

# Instruction for Authors

## 1. Aims and Scope

*Archives of Pharmacal Research* is an interdisciplinary journal devoted to the publication of original research papers and reviews in the fields of drug discovery, drug development, and drug actions with a view of providing fundamental and novel information on drugs and drug candidates.

In case of research on natural products, studies evaluating pharmacological actions of only the extracts will not be considered for publication. However, the articles reporting the pharmacological effects of the active ingredients in the extracts will be considered.

## 2. Types of Papers

**Original Research Articles.**

**Review Articles.** At least 3 figures or tables (in total) should be included.

## 3. Manuscript Submission

All submissions should be made online at the *Archives of Pharmacal Research* Editorial Manager site ([www.editorialmanager.com/arpr](http://www.editorialmanager.com/arpr)) by a corresponding author.

**1) English Language Editing:** To refine English used in the manuscripts prior to submission, it is required to use a professional language-editing service for non-English speaking authors.

**2) Submission and Handling Fee:** For all accepted manuscripts except invited articles, the submission and handling fee of US \$300 will be charged to the corresponding author before the acceptance letter. There are no additional article publishing charges except when authors choose open access option.

## 4. Submission Checklist: Authors must check the followings before submitting their manuscript.

- ♦ Cover letter
- ♦ Title page: A short running title, E-mail address of corresponding author(s).
- ♦ Manuscript format: 12-point Times New Roman font, double-spaced & one column text,
- ♦ Section order: Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conflict of Interest, Acknowledgements, References, Tables, Figure Legends, and Figures.
- ♦ Reference Format
- ♦ High-resolution digital images

## 5. Manuscript Format

Manuscripts must be in English, typewritten using Times New Roman fonts (12-point size) only, and double-spaced throughout on A-4 size with at least 2.5 cm margin.

Original articles should contain the following sections in the orders listed; Cover letter, Title page, Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, results, Discussion, Conflict of interest, Acknowledgements, References, Tables, Figure legends, and Figures.

Each section must begin on a new page and all pages should be numbered consecutively.

### 1) Cover letter

All submissions must include a cover letter that includes:

- ♦ A brief outline of the work's novelty and significance.
- ♦ A statement that the work has not been previously published and is not under consideration for publication anywhere else.
- ♦ A statement that the contents and publication of the manuscript have been approved by all co-

authors and the responsible authorities at the institute(s) where the work has been carried out.

## **2) Title Page**

This must be written on a separated page and it must include:

- ♦ A concise and informative title
- ♦ The name(s) of all author(s), the affiliation of authors, with symbols to link each name with that author's institutional affiliation and an asterisk to denote the corresponding author
- ♦ The affiliation(s) and address(es) of the author(s)
- ♦ The e-mail address(es) of the corresponding author(s)
- ♦ A running title of no more than 50 characters including spaces

## **3) Abstract**

The abstract must concisely present the hypothesis being tested, general methods, results, and conclusions. The abstract must be a single paragraph. It is recommended that the abstract be written in 250 words or less.

Four to six keywords must be supplied following the abstract.

## **4) Introduction**

This section must start on a different page from the abstract. It should contain a concise, up-to-date description of the background to provide a general reader of the Journal with enough context to understand the research being presented and its significance, as well as providing a clear statement of the research question and any hypotheses being explored.

Do not attempt to indicate the results obtained.

## **5) Materials and Methods**

Procedures used in the work must be given in sufficient detail to permit the repetition by other researchers. Nevertheless, published procedures should be briefly summarized by mentioning the reference(s) and only described in detail if the procedures have been modified.

The name of manufacturer should be specified with city, state (for USA) and country).

All human and animal studies must have been approved by the author's institutional review board and the name of the review board must be stated.

## **6) Results**

In this section, only observations must be described without discussion of their significance. Results are typically presented in figures or tables, with no duplication of information in the text.

## **7) Discussion.**

Discussion must be provided separately from the Results. The use of a combined "Results and Discussion" section is not permitted.

Whereas speculative discussion is allowed, it must be identified as such and be based on the data presented. . The Discussion must be as concise as possible.

Conclusions must be included in the discussion section

## **8) Conflict of Interest.**

All authors must disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest including any financial, personal or other relationships with other people or organizations within three years of beginning the perceived to influence, their work. Potential sources of conflict of interest include employment, consultancies, honoraria, stock ownership, stock options, expert testimony, grants received and pending, patents received and pending, royalties, and in-kind contributions.

Manuscripts that do not include a conflict of interest statement will be returned to the authors for amendment before any editorial consideration.

Research funding must be listed in the acknowledgements section and must include the funder and grant number.

## **9) Acknowledgements**

The Acknowledgment section should include credits [last name and initial(s)] for technical assistance, research funding information, financial support, and other appropriate recognition.

## 10) References

### ① Citation

Cite references in the text by name and year in parentheses, and sort them by year. Examples are as follows.

- ♦ Single author: (Thompson 2018).
- ♦ Two authors: (Becker and Seligman 2020).
- ♦ Three or more authors: (Lee et al. 2021)
- ♦ Sort by year: (Abbott et al. 2019; Barakat et al. 2020; Kim and Lee 2022)

### ② Reference list

The list of references must only include works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication.

Reference list entries should be alphabetized by the last names of the first author of each work. Also, the names of all authors should be provided.

#### • Journal article

Kunnumakkara AB, Bordoloi D, Padmavathi G, Monisha J, Roy NK, Prasad S, Aggarwal BB (2017) Curcumin, the golden nutraceutical: multitargeting for multiple chronic diseases. *Br J Pharmacol* 174:1325-1348. doi:10.1111/bph.13621

#### • Article by DOI

Slifka MK, Whitton JL (2000) Clinical implications of dysregulated cytokine production. *J Mol Med*. doi:10.1007/s001090000086

#### • Online document

Cartwright J (2007) Big stars have weather too. IOP Publishing PhysicsWeb. <http://physicsweb.org/articles/news/11/6/16/1>. Accessed 26 June 2007

#### • Book

South J, Blass B (2001) *The future of modern genomics*. Blackwell, London

#### • Book chapter

Brown B, Aaron M (2001) The politics of nature. In: Smith J (ed) *The rise of modern genomics*, 3rd edn. Wiley, New York, pp 230–257

## 11) Tables

Each table must be double-spaced and provided on a separate page. Tables must be numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals in the order cited in the text. Supply a brief title for each, but place explanatory matter in the footnotes (not in the heading). Do not use internal horizontal and vertical lines. Supply a brief title for each, but place explanatory matter in the footnotes (not in the heading). Tables should be editable and not embedded images or excel files.

## 12) Figure Legends

Legends must provide sufficient explanation for the reader to understand the figure independent of the text.

## 13) Figures

Figures should be numbered consecutively in the order of first citation in the text, and each figure should be provided on a separate page.

① **Graphics:** Figures should be submitted in different file formats, including TIFF, EPS, JPEG, GIF, high-resolution PDF, and power point format. Figures should be high-resolution images.

② **Colors:** All figures will be published in color for online version and in black and white for printed version.

③ **Layout:** Figures will be appropriately scaled down and embedded in the paper. The font size of the text contained in the figures should be legible when scaled down.

## **6. Changes to authorship**

Authors should consider carefully the list and order of authors before submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list must be made only before the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such a change, the Editor must receive the following from the corresponding author: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed.

## **7. Review of Manuscripts**

All manuscripts are first evaluated for their scientific content and significance by the editors and will be subjected to at least two independent reviewers. However, editors reserve the right to reject a manuscript if they feel that the manuscript is out of the scope or does not meet the minimal acceptance criteria for publication. The same rules will apply to invited manuscripts.

## **8. Proofs**

Authors are responsible for the factual accuracy of their papers. One set of proofs will be supplied for the author to check for typesetting accuracy, to be returned to the publisher within 3 days of receipt. No changes to the original manuscript will be allowed at this stage. In addition, the editors reserve the right to make any necessary correction to a paper prior to publication.

## **9. Transfer of Copyright**

All authors must sign the 'Transfer of Copyright' agreement before the article can be published. This transfer agreement enables the Pharmaceutical Society of Korea to protect the copyrighted material for the authors, but does not relinquish the author's proprietary rights.

## **Publishing ethics of *Archives of Pharmacal research***

Researchers should conduct their research from research proposal to publication in line with best practices and codes of conduct of relevant professional bodies and/or national and international regulatory bodies.

### **1. Ethical responsibilities of authors**

This journal is committed to upholding the integrity of the scientific record. This journal will follow the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) guidelines on how to deal with potential acts of misconduct.

Authors should refrain from misrepresenting research results which could damage the trust in the journal, the professionalism of scientific authorship, and ultimately the entire scientific endeavor. Maintaining integrity of the research and its presentation can be achieved by following the rules of good scientific practice, which include:

- ♦ The manuscript has not been submitted to more than one journal for simultaneous consideration.
- ♦ The manuscript has not been published previously (partly or in full), unless the new work concerns an expansion of previous work (please provide transparency on the re-use of material to avoid the hint of text-recycling ('selfplagiarism')).
- ♦ A single study is not split up into several parts to increase the quantity of submissions and submitted to various journals or to one journal over time (e.g. 'salami-publishing').
- ♦ No data have been fabricated or manipulated (including images) to support your conclusions.
- ♦ No data, text, or theories by others are presented as if they were the author's own ('plagiarism'). Proper acknowledgements to other works must be given (this includes material that is closely copied (near verbatim), summarized and/or paraphrased), quotation marks are used for verbatim copying of material, and permissions are secured for material that is copyrighted.
- ♦ Important note: the journal may use software to screen for plagiarism.
- ♦ Consent to submit has been received explicitly from all co-authors, as well as from the responsible authorities - tacitly or explicitly - at the institute/organization where the work has been carried out, before the work is submitted.
- ♦ Authors whose names appear on the submission have contributed sufficiently to the scientific work and therefore share collective responsibility and accountability for the results.
- ♦ Authors are strongly advised to ensure the correct author group, corresponding author, and order of authors at submission. Changes of authorship or in the order of authors are not accepted after acceptance of a manuscript.
- ♦ Adding and/or deleting authors at revision stage may be justifiably warranted. A letter must accompany the revised manuscript to explain the role of the added and/or deleted author(s). Further documentation may be required to support your request.
- ♦ Requests for addition or removal of authors as a result of authorship disputes after acceptance are honored after formal notification by the institute or independent body and/or when there is agreement between all authors.
- ♦ Upon request authors should be prepared to send relevant documentation or data in order to verify the validity of the results. This could be in the form of raw data, samples, records, etc. Sensitive information in the form of confidential or proprietary data is excluded.

If there is a suspicion of misconduct, the journal will carry out an investigation following the COPE guidelines. If, after investigation, the allegation seems to raise valid concerns, the accused author will be contacted and given an opportunity to address the issue. If misconduct has been established beyond reasonable doubt, this may result in the Editor-in-Chief's implementation of the following measures, including, but not limited to:

- ♦ If the article is still under consideration, it may be rejected and returned to the author.
- ♦ If the article has already been published online, depending on the nature and severity of the infraction, either an erratum will be placed with the article or in severe cases retraction of the article will occur. The reason must be given in the published erratum or retraction note. Please note that retraction means that the paper is maintained on the platform, watermarked "retracted" and explanation for the retraction is provided in a note linked to the watermarked article.
- ♦ The author's institution may be informed.

## **2. Compliance with ethical standards**

To ensure objectivity and transparency in research and to ensure that accepted principles of ethical and professional conduct have been followed, authors should include information regarding sources of funding, potential conflicts of interest (financial or non-financial), informed consent if the research involved human participants, and a statement on welfare of animals if the research involved animals.

Authors must include the potential conflicts of interest and sources of funding (if applicable) in a separate section entitled "Conflict of interest" or "Acknowledgements", respectively, before the References when submitting a paper: The corresponding author should be prepared to collect documentation of compliance with ethical standards and send if requested during peer review or after publication.

The Editors reserve the right to reject manuscripts that do not comply with the above-mentioned guidelines. The author will be held responsible for false statements or failure to fulfill the above-mentioned guidelines.

### **2-1. Disclosure of potential conflicts of interest**

Authors must disclose all relationships or interests that could have direct or potential influence or impart bias on the work. Although an author may not feel there is any conflict, disclosure of relationships and interests provides a more complete and transparent process, leading to an accurate and objective assessment of the work.

Awareness of a real or perceived conflicts of interest is a perspective to which the readers are entitled. This is not meant to imply that a financial relationship with an organization that sponsored the research or compensation received for consultancy work is inappropriate.

Examples of potential conflicts of interests that are directly or indirectly related to the research may include but are not limited to the following:

- ♦ Research grants from funding agencies (please give the research funder and the grant number)
- ♦ Honoraria for speaking at symposia
- ♦ Financial support for attending symposia
- ♦ Financial support for educational programs
- ♦ Employment or consultation
- ♦ Support from a project sponsor
- ♦ Position on advisory board or board of directors or other type of management relationships
- ♦ Multiple affiliations
- ♦ Financial relationships, for example equity ownership or investment interest
- ♦ Intellectual property rights (e.g. patents, copyrights and royalties from such rights)
- ♦ Holdings of spouse and/or children that may have financial interest in the work

In addition, interests that go beyond financial interests and compensation (nonfinancial interests) that

may be important to readers should be disclosed. These may include but are not limited to personal relationships or competing interests directly or indirectly tied to this research, or professional interests or personal beliefs that may influence your research.

The corresponding author collects the conflict of interest disclosure forms from all authors. In author collaborations where formal agreements for representation allow it, it is sufficient for the corresponding author to sign the disclosure form on behalf of all authors.

## **2-2. Research involving human participants and/or animals**

### **1) Statement of Human Rights**

When reporting studies that involve human participants, authors should include a statement that the studies have been approved by the appropriate institutional and/or national research ethics committee and have been performed in accordance with the ethical standards as laid down in the 1964 Declaration of Helsinki and its later amendments or comparable ethical standards.

If doubt exists whether the research was conducted in accordance with the 1964 Helsinki Declaration or comparable standards, the authors must explain the reasons for their approach, and demonstrate that the independent ethics committee or institutional review board explicitly approved the doubtful aspects of the study.

The following statements should be included in the text of the Materials and methods section: “All procedures were approved by the institutional research ethics committee, and performed in accordance with the recommendations of the Declaration of Helsinki on biomedical research involving human subjects.”

### **2) Statement on the Welfare of Animals**

The welfare of animals used for research must be respected. When reporting experiments on animals, authors should indicate whether the international, national, and/or institutional guidelines for the care and use of animals have been followed, and that the studies have been approved by a research ethics committee at the institution or practice at which the studies were conducted (where such a committee exists).

For studies with animals, the following statement should be included in the text of the Materials and methods section: “All procedures were approved by the institutional ethics committee for the care and use of animals.”

### **3) Informed consent**

All individuals have individual rights that are not to be infringed. Individual participants in studies have, for example, the right to decide what happens to the (identifiable) personal data gathered, to what they have said during a study or an interview, as well as to any photograph that was taken.

Hence it is important that all participants gave their informed consent in writing prior to inclusion in the study. Identifying details (names, dates of birth, identity numbers and other information) of the participants that were studied should not be published in written descriptions, photographs, and genetic profiles unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and the participant (or parent or guardian if the participant is incapable) gave written informed consent for publication. Complete anonymity is difficult to achieve in some cases, and informed consent should be obtained if there is any doubt.

For example, masking the eye region in photographs of participants is inadequate protection of anonymity. If identifying characteristics are altered to protect anonymity, such as in genetic profiles, authors should provide assurance that alterations do not distort scientific meaning.

The following statement should be included: “Written informed consent was obtained from all subjects.”

All clinical investigation must have been conducted according to Declaration of Helsinki principles. For the policies on the research and publication ethics not stated, ‘Good Publication Practice Guidelines for Medical Journals ([http://kamje.or.kr/publishing\\_ethics.html](http://kamje.or.kr/publishing_ethics.html))’ or

'Guidelines on good publication (<http://www.publicationethics.org.uk/guidelines>)' can be applied.

#### 4) Sex and gender

Ensure correct use of the terms sex (when reporting biological factors) and gender (identity, psychosocial or cultural factors), and, unless inappropriate, report the sex and/or gender of study participants, the sex of animals or cells, and describe the methods used to determine sex and gender. If the study was done involving an exclusive population, for example in only one sex, authors should justify why, except in obvious cases (e.g., prostate cancer). Authors should define how they determined race or ethnicity and justify their relevance.

### 3. Appeals and complaints

The below procedure applies to appeals to editorial decisions, complaints about failure of processes such as long delays in handling papers and complaints about publication ethics. The complaint should in first instance be handled by the Editor-in-Chief(s) responsible for the journal and/or the Editor who handled the paper.

#### **Complaint about scientific content, e.g. an appeal against rejection**

The Editor-in-Chief or Handling Editor considers the authors' argument, the reviewer reports and decides whether

- The decision to reject should stand;
- Another independent opinion is required
- The appeal should be considered.

The complainant is informed of the decision with an explanation if appropriate.

Decisions on appeals are final and new submissions take priority over appeals.

#### **Complaint about processes, e.g. time taken to review**

The Editor-in-Chief together with the Handling Editor (where appropriate) and/or inhouse contact (where appropriate) will investigate the matter. The complainant will be given appropriate feedback. Feedback is provided to relevant stakeholders to improve processes and procedures.

#### **Complaint about publication ethics, e.g., researcher's author's, or reviewer's conduct**

The Editor-in-Chief or Handling Editor follows guidelines published by the Committee on Publication Ethics of Springer-Nature. The Editor-in-Chief or Handling Editor may ask the publisher via their in-house contact for advice on difficult or complicated cases. The Editor-in-Chief or Handling Editor decides on a course of action and provides feedback to the complainant. If the complainant remains dissatisfied with the handling of their complaint, he or she can submit the complaint to the Committee on Publication Ethics of Springer-Nature.