

The *Annals of Cardiothoracic Surgery* (ACS) is a premier multimedia journal that places special emphasis on high-quality video articles in the Masters of Cardiothoracic Surgery section. The multimedia format allows contributors to present operative techniques in the most effective way.

This document describes the requirements for making a Masters of Cardiothoracic Surgery article.

The submitted article must contain two components:

1. Written manuscript
2. Video component with narration.

## WRITTEN MANUSCRIPT COMPONENT

### 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:** include first name, middle initial (if appropriate), last name, postal address (including Department, Institution, City and Country) and e-mail address. Also include the telephone number and fax number for the corresponding author

**Keywords:** 5 keywords maximum

### ABSTRACT

Not required

### BODY OF TEXT

The following sections must be written in proper narrative prose with complete sentences. Please complete all the sections and aim for 1000 words without figures or tables. The Editors-in-Chief reserve the right to edit the manuscript in order to fit two ACS print pages. The main text should be divided into the following three subheadings: *Clinical Vignette*, *Surgical Techniques*, and *Comments*.

**Clinical Vignette:** should be succinct, in one paragraph, focusing on the clinical scenario, such as age, gender, history of presenting illness, past medical history, clinical status and surgical plan

**Surgical Techniques:** briefly describe the operative techniques, in terms of *Preparation*, *Exposition*, *Operation*, and *Completion*.

- *Preparation:* preferably one to two sentences about the overall set-up and positioning of the patient
- *Exposition:* preferably one to two sentences highlighting your

standard approach

- *Operation:* describe your key technical steps and refer to your video demonstration
- *Completion:* preferably two to three sentences commenting on the completion of your operation and surgical closure

**Comments:** In this section, you may focus on the following points: *Clinical Results*, *Advantages* and *Caveats*.

- *Clinical Results:* your institutional results using this technique, succinct and primary outcomes only
- *Advantages:* your expert opinions regarding the major advantages of your techniques in comparison with other alternatives
- *Caveats:* weaknesses of your technique, cautions to readers and/or potential room for improvement

## TABLES AND FIGURES

No tables or figures allowed

## REFERENCES

5 references maximum

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Study funding/potential competing interests

## SUBMITTING ONLINE

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

## VIDEO COMPONENT

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Your material must not contain any specific patient information and must be HIPPA compliant. For example, patient names or hospital identification numbers should not appear on radiographs, slides, or films contained in the video. If you are not the copyright holder of a portion of the video (artist illustrations, images from books, photos, cartoons, music, etc.), you must obtain permission to publish the item(s) from the copyright holder.

Do not include music in your video unless you are submitting the video accompanied by written permission from the publisher allowing us to republish the music on the internet. Videos will not be considered for publication until all of the required information and documents have been received.

### VIDEO CONTENT

It is advised to start your video presentation by describing the case history using a couple of introductory slides before proceeding to your operative techniques. This will correlate nicely with the text of the manuscript.

**Case Presentation:** should be succinct, no more than 2 minutes, focusing on the clinical scenario, such as age, gender, history of presenting illness, past medical history, clinical status and surgical plan.



**Surgical Techniques:** please try to depict the following aspects of the operation: *Preparation, Exposition, Surgical Pearls,* and *Completion.*

**Postoperative Course:** briefly mention the postoperative course of this patient and if possible include a follow-up scan.

#### REQUIRED FORMATTING

Each video clip submitted to ACS should not be longer than 30 minutes (preferably, 10-20 minutes), and must be accompanied by voice narration, in English.

ACS will accept digital files in mp4 (preferred), flash video (.flv), MPEG (MPEG video file), DVD video format, mov, avi, and wmv formats. We recommend using H.264/mp4 for the video codec and AAC for the audio codec. Please contact ACS if your file does not conform to the above standards. Both 4:3 and 16:9 (widescreen, preferred) aspect ratios are acceptable.

Contributors are asked to be succinct, and the Editors-in-Chief reserves the right to require shorter video duration. The video should be of high quality (resolutions of at least: 1080×720P; video bit rate no less than: 5Mbps). The video should demonstrate the descriptions in the text of the manuscript.

Additional video editing by the authors, including the insertion of a voice-over, may be required.

#### POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

If you would like to make a video PowerPoint presentation, please refer to *Instructions for Authors – Video PowerPoint Presentation*, available from the ACS website.

#### SUBMITTING VIDEOS ONLINE

Videos can be submitted with a manuscript online ([www.annalscts.com](http://www.annalscts.com)). For fast uploads please attach your file(s) as compressed .zip or .sit files. Once upload has been initiated, do not close the window until you have received an on-screen confirmation that your upload has been successful. Please note that the maximum size of each file is 2GB. If your file(s) for submission are greater than this limit, please divide the file into multiple segments, with the file names labeled in the correct order.

Should you have any questions, please contact the ACS editorial office ([editor@annalscts.com](mailto:editor@annalscts.com)).

