

Publisher's note

New and forthcoming electronic features for *Abdominal Imaging*

Coming soon, Springer-Verlag is pleased to announce that *Abdominal Imaging* will offer its authors **Online First** electronic publication.

With **Online First**, articles are published in their electronic form weeks prior to the distribution of the print journal. **Online First** is a major breakthrough in the area of electronic publishing that will result in more rapid transmission of material and publication of articles. It does, however, involve many changes to production procedures that are traditionally used. Authors will not see traditional page proofs of their articles. Instead, authors will be notified via e-mail that their electronic proofs are available on a secure web site. The e-mail will include detailed instructions on how to log into the website, download the proof, make appropriate changes, and to whom the corrections should be returned. Your article will be published **Online First** soon after final proofing and editorial review, thereby eliminating the constraint and delays that are inevitable with a bimonthly print publication. The publication date of the article is the *online publication date*. An electronic identification number, the Digital Object Identifier (DOI), clearly marks and authorizes the articles. **Online First** articles (and abstracts) are fully citable by the DOI and files are submitted electronically for inclusion in NLM's PubMed system. The print version will appear approximately 4–6 weeks after **Online First** publication. For more information regarding **Online First**, please visit <http://link.springer.de/doi/online-first.htm>.

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Also coming soon...

Authors should also be aware of the forthcoming implementation of a new web-based manuscript submission,

tracking, and review system known as **Manuscript Central**. Created by ScholarOne specifically for use by scholarly publishers such as Springer-Verlag, **Manuscript Central** offers a complete internet-based system for the submission and management of manuscripts that is maintained and supported by a highly secure environment of servers.

Manuscript Central allows authors the ability to submit manuscripts over the Internet, provides online peer review, and tracks manuscripts through the review process. From a time when authors were only able to submit manuscripts through the mail, with editorial assistants constantly sending letters back and forth, authors can now submit their manuscripts online and editorial assistants can monitor and administer their work flow with the ease and precision **Manuscript Central** provides.

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Online First and **Manuscript Central** are scheduled to become available in the summer of 2003. Authors should visit the *Abdominal Imaging* website at the following address for further developments: <http://link.springer-ny.com/link/service/journals/00261/index.htm>