**Article format**

**Headline***Subtitle (optional)*  
Author name

Article introduction…

**Subhead** (optional)

Article text…

**Subhead** (optional)

Article text…

Conclusion…

*Author bio..’*

**References/Figure Captions/Sidebars/Callouts (**if applicable)

*[see below for information about formats and styles]*

**Article format**

* Feature / News Article
  + Written in the third person; 800 to 1,100 words
* Q&A
  + One-on-one interview; written in the third person; consider recording the audio and/or video of the interview, which can be posted with the online version of the article; 800 to 1,100 words
* Roundtable Discussion
  + Written in the third person; limited to a moderator and two or three subject matter experts; 800-1,100 words
* OVT Review
  + Short summary of an OVT Plus video; written in the third person; 400-800 words
* Sound Off
  + Editorial, written in the first person; 800 to 1,100 words
* Final Cut
  + Exclusively reserved for Editorial Board Members; editorial; written in the third person; 900 to 1,200 words
* Letter to the editor
  + Written in the first person; response to a previously published article or another relevant orthopaedic topic; 400 to 800 words
* Book Review
  + A short summary of a book related to orthopaedics; 400 to 800 words
* Multipart Articles
  + Based on topics too complex to adequately cover in 800 to 1,100 words; each part should be written so that readers can consume the content without having to read the prior and/or latter installments in order for the content to make sense; simply converting a submission over word count into a series is NOT a best practice; each installment will need its own headline, lede, and conclusion

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**Article Guidelines**

* Headlines: Headlines should be between 10 to 15 words and ideally should be a complete sentence.
* Subtitles: If needed, a subtitle may be added to clarify or add information to the headline. Subtitles should be brief (no more than 10-15 words) and should be a complete sentence.
* Article Introduction: The article should start with a lede, which is an opening sentence or paragraph that summarizes the most important aspect of the story and its relevance to the audience.
* Word count: Target word count is 800-1,100 words. If the article is significantly over word count (>1,300) please highlight or note sections that can be run as online only and held from the print version).
* Subheaders: Subheads are recommended to organize the article into sections. Subheads should be brief (one to five words max).
* Author bio: Bios should be one to two sentences about current affiliations/positions and relevant volunteer/leadership roles.
* Sidebars/Callouts: Sidebars are for short segments (100-300 words) that are connected to the main topic but do not have a place in the article. Callouts are shorter than sidebars (<100 words) and are primarily used to promote links, QR codes, events or courses, or other relevant information. Include the text for Sidebars and Callouts at the end of the article.
* Author Agreement Form: Each author is required to sign and return AAOS’ [author agreement form](https://www.aaos.org/globalassets/now/pdfs/2023/aor-form.pdf) at the time an article is submitted. If the article was written and submitted on behalf of an AAOS council or committee, a form is not required.
* Disclosures: All authors must submit their [disclosures](https://www.aaos.org/about/meet-aaos/disclosure-conflicts-interest/?_ga=2.268240267.426005955.1745276743-925051232.1742763202) with AAOS. The most recent update must be within six months of the article’s publication date. Authors can check the time-stamp for their disclosures using the [search tool](https://disclosuresearch.aaos.org/search?_ga=2.81802262.1492925112.1742763202-925051232.1742763202).

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**Graphics Guidelines**

* Include any captions and sources for graphics at the end of the article, after the author bio or any references.
* When submitting graphics, please send as separate files. Do not embed them into the Word document of the article, as Word compresses the file quality.
  + The exception to this is tables, which can be embedded into the file if they are created in Word or Excel.
* Required image resolution: 300 dpi
  + Tables may be recreated in Word or Excel if they are lower than the required resolution.
* Authors of articles must have permission for AAOS Now to print any graphics in print and online. Authors are responsible for securing image permissions.
* For clinical images that cannot be de-identified, permission from the patient is required.
* Figures and tables that are related to the content of the article must be referenced in the body of the article in parentheses where relevant – i.e., “(Figure 1)” or “(Table 1)”
* Figures, tables, and photos must have a brief caption that describes the content of the image and, if applicable, its connection to the article. Exceptions include headshots, logos, and book/report covers.
* The source for graphics must be included and can be listed as follows:
  + If the source is a particular person or institution: “Courtesy of NAME.”
  + If the source is a journal article or publication, format according to style listed above in the “References” section of this template.

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**References (if applicable)**

* References will be included in the online version of the article. Include the list of references at the end of the article, after the author bio.
* AAOS Now does not utilize in-text or superscript citations or footnotes. If you would like to specifically cite a reference in the text, it is recommended to do so in sentence form – e.g., “According to a 2025 study from Yamaguchi et al, published in the Journal of the AAOS…”
* Formatting: AAOS Now utilizes AMA style formatting for reference lists. Refer to [this page](https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/research_and_citation/ama_style/index.html) for guidance.
  + Study in a journal:
    - Author(s). Title of article. Accepted Abbreviation of Journal Title Year; Volume:Page Numbers. doi.(if available)
  + Webpage:
    - Author(s) (if indicated). Title of page or document. Name of the website. Date published. Update date. Accessed date. URL.
  + Books:
    - Author(s). Title of book. Edition number. Place of publication: Publisher; Year.
    - **Edited book:** Editors followed by “eds”. Title of Book. Edition number. Place of publication: Publisher; Year.
    - **Chapter in an edited book:** Author(s). Chapter title. In: Editors followed by “eds”. Title of Book. Edition number. Place of publication: Publisher; Year.
* If you are unclear about formatting, please include as much information about the citation as possible in the reference list so AAOS Now staff can find the most applicable formatting.

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***\*Updated 6/30/25***