Dear Author,

Welcome to the Learning Materials in Biosciences textbook series! This page provides you with some important information on how to prepare your manuscript for the series (see below*). Each Learning Materials in Biosciences textbook will treat a specific theme in a compact and concise manner. The textbooks aim to provide readers with detailed insights into the subject and the ability to autonomously complete exercises and solve given tasks, and further prepare for the way for independent additional thoughts and research on the topic.

Please adhere to the following guidelines:

- The final textbook should have no more than 200 to 250 printed pages, incl. figures and tables. One printed page equals about 4,000 characters incl. spaces.

- Start your textbook with an introductory text about the course/lecture(s) your book is based upon and explaining what the book will teach readers.

- The subsequent chapters can be designed on the basis of your lecture. Please include the following features in each chapter:
  - Each chapter has to start with a trailer paragraph entitled: What you will learn in this chapter, about 10-15 lines long (see also “Abstract” point 4.2.3. in Guidelines for English textbooks)
  - The main text should contain colored figures; you may also include Step-by Step Protocols, and Questions (please name accordingly) – Answers should follow at the end of each chapter.
  - For heading levels, please see point 4.2.5. in Guidelines for English textbooks.
  - Each chapter has to end with a Take Home Message (use bullet points, if several messages are delivered).
  - You may now provide Answers (please name accordingly), if Questions were part of the chapter.
  - In order to tell us where to position your didactic elements, you need to name them accordingly, and you need to add e.g. “Protocol starts” and “Protocol ends”, or “Question starts”...etc. at the respective position in the manuscript.
  - Do not forget the Reference Section
  - You may also indicate additional literature for further reading (please name as Further Reading).
  - Index: It is preferred by us that you use the indexing function in MS Word (or any equivalent text processing software) to mark the respective index terms directly in your manuscript. If this isn’t feasible for you, you can also provide us with a separate list of the index terms, including the respective page numbers.
Thank you very much for your cooperation. If you have any questions regarding the points above, do not hesitate to contact your Publishing Editor.

*Please discuss your textbook proposal with your Springer Publishing Editor first, or contact: Amrei Strehl, Senior Editor Biomedicine & Life Sciences, Email: amrei.strehl@springer.at
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