

## Submission Guidelines



# THE AUSTRALASIAN JOURNAL OF DIVERSIONAL THERAPY

(Incorporating therapeutic recreation and leisure and health professionals.)

## Submission Guidelines

The closing date for the 2007 journal is the 21<sup>st</sup> August 2006.

### 1. SCOPE AND MISSION

The Australasian Journal of Diversional Therapy is a peer reviewed journal which publishes original work in areas that contribute new knowledge and understanding for improving practice in recreation and leisure services within health and therapeutic contexts. It welcomes in particular manuscripts and articles from authors across the Asia Pacific region.

The purpose of the Journal is to advance our profession through the attraction, dissemination and discussion of high quality original research, theory and better practice together with stimulating opinion and review of issues across our profession.

The Australasian Journal of Diversional Therapy contains the following types of articles:

**Research Manuscripts.** Manuscripts of original research of up to 5,000 words. Well-designed quantitative and qualitative studies that contribute to the improvement of practice and education are encouraged. Systematic reviews of the literature, given that they further the improvement of practice or education will also be considered.

**Guest Editorials.** At times, the Editor will invite guest editorials on timely, relevant, thought-provoking issues relevant to practice and education.

**Reviews.** The journal publishes critical reviews of the literature, audio visuals and other resources such as games, equipments and products. These may be up to 1000 words.

### **Professional Practice Issues and Updates.**

These are reviews of up to 3,000 words, by an expert in the field. These aim to inform readers on issues relating to professional practice or significant issues identified by the profession. These may also include theoretically based articles relevant to practice.

**Opinion.** Opinion pieces are invited contributions of up to 1,000 words designed to stimulate discussion and debate.

**Program Evaluation.** These are invited articles of up to 3,000 words which describe and evaluate innovations. Programs may cover areas such as policy development and implementation, community and residential programs, professional training, educational change and social intervention.

**Letters to the Editor.** Letters related to content in recent issues are published as space permits. Letters should be no more than 200 words, double-spaced. Letters are subject to review, editing and rebuttal.

**News.** This can include conference and convention announcements, information on government regulations and any news relevant to professional practice.

All contributions to the journal are subject to refereeing (except invited pieces).

### 2. SUBMISSION

Send all contributions to: **The Editor, The Australasian Journal of Diversional Therapy, C/o The Diversional Therapy Association of NSW PO Box 83, NORTH RYDE NSW 1670**

### 3. MANUSCRIPT REVIEW

Articles containing original material are accepted for consideration on the understanding that they are contributed solely to the Australasian Journal

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of Diverisional Therapy. Authors should secure all necessary clearances and approvals and send copies along with their manuscript submission.

Authors will have the opportunity to review any editorial changes prior to publication.

### Anonymous Review

All manuscripts will be anonymously reviewed; thus the title page of the manuscript should not be attached to the paper and the abstract page should not include the author's name nor should the author's name appear in the body of the manuscript. At least two associate editors will review each manuscript.

### 4. COPYRIGHT

Authors of accepted manuscripts must transfer copyright to The Australasian Journal of Diverisional Therapy, however authors have unlimited rights to republish their articles in volumes they write or edit and to duplicate the material for their own use in professional activities. When articles are republished or duplicated under these circumstances, a citation to the previous publication in *The Australasian Journal of Diverisional Therapy* and approval from the Editor is required.

### GUIDELINES FOR CONTRIBUTORS

- a) Unpublished manuscripts suitable for the Australasian Journal of Diverisional Therapy will be accepted for review by the editor. While a paper is under review, it may not be submitted to another journal. Typical review time is 12 - 16 weeks.
- b) All copy must be double-spaced on A4 paper, with the margins set for 2.54cm (1 inch) at the top, bottom, right and left of every page. Papers should be printed with a 12 point type face Times New Roman. Manuscripts must adhere to the style of the APA (5<sup>th</sup> edition). Please refer to <http://www.apastyle.org/> if further information is required.
- c) All pages must be numbered consecutively in the upper right hand corner; the title page numbered page 1, abstract numbered page 2, with the text starting on page 3.

- d) A separate title page should be included with the manuscript but not attached. The title page should include the title of the paper, author's name(s), professional qualifications, institutional affiliation, addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses.
- e) Manuscripts are to be submitted in **triplicate and either on a disc or via an email copy**. All copies must be clear, readable and on good quality paper. Authors should keep a copy of the manuscript to guard against loss. After the review, the manuscripts will be returned to the author only if they contain substantial suggestions or corrections.
- f) All text, tables, figures and references must adhere to the guidelines as published in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association (APA) (5<sup>th</sup> Edition). Please refer to <http://www.apastyle.org/> if further information is required.
- g) Research papers should follow the following format:
  - **Abstract**  
Abstracts should be limited to 150-200 words and provide a brief summary of the paper.
  - **Introduction**  
The introduction should justify and state the aims of the manuscript clearly. Only references which are essential to understanding the aims of the manuscript should be included.
  - **Methods**  
The Methods section should include adequate information about the research design and implementation, e.g., sample selection and size, data collection, and method of analysis, for readers to understand how the data was gathered and treated.
  - **Results**  
Results should be reported using text, tables and figures, as appropriate. Do not duplicate data and restrict tables and figures to those that are necessary. All tables and figures should be referred to in the text and adhere to APA (5<sup>th</sup> edition) format.
  - **Discussion**  
Findings important to practice should be emphasised. Implications and limitations of the findings and their application should be discussed.