



## Article types

**Word count reminder** - Papers should be written to a maximum word count of 5000 words **excluding** references, tables and figures. Please check the word count and include total word count (Abstract + Main paper) on the Abstract. **Any paper that is submitted with an excess of 5000 words without prior discussion with the editor, will be returned.**

### Primary Research ( RCTs / Cohort studies/Mixed Methodology studies)

- Abstract - **400 word maximum**
  - *Background/rationale*
  - *Aim(s) & objective(s)*
  - *Ethics*
  - *Methods*
  - *Results*
  - *Conclusion*
  - *Keywords (up to ten)* Up to ten key words that identify accurately the paper's subject, purpose and focus (Evidence Based Midwifery must be included). These key words will be used to assist indexers in cross-indexing the article and will be published with the abstract.
  - *Total word count* (Abstract + Main paper – excluding tables/references)
- Main paper
  - *Introduction*

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.
  - *Methods*

A brief but clear outline of the methodology, making clear the study setting, the sample, the hypothesis (where relevant) and the reason for the chosen method. For RCTs we request a CONSORT diagram (Figure) and checklist (Table). Please provide information of ethical approvals granted and particular ethical considerations in your study. Please provide details of funding, if appropriate.
  - *Results*

Results should be clear and concise. Results/findings consistent with your chosen methodology. Tables and graphs may be used – **see Submission Guidelines / Tables and graphs**
  - *Discussion*

Relate your findings to focus their relevance to midwifery practice. Also include a brief statement of limitations of the research, and implications for practice and future research.
  - *Conclusion*

A concise conclusion to include implications for future practice/research

- *References*  
**See Submission Guidelines / References**
- *Acknowledgements*  
Should be kept to a minimum and include funder.
- *Funding*  
Please provide a statement of funding, if applicable.
- *Ethics approvals*  
Please provide the name of the Ethical Committee and reference number, if applicable.
- *Permissions*  
Please provide details of any necessary permissions obtained, if applicable
- *Commercial affiliations*  
Please provide a statement of any commercial affiliations linked to this study, if applicable.
- *Conflicts of interest*  
Please state any known conflicts of interest, if applicable.

**Guideline - Secondary Research** (Literature reviews / Systematic reviews / Modified systematic reviews)

- **Abstract - 350 word maximum**
  - *Background/rationale*
  - *Research question*
  - *Search methods*
  - *Results*
  - *Conclusion*
  - *Keywords (up to ten)* Up to ten key words that identify accurately the paper's subject, purpose and focus (Evidence Based Midwifery must be included). These key words will be used to assist indexers in cross-indexing the article and will be published with the abstract.
  - *Total word count* (Abstract + Main paper – excluding tables/references)
- **Main paper**
  - *Introduction*  
State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.
  - *Methods*  
A brief but clear outline of the research question (PICO or equivalent PEO or SPIDER), methodology to include search strategy, inclusion/exclusion criteria, study selection, quality appraisal, reflexivity (if applicable), use of PRISMA checklist, data extraction and analysis methods. Please provide details of funding, if appropriate.
  - *Results/Findings*  
Results should be clear and consistent with your chosen methodology. Tables and graphs may be used – **see Submission Guidelines / Tables and graphs**
  - *Discussion*  
Relate your findings to focus their relevance to midwifery practice. Also include a brief statement of limitations of the research, and implications for practice and future research.
  - *Conclusion*  
A concise conclusion to include implications for future practice/research.

- *References*  
**See Submission Guidelines / References**
- *Acknowledgements*  
Should be kept to a minimum and include funder.
- *Funding*  
Please provide a statement of funding if applicable.
- *Permissions*  
Please provide details of any necessary permissions obtained, if applicable
- *Commercial affiliations*  
Please provide a statement of any commercial affiliations linked to this study, if applicable.
- *Conflicts of interest*  
The author must disclose if they have received funding or they are working for any parties liable to bring disrepute to the RCM or where there may be a conflict of interest.