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4. FORMATTING:

• Topics: include all non-traumatic and underlying traumatic conditions involving the spine as well as neoplastic conditions of the spine.

• Line Spacing: single space text, double space between paragraphs.

• Length: maximum of 500 words, not including references.

• Blind abstract: omit any references to authors or author institutions.

• Unblinded abstract lists all author information.

• Images: Images can be embedded in a Word document. Reference them in the body of the abstract as “fig 1” or “table a”. Images are limited to a maximum of two (2).
4. **CONTENT:** An English language abstract must be in the terminology familiar to spine specialists. The text should be succinct and substantive. The abstract must include:

1) **Introduction:** state the purpose of the study—what question was asked and why;
2) **Materials/Methods:** describe the methods used to seek the answer;
3) **Results:** summarize the results;
4) **Conclusion:** discuss the findings with respect to their relationship to existing Knowledge, overall significance, etc.

**Text:** Some scientific characters such as the Greek alphabet do not reliably transmit over the Internet. It is recommended that the default character set for your browser be used and that whenever possible, special characters be spelled out or avoided.

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