Journal Information

- **Manuscript Submission Site:** [https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/breastfeedingmed](https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/breastfeedingmed)
- **Editorial Office Contact:** kcloudhansen@liebertpub.com
- **Support Contact:** prosupport@liebertpub.com
- **Journal Model:** Hybrid (Open Access Option)
- **Blinding:** Single Blind
- **File formatting requirement stage:** Upon submission
- **Instant Online Option (immediate publication of accepted version):** No
- **Submission Fee:** None
- **Average time to initial decision:** 25 days

About the Journal

*Breastfeeding Medicine* is a peer-reviewed interdisciplinary journal that publishes original scientific articles, reviews, and clinical case studies covering the epidemiology and physical basis for the benefits of breastfeeding, the pathophysiologic basis for the health consequences of artificial feeding, the impact of breastfeeding and lactation on physical and psychological health, indications and contraindications, and the effects of drugs on breastfeeding, as well as the broad range of social, cultural, and economic issues. The peer review process is applied to all submissions.

Manuscript Types and Guidelines

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<th>Manuscript Type</th>
<th>Guidelines</th>
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<td><strong>Original Articles (including Clinical Research and Basic Science)</strong></td>
<td>Original Articles are scientific reports of the findings of original basic science, clinical, or epidemiological research. Authors are encouraged to prepare their submissions in accordance with the <a href="https://www.consort-statement.org">CONSORT Guidelines</a>.</td>
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<td>- Structured abstract of no more than 250 words</td>
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<td>- Maximum total of six (6) figures and/or tables</td>
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<td>- Maximum of 40 references</td>
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<td>- Reporting requirements: CONSORT</td>
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<td><strong>Review Articles</strong></td>
<td>Review articles are often solicited by the Editors of Breastfeeding Medicine, but unsolicited reviews will be considered. Authors of review articles are encouraged to prepare their submissions in accordance with the <a href="https://prisma-statement.org">PRISMA Guidelines</a>. Please contact the Editorial Office prior to writing a review.</td>
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<td>Public Health and Policy</td>
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<td>Editorials</td>
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<td>Commentaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Letters to the Editor</td>
<td>500-word limit</td>
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Word limits do NOT pertain to the abstract, disclosure statements, author contribution statements, funding information, acknowledgments, tables, figure legends, or references.

References

*Breastfeeding Medicine* uses Mary Ann Liebert's *Vancouver* reference format. Templates are available in Zotero and through the CSL Style Repository. An Endnote template is also available.
Liebert Vancouver Style: Order of Citation

- Reference List: Prepared in sequential order as cited in text.
- In-text Citations: All references must be cited in text in numerical order, set in superscript Arabic numerals outside of any punctuation. Do not set reference numbers in parentheses or brackets. To cite several references at once, use commas to separate non-sequential citations and use dashes to separate sequential citations; do not include spaces. Ex: 3,7,12–15
- Journal titles should follow the abbreviation style of PubMed/Medline.
- Include among the references any articles that have been accepted but have not yet published; identify the name of publication and add "In Press." If the reference has been published online, provide the DOI number in place of the page range.

Style Examples for Reference List:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Reference</th>
<th>Punctuation and Order of Elements in Reference List</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Personal communications</td>
<td>References that are unpublished (ie: personal communications, emails, letters) are not to be included in the reference list. Instead, insert &quot;Personal communication; [name], date&quot; parenthetically at the point of citation within text.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Using previously published images or tables as a reference</td>
<td>Reused/adapted images, tables, or any published material must be officially cited as a reference in the reference list, and the author(s) of the submitted work must obtain written permission from the copyright holder. Verbal approvals are not acceptable. Any fees associated with the reuse or adaptation of any material is the sole responsibility of the author(s).</td>
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There is no obligation to use either the free or paid service. No editorial, review, nor any other decisions will be dependent on its use.

All manuscripts must be submitted through the journal’s ScholarOne Manuscripts site.
Submission Preparation

All manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (icmje.org). Please consult your specific journal's requirements for additional information.

All Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. journals follow the standards, guidelines, and best practices set forth by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE; publicationethics.org), the International Committee of Journal Medical Editors (ICJME; www.icmje.org), the World Medical Association (WMA; www.wma.net), and the American Medical Association (www.ama-assn.org).

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. recommends that submissions follow standard relevant reporting guidelines. Please consult The Equator Network for more information.

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There may be additional requirements for submission. Please review the full instructions for authors for guidelines.

The basic service is free. PaperPal preflight offers an optional fee-based service that will provide a report showing tracked changes and potential modifications. Please note that if this service is used, a clean copy of the manuscript must be uploaded to the submission system.

There is no obligation to use either the free or paid service. No editorial, review, nor any other decisions will be dependent on its use.

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Please check your journal's requirements for file formatting. Many journals require formatting compliance only on revision; however, unless stated, the file formatting should comply with the following requirements on submission.

Manuscript Files

The main text file, figure legends, and tables should be prepared in Microsoft Word. Some journals may accept LaTex. Please consult your individual journal instructions for guidance.

File Naming

- All file names should be in English and contain only alphanumeric characters.
- Do not include spaces, symbols, special characters, dashes, dots, or underscores.
- Title each file with the type of content contained in the file (e.g., manuscript.doc, tables.doc, FigureLegends.doc, Fig1.tif, SupplementalData.pdf, etc.).

Figures

- Submission of high resolution .TIFF or .EPS figure files is preferred. Please upload as individual files.
- Cite figures consecutively in text within parentheses.
- Images should not reveal the name of a patient or a manufacturer.
- Note: Figures that will not be reproduced in color must be readable and interpretable in black and white.

Figure Legends

- A legend should be provided for each supplied figure.
- All legends should be numbered consecutively.
- Figure legends may be included at the end of the main text file or uploaded as a separate, double-spaced Word file.
- In each legend, provide explanations for any abbreviations or symbols that appear in the figure.
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Tables

- Tables may be included after the references at the end of the main text file, or uploaded as a single, separate Word file. All tables should be editable.
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- Cite tables sequentially in text within parentheses.
- Explain abbreviations used in the body of the table in footnotes using superscript letters, not symbols.
- If a table is taken from a copyrighted publication, permission must be secured by the author(s) and supplied at the time of submission with appropriate credit listed in the legend. Permissions and associated fees are the responsibility of the author.

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- Title page* with full manuscript title, all contributing authors’ names and affiliations, a short running title, a denotation of the corresponding author, and a list of 4-6 keywords/search terms,
- Abstract,
- Main text without embedded figures or tables and with appropriate section headings, if applicable. Most research papers should be organized as follows: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions.
- Acknowledgments,
- Authorship confirmation/contribution statement (CRediT format is preferred)
- Author(s’) disclosure (Conflict of Interest) statement(s), even when not applicable,
- Funding statement, even when not applicable,
- References,
- Tables included in the text or as a separate document,
- Figure legends at the end of the main text or in a separate Word file,
- Figures uploaded as individual high-resolution files,
- Supplemental files uploaded as individual files.

*Double-blinded journals require a separate title page with the title, all contributing authors’ names and affiliations, a denotation of the corresponding author, author acknowledgements, disclosures, and related identifying information.

Your individual journal may require

- An Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval (or waiver) statement and statement of patient consent as a separate paragraph after the methods section,
- Other relevant ethics attestations (see icmje.org for further guidance),
- Data sharing statement,
- Specific abstract and content sections, depending on manuscript type,
- Word count limits, tables/figure limits, and reference format requirements.

Please note that paragraphs should be no longer than 15 lines once typeset.
Pre-Publication Policies

Funding

Upon manuscript submission, the submitting agent will have an opportunity to enter funding/grant information. If funding information is entered correctly, the publisher will deposit the funding acknowledgements from the article as part of the standard metadata to Funder Registry. The entered information should include funder names, funder IDs (if available), and associated grant numbers. Special care should be taken when entering this information to ensure total accuracy. Funding information must also be provided within the manuscript.

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Manuscripts should be submitted with the understanding that they have neither been published, nor are under consideration for publication elsewhere, in the same form or substantially similar form. Conference abstracts are excluded. If work was presented at a conference, supply the name, date, and location of the meeting as a footnote on the title page of the submission.

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If a third party is submitting the manuscript, the submitting agent designation must be used, with the identity of the submitting agent disclosed. We reserve the right to reject any manuscript that does not contain this disclosure. The authors are solely responsible for any manuscript submitted on their behalf.

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**ORCID IDs**

All submitting authors are required to complete their submissions using an ORCID identifier.

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One author should be designated as the corresponding author who will be responsible for communication between the authors and the journal editorial office and publisher. This individual will be responsible for ensuring all authors submit copyright forms, coordinating and responding to page proofs, and managing any other necessary contact during the peer review and production processes.

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- Conceptualization (Ideas; formulation or evolution of overarching research goals and aims.)
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- Formal analysis (Application of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyze or synthesize study data.)
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- Investigation (Conducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence collection.)

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- Resources (Provision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation, computing resources, or other analysis tools.)

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**Example**

Author 1: review and editing (equal). **Author 2**: Conceptualization (lead); writing – original draft (lead); formal analysis (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 3**: Software (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 4**: Methodology (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 5**: Conceptualization (supporting); Writing – original draft (supporting); Writing – review and editing (equal).

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Changes in authorship after submission, revision, or acceptance of a paper are generally not permitted, but the editorial leadership recognizes that in rare circumstances, it may be required. The policy for such cases is as follows:

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- Written approval of all authors named on the manuscript, as well as any individual(s) being added to or removed from the author list must be provided. The Publisher can provide a form for this, if needed.

- Upon receipt of the request and all written approvals of all involved parties, the Editor-in-Chief will consider the request, render a decision, and notify the corresponding author.

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Please contact the Director of Production and Editorial to confidentially update your record. Identification or documentation is not required, apart from confirmation that the change is on behalf of yourself (requests cannot be made for other individuals).

Updates will be made to the online versions of the article, but without a formal correction notice and without coauthors being notified.

We recommend authors update ScholarOne and ORCID records with any name changes.

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- Funding. Research support by organizations that may gain or lose financially from publication of the article. This support includes salary, equipment, supplies, honoraria, reimbursement or prepayment for attending symposia, and other expenses.
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An institution without an Institutional Review Board must arrange for an outside/external IRB to be responsible for initial and continuing review of studies conducted at the non-IRB institution. Such arrangements must be documented in writing in the manuscript.

If doubt exists whether the research was conducted in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration, the authors must explain the rationale for their approach and demonstrate that the institutional review body explicitly approved the doubtful aspects of the study. Approval by a responsible review committee does not preclude editors from forming their own judgment whether the conduct of the research was appropriate. Please see https://www.icmje.org/icmje-recommendations.pdf for additional information.

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If the study is judged exempt from review, a statement from the committee is required in the Materials and Methods section, including, if applicable, documentation of institutionally approved waiver of informed consent.

**Ethics of Experimentation**

See the following resources for studies involving human fetuses, fetal tissue, embryos, and embryonic cells:

- NIH Grants Policy Statement
- National Conference of State Legislatures Embryonic and Fetal Research Laws

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they have received and archived written patient consent in addition to providing the requisite statement in the
manuscript.

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Datasets should be cited in the reference list.

**Important:** Please check with your funding agencies to ensure that are you following their data sharing polices. If your funding agency has additional requirements exceeding our policy, you must follow the requirements of your funder.

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Special issues may be comprised of unsolicited author submissions representing a topic of interest to the journal's community that are curated by the editors and published together.

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