

Re:GEN Open Instructions for Authors

Manuscript Submission Site
<https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/regen>

Contacts

Editorial Office Contact: editorial@regenopen.com

Aims and Scope

Re:GEN Open will publish original research articles, comprehensive review articles, mini-reviews, rapid communications, brief reports, and technology reports research across the life and medical sciences, including drug discovery, OMICS, genome editing, bioprocessing, translational medicine, cancer research, infectious diseases, and artificial intelligence.

Please read all the instructions to authors before submitting your article. For more information and all inquiries on manuscript submission, please contact the Editorial Office at editorial@regenopen.com.

Open Access and Licensing

All articles published in *Re:GEN Open* are made freely and permanently accessible online upon publication without access or subscription charges, embargo periods, or user registration.

Upon submitting a manuscript for publication, the author(s) will agree to an Open Access Licensing Agreement. Authors of articles published in the Journal will be the copyright holders, and a Creative Commons CC BY license will be applied.

For authors who are US government employees or are prevented from being copyright holders for similar reasons, Liebert Open Access can accommodate non-standard copyright. Please contact openaccess@liebertpub.com for more details.

Article Publication Charges (APCs)

Re:GEN Open is a fully Open Access journal. Article Processing Charges (APCs) are \$2,500 USD. However, we are offering a reduced rate of \$1,250 USD until May 1, 2021 and waiving fees entirely for papers referred from other Mary Ann Liebert journals until May 1, 2021.

All articles published in *ReGen:Open* are made freely and permanently accessible on the Publisher's website upon publication without access or subscription charges, embargo periods, or user registration.

Research Funder Compliance

Upon submission of a manuscript, the submitting agent will have an opportunity to enter funding/grant information. If funding information is entered correctly, the publisher will deposit the funding acknowledgements from the article as part of the standard metadata to FundRef. The entered information should include funder names, funder IDs (if available), and associated grant numbers. Special care should be taken when entering this information to ensure total accuracy.

Government Funded Research

Re:GEN Open is fully NIH-, HHMI-, RCUK, and Wellcome Trust-compliant.

Our open access publishing solutions allow you to comply with the open access policies of your institution, government, and funding body. If you are employed or funded by the National Institute of Health (NIH), the Wellcome Trust, Research Councils UK (RCUK), or Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), you can find more information below:

- **NIH and HHMI Public Access Policy**—In order to assist our authors who have NIH funding to comply with this policy, Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. publishers will deposit the ***final paginated version of the published article*** to PubMed Central (PMC) on behalf of the authors.
- **Wellcome Trust Policy**—The publication charge will be covered by the Wellcome Trust.
- **Research Councils UK (RCUK)**— The publication charge will be covered by the RCUK.

Use of English Language

All submissions must be in English. Appropriate use of English is a requirement for review and publication in *Re:GEN Open*. To support non-native speakers, Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., has partnered with Editage to provide language editing and translation services for a fee prior to official submission. To learn more about the services, please visit the Liebert Author Services Website at <https://home.liebertpub.com/authors/author-services/196>.

Please note that employing the use of such services is not mandatory and using it, or any other language editing service, does not guarantee the acceptance of any paper. All submissions are subject to peer review.

Manuscript Preparation Guidelines

All manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (<http://www.icmje.org/>)

When submitting your manuscript for peer review, be prepared to:

- Enter the full title of the manuscript
- Enter the full names and institutional affiliations of ALL listed authors (All authors, including the co-authors, should be responsible for a significant part of the manuscript. All authors and co-authors should have taken part in writing the manuscript, reviewing it, and revising its intellectual and technical content. Any author whose name appears on a manuscript assumes responsibility and accountability for the results. Authorship changes are not allowed after submission.)
- Enter ALL listed authors' **institutional** email addresses
- Identify the corresponding author
- Enter a running (abbreviated) title of no more than 50 characters (including spaces).
- Enter 3–6 keywords or phrases.
- Provide a structured abstract of no more than 300 words.
- Provide the names and email addresses of at five potential preferred reviewers familiar with the field. Please make sure preferred reviewers are not from your university or institution or with whom you have collaborated. Anyone whom the author does not want to be considered should also be named as a non-preferred reviewer. Ultimate reviewer selection is at the Editor's discretion.

Create an Effective Title

- Manuscript titles should be brief, contain key terms, and clearly identify the purpose of the work.
- Manuscript titles should be direct and to the point. The journal has a global readership, so clear and concise non-vernacular language is most effective. A title consisting of no more than 15-18 words is recommended.
- Avoid the use of specific locations in the title when possible.
- Do not use proprietary/trademarked names in the title.
- Do not use acronyms in the title unless they are universally recognized and accepted.

- **NOTE:** The title page of your submission must be included as part of your main text document, not as a separate file.

Manuscript Structure

The order of elements in each manuscript should be:

- Title page--with full manuscript title, all contributing authors and their affiliations, a short running title, a denotation of the corresponding author, and a list of 4-6 keywords/search terms.
- Structured abstract
- Main text (do not embed figures or tables in text file)
- If applicable, **an Internal Review Board (IRB) approval (or waiver) statement must be included at the start of the Methods section**
- **A statement of patient consent should immediately follow the IRB statement**
- Conclusion (as a separate paragraph, not as part of the Discussion section)
- Acknowledgments (if applicable)
- Authorship confirmation statement
- Author(s') disclosure statement(s)
- Funding statement
- References
- Figure legends
- Tables
- Supplemental files (Supplemental Information will not be copyedited or typeset; it will be posted online as supplied.)
- A cover letter will be required with each submission. Summarize the major findings of the manuscript in the context of adding value to the field of study. Confirm that the manuscript has not been published or submitted for publication elsewhere. Confirm the co-authors' approval and provide a statement of non-duplicate submission. Include any other information of interest such as special submissions or responses to pre-submission inquiries.

References

- References must be prepared in Word, double spaced, and numbered consecutively as they are cited in the text, (order of citation), using superscript numbers.
- Include the reference section at the end of the main text file, not as a separate file.
- References appearing for the first time in tables and/or figures must be numbered in sequence with those cited in the text where the table or figure is mentioned.
- Use journal abbreviations as provided by PubMed/Medline.
- If more than three authors are listed on an article, list the first three authors and use et al. (not italic) after the third author's name. Include the title of the work, year of publication, volume number, and inclusive page range.
- If references to personal communications or unpublished data are used, they are not to be in the list of references. They should be referred to in the text in parentheses: (e.g., Jones AB, personal communication, year).
- Include among the references any articles that have been accepted but have not yet published; identify the name of the publication and add "In Press." If the reference has been published online, provide the DOI number in place of the page range.
- If a work has been submitted but is still under peer review, supply the authors' names and list the manuscript title, followed by "Submitted; under review, year of submission" within text (e.g., Jones and Smith, manuscript title, submitted; under review, 2021). Do NOT include the citation in the reference list.

Note: "Submitted" and "in press" citations should be updated at the page proofs stage whenever possible

Manuscript File Formatting

The Journal welcomes format-neutral manuscripts for first-time submissions. Newly submitted manuscripts will not be unsubmitted for formatting issues. However, after the initial peer review process, revised submissions must follow correct journal formatting and file guidelines, as described below in the Instructions for Authors. Please note that there are certain compulsory elements (i.e.: IRB approvals, author disclosures, etc.) for all new submissions. Manuscripts submitted without this information will be unsubmitted and the submitting author will be asked to add the required components.

Manuscript Revisions

To upload a **revision** of a manuscript, the submitting author should log in to their Author Center and click on “Revised Manuscripts in Draft.” All revised submissions will be required to meet all formatting conditions described herein. Submissions that do not satisfy these requirements will be un-submitted and returned to the submitting author for proper configuration.

For assistance with manuscript submission or systems issues, please contact our Peer Review Support team at prosupport@liebertpub.com, or the editorial office at editorial@regenopen.com.

Format requirements for revised manuscripts

The manuscript file, figure legends, and tables should be prepared in Microsoft Word.

File Naming

All file names should be in English and contain only alphanumeric characters. Do not include spaces, symbols, special characters, dashes, dots, or underscores. Label each file with the type of content contained in the file (i.e.: Text; Tables; FigureLegends; Fig1, SupplementalData, etc.). It is not necessary to name your files with the title of the submission.

Figures

- Submission of high resolution .TIFF or .EPS figure files is strongly recommended. Please upload as individual files.
- Cite figures consecutively in text within parentheses.
- Images should not reveal the name of a patient or a manufacturer.

Figure Legends

- A legend should be provided for each supplied figure.
- All legends numbered consecutively.
- Figure legends may be included at the end of the manuscript or uploaded as a separate Word file and double spaced.
- In each legend, provide explanations for any abbreviations, arrows, symbols, etc., that appear in the figure.
- If the illustration is taken from a copyrighted publication, permission must be secured by the author(s), appropriate credit must be listed in the legend and a corresponding reference must appear in the reference section.
- All permissions must be supplied at the time of submission.

Tables

- Tables may be included within the manuscript file, or uploaded as a single, separate Word file.
- Provide a title for each supplied table.
- Cite tables sequentially in text.
- Explain abbreviations used in the body of the table in footnotes.
- All types of table footnotes should be designated using superscript letters, not symbols.

- If a table is taken from a copyrighted publication, permission must be secured by the author(s), appropriate credit must be given in the legend, and a corresponding reference must appear in the reference section.
- All permissions must be supplied at the time of submission.

Correspondence Address

Following the references, provide the name, complete affiliation, and institutional email address of the person to whom correspondence should be sent.

Policies

Peer Review

ReGen:OPEN is a single-blinded peer-reviewed journal. All submissions are subject to peer review. Upon submission, manuscripts are assessed by an editor for suitability for the journal. For those that are deemed suitable, a minimum of two expert reviewers in the area of study will be selected to assess the scientific basis and significance of the manuscript. Following peer review, the Editor and/or Section Editors will determine if the paper should be accepted, require revision, or is unacceptable for publication.

Confidentiality in Peer Review

Editors and reviewers must maintain strict confidentiality of manuscripts during the peer-review process. Sharing a manuscript in whole or in part, outside the scope of what is necessary for assessment, is impermissible prior to an accepted manuscript's official publication date.

Sharing of Materials during Peer Review

Authors must honor any reasonable request for materials, methods, or data necessary to reproduce or validate the research findings during peer review unless it violates the privacy or confidentiality of human research subjects.

Papers Authored by the Editor-in-Chief and/or Section Editors

The Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editors will recuse themselves from participating in the review process of any manuscript in which there is a potential or actual competing interest.

Self-Citation and Self-Plagiarism

ReGen:OPEN is committed to maintaining the integrity of the peer review process by upholding the highest standards for all published articles. All manuscripts will be processed through plagiarism detection software prior to peer review. Plagiarized manuscripts will be rejected immediately.

Authorship

Definition of Authorship

Authorship, as defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, is based on the following criteria:

- Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; AND
- Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND
- Final approval of the version to be published; AND
- Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Non-Author Contributors

Contributors who meet fewer than all four of the above criteria for authorship should not be listed as authors, but they should be acknowledged in the *Acknowledgments* section with a description of their contribution to the work.

ORCID IDs

All submitting authors are required to have an ORCID linked to their user account. If you do not already have one, you may register for an ORCID at <https://orcid.org/register>.

AUTHORSHIP LIMIT

There is a limit of 35 authors permitted on a single submission, but in cases where there are 20 or more co-authors, we recommend that a collective group or consortium name be provided and the individual authors listed in the Acknowledgements.

CORRESPONDING AUTHOR**

One author should be designated as the corresponding author who will be responsible for communication between the authors and the journal editorial office(s) and publisher. This individual will be responsible for ensuring all authors submit copyright forms and coordinating and responding to page proofs, as well as any managing any other necessary contact during the peer review and/or production processes.

WORKING GROUPS / TEAM AUTHORSHIP

Working Groups or Teams may be listed in the manuscript byline, but the entire listing of names and affiliations should be included in the acknowledgment section of the manuscript. Do not list the names in a footnote on the title page.

VARIATIONS OF AUTHORSHIP

It is permissible to list up to three authors as co-first authors, or as contributing equally to the work. Include an asterisk (*) next to the authors' names who are considered as first authors. Include a corresponding footnote, using the asterisk, on the title page that reads, "These authors contributed equally to this work and are considered to be co-first authors."

CHANGES IN AUTHORSHIP

Changes in authorship after submission or acceptance of a paper are strongly discouraged, but the editorial leadership recognizes that in certain circumstances, it may be required. The journal's policy for such cases is as follows:

- A request to alter authorship must be made in writing from the corresponding author to the Editor-in-Chief, with a detailed explanation for the request, and the names and affiliations of the authors requiring addition and/or deletion.
- Authorship may be altered after submission or acceptance of a paper ONLY with the expressed written approval of all authors named on the manuscript, as well as the individual(s) being added and/or deleted. The Publisher can provide a form for this, if needed.
- Upon receipt of the request and all written approvals of all involved parties, the Editor-in-Chief will consider the request, render a decision, and notify the corresponding author.
- There is a one-year post-publication statute of limitation on requests for alterations in authorship.
- Post-publication changes or alterations to conference abstracts are prohibited.

EXCLUSIVITY

Manuscripts should be submitted with the understanding that they have neither been published, nor are under consideration for publication elsewhere, in the same form or substantially similar form, except in the form of a conference abstract. If work was presented at a conference, supply the name, date, and location of the meeting as a footnote on the title page of the submission.

AUTHOR DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

An authorship disclosure statement containing the following information must be included with the submission:

- *Competing Interests.* A competing interest exists when an individual (or the individual's institution) has financial or personal relationships that may inappropriately influence his actions. These competing interests may be potential or actual, financial or other.
- *Personal Financial Interests.* Stocks or shares in a company that may gain or lose financially from publication of the article; consulting fees or other remuneration from an organization that may gain or lose financially from

publication of the article; patents or patent applications that are owned by or licensed to companies/institutions that may gain or lose value from publication of the article.

- *Funding*. Research support by organizations that may gain or lose financially from publication of the article. This support includes salary, equipment, supplies, honoraria, reimbursement or prepayment for attending symposia, and other expenses.
- *Employment*. Recent (within the past 5 years), current, or anticipated employment by an organization that may gain or lose financially from publication of the article.
- *Other Competing Interests*. Any personal relationship which may inappropriately affect the integrity of the research reported (by an author) or the objectivity of the review of the manuscript (by a reviewer or Editor), for example, competition between investigators, previous disagreements between investigators, or bias in professional judgment.

SELF-CITATION AND SELF-PLAGIARISM

Re:GEN Open is committed to maintaining the integrity of the peer review process by upholding the highest standards for all published articles. All manuscripts will be processed through plagiarism detection software prior to peer review. Plagiarized manuscripts will be rejected immediately.

AFFILIATIONS

Authors should identify as their institution(s) the facility where the work was performed and executed. Changes in an author's affiliation after the work was completed but prior to the submission or publication of the manuscript should be noted by including an asterisk as a superscript to the name in the author listing, as well as a corresponding footnote on the title page indicating "*Current Address*" listing the new affiliation. Corrections to affiliations or contact information due to relocation after publication is not permitted.

Permissions

When reproducing copyrighted material such as figures, tables, or excerpted text, the author(s) of the submitted paper must obtain permission from the original publisher and submit it concurrently with the manuscript. The publication from which the figure or table is taken must be listed in the reference list. Finally, a footnote to a reprinted table or the legend of a reprinted figure should read, "Reprinted by permission from Jones *et al.*" and list the appropriate reference. All permissions must be supplied at the time of submission. Authors are responsible for any fees that may be incurred by securing permission to reproduce or adapt material from other published sources.

Ethics

INTERNAL REVIEW BOARD APPROVALS/WAIVERS

When reporting research involving human data, authors should indicate whether the procedures followed have been assessed by the responsible review committee (institutional and national), or if no formal ethics committee is available, were in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki as revised in 2013. If doubt exists whether the research was conducted in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration, the authors must explain the rationale for their approach and demonstrate that the institutional review body explicitly approved the doubtful aspects of the study. Approval by a responsible review committee does not preclude editors from forming their own judgment whether the conduct of the research was appropriate.

If the study is judged exempt from review, a statement from the committee is required. Informed consent by participants should always be secured. If not possible, an institutional review board must decide if this is ethically acceptable. This information should be outlined in the cover letter accompanying the submission, and in a sentence declaring adherence should be included in the *Materials and Methods* section of the manuscript.

ETHICS OF EXPERIMENTATION

All articles involving the use of human fetuses, fetal tissue, embryos, and embryonic cells must adhere to the *US Public Law 103–41*, effective December 13, 2001. (<http://ethics.od.nih.gov/>).

ETHICAL TREATMENT OF ANIMALS

All peer-reviewed submissions containing animal experiments must comply with local and national regulatory principles and contain a statement in the **Materials and Methods** section stating whether their national and institutional guidelines for the care and use of laboratory animals were followed.

HUMAN SUBJECTS: PATIENT CONSENT AND RELEASE

If applicable, it is incumbent upon the author(s) to obtain patient release statements of permission to reproduce any identifiable images of patients. The Journal does not provide a generic patient release form.

Any identifying information should not be published in descriptions or photographs unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and the patient (or parent/guardian) provides written informed consent for publication. Informed consent for this purpose requires that an identifiable patient be shown the manuscript to be submitted. Authors should disclose to these patients whether any potential identifiable material might be available via the Internet as well as in print after publication. Nonessential identifying details should be omitted. Informed consent should be obtained if there is any doubt that anonymity can be maintained. For example, masking the eye region in photographs of patients is inadequate protection of anonymity. If identifying characteristics are de-identified, the manuscript should contain assurances/statements that such changes do not distort scientific meaning.

In keeping with patients' rights of privacy, the Journal does not require the submission of patient consent forms, but instead requires the author(s) to permanently and indefinitely retain and archive all patient consent documentation. Proof of this documentation may need to be produced upon request at any time during peer review or after publication. Upon submission of a manuscript for review, the authors must make a statement in a cover letter to the Editor/Journal which attests that they have received and archived written patient consent.

PUBLISHING MISCONDUCT

The Publisher is committed to helping protect the integrity of the public scientific record by sharing reasonable concerns with authorities who are in the position to conduct an appropriate investigation into an allegation. As such, all allegations of misconduct will be referred to the Editor-In-Chief of the Journal who in turn will review the circumstances, possibly in consultation with associate editors and/or members of the editorial board. Initial fact-finding will usually include a request to all the involved parties to state their case and explain the circumstances in writing. In questions of research misconduct centering on methods or technical issues, the Editor-In-Chief may confidentially consult experts who are blinded to the identity of the individuals, or if the allegation is against an editor, an outside expert. The Editor-In-Chief will arrive at a conclusion as to whether there is enough reasonable evidence that the possibility of misconduct occurred.

When allegations concern authors, the peer review and publication process for the manuscript in question will cease while the process described herein is researched. The investigation will be taken to completion even if the authors withdraw their paper. In the case of allegations against reviewers or editors, they will be replaced in the review process while the matter is investigated.

Editors or reviewers who are found to have engaged in scientific misconduct will be removed from further association with the Journal, and reported to their institution.

If an inquiry concludes there is a reasonable possibility of misconduct, the Editor-in-Chief will retract the paper from the Journal and the scientific record. If the paper is still under peer review, the Editor-in-Chief will withdraw the paper from consideration to the Journal.

All allegations will be kept confidential.

DEFINITIONS OF SCIENTIFIC MISCONDUCT

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., publishers follows the guidelines and rules regarding scientific misconduct put forth by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), and the Office of Research Integrity (ORI).

Scientific misconduct and violation of publishing ethics vary and can be intentionally or unintentionally perpetrated. Some examples of misconduct and violations include, but are not limited to, the following:

- **Scientific Misconduct:** Fabrication, falsification, concealment, deceptive reporting, or misrepresentation of any data constitutes misconduct and/or fraud.
- **Authorship Disputes:** Deliberate misrepresentation of a scientist's contribution to the published work, or purposefully omitting the contributions of a scientist.
- **Misappropriation of the ideas of others:** Improper use of scholarly exchange and activity may constitute fraud. Wholesale appropriation of such material constitutes misconduct.
- **Violation of generally accepted research practices:** Serious deviation from accepted practices in proposing or carrying out research, improper manipulation of experiments to obtain biased results, deceptive statistical or analytical manipulations, or improper reporting of results constitutes misconduct and/or fraud.
- **Material failure to comply with legislative and regulatory requirements affecting research:** Including but not limited to serious or substantial, repeated, willful violations of applicable local regulations and law involving the use of funds, care of animals, human subjects, investigational drugs, recombinant products, new devices, or radioactive, biologic, or chemical materials constitutes misconduct.
- **Conflict of Interest:** Nondisclosure of any conflicts, direct or indirect, to the Journal which prevents you from being unbiased constitutes misconduct.
- **Deliberate misrepresentation:** of qualifications, experience, or research accomplishments to advance the research program, to obtain external funding, or for other professional advancement constitutes misconduct and/or fraud.
- **Plagiarism:** Purposely claiming another's work or idea as your own constitutes misconduct and/or fraud.
- **Simultaneous Submission:** Submitting a paper to more than one publication at the same time constitutes misconduct.

RETRACTIONS

The journal and its publisher are committed to upholding the proper protocols and established standards of peer review. Published papers found to be in violation of any of the misconduct noted above, or in the accepted principles of peer review and scientific publishing, will be officially retracted from the literature. An official retraction notice explaining in full detail the circumstances surrounding the need for a retraction.

Data Sharing

ReGen: Open strongly advocates the sharing and archiving of the data and any other artifacts that define and support the results stated in a manuscript in a suitable public repository (in accordance with valid privacy, legal, and ethical guidelines). A data availability statement should be included in the manuscript (in the Methods section or as a separate section at the end of the manuscript), describing the location of the data, with details on how it can be accessed as well as any licensing information. If the data is not publicly available or accessible, that information should also be provided. Datasets should be cited in the reference list by Author (Year). Title. Publisher. Identifier/DOI.

Important: Please check with your funding agencies to ensure that you are following their data sharing policies. If your funding agency has additional requirements exceeding our policy, you must follow the requirements of your funder.

Preprint Servers

A preprint is a complete draft of a research paper that is shared on a public preprint server prior to submission to a journal for peer review.

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., allows for papers that were previously deposited on preprint servers to be submitted to our

journals, with the proviso that the author updates any preprint versions with a link to the final published article. All submissions are subject to peer review and allowing the submission of preprint manuscripts does not guarantee publication in any Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., journal.

The submitting author of a paper that was previously deposited to a preprint server should include a disclosure on the title page of the manuscript indicating the name and website of the server and include the DOI number of the preprint.

Referencing/citing non-peer-reviewed material that is found on any preprint server is generally discouraged by Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., journals, but if it is necessary, the citation must make it clear that the content is not officially published in a journal, and can only be found on a preprint server.

Permissions

Authors are responsible for securing any necessary permissions to reprint, reuse, or adapt any material from previously published works from the copyright holder. Any fees associated with securing permission rights are the responsibility of the author(s). All permissions should be supplied at the time of submission.