

# Instruction for Authors

# Scope

**Biomolecular Concepts** is a peer-reviewed, open access journal fostering the integration of different fields of biology, including cellular and molecular biology, biochemistry, genetics, epigenetics, neurosciences, and developmental biology. The journal publishes reviews, short conceptual overviews and research papers on a wide range of topics. The reviews should cover the latest results in the corresponding research areas. The research articles should report novel results of broad significance, ranging from the role of single molecules to the organization of cellular networks and entire organisms.

# **Editorial Policy**

## **Unpublished material**

Submission of a manuscript implies that the work described is not copyrighted, published or submitted elsewhere, except in abstract form. The corresponding author should ensure that all authors approve the manuscript before its submission.

#### **Conflict of interest**

When authors submit a manuscript, they are responsible for recognizing and disclosing financial and/or other conflicts of interest that might bias their work and/or could inappropriately influence his/her judgment. If no specified acknowledgment is given, the Editors assume that no conflict of interest exists.

#### Copyright

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#### Authorship

Authorship should be limited to those who have made a significant contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of the reported study. All those who have made significant contributions should be listed as coauthors. Where there are others who have participated in certain substantive aspects of the research project, they should be named in an Acknowledgment section.

#### **Peer Review process**

The Editors reserve the right to decline the submitted manuscript without review, if the studies reported are not sufficiently novel or important to merit publication in the journal. Manuscripts deemed unsuitable (insufficient originality or of limited interest to the target audience) are returned to the author(s) without review. The Editor seeks advice from experts in the appropriate field. Research articles and communications are refereed by a minimum of two reviewers, review papers by at least three. The journal uses a single-blind peer review model. Authors are requested to suggest persons competent to review their manuscript. However, please note that this will be treated only as a suggestion, and the final selection of reviewers is exclusively the Editor's decision. The final decision of acceptance is made by Managing Editor or, in case of conflict, by the Editor-in-Chief.

#### Data sharing policy

Effective June 2020, the journal requires authors to follow <u>Data Sharing Policy</u>. Research data should be made widely available to the research community in order to demonstrate the robustness and validity of the research presented in the journal, to encourage replication of the results, and to provide the community with opportunities to learn. By

publishing in the journal authors are required to provide a data availability statement (DAS) in their articles. Authors are encouraged to share their data but not required to. The decision to publish will not be affected by whether or not authors share their research data.

#### **Scientific Misconduct**

This journal publishes only original manuscripts that are not also published or going to be published elsewhere. Multiple submissions/publications, or redundant publications (re-packaging in different words of data already published by the same authors) will be rejected. If they are detected only after publication, the journal reserves the right to publish a Retraction Note. In each particular case Editors will follow <a href="COPE's Code of Conduct">COPE's Code of Conduct</a> and implement its advice.

# **Electronic Submission**

**Biomolecular Concepts** encourages the submission of both substantial full-length bodies of work and shorter manuscripts that report novel findings. There are no specific length restrictions for the overall manuscript or individual sections; however, we urge the authors to present and discuss their findings in a concise and accessible manner. All submitted manuscripts must be written in English language.

Manuscripts submitted under multiple authorship are reviewed on the assumption that all listed authors concur in the submission and are responsible for its content; they must have agreed to its publication and have given the corresponding author the authority to act on their behalf in all matters pertaining to publication. The corresponding author is responsible for informing the co-authors of the manuscript status throughout the submission, review, and production process.

All submissions must be made via online submission system <u>Editorial Manager</u>. In case of problems, please contact the Managing Editor of this journal (<u>jedrzej.daszkiewicz@degruyter.com</u>).

#### **Publication Formats**

Biomolecular Concepts considers submissions of:

- Research Articles,
- Communications,
- Rapid Communications\*,
- Reviews and Commentaries,
- Letters to the Editor
- Erratum

\*Rapid Communications are intended to present information of exceptional novelty and exciting results of significant interest to the readers. Authors are asked to provide an explanation in the cover letter why their contribution should be handled via the rapid channel

## **Electronic Formats Allowed**

We accept submission of text, tables and figures as separate files or as a composite file. For your initial submission, we recommend you upload your entire manuscript, including tables and figures, as a single PDF file. If you are invited to submit a revised manuscript, please provide us with individual files: an editable text and publication-quality figures.

- Text files can be submitted in the following formats:
  - MS Word standard DOCUMENT (.DOC)
  - RICH TEXT FORMAT (.RTF)
  - PDF (not applicable for re-submitted or accepted manuscripts, see below).

- Tables should be submitted as MS Word or PDF (not applicable for re-submitted or accepted manuscripts, see below). Please note that a straight Excel file is not an acceptable format.
- Graphics files can be submitted in any of the following graphic formats: EPS; BMP; JPG; TIFF; GIF or PDF. Please note that PowerPoint files are not accepted.

Post-acceptance, text files of the revised manuscript and tables are required for use in the production. Authors should clearly indicate the location(s) of tables and figures in the text if these elements are given separately or at the end of the manuscript. If this information is not provided to the editorial office, we will assume that they should be left at the end of the text.

#### **First-Time Submission of Manuscripts**

It is important that authors include a cover letter with their manuscript. Please explain why you consider your manuscript to be suitable for publication in *Biomolecular Concepts*, why your paper will inspire the other members of your field, and how will it drive academic discussion forward.

#### **Submission of Revised Articles**

Resubmitted manuscripts should be accompanied by a letter outlining a point-by-point response to Editor's and reviewers' comments and detailing the changes made to the manuscript. A copy of the original manuscript should be included for comparison if the Editor requests one. Authors need to return the revised manuscript within 14 days. Additional time for resubmission must be requested in advance. If the above-mentioned deadlines are not met, the manuscript will be treated as a new submission.

For resubmitted manuscripts, please provide us with an editable text and publication-quality figures. Supply any figures as separate high-resolution, print-ready digital versions.

In addition to the editorial remarks, authors are asked to take care that they have prepared the revised version according to the Journal's style.

# Organization of the Manuscript

We draw particular attention to the importance of carefully preparing the title, keywords and abstract, as these elements are indicators of the manuscript content in bibliographic databases and search engines.

#### **Title**

We suggest the title should be informative, specific to the project, yet concise (75 characters or fewer). Please bear in mind that a title that is comprehensible to a broad academic audience and readers outside your field will attract a wider readership. Avoid specialist abbreviations and non-standard acronyms. Titles should not be presented in title case (words should not be capitalized). Please also provide a brief "running title" of not more than 50 characters.

## **Authors, Affiliations, Addresses**

In the cover letter, provide the first names (or initials – if used), middle names (or initials – if used), and surnames for all authors. Affiliations should include:

- Department
- University or organization
- City
- Postal code
- State/province (if applicable)
- Country

One of the authors should be designated as the corresponding author to whom inquiries regarding the paper should be directed. It is the corresponding author's responsibility to ensure that the author list and the summary of the author contributions to the study are accurate and complete.

#### **Abstract**

The abstract should not exceed 200 words. The abstract should give a summary of the content of the paper. Mention the main findings without going into methodological detail and summarize briefly the most important items of the paper. Because the abstract will be published separately by abstracting services, it must be complete and understandable without reference to the text.

#### **Keywords**

List keywords for the work presented (maximum of 5), separated by commas. We suggest that keywords do not replicate those used in the title.

#### **Acknowledgments**

This section should describe recognition of personal assistance: people who contributed to the work, but do not fit the criteria for authors should be listed along with their contributions. You must ensure that anyone named in the acknowledgments agrees to being so named.

#### **Author's Statements**

This section should describe:

- any funding information, including the role of the study sponsor(s), if any, in study design, collection, analysis, and interpretation of data, writing the paper and decision to submit it for publication;
- authors contribution -if required;
- conflict of interest;
- Data Availability Statement.

Please refer to Author's Statement document at <a href="https://www.degruyter.com/supplemental/journals/bmc/bmc-overview.xml/Author Statement.pdf">https://www.degruyter.com/supplemental/journals/bmc/bmc-overview.xml/Author Statement.pdf</a>

### References

References should be listed and numbered in the order that they appear in the text. In the text, citations should be indicated by the reference number in brackets [1]. Multiple citations should be separated by commas [1, 2]. Where there are more than three sequential citations, they should be given as a range [1-4]. References in figure captions and tables should be listed after references in the text.

Published or accepted ('in press') manuscripts, books and book chapters, and theses should be included in the reference list. References to published meeting abstracts should be kept to a minimum. For all references, list the first six authors; add "et al." if there are additional authors. Standard abbreviations of journal names according to the style used for MEDLINE should be used. Please use the following style for the reference list: https://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform\_requirements.html

# Please use the Vancouver/ICMJE style for the reference list.

### **Published Papers**

Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. N Engl J Med. 2002;347:284-7.

If there are more than six authors, list the first six authors, followed by et al.

Rose ME, Huerbin MB, Melick J, Marion DW, Palmer AM, Schiding JK, et al. Regulation of interstitial excitatory amino acid concentrations after cortical contusion injury. Brain Res. 2002;935(1-2):40-6.

### **Accepted Papers**

Tian D, Araki H, Stahl E, Bergelson J, Kreitman M. Signature of balancing selection in Arabidopsis. Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A. Forthcoming 2002

## **Electronic Journal Articles**

Dionne MS, Schneider DS. Screening the immune system. Genome Biol. 2002; http://genomebiology.com/2002/3/4/reviews/1010

## Books and book chapters

Sambrook J, Russell D.W., Molecular cloning - a laboratory manual. 3rd ed. Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press. Cold Spring Harbor; 2001.

#### Theses

Agutter A. J. (1995). Analysis of sigma factors in S. aureus (PhD thesis). Edinburgh: Edinburgh University.

## Conference proceedings

Harnden P, Joffe JK, Jones WG, editors. Germ cell tumours V. Proceedings of the 5th Germ Cell Tumour Conference; 2001 Sep 13-15; Leeds, UK. New York: Springer; 2002.

Christensen S, Oppacher F. An analysis of Koza's computational effort statistic for genetic programming. In: Foster JA, Lutton E, Miller J, Ryan C, Tettamanzi AG, editors. Genetic programming. EuroGP 2002: Proceedings of the 5th European Conference on Genetic Programming; 2002 Apr 3-5; Kinsdale, Ireland. Berlin: Springer; 2002. p. 182-91.

#### Newspaper articles

Tynan T. Medical improvements lower homicide rate: study sees drop in assault rate. The Washington Post. 2002 Aug 12;Sect. A:2 (col. 4).

# **Formatting and Typesetting**

All pages must be numbered consecutively. The whole text (including legends, footnotes, and references) should be formatted double-spaced with no hyphenation and automatic word-wrap (no hard returns within paragraphs). Please type your text consistently, e.g. take care to distinguish between '1' (one), 'l' (capital I) and 'l' (lower-case L) and '0' (zero) and 'O' (capital O), etc. Manuscript pages should have line numbers. The font size should be no smaller than 12 points.

Footnotes and endnotes should be avoided. Allowable footnotes/endnotes may include: the designation of the corresponding author of the paper, the current address of an author (if different from that shown in the affiliation), abbreviations and acronyms.

### Symbols and abbreviations

The use of special symbols, abbreviations, and acronyms is permitted so long as they are defined upon first mention in the article.

# **Outline of the Production Process**

Once an article has been accepted for publication, the manuscript files are transferred into our production system to be language-edited and formatted. Language and technical editors reserve the privilege of editing manuscripts to conform with the stylistic conventions of the journal. Once the article has been typeset, PDF proofs are generated so that authors can approve all editing and layout.

## **Immediate Publication**

Manuscripts ready for publication are promptly posted online. The manuscripts are considered to be ready for publication when the final proofreading has been performed by authors, and all concerns have been resolved. Authors should notice that no changes can be made to the articles after online publication.