INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

(see journal website www.springer.com/40005)

Types of Papers

Original articles should sequentially contain Abstract, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgement, and References. It should include significant experimental or theoretical results suitable for publication. Although no limitations to the length of article, authors should write in a clear and concise manner and include data essential for their final conclusions.

Notes differ from Communications in that they are final reports, and from Articles in that they are limited in scope. Notes must be of high quality, of general interest and of sufficient importance to warrant publication. They are limited to approximately 1,500 words (including tables, figures, and references).

Information: Information articles summarize the viewpoints of distinguished pharmaceutical scientists with regard to the current status and future direction of the field.

Reviews provide a comprehensive summary of broadly-based topics of general interest to pharmaceutical scientists. 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. Electronic submission substantially reduces the editorial processing and reviewing times and shortens overall publication times. Please follow the hyperlink “Submit online” on the journal website (www.springer.com/40005) and upload all of your manuscript files following the instructions given on the screen.

Manuscripts should sequentially include Title page, Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods (including Statement of Human and Animal Rights), Results, Discussion, Acknowledgment, Conflict of the Interest, and References.

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

Abstract

Please provide an abstract of 150 to 250 words. The abstract should not contain any undefined abbreviations or unspecified references.

Keywords

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

Text

Text Formatting

Manuscripts should be submitted in Word.

- Use a normal, plain font (e.g., 10-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. For the LaTeX macro package please download the zip file from the Instructions for Authors on the journal website (www.springer.com/40005).

**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.

**Methods**

The method sections must include a Statement of Human and Animal Rights, or a Statement of Informed Consent, if these items are related to the experimental content of the manuscript. Even if animal or human subjects are not used, Statement of Human and Rights should be placed at the end of the Method section. This is a mandatory requirement for all articles.

- **Statement of Human and Animal Rights:**

Research on human subjects must be approved by an appropriate Institutional Review Board and comply with all relevant regulations. In case of using experimental animals, authors should state the procedures used for animal care and handling. Some of the examples are shown below:

  - This article does not contain any studies with human or animal subjects performed by any of the authors;
  - All institutional and national guidelines for the care and use of laboratory animals were followed.

- **Statement of Informed Consent**

It should be stated that all the studies are performed in accordance with the ethical standards by the principles of the Declaration of Helsinki. A statement describing: Institutional Review Board approval, consent procedures and that all human participants gave written informed consent, must be included in the methods section.

For the policies on the research and publication ethics not stated in this instruction, International Standards for Editors and Authors (http://publicationethics.org/international-standards-editors-and-authors) can be applied.

**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.

**Conflict of Interest**

When articles are submitted for consideration for publication, authors must indicate all sources of funding for the submitted work along with any potential financial or other interests that may be perceived to bias the research. This includes departmental, governmental, public interest, or institutional funds. All sponsors must be identified, even if their support is indirect. Authors are not required to state the monetary value of their financial interests. All sponsors for the research must be identified.

Even if there are none, this should be stated in a separate paragraph following on from the Acknowledgements section. This is a mandatory requirement for all articles.

Some of the examples are showed below:

- John Smith declares that he has no conflict of interest;
- Paula Taylor has received research grants from Drug Company A;
- All authors (J. Smith, P. Taylor, and G.D. Hong) declare that they have no conflict of interest.

**Scientific Style**

- Please always use internationally accepted signs and symbols for units (SI units).
- Generic names of drugs and pesticides are preferred; if trade names are used, the generic name should be given at first mention.

**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.

- Journal article

  Ideally, the names of all authors should be provided, but the usage of “et al” in long author lists will also be accepted:


- Article by DOI

- Book

- Book chapter

- Online document

- 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

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.

Other Important Points

Publication of Bioequivalence Study

- Manuscript Title
  Each manuscript title should include the brand and the generic names of the formulations, as well as the ingredient name in parentheses.

- Novelty of Study
  In order to reduce delays, authors should assure that the bioequivalence study of the same brand name of a drug has not been reported in literatures at the submission stage. If a bioequivalence study for the same brand name of a drug has been reported in literature, editorial boards will not accept the manuscript for peer review, except for a special case that the manuscript has the potential for high scientific impact.

- Organization of Manuscripts
  Contents for each individual pharmacokinetic parameter (e.g., AUC, Cmax, Tmax, etc) of a bioequivalence test and for the statistical results of these parameters must be presented and summarized in table formats. Figures containing the average (sum of both periods) plasma drug concentration-time profiles of both formulations should be presented. Analytical method should be described in detail and validation results including limit of detection and quantification, accuracy, precision, linearity, extraction recovery, and calibration equation should be presented. When using a modified chromatographic method to improve the reported method for the determination of drug concentrations in the plasma, a representative chromatogram should be supplied. Experimental design, number of volunteers, washout period, blood sampling method and time intervals, statistical method for bioequivalence tests, and the institutional review board approval number and/or protocol number should be listed.

English Language Editing

Manuscripts must be written clearly and concisely in English. Authors who are not native English speakers are strongly encouraged to consider using a professional English language editing service.

Figure Numbers

The number of figures does not exceed 6.
The International System of Units (SI)


Artwork and Illustration Guidelines

For the best quality final product, it is highly recommended that you submit all of your artwork – photographs, line drawings, etc. – in an electronic format. Your art will then be produced to the highest standards with the greatest accuracy to detail. The published work will directly reflect the quality of the artwork provided.

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.

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 online publication.
- If black and white will be shown in the print version, make sure that the main information will still be visible. Many colors are not distinguishable from one another when converted to black and white. A simple way to check this is to make a xerographic copy to see if the necessary distinctions between the different colors are still apparent.
- If the figures will be printed in black and white, do not refer to color in the captions.
- Color illustrations should be submitted as RGB (8 bits per channel).

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

- 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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Accessibility

In order to give people of all abilities and disabilities access to the content of your figures, please make sure that
- All figures have descriptive captions (blind users could then use a text-to-speech software or a text-to-Braille hardware)
- Patterns are used instead of or in addition to colors for conveying information (color-blind users would then be able to distinguish the visual elements)
- Any figure lettering has a contrast ratio of at least 4.5:1

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Springer accepts electronic multimedia files (animations, movies, audio, etc.) and other supplementary files to be published online along with an article or a book chapter. 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

- Always use MPEG-1 (.mpg) format.

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

In order to give people of all abilities and disabilities access to the content of your supplementary files, please make sure that

- 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)

Checklist for Manuscript Submission

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.

Editorial Review Process

The Editorial Committee consists of 3 editorial bodies; Managing Editor (ME) and Associate Editors (AE) under the Editor-in-Chief (EiC). The JPI 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 ME conducts a technical check of manuscripts (MS), and, if necessary, sends an incomplete MS back to authors. The ME assigns the technically checked MS to EiC, who then conducts a scientific screening of the MS. Thereafter, the EiC (1) assigns an AE as a decision maker, (2) proceeds with the invitation of reviewers without further assignment, or (3) makes an immediate decision. The AE invites 2 peer reviewers for original articles (3 reviewers for a review article) and confirms if the reviewer agrees with reviewing the assigned MS within 3 days. The reviewing process is completed within 7 days until the reviewer sends the review results back to the EiC. The AE informs the authors of the review results collected and the final decision results.

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interest, statements of informed consent, and statements of human and animal rights will be also intensively examined by the ME, AE, and EiC. If not provided, authors are requested to do so. Any MS found with serious problems, such as plagiarism, data fabrication, or falsification will be rejected. When these problems are discovered after acceptance, the final conclusion for manuscript retraction will be made during the monthly Editorial Committee meeting. We also support language editing for non-English speaking authors through collaboration with Edanz, in order to stimulate more submissions of MS from non-English speaking authors. English support is also one of the important responsibilities in editorial process of the AE, EiC, and reviewers.

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