



Publish Faster. Publish Smarter.

www.ariessys.com

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EMUG 2023



Courtyard Boston Downtown Hotel
June 14-15, 2023

Aries
systems.



EMUG 2023

UI/UX Design Enhancements

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Agenda

Welcome to
EMUG: Day 1

- What is UI/UX Design?
- Editor Main Menu
- Design System Updates
- Accessibility Updates
- User Research
- Resources
- Questions



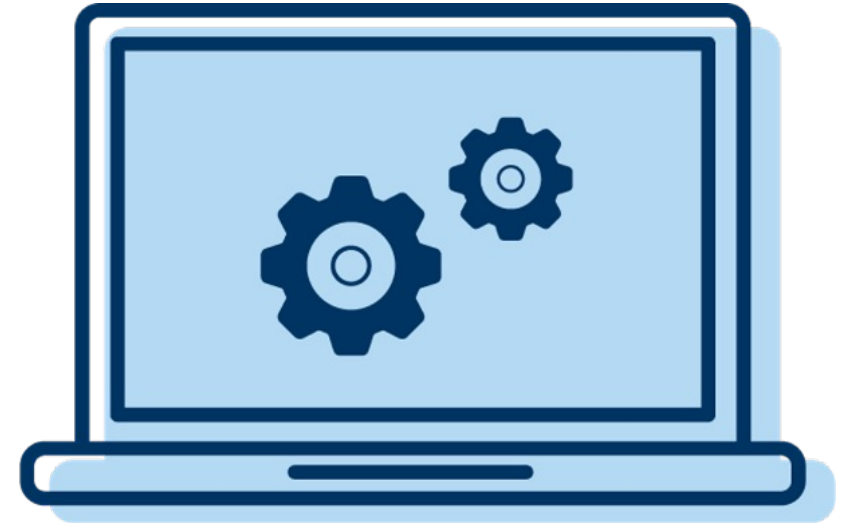
What is UI?

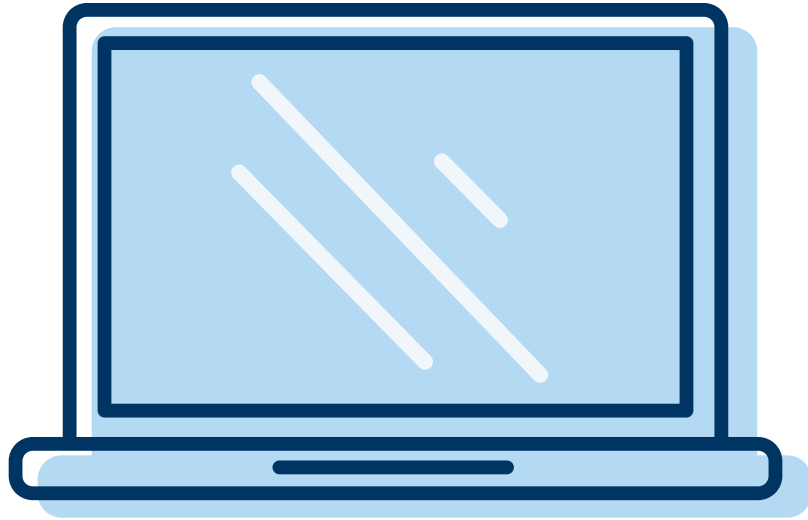
- UI = User interface
- Appearance and aesthetics of a product
- Colors, fonts, styles
- Surface level interaction



What is UX?

- UX = User experience
- Journey users go on when engaging with a product
- Structure and framework of the system
- Effectiveness





Editor Main Menu

*Interface updates for a
better experience*


Project Goals

- Modernize UI to new design standards
- Reduce visual noise
- Improve accessibility
- Responsive designs



Current Interface

Editor Main Menu

em |  The Journal of Modern Medical Examples and Advancements John Doe ▾ | Logout

Home Main Menu Submit a Manuscript Shortcuts ▾ About ▾ Help ▾ Simple Submission Search

Editorial **Proposal Menu** Tasks

Managing Editor Main Menu

Quick Searches:
[All manuscripts](#)
[contains 'test'](#)
[contains test shared](#)
[Manuscript Number in 2007](#)

Submissions With:

0 Reviews Complete 2	1 Reviews Complete 0	2 Reviews Complete 0	3 Reviews Complete 0	4 Reviews Complete 0
---	---	---	---	---

Search

[Search Submissions](#) | [Search People](#)

Editor 'To-Do' List

My Pending Assignments (4)

- [New Submissions \(2\)](#)
- Revised Submissions (0)
- New Submissions Requiring Assignment (0)
- Revised Submissions Requiring Assignment (0)
- New Invitations (0)
- New Assignments (0)
- [Submissions with Required Reviews Complete \(2\)](#)
- Submissions Requiring Additional Reviewers (0)
- Submissions with One or More Late Reviews (0)

Reviews in Progress (0)

- Reviewers Invited - No Response (0)
- Submissions Under Review (0)

View All Assigned

[View All Assigned Submissions \(3\)](#)
[View All Assigned Submissions being Edited \(0\)](#)

Subordinate Editor's Pending Assignments (2)

- [Group by Editors I Assigned](#)
- [Group by Editor with Current Responsibility](#)
- [Group by Manuscript Status](#)

Submissions with Decisions

- Submissions out for Revision (0)
- [All Submissions with Editor's Decision \(1\)](#)
- [All Submissions with Final Disposition:](#)
- [My Assignments with Decision \(1\)](#)
- My Assignments with Final Disposition (0)

Linked Submission Groups

- Active Linked Submission Groups (0)
- Inactive Linked Submission Groups (0)

Your Time: 14:32, 11 February . Site Time: 14:33, 11 February

New Interface!

Editor Main Menu

em | JMMESA | The Journal of Modern Medical Examples and Advancements

John Doe | Logout

Home | Main Menu | Submit a Manuscript | Shortcuts | About | Help

Simple Submission Search

Managing Editor Main Menu

Search

Search Submissions

Search People

Saved Searches

All Manuscripts

Submissions With

0 Reviews Completed: 1

1 Reviews Completed: 0

2 Reviews Completed: 0

3 Reviews Completed: 1

4 Reviews Completed: 0

Administrative Functions

System Administrator Functions

Register New User

Reports

Send Reminder Letters

Send Batch E-mail

Editorial | Proposal Menu | Task | Enterprise View

Expand All | Collapse All

Editor To-Do List

My Pending Assignments (5)

- New Submissions Requiring Assignment (5)
- Submissions with Required Reviews Complete (3)
- Submissions Requiring Additional Reviews (0)
- Submissions with One or More Late Reviews (0)

Reviews in Progress (0)

- Reviewers Invited - No Response (0)
- Submissions Under Review (0)

View All Assigned

- View All Assigned Submissions (3)
- View All Assigned Submissions being Edited (0)

Submissions with Decisions

- Submissions out for Revision (0)
- All Submissions with Editor's Decision (0)
- All Submissions with Final Disposition:
 - Accept (403) / Reject (148) / Withdrawn (42) / Transfer (14)
- My Assignments with Decision (5)
- My Assignments with Final Disposition (6)


Linked Submission Groups

- Active Linked Submission Groups (0)
- Inactive Linked Submission Groups (0)

The content on this Main Menu page is for presentation purposes and may not reflect what will be available on your Editorial Manager site.

Your Time: 14:32, 11 February | Site Time: 14:33, 11 February

Accessible and Informed Decisions

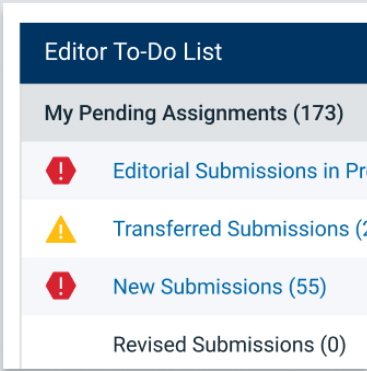


Editor 'To-Do' List

My Pending Assignments (5)

- New Submissions (2)
- Revised Submissions (0)
- New Submissions Requiring A
- Revised Submissions Requirin
- New Invitations (0)
- New Assignments (0)
- Submissions with Required Re
- Submissions Requiring Additio
- Submissions with One or More
- Reviews in Progress (1)
- Reviewers Invited - No Respo

Current

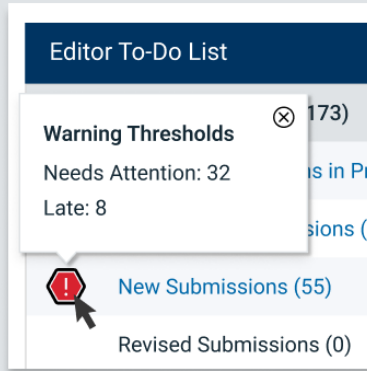


Editor To-Do List

My Pending Assignments (173)

- Editorial Submissions in Pro
- Transferred Submissions (2
- New Submissions (55)
- Revised Submissions (0)

v1



Editor To-Do List

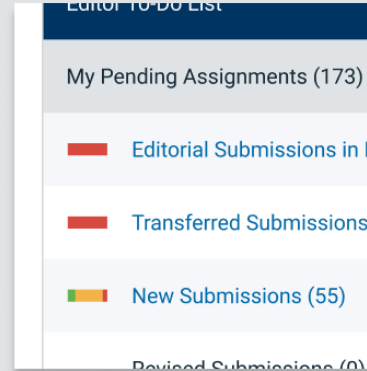
My Pending Assignments (173)

Warning Thresholds

- Needs Attention: 32
- Late: 8

- New Submissions (55)
- Revised Submissions (0)

v2

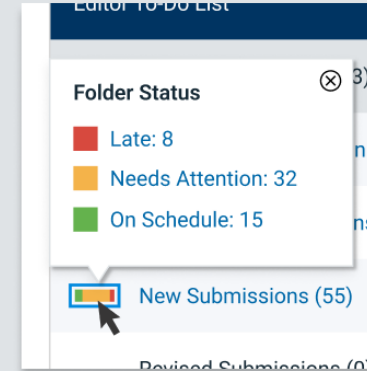


Editor To-Do List

My Pending Assignments (173)

- Editorial Submissions in P
- Transferred Submissions (
- New Submissions (55)
- Revised Submissions (0)

v3



Editor To-Do List

My Pending Assignments (173)

Folder Status

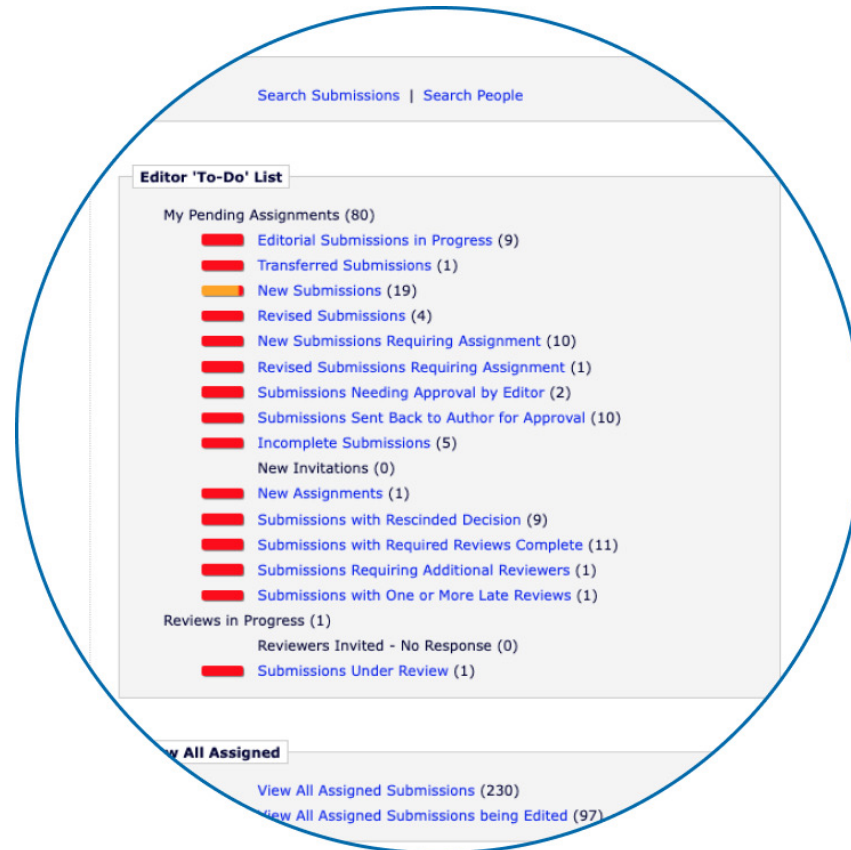
- Late: 8
- Needs Attention: 32
- On Schedule: 15

- New Submissions (55)
- Revised Submissions (0)

v4

Improving Legibility

- Increased font size
- Increased spacing
- New table design



Expand and Collapse

Editorial Proposal Menu Tasks Enterprise View

Expand All Collapse All

- Editor To-Do List
- My Pending Assignments (173)
 - Editorial Submissions in Progress (7)
 - Transferred Submissions (2)
 - New Submissions (55)
 - Revised Submissions (0)
 - New Submissions Requiring Assignment (5)
 - Revised Submissions Requiring Assignment (0)
 - Direct-to-Editor New Submissions (0)
 - Direct-to-Editor Revised Submissions (0)
 - Submissions Needing Approval by Editor (3)
 - Submissions Sent Back to Author for Approval (28)
 - Incomplete Submissions (66)
 - New Invitations (0)
 - New Assignments (0)
 - Submissions with Required Reviews Complete (3)
 - Submissions Requiring Additional Reviewers (0)
 - Submissions with One or More Late Reviews (0)
 - Editorial Submissions in Progress (7)
- Reviews in Progress (0)
 - Reviewers Invited - No Response (0)
 - Submissions Under Review (0)

Editorial Proposal Menu Tasks Enterprise View

Expand All Collapse All

- Editor To-Do List
- View All Assigned
 - View All Assigned Submissions (196)
 - View All Assigned Submissions being Edited (128)
- Subordinate Editor's Pending Assignments (141)
- Submissions with Decisions
 - Submissions out for Revision (174)
 - All Submissions with Editor's Decision (42)
 - All Submissions with Final Disposition:
 - Accept (403) / Reject (148) / Withdrawn (42) / Transfer (14)
 - Completed Conference Submissions (4)
 - Withdrawn Conference Submissions (1)
 - My Assignments with Decision (5)
 - My Assignments with Final Disposition (6)
- Linked Submission Groups
 - Active Linked Submission Groups (15)
 - Inactive Linked Submission Groups (2)

Editorial Proposal Menu Tasks Enterprise View

Expand All Collapse All

- Editor To-Do List
- View All Assigned
- Subordinate Editor's Pending Assignments (141)
- Submissions with Decisions
- Linked Submission Groups



Easy Access, Less Scrolling

Managing Editor Main Menu

Search

Search Submissions

Search People

Saved Searches

All Manuscripts

Contains "Text"

Contains Test Shared

Manuscripts Number in 2006

Manuscripts Number in 2007,
2008, 2009, 2010

Submissions With

Administrative Functions

System Administrator
Functions

Register New User

Reports

Send Reminder Letters

Send Batch E-mail

The screenshot shows the 'Managing Editor Main Menu' interface. At the top, there are three navigation tabs: 'Editorial', 'Proposal Menu', and 'Tasks'. The main content area is titled 'Managing Editor Main Menu' and includes a 'Submissions With:' section with a table of review completion counts. Below this is a 'Search' section with links for 'Search Submissions' and 'Search People'. At the bottom, there is an 'Editor 'To-Do' List' section with a link for 'My Pending Assignments (5)'. The interface is clean and organized, with clear navigation and data presentation.

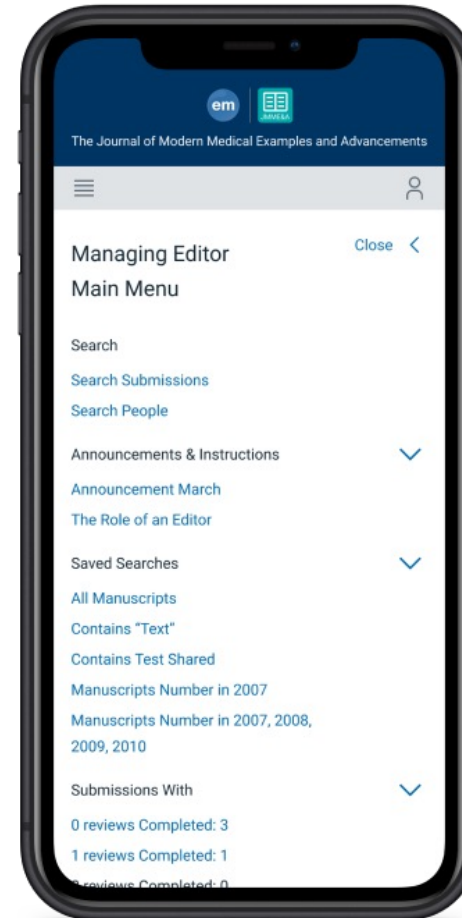
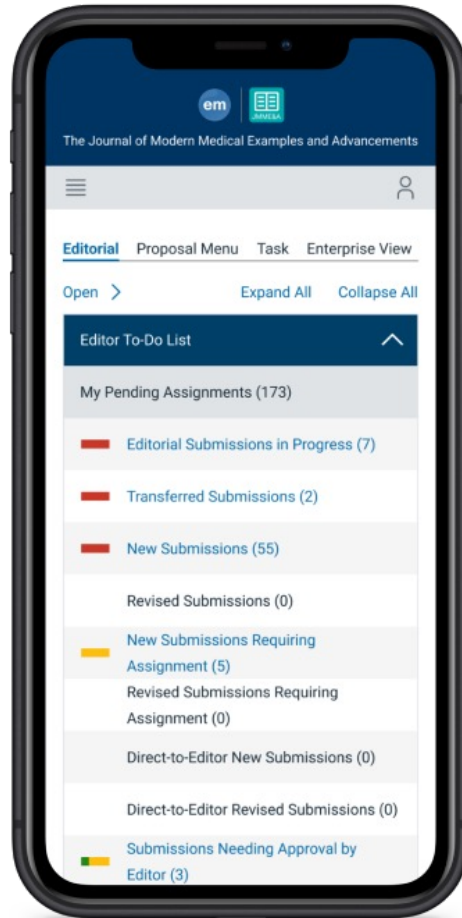
0 Reviews Complete	1 Reviews Complete	2 Reviews Complete	3 Reviews Complete	4 Reviews Complete
2	1	0	0	0

The screenshot shows the 'Legacy Manuscripts' and 'Administrative Functions' sections of the interface. The 'Legacy Manuscripts' section includes links for 'Search Legacy Manuscripts' and 'View All Legacy Manuscripts'. The 'Administrative Functions' section includes links for 'System Administrator Functions', 'Register New User', 'Reports', 'Send Reminder Letters', 'Send Batch E-mail', and 'Notification Services Monitoring Report'. The interface is clean and organized, with clear navigation and data presentation.

- Items in the lefthand menu for quick access
- Decluttering the content of the page



Responsive Design





Design Systems

*Creating a better and more
consistent experience*

What is a Design System?

A set of **reusable** components and patterns used to help maintain **consistency** across a product



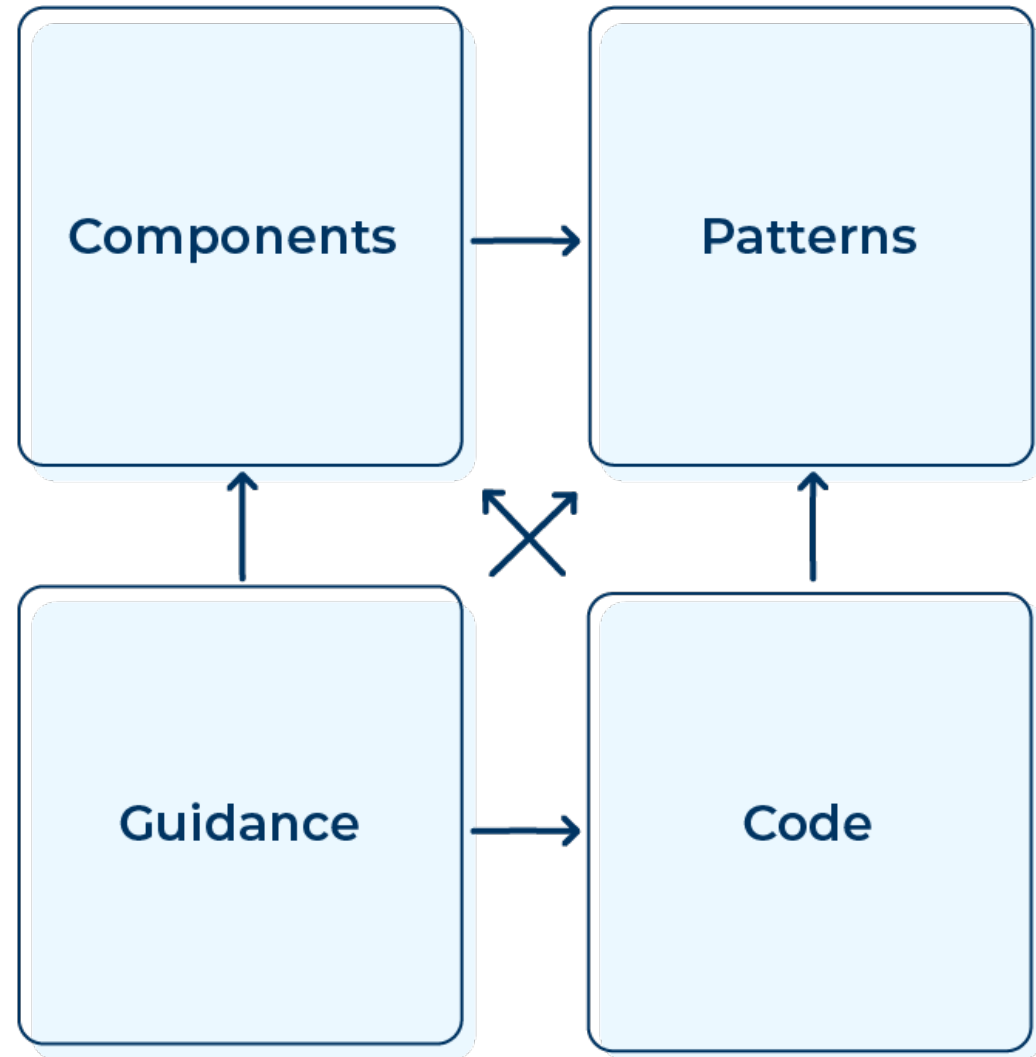
Why a Design System?

- Address larger issues throughout a product
- Quicker turnaround on new designs
- Improve accessibility



The Make Up of Design Systems

- Components
- Patterns
- Code
- Guidance



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Components

- Building blocks of a design system
- Reusable, they offer consistency and familiarity



Primary Button

Buttons

Option 1
 Option 2

Checkboxes

Option 1
 Option 2

Radio Buttons



Text

Text Fields

Patterns

- Made up of components and are solutions to help users achieve a goal through sequences and flows

Steps

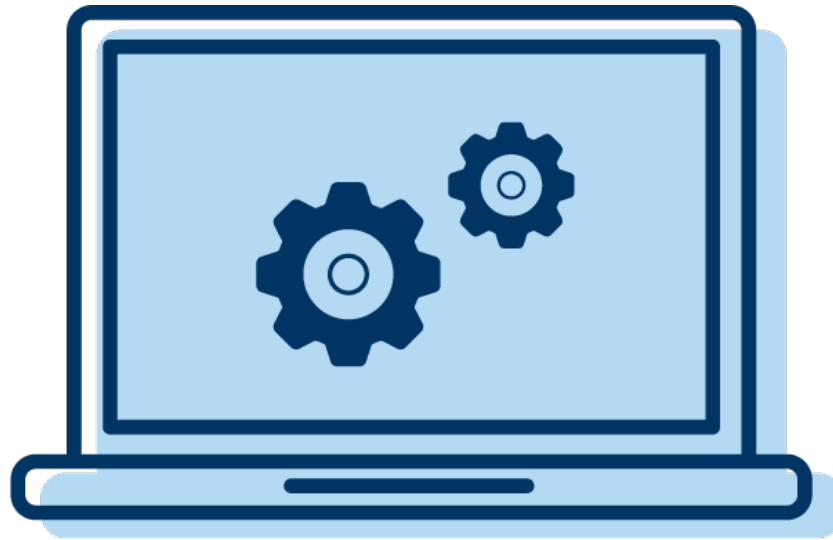
This is step 1. Click *Next* to Continue.

Cancel Next

Repeatable actions such as Add, Cancel, Delete, Next, and Save are considered Patterns

Code

Consistent, reusable design system code can **speed up development** and create an **accessible and more user-friendly** experience



Guidance

- Establishes content rules of the design system
- Rules on how to create and use components and patterns

The image displays a collage of design system guidelines for buttons, organized into several sections:

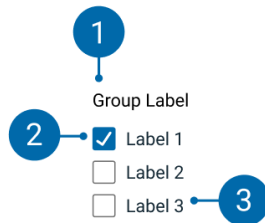
- Button Sizes:** Defines three sizes: Large, Medium, and Small. It includes visual examples of each size and notes that the large size is for most designs, while the small size is for simplified or space-constrained scenarios.
- Accessibility:** Provides rules for text contrast and focus. It states that the most important element of a button is the text, and that large buttons must have a minimum size of 44x44 pixels. It also notes that secondary and tertiary buttons should have the same design as the primary button.
- Button with Text & Icons:** Shows examples of buttons with icons on the right or left, including visual spacing and alignment guidelines.
- Recommendations:** Lists key accessibility and design rules, such as using primary text colors on light backgrounds, avoiding low-contrast colors, and using secondary text colors for less important text.
- Visual Examples:** Includes a grid of button combinations (e.g., primary and secondary buttons together) and a series of horizontal bars demonstrating font weight and style usage.



Guideline Examples

Anatomy of a Checkbox

Name	Purpose
1. Group label (optional):	Describes the group of options or provides guidance for making a selection.
2. Checkbox input	A checkbox input indicating the appropriate state. By default it is unselected.
3. Checkbox label	Describes the information you want to select or unselect.



Colors



Primary Interaction
#0069AA



Text 1
#152935



Grey 6
#737373



White
#FFFFFF



Disabled text
#626B6F



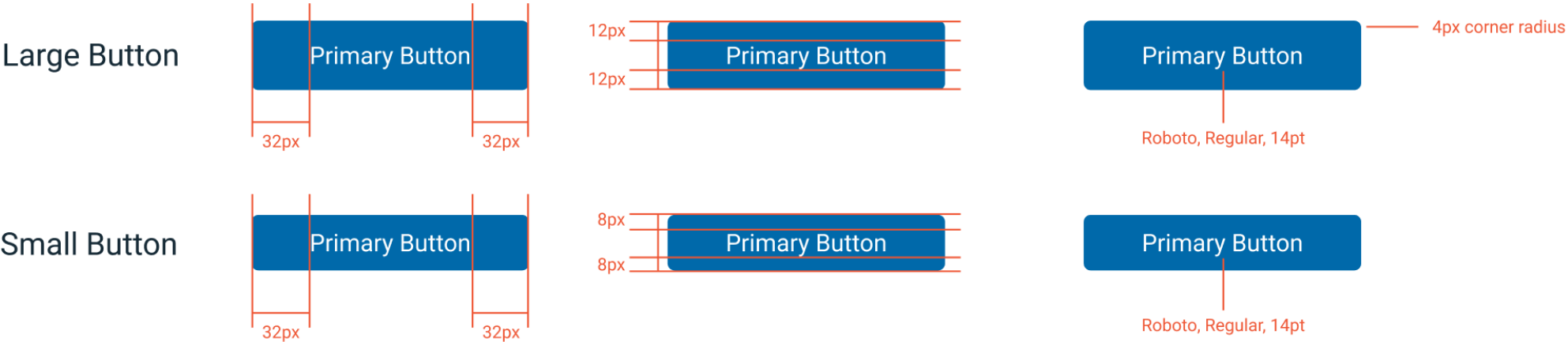
Disabled
#ECEAEA



Guideline Examples

Anatomy

Text is the most important element of a button. In Aries Design System text is centered in a button. Aries uses sentence case for all button labels. Large Buttons have a minimum size of 160x40 pixels. If a button's width must be longer than 160px there should be 32px padding on both sides of the text.



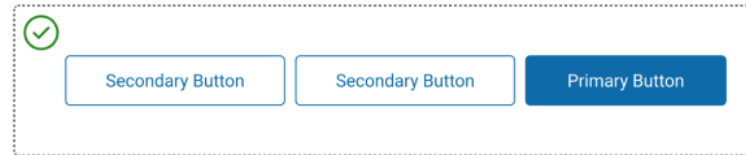
Secondary and tertiary buttons have the same design anatomy as the primary button.



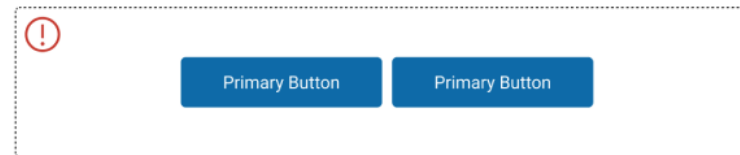
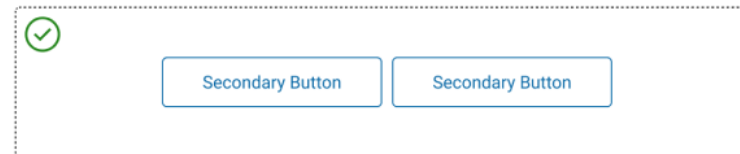
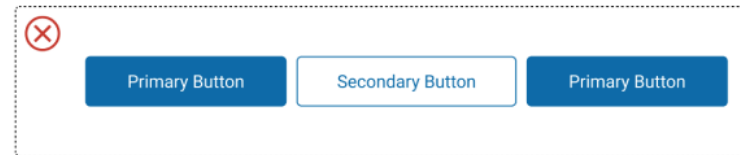
Guidance Examples

Recommendations

Primary Buttons should always be located on the right of other button types.



Do not use two primary buttons in a group



Guidance Examples

Recommendations

Our goal is for Aries designs to always try and pass **WCAG 2.1 AA** accessibility guidelines.
Always consider the following recommendations when creating new designs.



Do use primary text colors on light backgrounds



Do not use text colors that have little contrast



Do not use body copy with poor color contrast

Color should be purposefully used. Try to avoid using too many different colors across designs.



Neutral colors for body text.
#152935 is our default text color.



Use the secondary text color for text that requires less attention.
#737373 is our secondary text color



Do not use colored text anywhere.
Do not use colored text anywhere.
This can cause accessibility issues.
This can cause accessibility issues.

Font weight and style should be used with a specific function in mind.



Bold and *italics* should be used sparingly to emphasize a distinction

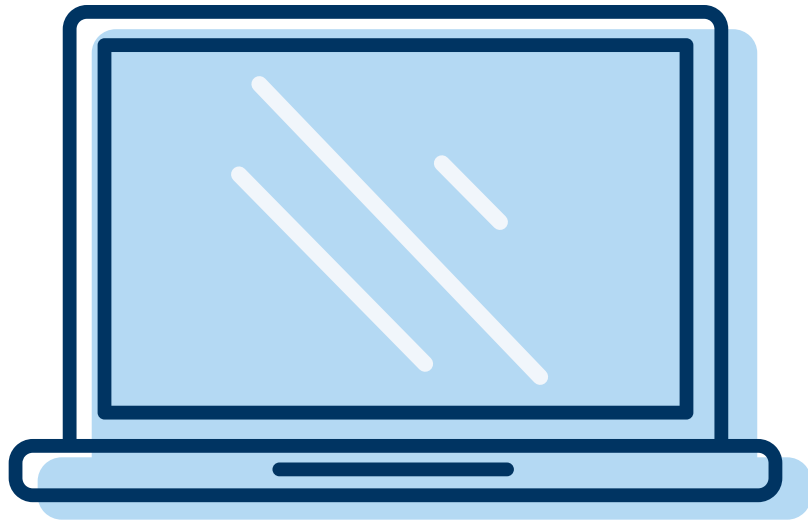


Editor Main Menu

Come see some of the new design system styles in our Editor Main Menu prototype!

The screenshot displays the Editor Main Menu interface. At the top, the journal title 'The Journal of Modern Medical Examples and Advancements' is shown alongside the user name 'John Doe' and a 'Logout' link. The navigation bar includes 'Home', 'Main Menu', 'Submit a Manuscript', 'Shortcuts', 'About', and 'Help'. A search bar for 'Simple Submission Search' is located on the right. The main content area is divided into several sections: 'Editorial', 'Proposal Menu', 'Task', and 'Enterprise View'. The 'Editorial' section is active and contains a 'My Pending Assignments (5)' list with categories like 'New Submissions Requiring Assignment (5)', 'Submissions with Required Reviews Complete (3)', 'Submissions Requiring Additional Reviewers (0)', and 'Submissions with One or More Late Reviews (0)'. Below this is a 'Reviews in Progress (0)' section with 'Reviewers Invited - No Response (0)' and 'Submissions Under Review (0)'. The 'View All Assigned' section shows 'View All Assigned Submissions (3)' and 'View All Assigned Submissions being Edited (0)'. The 'Submissions with Decisions' section includes 'Submissions out for Revision (0)', 'All Submissions with Editor's Decision (0)', and 'All Submissions with Final Disposition: Accept (403) / Reject (148) / Withdrawn (42) / Transfer (14)'. It also shows 'My Assignments with Decision (5)' and 'My Assignments with Final Disposition (6)'. The 'Linked Submission Groups' section lists 'Active Linked Submission Groups (0)' and 'Inactive Linked Submission Groups (0)'. A sidebar on the left provides navigation for 'Managing Editor Main Menu' with options like 'Search', 'Search Submissions', 'Search People', 'Saved Searches', 'All Manuscripts', 'Submissions With' (with review completion counts), and 'Administrative Functions' (including 'System Administrator Functions', 'Register New User', 'Reports', 'Send Reminder Letters', and 'Send Batch E-mail'). A footer at the bottom indicates 'Your Time: 14:32, 11 February. Site Time: 14:33, 11 February'. A notification box in the top right corner states: 'The content on this Main Menu page is for presentation purposes and may not reflect what will be available on your Editorial Manager site.'





Digital Accessibility

Investing in standards

Web Accessibility

Strategies and standards to help make the web more accessible to people with disabilities



Our Commitment

We demonstrate our commitment to web accessibility by **enabling access** and **improving the experience** for all users



Accessibility in Editorial Manager

1. Designing accessible software to enhance the user experience for all users
2. Incorporating best practices to create an accessible system



The Impact



The Impact

U.S. CDC:

UP TO 1 in 4



ADULTS HAVE A DISABILITY

Standards: WCAG

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines



Accessibility at Aries

We:

- Adhere to WCAG 2.1 Guidelines
- Train accessibility champions
- Share and collaborate through an accessibility guild
- Solicit user feedback for data-driven enhancements



Accessibility Testing

Voluntary **P**roduct **A**ccessibility **T**emplate



VPAT Testing

1.4.10 Reflow (2.1)	AA	Partially supports
1.4.11 Non-Text Contrast (2.1)	AA	Partially supports
1.4.12 Text Spacing (2.1)	AA	Supports
1.4.13 Content on Hover or Focus (2.1)	AA	Supports
2.1.1 Keyboard	A	Partially supports
2.1.2 No Keyboard Trap	A	Supports
2.1.4 Character Key Shortcuts (2.1)	A	Supports (N/A)
2.2.1 Timing Adjustable	A	Does not support
2.2.2 Pause, Stop, Hide	A	Supports (N/A)
2.3.1 Three Flashes or Below Threshold	A	Supports (N/A)





Beyond Compliance

*Software can be compliant,
yet inaccessible*

Areas of Focus

- Form fields
- Non-text content (images/decorative images)
- Information, structure, and relationships
- Keyboard-only and screen reader support



Code Improvements

Editor Assignment Confirmation

John Doe has been assigned to manuscript number ABCDEV161-D-19-00186.

E-mail has been sent to the following individuals notifying them of the Editor assignment:

John Doe (Editor)

Close



Code Improvements

Editor Assignment Confirmation

John Doe has been assigned to manuscript number ABCDEV161-D-19-00186.

E-mail has been sent to the following individuals notifying them of the Editor assignment:

John Doe (Editor)

Close




Author Experience

- Significant accessibility improvements in 2022 and 2023
- Submission process, Author folders and action links
- Code and visual changes to support keyboard-only users, screen reader users, and users with visual disabilities



Author Experience



The progress bar shows seven steps: Article Type Selection, Attach Files, General Information, Review Preferences, Additional Information, Comments, and Manuscript Data. The 'General Information' step is currently active, indicated by a blue downward arrow icon, while the others have green checkmark icons.

Article Type Selection **Attach Files** **General Information** **Review Preferences** **Additional Information** **Comments** **Manuscript Data**

Please provide the requested information.

Insert Special Character

– Region Of Origin

Select the Region of Origin related to your submission from the drop-down menu below.

Choose Region

↓ Next

+ Section/Category

+ Classifications

← Back **Proceed →**

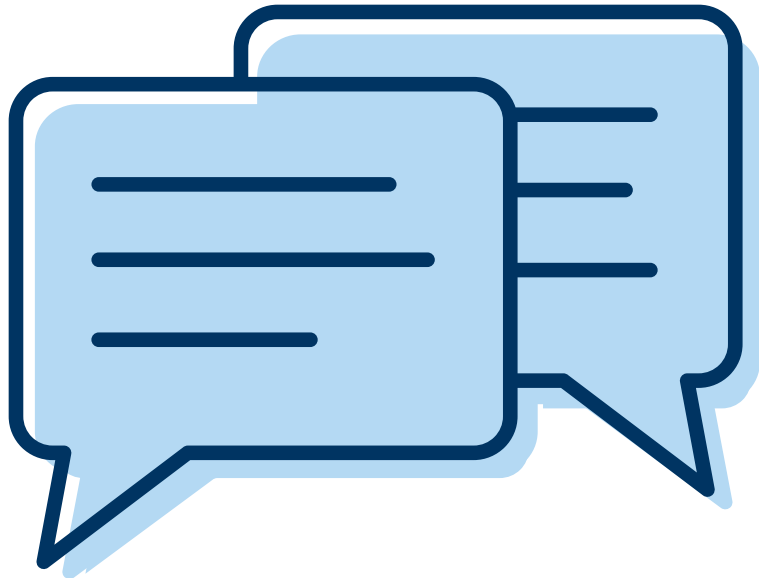


Our Commitment: Designing for All

Designing accessible software enhances the user experience for **all users** and allows for innovative design improvements

We strive to provide an accessible system for all for an **inclusive digital world**





User Research

*Help shape the future
of EM!*

User Research



We invite users to partake in our User Research sessions to help us make informed, data-driven design enhancements!

Share Your User Experience!

Share **your experiences** in scholarly publishing and **your ways of working** with our systems!

- Low-touch, no prep needed!
- Little-commitment, participate just a few times annually
- May skip opportunities or opt-out at any time

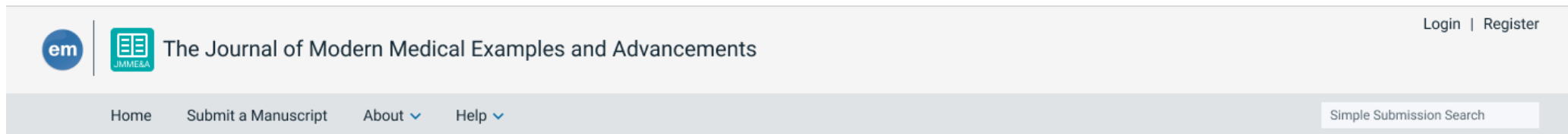
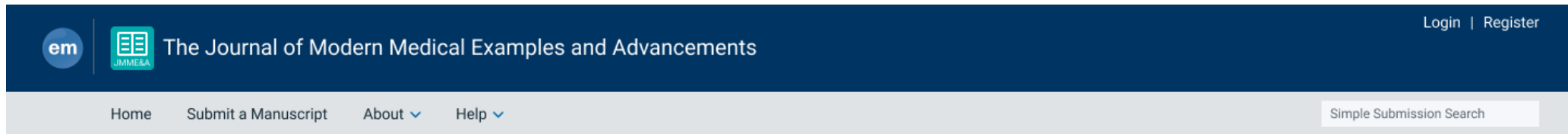
User Research Activities Include:

- Surveys
- Interviews
- Prototypes Testing
- Usability Sessions



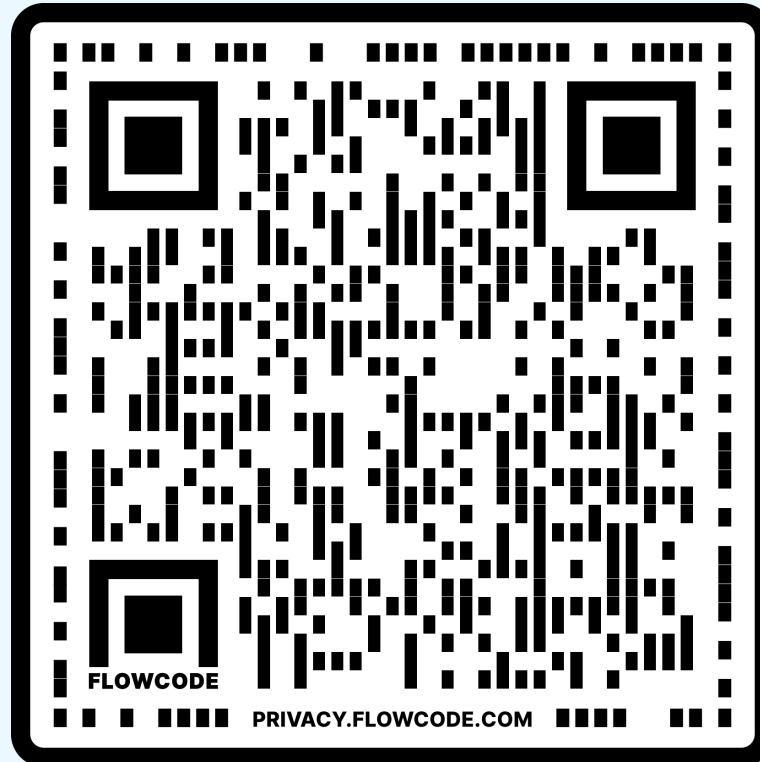
Iteration Based on Feedback

- Informs current and future projects
 - Example: Feedback on the NavBar reveals opportunities for branding in other areas of EM



Sign up for User Research Sessions

You can also sign up and find out more at the UX Station



Sign up!



Stop by the UX Station at EMUG



Surveys



EMUG Exclusive
Feedback Activities



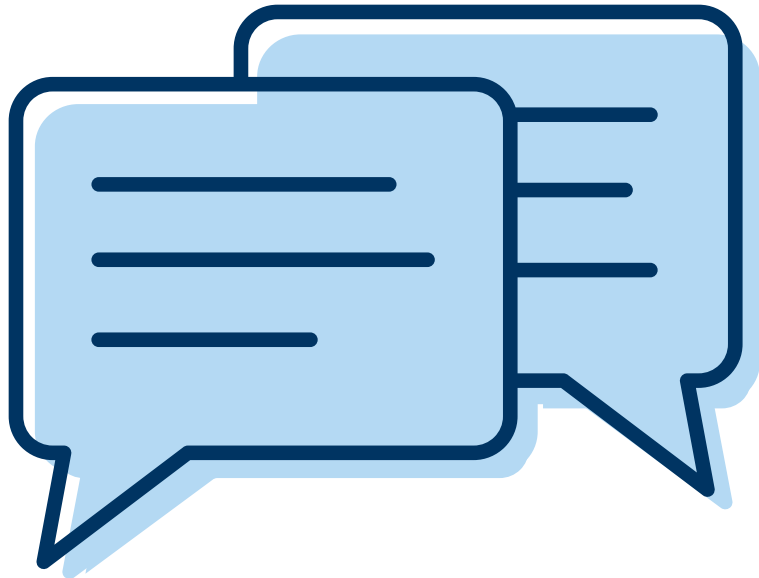
Editor Main
Menu Prototype

Resources

The screenshot shows the Aries Systems website's UI/UX Resource Library. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Aries Systems logo, a search icon, and links for SOLUTIONS, JOURNALS LIST, SUPPORT & RESOURCES, NEWS & EVENTS, and ABOUT. Two buttons, 'REQUEST A DEMO' and 'CONTACT US', are also present. Below the navigation bar, the page title is 'UI/UX Resource Library' with the subtitle 'Support materials for EM/PM redesign enhancements'. A blue button labeled 'SIGN UP: UX RESEARCH SESSIONS' is visible. An illustration of a person working at a computer with a globe and gears is shown. Below this, there are toggle switches for 'View all Resources' (selected) and 'View by Update'. A search bar and filter options for 'RESOURCE TYPE' and 'USER ROLE' are provided, along with a 'RESET FILTERS' button. The main content area displays six resource cards: 'Reviewer Selection Summary Documentation', 'Reviewer Selection Summary FAQs', 'Reviewer Selection Summary Announcement', 'UI/UX Initiative Announcement', 'UI/UX Initiative FAQs', and 'NavBar Video'.

- UI/UX Resource Library – [Aries Website](#)
 - FAQ sheets, documentation, video tutorials, etc
- Subscribe to UI/UX Newsletter Mailing List
- Your Aries Account Coordinator





Questions?

Thank you!

Stay Connected

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UX Designer
Mbeevers@ariessys.com

Nick Paolini
Product Manager
Npaolini@ariessys.com

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