Author guidelines

Manuscript preparation - General guidelines

Manuscripts must be written in clear and concise English and be intelligible to a broad readership. Manuscripts should be proof read and spell-checked. Submitted manuscripts should be divided into the following sections:

1. **Title page**
   The title of your work on page 1 should be short and informative, and should not contain any abbreviations. Commonly used gene or protein acronyms are, however, acceptable. The title should reflect the content of the thesis. The total length of the title should not exceed 100 characters (including spaces). your name, the name of the course, date for examination, the name of the supervisor and the name of the examiner.

2. **Abstract**
   The abstract on page 2 should be about 200-300 words, but not exceed 300 words. The Abstract should be comprehensible to readers before they have read the paper, and abbreviations should be avoided where possible (as for the title). Reference citations within the abstract are not permitted. The abstract should describe all key novel findings of the study. Subheadings such as aim/purpose/background, methods, results and conclusion are allowed.

3. **Introduction**
   The Introduction starting on page 3 should be without subheadings. It should provide a clear overview of the research area, and highlight both known and unknown factors with a logical progression towards the aim. The aim should be clearly described and motivated and the significance of the study in a broader context should be highlighted. Where relevant, a hypothesis should be clearly formulated. Citation of the primary literature is required where appropriate. Note that a somewhat longer introduction compared to most scientific papers is allowed to properly establish the basis for your work.

4. **Materials and methods**
   This section should contain sufficient detail so that all experimental procedures can be repeated by others. Reagents must be described in such a way as to allow readers to identify them unequivocally and/or reproduce them. Choice of methods should be briefly motivated. Use of subheadings is encouraged. Describe the aspects of the study that requires approval from ethical committees and state if informed consent was obtained from participants under a separate subheading “Ethical considerations”. Motivate clearly why you need approval from the ethical committee or alternatively why this is not needed for your study. Described and motivate the statistical methods used under a separate subheading “Statistics”. If no statistical calculations were performed the reasons why this was not done should be clearly explained.

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1 These author guidelines are based on the author guidelines of the EMBO Journal
5. **Results**
   The Results section, and associated figures, tables and supplementary information, must accurately describe the findings of the study. Figure order should follow the text. Detailed methodological descriptions should be restricted to the Materials and Methods section. ‘Data not shown’ is not permitted: all significant data should be displayed in the main figures or supplementary information. Note that presentation and discussion of results not normally presented in scientific papers, such as experiments aiming to optimize a method, failed experiments etc., are allowed and encouraged. Tables should be comprehensible, have a legend including table number and heading above the table and any explanatory notes included under the table. Figures should be comprehensible with clear markings on the figure axis and it should preferentially be possible to read and interpreted the findings presented in the figures without having to read the running text or figure legend. Figure legends should contain sufficient information to allow the reader to follow the data presented without referring back to the text. All figures should be numbered and figure legends positioned under the figure. Figures and tables can be included at the end of the manuscript or positioned in the main text close to where they are first mentioned.

6. **Discussion**
   The Discussion should discuss and accurately interpret the main findings and results, but not be repetitive with the Results section. Authors are encouraged to discuss their work in a broader context, e.g. academic and medical impact and the benefits for society. Related published data must be appropriately discussed and cited. Speculation is allowed but should be clearly labelled as such. Reasons for non-significant, failed or are totally unexpected, experiments and results should be discussed. If technical problems occur, alternative methods should be discussed.

7. **Acknowledgements**
   Acknowledgements should be placed at the end of the text. Collaborators, contributors and other help with experiments should be acknowledged. Personal acknowledgements should precede those of institutions or agencies. Grant numbers are permissible. Dedications are discouraged.

8. **References**
   Citation of primary literature (over review articles) is strongly encouraged. Review articles should only be cited for general background information, the proposal of certain concepts or similar purposes, whereas primary research articles should preferentially be referenced to introduce the question being addressed or to support the conclusions and interpretations of the results. References should be given in Vancouver style and appear in numerical order as they occur in the running text.

9. **Popular science summary**
   A popular science summary of no more than one page should be written in Swedish or in English in such a way that a layman is able to understand it. The use of technical terms should be limited and explained when used. Illustrations are permitted.