Aims and scope

Hormone Molecular Biology and Clinical Investigation (HMBCI) is dedicated to the provision of basic data on molecular aspects of hormones in physiology and in pathophysiology. The journal covers the treatment of major diseases, such as endocrine cancers (breast, prostate, endometrium, ovary), renal and lymphoid carcinoma, hypertension, cardiovascular systems, osteoporosis, hormone deficiency in menopause and andropause, obesity, diabetes, brain and related diseases, metabolic syndrome, sexual dysfunction, fetal and pregnancy diseases, as well as the treatment of dysfunctions and deficiencies.

The journal covers new data in the different steps and factors involved in the mechanism of hormone action. It equally examines the relation of hormones with the immune system and its environment, as well as new developments in hormone measurements.

The journal covers the following topics:

- The superfamily of receptors of the different hormones (steroids, polypeptides and related hormones), and co-regulators (activators and repressors);
- Hormones related to the function of growth factors, oncogenes, and cytokines, in normal and neoplastic tissues;
- Enzymes and anti-enzymes involved in the formation and disposition of various hormones in connection with the diseases stated above;
- Hormone signaling and response to hormone therapy;
- Mechanism of cancer cell proliferation under endocrine therapy;
- Resistance to hormone therapy and its mechanism;
- Hormones and the brain and other neuroendocrine organs;
- Hormones and contraception;
- Hormone replacement therapy;
- Pre-clinical studies to test new molecules in isolated models and in human trials;
- Defects in hormone metabolism;
- Hormones and the immune system;
- Hormones and the environment;
- Initiation and evolution of diseases related to the mechanism of action of the hormone;
- Comparative endocrinology and evolution;
- Therapeutic effect of the hormone with regard to the method of administration.

Editorial policy

HMBCI is a blind peer reviewed journal and publishes Original articles, Reviews, Mini reviews, Short communications, Letters to the editor, Opinion papers and Case reports. Each manuscript must be accompanied by a cover letter containing a brief statement describing the novelty and importance of the work submitted. The authors should give the names and e-mail addresses of up to five potential reviewers, preferably not from the same country as the authors, and if possible, their postal addresses, phone and fax numbers. Authors may also indicate names of reviewers whom they wish to be excluded from reviewing their manuscripts.

Submission of a manuscript to HMBCI implies that the work described has not been published before, except in the form of an abstract, thesis or lecture and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. Scientific originality should be demonstrated by a contribution to knowledge beyond mere confirmation. Publication ethics: For information on plagiarism, please refer to COPE Committee on Publication Ethics. Please note that HMBCI uses the check program "iThenticate" to assess similarity to previous publications. Any previously published material must be referenced appropriately in the manuscript. It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that all authors see and approve the manuscript before its submission to HMBCI.

Authorship is restricted to those who have made a significant contribution to the conceptual design of the study, the execution of the study, the data analysis or the writing of the manuscript.

The authors must describe safeguards to meet standards of ethical conduct of research. Where applicable, authors must confirm in the Materials and methods section that they have complied with the World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki regarding ethical conduct of research involving human subjects and/or animals.

Conflict of interest for a given manuscript exists when a participant in the peer review and publication process – author, reviewer, and editor – has ties to activities that could inappropriately influence his/her judgment, regardless of whether judgment is, in fact, affected. Financial relationships with industry (for example, employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, expert testimony), either directly or through immediate family, are usually considered the most important conflicts of interest. However, conflicts can occur for other reasons, such as personal relationships or academic competition.

When authors submit a manuscript, they are responsible for recognizing and disclosing financial and/or other conflicts of interest that might bias their work. Any financial support for the work and financial or personal connections related to the work have to be clearly disclosed in the manuscript. If no specified acknowledgement is given, the Publishers assume that no conflicts of interests exist.

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The relevant information must be given in the Author Statement included in your manuscript before the Reference section as follows:

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Funding: Authors state no funding involved. Conflict of interest: Authors state no conflict of interest. Material and Methods: Informed consent: Informed consent is not applicable. Ethical approval: The conducted research is not related to either human or animals use.

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Manuscripts must be submitted online at:

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At this website, you will find detailed information on allowable document types and file formats. Please check carefully before proceeding with submissions. If you need assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the Editorial Office (contact details overleaf).

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Manuscripts are independently reviewed by at least two peers selected by the Editors. Usually, decisions are reached as fast as possible. It is advised to notify authors within six weeks from submission date. When manuscripts are accepted subject to revision, the revised manuscript should be returned within approximately two months. It is the aim of the Journal to publish papers promptly online as soon as they have been finally processed.

Preparation of manuscripts Language

Manuscripts must be written in clear and concise English. Please have your text proofread by an English native speaker before you submit it.
for consideration. At the proof stage, changes other than corrections of printers' errors will be charged to the authors.

**General format and length**

Please avoid footnotes in the text, use parentheses instead. Original articles should not exceed 5600 words, including references, and should not occupy more than 7 printed pages (one printed page is approx. 4000 characters). Short communications and Letters to the editors should not exceed 3 printed pages. Each full page of printed text corresponds to approximately 800 words. Allow space for tables and illustrations within the page limit.

**Sections**

**Original articles** should have Title page, Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements and List of non-standard abbreviations (if applicable), References, Table and Figure Legends, if applicable.

**Short communications** should be subdivided into an Abstract, Keywords, and a single section of main text without headings. Experimental procedures should be described in the legends to figures or footnotes to tables. Acknowledgements and References should be presented as in Original articles.

**Letters to the editor and Opinion papers** are arranged like Short communications but without an Abstract.

**Reviews and Mini reviews.** These articles aim to summarize current practice, highlighting recent significant advances in research in the topic indicated in Aims and Scope. Authors should strive for brevity and clarity. The final structure of the review will depend on the focus, but wherever possible, the following sections should be included: Title page, Abstract, Keywords, List of abbreviations, and an Introduction; further, Body of review, Expert opinion, Outlook, Highlights, and References.

1. Title Page: see below.
2. Abstract: Not to exceed 250 words. The Abstract should provide a broad summary outlining the scope of the Review and briefly putting it in context.
3. Keywords: See below.
4. Introduction: The introduction should define the area under review and relate it to potential applications.
5. Body of review: This section should provide the bulk of the Review and be divided according to the specific areas reviewed within. No limits will be applied to the number of areas described, but each should be clearly defined with respect to current applications to research organizations, clinical practice, or laboratory operations. The references should highlight centres of excellence for each area or topic reviewed.
6. Expert opinion: A summary of the data and concepts presented in the Review, including your ‘Expert Opinion’; a personal assessment of the subject under review. This section should examine such questions as: What significant advantages will the areas/concepts covered have over those currently available? What are the prospects for combining approaches to a particular issue/problem? What further improvements would be desirable? The author(s) should present their expert opinion on the likely impact that new technologies may have on treatment guidelines, disease management and patient outcomes.
7. Outlook: The author is challenged to speculate on how the field will have evolved 5–10 years from the point at which the review was written.
8. Highlights: Executive summary comprised of bulleted statements (typically 8–10) representing key conclusions, unresolved issues and important areas for future study.
9. References: See below. Reviews should usually occupy no more than 8–10 printed pages, i.e. 6000–8000 words including references, and the number of references should not exceed 150. Mini reviews should usually occupy no more that 5 printed pages, i.e. 4000 words including references, and the number of references should not exceed 30.

**Title page**

The title page should include:
1. Precise and informative title (without using abbreviations)
2. Names of all authors (with one surname of each author in full), followed by their affiliations: department, institution, city without postcode, country. If there is more than one institution involved, authors’ names should be linked to the appropriate institutions by inserting consecutive numbers in superscript after relevant names. If required, lower case letters, in superscript after the name, should be used to indicate the present addresses
3. Full name, mailing address, fax, phone number and e-mail address of the corresponding author
4. Running title of maximum 50 characters.

**Abstract, keywords and a list of non-standard abbreviations**

The second page of the manuscript should contain abstract, keywords and a list of non-standard abbreviations used in text, figures, tables, and figure and table legends. The Abstract should be structured into Background, Materials and methods, Results and Conclusions. It should contain no more than 250 words and must be comprehensible to readers before they have read the paper. Manufacturer information and References must not appear in the Abstract, abbreviations should be avoided. Below the abstract provide up to five keywords in alphabetical order, separated by semicolon using the entries from Index Medicus. Abbreviations should be kept at a minimum. The Journal accepts standard abbreviations. All non-standard abbreviations should be listed alphabetically on the second page of the manuscript (see above), separated by semicolon. Abbreviations are spelt out at first mention in the textbody; thereafter, only these abbreviations are to be used.

**Acknowledgements**

Acknowledgements should be placed at the end of the text. Names of the funding organizations should be written in full. Authors must declare whether there is/is not a conflict of financial and/or other interest (see above).

**References**

Number the references consecutively in the order in which they appear in the text, including tables and figures. In the textbody, identify references by Arabic numerals in square brackets. In the references all authors must be included; et al. is not accepted. Do not use italic font in the reference section.

In addition to the above HMBCI specifications, Reference lists must be written in Vancouver style (uniform requirements for manuscripts submitted to biomedical journals; please see: http://www.lib.monash.edu.au/tutorials/citing/vancouver.html).

The names of journals should be abbreviated according to the World List of Scientific Periodicals.

References must be given in the following format:

- **Articles in journals:**
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