

The Health Risks of Extraterrestrial Environments Instructions for Authors

Introduction

The objective of The Health Risks of Extraterrestrial Environments ([THREE](#)) website is to serve as an accurate, complete and current resource for space radiation research.

THREE provides information useful to scientists considering an expansion of their research into space radiation topics, scientists and teachers interested in broadening their background, and students considering space radiation research.

Instructions for Authors

All contributions shall be submitted to the Chief Editor or to the Page Editor. All correspondence and submissions of articles shall be conducted via email, in Microsoft Word format, unless the Page Editor requests or agrees to a variation. Fonts used may be Arial or Times New Roman, 10-12 point size. Left and right margins shall be no less than 1 inch; top and bottom margins shall be no less than 0.75 inches. THREE staff must be able to edit the submissions, in order to insert the actual posting date into the heading of the article.

It is strongly recommended that authors consult current articles posted on the THREE website for examples of suitable content, layout, references, source of illustrations, level of scientific sophistication, lack of jargon and overall clarity. The specifications for these qualities are still evolving; their final state will reflect the needs of authors and readers as their responses accumulate. Recommended style, as well as standard abbreviations and acronyms should follow that of the journal *Radiation Research*.

The types of contributions that will be considered are Notes and Articles:

- **Notes** are short references to relevant background resources, such as the material currently found in the Computer Tools section of THREE. Notes should be limited to approximately 1,200 words and may be edited for readability, to insert hyperlinks to other articles or dictionaries, etc. Notes may be reviewed by the Chief Editor or an assigned Associate Editor.
- **Articles** may provide basic introductory text, expand on existing articles, or add new and relevant material on published research results. Authors may submit unsolicited proposals for topical reviews to the Editorial Board, who may approve such proposals for contribution, pending editorial

review. There is no current page limit for articles, but they are expected to be concise and contain an abstract. It is recommended that the bibliography or a “Suggested Reading” section be extensive enough to allow the reader an entree into the literature.

The first paragraph of every article should offer a brief overview of the topic, the relevance of their contents to space radiation problems and should be written at a level that is accessible to the lay reader. In keeping with the encyclopedia format, authors may choose to address specific topics by exposition and by reference to existing literature. In cases where the article describes research that has not as yet been applied to space radiation problems, the author(s) should provide a rationale for the article's significance in that context, including appropriate speculation where justified.

Articles will be written by scholars, contributing their reports on a voluntary basis, without remuneration. Existing articles may be revised as needed, and articles on new subjects will be solicited when appropriate. Any member of the scholarly community can request such alterations of content. Approval of these requests will be from the Editorial Board. If a revision is authorized, one Associate Editor of the Board will be selected by the Chief Editor to oversee the processing and review of the new or revised article.

Articles are expected to be written in a style understandable by non-experts (such as might be found in *Scientific American*). In some cases, more technical articles may be published, but the cognizant Associate Editor may request an extended summary for the non-expert or lay community.

Authors should strive to be neutral when covering topics in which there are alternative points of view. Competing views should be included if they are supported by a significant portion of the scientific community.

Articles will be peer-reviewed by at least two expert reviewers, chosen by the responsible Associate Editor, who must be satisfied that the corresponding author of the article has properly addressed reviewer critiques. In case of conflicting reviews or conflict between an author and reviewers, the Chief Editor will make a final decision.

Readers are encouraged to comment on articles and may submit comments, as well as suggested additions and revisions, to the Page Editor. The Page Editor will forward all comments to the Chief Editor for adjudication, which may mean one or more of the following: sending the comments to the corresponding author of the article for response, refereeing the comments, authorizing the posting of the comments following review, or opening the comments to moderated discussion on the web site.

Authors of accepted articles agree that an article may be selected for display as a Featured Article on the website main page, showing a summary of the article, generally based on the abstract, and one or more figures selected by the Chief Editor.

Posting of Articles

All contributions will be maintained on a secure server.

Articles and images must not violate or infringe upon copyrights. Prior to submission, authors are encouraged to avoid misunderstandings due to similarities in text to published material by using “plagiarism” detection tools offered by the Office of Research Integrity (<https://ori.hhs.gov/plagiarism-tools>), such as the free online software eTBLAST (<http://etblast.vbi.vt.edu/>).

As has become common practice, authors should disclose potential conflicts of interest and acknowledge their sources of funding.

The corresponding author is required to provide this statement with the submission of an article for posting on THREE:

I have permission to use all the material in this article.

The Page Editor is the point of contact with the NASA/JSC Information Technology staff.

Following complete editorial review, the Chief Editor notifies the Page Editor that a contribution has been accepted and authorizes the Page Editor to process the contribution for posting. The Page Editor shall process the posting of contributions in a timely manner.

All articles may be edited for clarity, with the corresponding author’s consent to the final version. Accepted articles may be cited as a refereed publication using the format of [Radiation Research](#), which references the [Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals](#).

For proper attribution in references, article citations should indicate the *Date Posted*, which is the actual date the article is posted on the THREE website as indicated in or near the heading of the posted article. Unless the citation is used as part of an author’s publication list, the citation should also indicate the *Date Consulted*, which is the date when the author of the citation last accessed the cited web page; this has become common practice in the scholarly literature since web pages may change, affecting conclusions based on their content.