# CORR Clinical Article Template

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Each section includes brief instructional tips that are highlighted in gray with a red icon:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | The icon at left indicates **instructions**. Note that instruction tips, such as this one, can’t be deleted. |

#### Adding your content

The bordered boxes throughout the template are where you add the article content. Just click a placeholder labeled **‘Click here to add…**,' such as the example shown below, and type or paste your text.

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| Click here to add [sample text]. You can click in this example box and type or paste text for practice, if desired. |

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|  | Provide a title either raising the key question or providing an answer and reflecting the message or importance of the study |

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| Click here to add the title (containing fewer than 120 characters including spaces).]  [Click here to add the running title (containing fewer than 40 characters including spaces)] |

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**Corresponding author:** Check the box beside ***one name only*** below to identify the corresponding author.

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
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# Blinded Review

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| . | You can request a blinded review of your manuscript. Please indicate in the box below, if you choose this option. |

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Click here to add the title (containing fewer than 120 characters including spaces).]

[Click here to add the running title (containing fewer than 40 characters including spaces)]

# 

# Abstract—300 words or less

## Background

|  |  |
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|  | Give 1-2 sentences of what is known about your topic, followed by a sentence describing the deficiency in the literature that makes your study interesting, and drives you to ask the questions in the next box. Capture the reader’s attention.  **Example text**: Total knee arthroplasty is a reliable means of relieving pain from arthritis. However, existing approaches do not restore patients to a high level of athletic activity. |

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| Click here to add article background. |

## Questions/Purposes

|  |  |
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|  | State 2-4 explicit, testable questions or research purposes oriented around specific endpoints. Words like “results,” “outcomes,” and “success” are usually too vague to be useful. **Please put each question into its own numbered sentence as provided below.**  If you have fewer than four questions or research purposes, you can ignore the placeholders below for those you don’t require and we will remove them for you.  Use the word “hypothesis” only if you have compared one or more interventions to a control group or groups; otherwise simply articulate experimental questions or research purposes.  **Example text:**  (1) Does novel implant X result in increased running speed compared to traditional design Y?  (2) Does novel implant X result in an increased likelihood of return to preoperative levels of athletic activity compared to traditional design Y? |

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| Click here to add question or purpose 1.  Click here to add question or purpose 2.  Click here to add question or purpose 3, if applicable.  Click here to add question or purpose 4, if applicable. |

## Methods

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|  | Briefly describe your experimental methods, including study groups, comparisons made, etc. |

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| Click here to describe methods. |

## Results

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|  | Please answer each of your questions below with about one sentence of text. **Each answer should refer back to its question**, and where appropriate, each answer should provide an estimate of effect size (odds ratio, hazard ratio, or other metrics as needed), as well as the relevant statistical results in parentheses. We request exact p values unless <0.001, in which case you may write p<0.001. Please also provide a measure of effect size for your primary study endpoint (such as odds ratio or hazard ratio) if appropriate, as well as confidence intervals on all important comparisons.  **Example**: 1) Does novel implant X result in increased running speed compared to traditional design Y?  Patients with novel implant X ran a mean of 50% faster than those who received traditional design Y (95% CI 45% to 55%, p=0.002).  **Note**: To change questions, please do so in the Questions/Purposes section of the Abstract. Updates you make in that location will appear here automatically. |

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| Question or purpose 1.  Click here to describe results for question or purpose 1. |

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| Question or purpose 2.  Click here to describe results for question or purpose 2. |

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| Question or purpose 3, if applicable.  Click here to describe results for question or purpose 3, if applicable. |

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| Question or purpose 4, if applicable.  Click here to describe results for question or purpose 4, if applicable. |

## Conclusions

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|  | Help the reader understand the relevance of your findings, don’t merely restate your results. Propose future research directions if appropriate. |

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| Click here to add conclusions. |

## Level of Evidence

|  |  |
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|  | Please select a **Level of Evidence** for your study using the matrix available via the link below and complete the applicable related document, as described below.  **To indicate the level of evidence, please use the language provided in the red box that follows and fill in the blanks as appropriate.**  **Example**: Level of Evidence Level II, diagnostic study. See Instructions for Authors for a complete description of levels of evidence.  **REQUIRED. Additional Level of Evidence Information:**  If yours is a Level III or IV Therapeutic study, please complete the STROBE checklist; if a Level I or II Therapeutic Study, please complete the CONSORT guidelines. Both documents are provided directly below.  To complete the applicable document, double-click the icon directly below. Edit that file and then save it to your desktop or a convenient location so that you can upload it separately into Editorial Manager. **Include the completed, applicable document as a separate file when you upload this file in Editorial Manager.** |

[Ctrl+Click (or Command+Click on Mac) here to download levels of evidence matrix.](http://www.springer.com/cda/content/document/cda_downloaddocument/Levels+of+Evidence.pdf?SGWID=0-0-45-957938-p173705903)

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| Level of Evidence Level Click here to enter Level. Click here to enter Type. study. See Instructions for Authors for a complete description of levels of evidence. |



# Introduction (all parts of this section are required)

## Background

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|  | Provide one or two paragraphs of background (citing relevant literature), describing what is known about your topic. |

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| Click here to add background. |

## Rationale

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|  | Provide one or two paragraphs that summarize the rationale for your study. Tell readers in a few sentences what is unclear in the literature; what made you want to do the study? This paragraph should set the stage for your questions/purposes, which are coming up next. |

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| Click here to add rationale. |

## Study Questions

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|  | Below are the study questions as you provided them in the abstract. If you change them in either location, they will update in the other automatically.  **Note**: If you need to change the questions, you may do so by changing them in the Questions and Purposes section of the abstract. They then will update automatically throughout the manuscript. |

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| Question or purpose 1  Question or purpose 2.  Question or purpose 3, if applicable.  Question or purpose 4, if applicable. |

# Methods

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|  | Please complete all fields marked required, and any others that apply to your study. If you believe any field marked ‘required’ does not apply, simply note that in the box and we will remove your comment during editing. |

## Study design and setting (required)

|  |  |
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|  | Present key elements of your study design. Was it prospective or retrospective? Randomized? Case-control? Case series? Also describe the setting, location, relevant dates, including periods of recruitment, treatment, followup and data collection. 2-4 sentences usually suffice for all this. |

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| Click here to add study design and setting. |

## Participants/study subjects (required)

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|  | Describe how patients or study subjects were identified for the study, and provide inclusion and exclusion criteria. Describe how the diagnosis was made, if applicable. Describe how cases and controls were determined or matched, and number of controls per case if applicable. |

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| Click here to add participants/study subjects. |

## Randomization (if applicable)

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|  | Describe the process, including how the sequence was generated, how and when treatments were allocated, whether blocking/stratification were used, and whether/how blinding was achieved. See the CONSORT checklist at the end of the template for other items that need to be included in randomized studies. |

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| Click here to add randomization. |

## Description of experiment, treatment, or surgery (required)

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|  | Be sure to include any unique features or approaches that could affect the outcome, if applicable. |

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| Click here to add description of treatment or surgery. |

## Aftercare (if applicable)

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|  | Description of postoperative care, including any relevant drugs (e.g., antibiotics, antithrombotic agents) and any physiotherapy that might influence the outcome. |

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| Click here to add aftercare. |

## Description of followup routine (if applicable)

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|  | Description of postoperative care, including any relevant drugs (e.g., antibiotics, antithrombotic agents) and any physiotherapy that might influence the outcome. |

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| Click here to add followup routine. |

## Variables, outcome measures, data sources, and bias (required)

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|  | Describe the variables studied, how the outcomes were determined, and by whom. Clearly define all outcomes, treatments, predictors, and potential confounders. Give diagnostic criteria, if applicable. Provide detail on followup if applicable, including followup frequencies/intervals and relevant assessments (e.g. physical examination particulars, laboratory tests, imaging). Describe how relevant measurements were made (e.g. ROM or imaging), with citations of methods. Describe of interobserver variability for the measures where interobserver variability would be anticipated. Describe any efforts to address sources of bias. |

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| Click here to add variables, outcome measures, data sources, and bias. |

## Statistical analysis, study size (required)

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|  | Describe statistical methods in detail if you performed statistical analyses. Indicate how you addressed confounding, examined subgroups, or addressed missing data (or loss to followup), if steps were used to deal with these items. Indicate threshold for statistical significance if one was used. Describe how you arrived at your study size and the statistical power for detecting a difference for your first research question, if applicable. Indicate software (Company, Location), if commercial statistical software was used. |

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| Click here to add statistical analysis, study size. |

## Demographics, description of study population (if applicable)

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|  | Provide any other key information about the study population here. If relevant, include age, gender/sex distribution, BMI, and other factors that describe the population of patients involved in the analysis. |

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| Click here to add demographics, description of study population. |

## Accounting for all patients / study subjects (if applicable)

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|  | Begin with a paragraph reporting numbers of individuals at each stage of study—eg numbers potentially eligible, examined for eligibility, confirmed eligible, included in the study, completing followup, and analyzed; give reasons for non-participation or loss to followup (and indicate when the losses occurred, eg, between ?? and ?? months), and **consider use of a flow diagram**. For prospective studies of therapy/treatments, indicate whether intention-to-treat or per-protocol analysis was performed. Present the minimum followup time, mean or medial followup time (as applicable), and standard deviation or range of followup. |

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| Click here to add accounting for all patients / study subjects. |

## Other methods (if applicable)

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|  | If there are other important methodological elements of your study that are not captured in any of the preceding sections, please describe them below. If not, please skip this section. |

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| Click here to add other methodological elements. |

# Results

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|  | In this section, you will see your research questions used as subheadings. Please answer each question with one paragraph of results.  **Note**: Note: If you need to change the questions, you may do so by changing them in the Questions and Purposes section of the abstract. They then will update automatically throughout the manuscript. As with earlier sections where these questions appear, if you have fewer than four questions, you can ignore those placeholders you don’t need and we will delete them for you. |

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| Question 1.  Click here to provide results to answer question 1. (In the text you add here, you may refer to figures and tables as needed; be sure to upload your figures and tables separately in Editorial Manager.) |

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| Question 2.  Click here to provide results to answer question 2. (In the text you add here, you may refer to figures and tables as needed; be sure to upload your figures and tables separately in Editorial Manager.) |

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| Question 3, if applicable.  Click here to provide results to answer question 3, if applicable. (In the text you add here, you may refer to figures and tables as needed; be sure to upload your figures and tables separately in Editorial Manager.) |

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| Question 4, if applicable.  Click here to provide results to answer question 4, if applicable. (In the text you add here, you may refer to figures and tables as needed; be sure to upload your figures and tables separately in Editorial Manager.) |

## Other relevant findings

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|  | You may provide one paragraph of other key findings here, **but only if doing so is essential to the message of your study**. Most studies will not need to use this paragraph; leave this blank if you do not need it. Unexpected findings unrelated to the original research questions, important complications, device failures, and protocol problems are examples of items that could go here.  Any findings you include here will need to be covered in the Discussion section where indicated by the template. |

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| Click here to add other relevant findings. (In the text you add here, you may refer to figures and tables as needed; be sure to upload your figures and tables separately in Editorial Manager.) |

# Discussion

## Background and rationale (required)

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|  | In this paragraph, please provide one or two sentences of background (why the general topic is interesting or important), followed by one or two sentences of your study’s rationale (what made you want to do this specific study). End this paragraph with a brief (1-2 sentence) restatement of your major findings |

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| Click here to add background and rationale. |

## Limitations (required)

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|  | This paragraph usually begins “This study had a number of limitations.” Then, briefly enumerate (ie, First,… Second,… Third,…), describe and justify all major study limitations here, in approximate order of importance. State the implications of each limitation for your study. **Provide arguments as to why these limitations do not jeopardize your conclusions, or how readers should use them when evaluating your conclusions.** |

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| Click here to add limitations. |

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|  | For each of your questions, write a paragraph comparing/contrasting your results with those of others who have studied this question or one similar to it. These discussion paragraphs almost always should have references to the work of others.  When comparing large numbers of studies to your work, consider creating and making reference to a table, instead of writing a lengthy block of text here. Please upload any such tables separately in Editorial Manager.  **Note**: Note: If you need to change the questions, you may do so by changing them in the Questions and Purposes section of the abstract. They then will update automatically throughout the manuscript. As with earlier sections where these questions appear, if you have fewer than four questions, you can ignore those placeholders you don’t need and we will delete them for you. |

## Discussion: Question text here. (required)

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| Click here to add discussion response for question. |

## Discussion: Question text here. (required)

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| Click here to add discussion response for question. |

## Discussion: Question text here, if applicable. (if applicable)

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## Discussion: Question text here, if applicable. (if applicable)

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| Click here to add discussion response for question. |

## Discussion: Other relevant findings (if applicable)

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|  | If you used the paragraph “Other Relevant Findings” in Results, write a paragraph comparing/contrasting your results with those of others in the literature on this point. |

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| Click here to have discussion of other relevant findings. |

## Conclusions (required)

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|  | Take one paragraph to summarize the implications of your findings and their clinical relevance. What are the most important messages you wish readers to remember? Share how your findings will change clinical practice, and offer any treatment recommendations you can support based on your data. Offer directions for future study, if appropriate. |

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| Click here to add paragraph of conclusions. |

# Acknowledgements

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|  | Note any nonfinancial acknowledgments. Begin with, “We thank…” and note the nature of the contribution. |

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| Click here to add acknowledgements. |

# Legends

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|  | Legends should be in full sentences, numbered sequentially as they are to appear in the manuscript. Please note all figures must be submitted in a JPEG/JPG or BMP format. See the tip for References for uploading figures. |

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| Click here to add legend. |

# References

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