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## Editorial

# The AALAS Journals: Opinions

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Linda A Toth, Editor-in-Chief

This year the 2 AALAS journals, *JAALAS* and *Comparative Medicine (CM)*, will introduce an option for submissions that will be known as 'Opinions.'

Opinions should focus on issues in our field that are either controversial or that merit consideration, discussion, or consensus. Ideally, opinion articles will stimulate either additional research or scholarly overviews of the topic.

To be suitable for publication, opinions should be scholarly in tone and include references that document controversy or the author's position. Opinions must maintain professionalism; they should not refer to specific individuals, vendors, or institutions. The maximal length will be 2 printed pages, including references, which is approximately 1,500 words or about 3 single-spaced pages in a word processing software. One opinion can be published in each journal issue. Multiple authors and/or institutions can contribute to an opinion piece.

Authors are invited to have ideas for opinions vetted prior to preparation by contacting the journal office. The Editor-in-Chief will determine whether a potential topic or a submitted opinion is appropriate for dissemination in the journals. Opinions will undergo a nonbinding, 3-person peer review and receive editorial suggestions prior to publication. Authors are encouraged to seek informal review from colleagues prior to submission.

Opinions can be submitted to either journal. In this regard, please keep in mind that *JAALAS* is focused on research related to facility management, general issues of animal wellbeing (including anesthesia/analgesia and environmental considerations), and the normal biology and management of experimentally naïve animals (including breeders). *CM* is focused on research relevant to the use of animals as models of disease (induced or inherent) and to animal illnesses (spontaneous or induced).