INSTRUCTIONS
ETHICAL AND LEGAL DECLARATIONS

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For all studies that involved humans and/or animals authors additionally have to include study-specific approval by the appropriate ethics committee as well as informed consent if the research involved human participants. The decision as to whether the latter information must be included depends not only on the journal in question, but also on the scope of the submission. Therefore, the responsibility remains with the authors to include the relevant disclosures and declarations.

RESEARCH FUNDING

This section should describe sources of funding that have supported the work. Authors should state how the research described in their article was funded, including grant numbers if applicable. Whenever funding has been obtained the following statement should be included: The funding organization(s) played no role in the study design; in the collection, analysis, and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; or in the decision to submit the report for publication. The template default statement applies for the case that no funding has been involved, with no further customization needed.

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1. Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
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Manuscripts containing information related to human use should clearly state that the research has complied with all relevant national regulations and institutional policies and has been approved by the authors’ institutional review board or equivalent committee. Copies of the guidelines and policy statements must be available for review by the Managing Editor if necessary. The editors reserve the right to seek additional information or guidance from reviewers on any cases in which concerns arise. All investigation conducted with human subjects must have followed the tenets of the Helsinki Declaration. Additionally, authors must identify the committee or review board approving the experiments, and provide a statement indicating approval of the research.

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