Muscle, Ligaments and Tendons Journal. Basic principles and recommendations in clinical and field science research

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Summary

The design, implementation, evaluation, interpretation and report of research is a key important for the science. The research required minimize the uncertainty, therefore we encourage all authors of respect how much can possible the contents in this official editorial also in order to stimulate interest and debate about constructive change in the use of statistics in our disciplines¹². Authors are required to confirm that these standards and laws have been adhered to by formally citing this editorial within the methods section of their own manuscript.

KEY WORDS: statistical analysis, case report, experimental approach, design, ethical standard, best practice, sample size, performance indicators, reliability of the measures.

In this editorial, we synthesize the standards and laws into one source for convenience to authors of Muscle, Ligaments and Tendons Journal submissions as methodological approach, randomized controlled trials, appropriate statistic for a Best Practice³⁻⁵. Expert groups have also produced statements about how to publish reports of various kinds of medical research⁶. Interventions (experiments). CONSORT: Consolidated Standards - Reporting Trials⁷⁻⁸. See “consort-statement.org” for statements, explanations, and extensions to abstracts and to studies involving equivalence or noninferiority, clustered randomization, harmful outcomes, nonrandomized designs, and various kinds of intervention. EQUATOR: Enhancing the Quality and Transparency Of health Research project aims to help fulfill the potential impact of reporting guidelines on the quality of research “see consort-statement.org”.

Observational (non experimental) studies. STROBE: Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemiology⁹¹⁰. See “strobe-statement.org” for statements and/or explanations, and see “HuGeNet.ca” for extension to gene-association studies.

Diagnostic tests. STARD: Standards for Reporting Diagnostic Accuracy¹¹¹².

Meta-analyses. QUOROM: Quality of Reporting of Meta-analyses⁶. MOOSE: Meta-analysis of Observational Studies in Epidemiology¹³. See also the Cochrane Handbook (at cochrane.org) and guidelines for meta-analysis of diagnostic tests¹⁴ and of gene-association studies (at HuGeNet.ca). PRISMA: Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses Statement provides an evidence-based minimum set of items that for reporting systematic reviews and meta-analyses “see consort-statement.org”, and is an update and expansion of the QUOROM Statement. Although it focuses on randomized trials, the PRISMA Statement can also be used as a basis for reporting systematic reviews of other types of research, particularly evaluations of interventions. Those points most commonly considered by scientists are summarized below.

• Basic principles. Respect the rights and welfare of participants which must take precedence over all other interests. Ethical review. Before research begins and before amendments are applied, research must be reviewed and approved by an appropriate ethics committee.

We outline the principles of the World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki¹⁵ and the Institute for Laboratory Animal Research of the National Research Council’s Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals¹⁶. We highlight ethical issues included in national/international law and provide guidance on ethical issues common to Science. Authors who cite this editorial confirm that research using participants was conducted ethically according to the principles line of the Declaration of Helsinki. Consent Informed consent/assent should be provided freely by the participant and should ideally be in writing. If written consent/assent cannot be obtained, or is not appropriate, then oral consent/assent should be formally documented and witnessed. Research that involves children or other populations that cannot consent (e. g. vulner-
able populations) should seek consent from an appropriate person and assent from the participant.

- The research protocol should be reviewed by an ethical committee and approved.
- Informed consent is required from all participants.
- The study design and execution should be transparent and reproducible.

References