

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

(see journal website [www.springer.com/40005](http://www.springer.com/40005))

### Types of Papers

**Original Research:** It should include significant experimental or theoretical results suitable for publication. Although there are no limitations to the length of article, authors should write in a clear and concise manner and include data essential for their final conclusions.

**Review:** It provides an in-depth and up to date critical review of broad topics in pharmaceutical research. Reviews are not limited as to the number of words, tables, figures and references that may be included.

### Manuscript Submission

Submission of a manuscript implies: that the work described has not been published before; that it is not under consideration for publication anywhere else; that its publication has been approved by all co-authors, if any, as well as by the responsible authorities— tacitly or explicitly – at the institute where the work has been carried out. The publisher will not be held legally responsible should there be any claims for compensation.

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Authors wishing to include figures, tables, or text passages that have already been published elsewhere are required to obtain permission from the copyright owner(s) for both the print and online format and to include evidence that such permission has been granted when submitting their papers. Any material received without such evidence will be assumed to originate from the authors.

### Online Submission

Authors should submit their manuscripts online. Please follow the hyperlink “Submit online” on the journal website ([www.springer.com/40005](http://www.springer.com/40005)) and upload all of your manuscript files following the instructions given on the screen.

### Checklist for Submission

The ‘Checklist for submission’ should be uploaded together with all of your manuscript files.

All authors should submit the manuscript according to correct format with sequential orders indicated in “Instruction for Authors”. For this purpose, the checklist is submitted with the manuscript by checking the mark (‘x’) in the provided sheet. Manuscripts without a completed checklist will be returned to the author. The checklist sheet is available at the journal website.

### English Language Editing

Manuscripts must be written clearly and concisely in English. Certificate of English editing from a professional

English editing service company is required for all accepted manuscripts written by non-native English speakers. This certificate will be requested during the revision process.

### Article Publishing Charge

There is no publication fee.

### Title Page

The title page should include:

- The name(s) of the author(s)
- A concise and informative title
- The affiliation(s) and address(es) of the author(s)
- The e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers of the corresponding author
- If available, the 16-digit ORCID of the author(s)

### Abstract

Please provide a structured abstract of 150 to 250 words which should be divided into the following sections:

- Purpose (stating the main purposes and research question)
- Methods
- Results
- Conclusion

This structured abstract should not contain any undefined abbreviations or unspecified references. Reviews also require an abstract that is structured with Background, Area Covered and Expert Opinion.

### Keywords

Please provide 4 to 6 keywords which can be used for indexing purposes.

### Text

#### Text structure

Original articles should sequentially include:

- Introduction
- Materials and methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- Acknowledgements
- Compliance with Ethical Standards (including Conflict of Interest, Statement of Human and Animal Rights, and/or Statement of Informed Consent)
- References
- Figure legends

A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate.

## Text Formatting

Manuscripts should be submitted in Word.

- Use a normal, plain font (e.g., 12-point Times Roman) for text.
- Use italics for emphasis.
- Use the automatic page numbering function to number the pages.
- Do not use field functions.
- Use tab stops or other commands for indents, not the space bar.
- Use the table function, not spreadsheets, to make tables.
- Use the equation editor or MathType for equations.
- Save your file in docx format (Word 2007 or higher) or doc format (older Word versions).

Manuscripts with mathematical content can also be submitted in LaTeX.

- LaTeX macro package (zip, 182 kB)

## Headings

Please use no more than three levels of displayed headings.

## Abbreviations

Abbreviations should be defined at first mention and used consistently thereafter.

## Footnotes

Footnotes can be used to give additional information, which may include the citation of a reference included in the reference list. They should not consist solely of a reference citation, and they should never include the bibliographic details of a reference. They should also not contain any figures or tables.

Footnotes to the text are numbered consecutively; those to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data). Footnotes to the title or the authors of the article are not given reference symbols.

Always use footnotes instead of endnotes.

## Acknowledgements

Acknowledgments of people, grants, funds, etc. should be placed in a separate section at the end of the text (before the reference list). The names of funding organizations should be written in full.

## Scientific Style

- Please always use internationally accepted signs and symbols for units (SI units).

## References

### Citation

Cite references in the text by name and year in parentheses. Some examples:

- Negotiation research spans many disciplines (Thompson 1990).
- This result was later contradicted by Becker and Seligman (1996).
- This effect has been widely studied (Abbott 1991; Barakat et al. 1995; Kelso and Smith 1998; Medvec et al. 1999).

### Reference List

The list of references should only include works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication. Personal communications and unpublished works should only be mentioned in the text. Do not use footnotes or endnotes as a substitute for a reference list.

Reference list entries should be alphabetized by the last names of the first author of each work. Order multi-author publications of the same first author alphabetically with respect to second, third, etc. author. Publications of exactly the same author(s) must be ordered chronologically. More than one reference from the same author(s) in the same year must be identified by the letters 'a', 'b', 'c', etc., placed after the year of publication.

- Journal article

Choi YH, Han HK (2018) Nanomedicines: current status and future perspectives in aspect of drug delivery and pharmacokinetics. *J Pharm Investig* 48:43–60.

Ideally, the names of all authors should be provided, but in six or more authors, 5th author's name followed by 'et al' should be used:

Gamelin FX, Baquet C, Berthoin S, Thevenet D, Nourry C et al. (2009) Effect of high intensity intermittent training on heart rate variability in prepubescent children. *Eur J Appl Physiol* 105:731–738.

- Article by DOI

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

- 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

- 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
- Dissertation  
Trent JW (1975) Experimental acute renal failure. Dissertation, University of California

Always use the standard abbreviation of a journal's name according to the ISSN List of Title Word Abbreviations, see [www.issn.org/2-22661-LTWA-online.php](http://www.issn.org/2-22661-LTWA-online.php).

## Tables

- All tables are to be numbered using Arabic numerals.
- Tables should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.
- For each table, please supply a table caption (title) explaining the components of the table.
- Identify any previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference at the end of the table caption.
- Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data) and included beneath the table body.

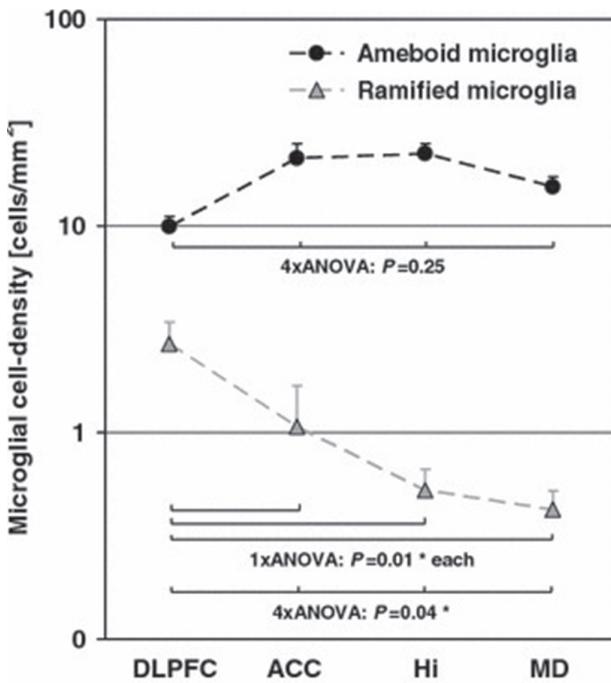
## Artwork and Illustration Guidelines

### Electronic Figure Submission

- Supply all figures electronically.
- Indicate which graphic program was used to create the artwork.
- For vector graphics, the preferred format is EPS; for halftones, please use TIFF format. MS Office files are also acceptable.
- Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files.
- Name your figure files with "Fig" and the figure number, e.g., Fig1.eps.

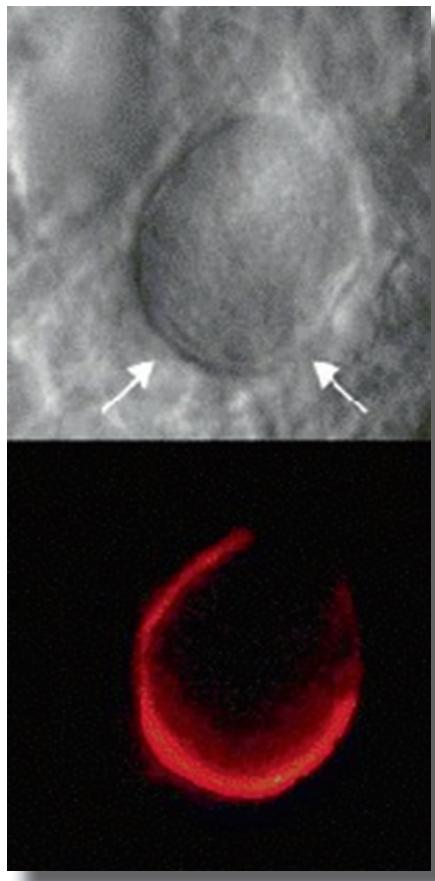
### Line Art

- Definition: Black and white graphic with no shading.
- Do not use faint lines and/or lettering and check that all lines and lettering within the figures are legible at final size.
- All lines should be at least 0.1 mm (0.3 pt) wide.
- Scanned line drawings and line drawings in bitmap format should have a minimum resolution of 1200 dpi.
- Vector graphics containing fonts must have the fonts embedded in the files.



### Halftone Art

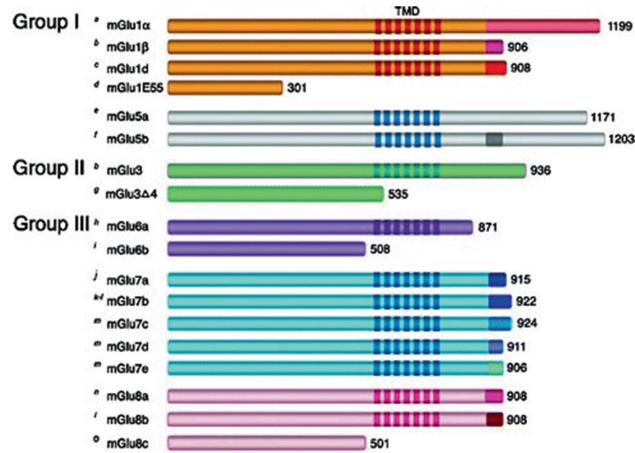
- Definition: Photographs, drawings, or paintings with fine shading, etc.
- If any magnification is used in the photographs, indicate this by using scale bars within the figures themselves.



- Halftones should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi.

## Combination Art

- Definition: a combination of halftone and line art, e.g., halftones containing line drawing, extensive lettering, color diagrams, etc.
- Combination artwork should have a minimum resolution of 600 dpi.



## Color Art

- Color art is free of charge for print and online publication.
- Color illustrations should be submitted as RGB.

## Figure Lettering

- To add lettering, it is best to use Helvetica or Arial (sans serif fonts).
- Keep lettering consistently sized throughout your final-sized artwork, usually about 2–3 mm (8–12 pt).
- Variance of type size within an illustration should be minimal, e.g., do not use 8-pt type on an axis and 20-pt type for the axis label.
- Avoid effects such as shading, outline letters, etc.
- Do not include titles or captions within your illustrations.

## Figure Numbering

- The total number of figures should not exceed 6.
- All figures are to be numbered using Arabic numerals.
- Figures should always be cited in text in consecutive numerical order.
- Figure parts should be denoted by lowercase letters (a, b, c, etc.).
- If an appendix appears in your article and it contains one or more figures, continue the consecutive numbering of the main text. Do not number the

appendix figures, “A1, A2, A3, etc.” Figures in online appendices (Electronic Supplementary Material) should, however, be numbered separately.

## Figure Captions

- Each figure should have a concise caption describing accurately what the figure depicts. Include the captions in the text file of the manuscript, not in the figure file.
- Figure captions begin with the term Fig. in bold type, followed by the figure number, also in bold type.
- No punctuation is to be included after the number, nor is any punctuation to be placed at the end of the caption.
- Identify all elements found in the figure in the figure caption; and use boxes, circles, etc., as coordinate points in graphs.
- Identify previously published material by giving the original source in the form of a reference citation at the end of the figure caption.

## Figure Placement and Size

- When preparing your figures, size figures to fit in the column width.
- The figures should be 39 mm, 84 mm, 129 mm, or 174 mm wide and not higher than 234 mm.

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## Electronic Supplementary Material

Springer accepts electronic multimedia files (animations, movies, audio, etc.) and other supplementary files to

be published online along with an article. This feature can add dimension to the author's article, as certain information cannot be printed or is more convenient in electronic form.

## **Submission**

- Supply all supplementary material in standard file formats.
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- To accommodate user downloads, please keep in mind that larger-sized files may require very long download times and that some users may experience other problems during downloading.

## **Audio, Video, and Animations**

- Aspect ratio: 16:9 or 4:3
- Maximum file size: 25 GB
- Minimum video duration: 1 sec
- Supported file formats: avi, wmv, mp4, mov, m2p, mp2, mpg, mpeg, flv, mxf, mts, m4v, 3gp

## **Text and Presentations**

- Submit your material in PDF format; .doc or .ppt files are not suitable for long-term viability.
- A collection of figures may also be combined in a PDF file.

## **Spreadsheets**

- Spreadsheets should be converted to PDF if no interaction with the data is intended.
- If the readers should be encouraged to make their own calculations, spreadsheets should be submitted as .xls files (MS Excel).

## **Specialized Formats**

- Specialized format such as .pdb (chemical), .wrl (VRML), .nb (Mathematica notebook), and .tex can also be supplied.

## **Collecting Multiple Files**

- It is possible to collect multiple files in a .zip or .gz file.

## **Numbering**

- If supplying any supplementary material, the text must make specific mention of the material as a citation, similar to that of figures and tables.
- Refer to the supplementary files as "Online Resource", e.g., "... as shown in the animation (Online Resource 3)", "... additional data are given in Online Resource 4".
- Name the files consecutively, e.g. "ESM\_3.mpg", "ESM\_4.pdf".

## **Captions**

- For each supplementary material, please supply a concise caption describing the content of the file.

## **Processing of Supplementary Files**

- Electronic supplementary material will be published as received from the author without any conversion, editing, or reformatting.

## **Accessibility**

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- The manuscript contains a descriptive caption for each supplementary material
- Video files do not contain anything that flashes more than three times per second (so that users prone to seizures caused by such effects are not put at risk)

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

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Authors are welcome to suggest suitable reviewers and/or request the exclusion of certain individuals when they submit their manuscripts. When suggesting reviewers, authors should make sure they are totally independent and not connected to the work in any way. It is strongly recommended to suggest a mix of reviewers from different countries and different institutions. When suggesting reviewers, the Corresponding Author must provide an institutional email address for each suggested reviewer, or, if this is not possible to include other means of verifying the identity such as a link to a personal homepage, a link to the publication record or a researcher or author ID in the submission letter. Please note that the Journal may not use the suggestions, but suggestions are appreciated and may help facilitate the peer review process.

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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 should include the following statements (if applicable) in a separate section entitled “Compliance with Ethical Standards” when submitting a paper:

- Disclosure of potential conflicts of interest
- Research involving Human Participants and/or Animals
- Informed consent

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The corresponding author should be prepared to collect documentation of compliance with ethical standards and send if requested during peer review or after publication.

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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.

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Although retrospective studies are conducted on already available data or biological material (for which formal consent may not be needed or is difficult to obtain) ethical approval may be required dependent on the law and the national ethical guidelines of a country. Authors should check with their institution to make sure they are complying with the specific requirements of their country.

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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).

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“This article does not contain any studies with human participants performed by any of the authors.”

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“This article does not contain any studies with human participants or animals performed by any of the authors.”

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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:

**Informed consent:** “Informed consent was obtained from all individual participants included in the study.”

If identifying information about participants is available in the article, the following statement should be included:

“Additional informed consent was obtained from all individual participants for whom identifying information is included in this article.”

### 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:

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- 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
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The corresponding author will include a summary statement in the text of the manuscript in a separate section before the reference list, that reflects what is recorded in the potential conflict of interest disclosure form(s).

See below examples of disclosures:

**Funding:** This study was funded by X (grant number X).

**Conflict of Interest:** Author A has received research grants from Company A. Author B has received a speaker honorarium from Company X and owns stock in Company Y. Author C is a member of committee Z.

**If no conflict exists, the authors should state:**

**Conflict of Interest:** All authors (list names, e.g. A. Kim, B. Lee, and G.D. Hong) declare that they have no conflict of interest

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This journal uses a fully web-enabled manuscript submission and review system (<https://www.editorialmanager.com/jpin/>), which enables authors to track the review process of their manuscripts. The managing editor conducts a technical check of manuscripts, and if necessary, sends an incomplete manuscript back to authors. The managing editor assigns the technically checked manuscript to Editor-in-Chief, who then conducts a scientific screening of the manuscript. Papers deemed suitable are assigned to an appropriate editor and undergo single blind peer review by at least two independent expert reviewers. The editors use the reviewers' comments and recommendations in making a publication decision for the manuscript. However, editors

reserve the right to reject a manuscript without conducting an in-depth review if they feel that the manuscript is out of scope or does not meet the minimal acceptance criteria for publication. The manuscript with incorrect format may be declined without further review.

### Data availability Statements

Data Availability statements can take one of the following forms (or a combination of more than one if required for multiple datasets):

1. The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are available in the [NAME] repository, [PERSISTENT WEB LINK TO DATASETS]
2. The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are not publicly available due [REASON WHY DATA ARE NOT PUBLIC] but are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.
3. The datasets generated during and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding author on reasonable request.
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**Corresponding Author:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

### **Order of the manuscript appeared (Each in separate pages)**

1.Title; 2.Abstract/keywords; 3.Introduction; 4.Materials and Methods; 5.Results; 6.Discussion; 7.Conclusion; 8.Acknowledgements; 9.Compliance with Ethical Standards (including Conflict of Interest, Statement of Human and Animal Rights, and/or Statement of Informed Consent); 10.References; 11.Tables; 12.Figure legends; 13.Figures.

### **General**

- ( ) Did you have the manuscript checked by a native English speaker who is familiar with the topic of the paper?
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- ( ) Are the references identified by the (first) author's last name and year in the text, and listed at the end of the paper in alphabetical order under the (first) author's name?
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