

## Template & Guide for a Perspective Article

### Purpose of a Perspective Article

A Perspective Article is written in an editorial-style format and presents one or more viewpoints, reflections, or experiences on issues of importance to professionals working specifically with older adults. These manuscripts are designed to advance thinking, provoke dialogue, and provide clear, practice-oriented insights for licensed professional counselors and related practitioners. Please note that there is a \$75.00 article processing fee for perspective articles that are accepted.

### Key Parameters

- Maximum length: 1,500 words
  - Maximum references: 5 - 7
  - Empirical data are not required
  - A positionality statement is required
  - Creative elements (e.g., images, figures, call-out boxes) are encouraged
  - Abstract and Conclusion are required
  - APA style is required
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### 1. Introduction

- Clearly introduce the issue, challenge, or tension relevant to counseling older adults.
- Explain why this topic matters *now* for counseling practice, supervision, or professional development.
- State the purpose of the perspective and the central argument or position being advanced.

### Tips

- Write in a clear, engaging, and accessible tone.
  - Emphasize relevance to counseling practice with older adults.
  - Avoid framing the paper as an empirical study.
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### 2. Author Positionality Statement

- Briefly describe your professional role, experiences, or perspectives that inform this viewpoint.
- Clarify how your positionality shapes the lens through which the issue is discussed.

### Tips

- Keep this section concise and purposeful.
  - Focus on relevance rather than autobiography.
  - Use first person where appropriate.
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## 3. Perspective Narrative / Core Argument

- Present your viewpoint, reflection, or argument in a clear and logically organized manner.
- Use subheadings to guide the reader through your thinking and help tell a cohesive story.
- Draw selectively on theory, practice wisdom, or professional experience to support your perspective.
- **Within the narrative, you explicitly describe what you have done in practice.** This is a critical requirement for a Perspective Article. Rather than offering a general review or description of a technique, the manuscript should provide a first-hand account of how the approach was actually used in counseling practice, including concrete examples and reflections on client responses or reactions. The emphasis should be on professional experience and applied insight.

### Tips

- Subheadings are strongly encouraged.
  - Limit citations to only those that are essential to your argument.
  - Maintain a strong counseling and adult development/aging focus throughout.
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## 4. Implications for Counseling Practice

- Clearly articulate what counselors should *do* differently as a result of this perspective.
- Write in an instructional tone, as if guiding counselors in practice.
- Identify specific strategies, considerations, or approaches relevant to work with older adults.

### Tips

- Be concrete and practice-focused.
- Avoid vague recommendations.
- This section is essential for fit with the journal's readership.

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## 5. Optional Call-Out Boxes or Applied Examples

- Authors are encouraged to include call-out boxes that:
  - Highlight example counselor–client conversations
  - Illustrate applied decision-making
  - Provide brief practice scenarios or reflections
- Visual elements (e.g., figures or images) may be included when they enhance clarity or engagement.

### Tips

- Call-out boxes should directly support the narrative.
  - Keep examples concise and clearly labeled.
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## 6. Implications for Supervision and/or Research (optional/ if relevant)

- Discuss how this perspective may inform counselor supervision, training, or future research.
  - This section may be brief but should clearly extend the perspective beyond individual practice.
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## 7. Conclusion

- Include a **separate conclusion section**.
- Synthesize the key message of the perspective.
- Clearly identify what readers should understand and be able to apply after reading.

### Tips

- Avoid introducing new ideas in the conclusion.
  - Reinforce the contribution to counseling with older adults.
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## Additional Formatting Requirements

- Include “**Perspective Article**” in the running head.
- Include “**Perspective Article**” in the abstract.
- Use clear subheadings throughout the manuscript.
- Follow APA style for references and formatting where applicable.

## **Adultspan Journal – Perspective Article Submission Checklist**

Before submitting (or resubmitting) your Perspective Article, please review the checklist below to ensure alignment with the goals and format of this article type.

### **Manuscript Scope & Purpose**

- ☐ The manuscript is written as a **Perspective Article** (editorial-style), not an empirical research report
- ☐ The content presents a clear viewpoint, reflection, or professional perspective relevant to **counselors working with older adults**
- ☐ The focus is on advancing thinking, practice, or dialogue rather than reporting data

### **Length & References**

- ☐ The manuscript does not exceed **1,500 words**
- ☐ The reference list includes **no more than 5-7 references**
- ☐ References are essential and directly support the perspective

### **Required Content**

- ☐ The manuscript includes a **clear introduction** that explains why the topic matters for counseling with older adults
- ☐ A **positionality statement** is included and explains how the author's professional role or experience informs the perspective
- ☐ Subheadings are used to organize the narrative and guide the reader
- ☐ A **separate conclusion section** is included

### **Practice Orientation (Critical for Fit)**

- ☐ The manuscript clearly explains **what counselors should do** as a result of this perspective
- ☐ Recommendations are concrete, instructional, and practice-focused
- ☐ The paper identifies **at least three things' counselors should understand or be able to do differently** after reading

### **Applied Examples & Creative Elements (Encouraged)**

- ☐ Applied examples (e.g., brief practice scenarios or counselor–client dialogue) are included where appropriate
- ☐ Call-out boxes are used to highlight practice examples or instructional content (optional but encouraged)
- ☐ Images, figures, or other media are included only if they meaningfully enhance understanding

### **Broader Implications**

- ☐ Implications for **counseling practice** are explicitly addressed
- ☐ Implications for **supervision and/or future research** are discussed, as appropriate

### **Formatting Requirements**

- ☐ The running head includes **“Perspective Article”**
- ☐ “Perspective Article” is clearly identified in the **abstract**
- ☐ The manuscript follows APA style where applicable