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Papers, which should be in triplicate and in the Vancouver style (*Br Med J* 1982;284:1766-70), should be sent to the Editor, *Journal of Medical Genetics*, BMA House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. Papers from the USA can be submitted to the North American Editor, Dr P M Conneally, Department of Medical Genetics, James Whitcomb Riley Hospital for Children RR129, Indiana University Medical Center, Indianapolis, Indiana 46223, USA. Submission of a paper will be held to imply that it contains original work which has not been previously published. The signature of each author is required on the covering letter. Permission to republish must be obtained from the Editor.

Papers should conform to one of the following categories. **Original contributions** on clinical or laboratory aspects of medical genetics in man and on related animal studies. **Case reports** or family reports with particularly instructive clinical or genetic features: to be no longer than 1000 words, with no more than three figures, one table, and eight references.

Short reports: to be no longer than 500 words with a clinical photograph and partial karyotype, if appropriate, and no more than three references.

Review articles will generally be by invitation, but suggestions from authors wishing to prepare a review article will be welcomed.

Short communications and **Technical notes** will also be considered.

Letters to the Editor in relation to papers and to other relevant topics will be welcomed.

Publication of papers thought to be of special importance may be expedited.

SI units should be used. All contributions should be accompanied by an abstract or structured abstract giving the main results and conclusions. Typescripts should be double spaced with wide margins. One page proof will be sent to the author submitting the paper and alterations on the proof, apart from printer's errors, are not permitted. Reprints may be ordered when the proof is returned.

Figures should be kept to a minimum and should be numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals. Legends should be typed on a separate sheet. Photographs should be on glossy paper and diagrams should be drawn on stout white paper. Photographs of karyotypes do not reproduce well. Chromosomes should be cut out and stuck onto stout

paper. Any lettering should be indicated on a separate transparent overlay.

Tables should not be included in the body of the text, but should be typed on separate pages and numbered with Arabic numerals. A legend should be provided.

References should conform precisely to the style current in this Journal. Authors are responsible for the *accuracy* and *completeness* of their references as these will not be checked by the Editorial Office.

Some notes on nomenclature can be found in *J Med Genet* 1991;28:72.

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