

The *Annals of Cardiothoracic Surgery* (ACS) is a premier multimedia journal that has a focused theme in each issue. **In the Research Highlight section, we would like to bring our readers' attention to the most recent and important publications related to the topic in that issue.** Research Highlights are brief summaries of important research papers that have been recently published.

This template will help you write an ACS Research Highlight article.

FONT

The preferred file format is a Microsoft Word document. Please use 12 pt Arial or Times New Roman fonts throughout. Line spacing should be 1.5 or 2. There should be a space between each paragraph/bullet point.

TITLE PAGE

Title: maximum 200 characters

Authors: 6 authors maximum, include those who have contributed intellectually and practically. For all authors please include first name, middle initial (if appropriate) and last name

Institutions: primary and affiliated institutions, including Department, Institution, City and Country

Corresponding Author Email: only email required

ABSTRACT

Not required

BODY OF TEXT

The following sections must be written in proper narrative prose with complete sentences. Please complete all the sections. Please limit your manuscript to 1000 words (one simple figure or table is permitted). The Editors-in-Chief reserve the right to edit the manuscript in order to fit two ACS print pages.

Patients and Setting

- *Patients:* preferably one sentence about the targeted patient population
- *Intervention(s):* preferably one sentence about the current management or treatment controversies
- *Objective(s):* preferably a single sentence to highlight the primary objective(s) of the study

Methodology: one paragraph about patient population, intervention, design, data collection and statistical analysis

Primary Outcomes

- *Main Results:* one to two paragraphs about the main research results, including demographic data, primary outcome measures (eg. short-, mid- or long-term outcomes) and secondary outcome measures. One small and representative figure or table could be included
- *Study Limitations:* sample size, confounding factors, lost to follow up and other reasons for bias
- *Generalizability to other populations:* one sentence commenting on the implications and applicability of this study to other study populations

Clinical Bottom-line: Preferably one sentence on the main conclusion and/or the study's clinical implications. This should be limited to the primary results of the study, without any further discussions

REFERENCE

5 references maximum

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Study funding/potential competing interests

SUBMITTING ONLINE

Manuscripts should be submitted online (<http://www.annalscts.com/author/submitYourManuscript>).

