appropriate, cite your previous works on the topic

**Figures and tables**

Have the instructions of the journal been followed?

Are the figures clear and of good quality?

Are the tables clear, concise, and complete?

 Avoid duplication of data presented in the text

Make sure all figures and tables are cited sequentially in the text

**Ethics**

Verify that the declaration of ethical approval is complete

Provide the statement of contribution and authorship

Include the declaration of conflict of interest, even if there are no conflicts

Detail the sources of funding and their role in the study, if applicable

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