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Submission Guidelines for The Australian Journal of Dementia Care About the Journal

The Australian Journal of Dementia Care (AJDC) is a quarterly, multidisciplinary journal for all professional staff working with people with dementia in residential aged care homes, hospitals, day units and the community. The journal is committed to improving the quality of care provided for people living with dementia by showcasing good practice and keeping readers abreast of developments in dementia care practice, training, research and technology, as well as the latest resources, events, news and views. The AJDC is grounded firmly in practice and provides relevant, high-quality and well-researched articles with solutions for dementia care settings, written by practitioners, researchers and other experts in the field of dementia care from Australia and around the world.

Who Can Submit?

We welcome submissions from a range of people, including:

- Aged care workers
- Nurses and healthcare professionals
- Allied health practitioners
- Researchers
- Family carers and lived experience advocates
- Policy makers and educators

Types of Articles We Accept

We publish articles that fit into one or more of the following categories:

- **Practical Tips & Strategies** – Hands-on advice for working with people living with dementia.
- **Best Practice Guidelines** – Summaries of evidence-based approaches.
- **Research Updates** – Simplified explanations of recent studies with real-world applications.
- **Case Studies & Stories** – Real experiences from professionals or carers with lessons learned.

- **Innovations in Dementia Care** – New tools, programs, or technologies making a difference.

Language & Style Guidelines:

Tone & Accessibility

- Use a conversational, **engaging**, and **professional** tone
- Keep sentences **short** and **clear** for readability.
- Avoid overly academic language and jargon—explain concepts in **plain English**.
- Define technical terms when necessary but aim for accessibility.

Inclusive & Respectful Language

Our journal values **inclusivity** and **dignity** in writing. Please follow these guidelines:

- **Person-first language:** Use “**person living with dementia**” instead of “**dementia patient**” unless referring to specific cases where another term is appropriate.
- **Respectful terminology:** Avoid words like “**sufferer**” or “**victim**”—instead, focus on **strengths** and **abilities**.
- **Diversity & inclusion:** Acknowledge different perspectives, cultural sensitivities, and care approaches.
- **Gender-neutral language:** Use inclusive terms like “**they/them**” when the gender is unknown or irrelevant.
- When referring to **Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples / Indigenous Australian peoples** the following terms are **not accepted**: ATSI people or Aborigines

Referencing & Citation Style

To ensure accuracy and credibility, all factual claims should be backed by **reputable sources**.

- **Preferred styles:** Use **APA (7th edition)** for citations.
- **In-text citations:** Use “(Smith, 2023)” for single author, “(Smith & Jones, 2023)” for two authors or “(Smith et al., 2025)” for three or more authors.
- **Reference list:** Include a properly formatted reference list at the end of the article.
- **Hyperlinks:** For online sources, provide a **direct URL** (or DOI link).

Example (APA 7th style) journal article reference:

Smith, J. (2023). Best practices in dementia care. *Aging & Health Journal*, 12(3), 45-60. <https://doi.org/xxxx>

For more information and examples refer directly to the APA 7th style guidelines here: <https://apastyle.apa.org/style-grammar-guidelines>

Word Count & Format

- **Short articles:** 600–800 words
- **Long articles:** 1,000–2,500 words
- Use **headings and bullet points** for readability.
- Submit as a Word document (.docx).

Images & Tables

- You may include high-quality images or tables (with permission and proper attribution).
- Please submit images as separate attachments in JPEG or PNG format.

Author Rights & Republishing Guidelines

- **Authors retain copyright** but grant the journal the right to **publish and distribute** the article.
- If an author wishes to republish their work elsewhere, they must wait **3 months** after publication and credit the AJDC by including “**Originally published in The Australian Journal of Dementia Care**”.
- If an article was previously published elsewhere, authors must have permission to **republish it in our journal**.

Engaging the Community – Social Media & Further Discussion

We encourage authors to be part of our growing **dementia care community!**

- Selected articles may be promoted on our **social media channels**.
- Selected articles may also be featured on the **AJDC website** as full articles for reading or as blog articles.
- Authors are permitted to share their article (only theirs) on social media platforms including LinkedIn, Facebook and Instagram, but agree to link the Australian Journal of Dementia Care pages.
- We welcome authors to engage with readers in **comments or follow-up discussions**.

Ethical & Confidentiality Considerations

- If your article includes **case studies** or **personal stories**, ensure anonymity unless explicit consent has been obtained.
- Obtain **permission** for any **quotes, interviews, or images** of individuals.
- Do not include any **identifiable patient or client information** unless it is publicly available and permitted.

Use of Images & Multimedia

- Authors may submit **high-quality images, infographics, or charts** as separate JPEG files to enhance their article.
- Ensure **you have permission** to use images — **do not submit copyrighted content** without proper licensing.

Tables, Figures & Data Presentation

- **Tables and figures** should be labelled clearly and in accordance with APA 7th guidelines (e.g., Table 1: Dementia Care Strategies).
- Cite the source for any **charts, graphs, or statistics** used.
- Keep data **relevant** and **easy to interpret** for non-specialist readers.

How to Submit

Send your submission via email to admin@journalofdementiacare.com, with the subject line "Article Submission – [Your Topic]"

Include:

- Your name and credentials
- A short synopsis of the article (50 words)
- Your article in Word format (.docx)
- Any relevant high-resolution images as separate attachments

Review and Editing Process

- Submissions are reviewed for clarity, accuracy, and alignment with journal goals.
- Our editorial team may suggest edits, and you will have the chance to approve final changes.
- Authors will be notified within **1-2 weeks** about acceptance.

Questions? For any inquiries, reach out to admin@journalofdementiacare.com

Quick reference article checklist

Before submitting, ensure your article:

- ✓ Aligns with the **journal's themes** (practical tips, best practice, research updates, case studies, etc.).
- ✓ Is written in a **conversational, engaging tone**.
- ✓ Is **well-structured** with clear headings, short paragraphs, and bullet points.
- ✓ Provides **practical takeaways** for dementia care professionals.
- ✓ Uses **accurate and up-to-date information** (cite sources where needed).
- ✓ Includes a **brief author bio** (50 words).
- ✓ Is submitted in Word format with **any images as separate attachments**.

Common Reasons for Rejection (To Help Authors Improve Submissions)

We want to help authors succeed. Here are some **common reasons** a submission may be declined:

- ✗ Too academic or technical – needs to be **more practical and accessible**.
- ✗ Lack of clear takeaways – readers should leave with **actionable insights**.
- ✗ Poor structure – articles should be **well-organised with clear headings**.
- ✗ No supporting evidence – claims should be **backed by research or experience**.
- ✗ Promotional content – articles should not be **advertorials for products or services**. For advertising opportunities see the AJDC advertising brochure on the website.

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Australian Journal of Dementia Care

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