Manuscript Submission Guidelines and Policies for *ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies*

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Journal Information

- Manuscript Submission Site: https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/assay
- Editorial Office Contact: assay_eo@liebertpub.com
- Support Contact: prosupport@liebertpub.com
- Journal Model: Hybrid (Open Access Option)
- Blinding: Single Blind
- File formatting requirement stage: On revision. Format neutral on original submission.
- Instant Online Option (immediate publication of accepted version): No
- Average time to initial decison: 31 days

About the Journal

ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies focuses on early-stage screening techniques and tools that optimize the identification of novel leads and targets for new drug development, running the spectrum from nanotechnology through cellular imaging. Case studies are presented, and technology applications are extensive. Articles published in ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies emphasize methodologies and technologies to accelerate drug discovery.

Included topics are: State-of-the-art research, methods, materials, and protocols in assay design and target development; High throughput screening; High throughput chemistry; Lab automation; Data analysis and information management; Microplate standards; Screen design and advanced technology; Protein structure and function; Compound library generation; Bioinformatics and data mining; Validation strategies; Biosensors; Detection technologies; Miniaturization and nanotechnology; Protein–protein interaction as novel drug targets; Novel screening methods with high information content; Metabolically engineered cells and organisms; Imaging technologies for live cells, tissues, and small animals; and Virtual screening.

Manuscripts submitted to this Journal must not be under consideration elsewhere.

Manuscript Types and Guidelines

Original Article	• 3,000-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 250 words • Maximum total of eight (8) figures and/or tables • Protocol Table is required
Review Articles	• 8,000-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 250 words • Maximum total of ten (10) figures and/or tables
Perspectives	• 1,500-word limit • Unstructured abstract of no more than 100 words • An Introduction and a Conclusion are mandatory • Maximum total of three (3) figures and/or tables • Maximum of 25 references
Editorials	• 1,000-word limit • No abstract • No figures or tables • Maximum of 10 references
Letter to the Editor	• 500-word limit • No abstract • May include one figure OR table • Reference citations are identical in style to those of full original articles, but should not exceed five (5).

Word limits do NOT pertain to the abstract, disclosure statements, author contribution statements, funding information, acknowledgments, tables, figure legends, or references.

ASSAY and Drug Development Technologies welcomes format-neutral manuscripts for first-time submissions. Newly submitted manuscripts will not be un-submitted 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 (ie: IRB approvals, author disclosures, etc.) for all new submissions. Manuscripts submitted without this information will be un-submitted and the submitting author will be asked to add the required components.

References

All references must be cited in the text using a superscript Arabic number. Arrange the reference list in numeric order as cited in the text. When there are more than six authors, list the first three followed by "et al.". Abbreviate journal names according to Serial Sources for the BIOSIS Data Base (BioSciences Information Service, 1992).

An **EndNote Template is available**.

Sample style for references:

Journal citation:Ferrer M, Hamilton A, Inglese J: A PDZ domain-based detection system for enzyme assays.*Analyt Biochem* 2001;301:207–216.

Book citation: Kahn M: *High Throughput Screening for Novel Anti-Inflammatories*. Birkhauser, Basel, Switzerland, 2000.

Chapter in edited book: Banks M: Automation and Technology for HTS in Drug Development. In: *Approaches to High Throughput Toxicity Screening* (Atterwill CK, Purcell W, Goldfarb P, eds.), pp. 9–30. Taylor & Francis, London, United Kingdom, 1999.

Web sites: Name of web page. Web address. (Last accessed on [date]). Example: DOE Human Genome Program Research. Available at: **www.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human_Genome/research/research/shtml**. Last accessed August 31, 2005.

When data from an unpublished source are given, supply the researcher's name and institution, and the year in which the research was conducted. If the work is in press, give the journal in which it is to be published.

Other Instructions

Protocol Tables

Authors should include a Protocol Table having the general format as shown below to supplement the Methods section. This format will allow the optimized HTS or other assay protocols with specific comments for each step to be presented in a straightforward manner, and allow ADT to establish a consistent protocol format.

Table 2 Example HTS assay protocol table

Step	Parameter	Value	Description
1	Plate cells	3 µl	5,000 OCI-Ly3 cells
2	Controls	20 nl	±doxycycline, media, MG132
3	Library compounds	20 nl	57 µM to 0.7 nM dilution series
4	Reporter induction	1 µl	Induce CBR and CBG68 luciferases
5	Incubation time	4 h	37°C, 5% CO_2
6	Reporter reagent	4 µl	Chroma-Glo detection
7	Incubation time	10 min	Ambient temperature
8	Assay readout	540 and 618 nm	CCD imager, luminescent mode

Step	Notes
1	Solid white tissue culture–treated plates, 1-tip dispense cells all wells
2	Columns 1–2, 16-pt MG132 titration, duplicate; column 3, rows 1–24 doxycycline only, rows 25–32 medium; column 4, rows 1–24, 10 µM MG132, rows 25–32 medium only. MG123 added with Pintool (V&P Scientific), media ± doxycycline added with nanoliter reagent dispenser
3	Pintool transfer (tip wash sequence: DMSO, iPA, MeOH, 3-s vacuum dry)
4	20 ng ml^{-1} stock concentration doxycycline
5	Plates covered with stainless steel gasket-lined lids containing pinholes for gas exchange
6	8-tip dispense reagent all wells
7	Plates lidded until read
8	$G' = \frac{Lgf - (R' \times (Rgf/R))}{Ggf/G}$; $R' = \frac{Lrf - (Lgf \times (Grf/Ggf))}{(Rrf/R) - (Rgf/R) \times (Grf/Ggf)}$ Green filter (540/20 nm); red filter (618/8 nm); 15-s exposure; correction factors for spectral overlap between green and red luminescence

Adapted from ref. 1.

Figure layout

Figures should be on a white background, and must avoid excessive boxing, unnecessary color, a title on the figure itself, spurious decorative effects (such as three-dimensional 'skyscraper' histograms).Do not use a gray or dark background for histograms, and if possible prepare them in a professional graphing program such as Prism, Origin, etc. that matches the presentation format of, for example, dose-response plots.

Concentration response plots. Concentration or dose-response curves should be plotted using a logarithmic x-axis scale for effector (e.g., compound or ligand) concentration and a linear y-axis scale for the effect being measured (e.g., readout from plate reader, percent activity relative to control). In the case of replicate determinations, each point should represent the mean, and error bars should be used to show the SD or SEM. Points may be joined by a line or superimposed on a curve fit obtained by non-linear regression. The figure legend should report the number of replicates, the error

calculation used (e.g., SD or SEM), and the type of curve fit.

This journal's conventional concentration response curve nomenclature is "Log [cpd], M". Plots may contain symbol legend within the plot itself, however this information must be also contained within the figure legend (see example below). In general, please differentiate multiple curves on a plot by the type of data point symbol. Avoid use of color if possible.

Examples below show acceptable figure layouts for the figure legend below.

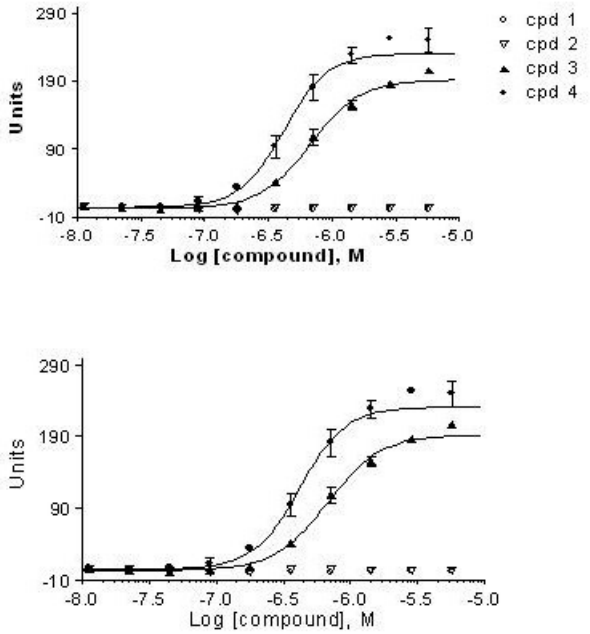
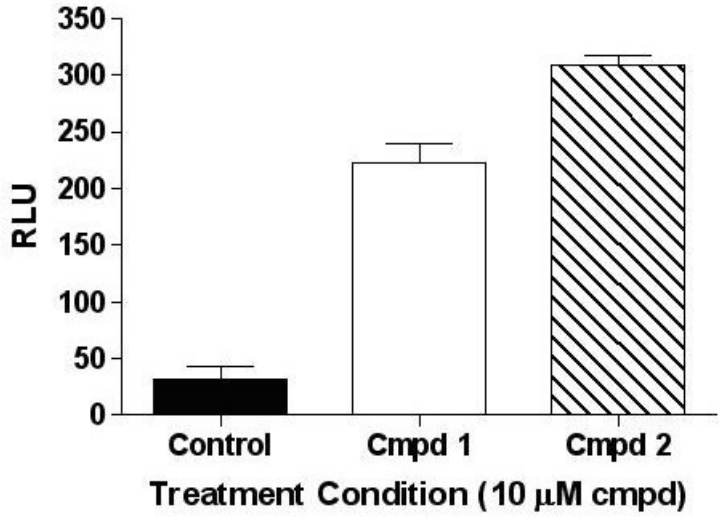
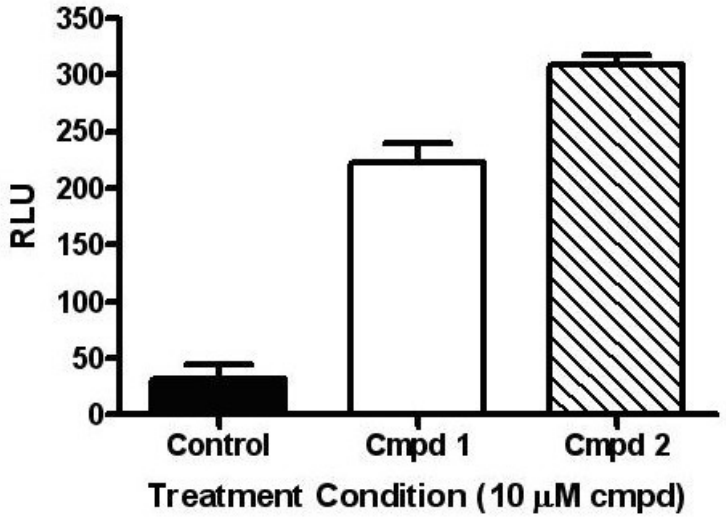


Figure 1. Dose-response of active and inactive analogs of two compound series. The inhibition of esterase activity was determined for two representative compounds from the benzthiazol and quinazoline series. The IC50 of the active benzthiazol cpd 123 (●) was 420 ± 18 nM and the inactive stereo isomer, cpd 124 (? ○ ?),had no effect at the highest tested concentration of 6 uM. The IC50 of the active quinazoline cpd 225(▲) was 677± 30 nM, and the inactive ester, cpd 226 (?▽?), had no effect at the highest tested concentration of 6 uM. The data presented are means +/- SEM of triplicate wells (n=3)

Bar graphs

Please standardize all figures using a professional graphing software package (e.g. Prism Graphpad). Please do not use Excel for graphing if possible. For bar graphs, use the following patterns, solid, open, and hashed with three or less different conditions (see below); for an additional fourth bar reverse hash lines. Use the finest line settings (e.g. ½ point) when option is available. Avoid use of color in bar graphs.





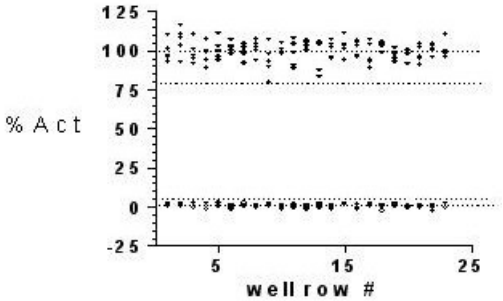
Error bars and definition

All Figures displaying error bars (e.g., bar graphs, dose-response curves) must include in the figure legend a sentence describing how the error was determined, for example "The data presented are means +/- SEM of triplicate wells (n=3)", or "Error bars represent standard error of n=4 values", etc.

Error measurements must also accompany all reported dissociation/association constants, kinetic parameters (e.g. Km, Vmax) and IC50, e.g. IC50 = 8 ±1 uM.

Z' factor

All reported Z-factors must include within the paper specifically what ‘signal’ and ‘background’ or ‘inhibited’ conditions were used to obtain the data used to calculate this value. In addition, and importantly, how many wells were used to calculate the Z' For a 96-well plate ideally half the wells (n=48) would be used as ‘background’ or ‘inhibited’ and the other half (n=48) as the ‘stimulated’ or ‘max signal’. A typical experiment in the standard 96-well format should be shown. Example is below.



Chemical Structures

Structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw. Authors using the current versions of ChemDraw will find the necessary parameters incorporated into this program (“ACS Document 1996”).

Comparative Structures between Assay Technologies

Authors preparing manuscripts containing comparisons of assay technologies are advised that the following points will be considered during peer-review:

- A Z-factor analysis along with the formula used to calculate the Z-factor must be included, especially if formats are fundamentally different, e.g., a ratiometric vs. a single readout assay. The authors should describe the plate format, number of wells, and plates used to obtain this statistic.
- Discrepancies in the ability to reproduce an activity of published controls must be carefully explained. Particular attention should be paid to experimental parameters and reagent properties that differ from those previously reported (e.g., enzyme specific activity, protein or compound purity).
- Product comparisons may be supported by reference to data from peer-reviewed publications. In the absence of prior peer reviewed publication, data to support (or critique) a specific product should be presented in the paper so that it will be subjected to peer review upon submission to Assay and Drug Development Technologies. Selective use of literature to support an advantage over an existing technology is inappropriate, as is selective omission of literature references to create the appearance of a competitive advantage. In general, existing literature relevant to the reported assay technology should be cited comprehensively, and negative and positive aspects should be discussed in a scientific and unbiased manner.

- Vendor manuals available online may be referenced when a method is based on a commercial kit or performed ‘‘according to the manufacturer’s instructions.’’ Reviewers, however, may require details to be included in the manuscript. Data in manuals, application notes, and posters that have not been subjected to peer review may not be used to compare one product with another or to support a central argument in a paper.
- The use of promotional or marketing-like statements is not permitted. Examples of marketing terminology: "XYZ Biosciences has recently launched the first commercially available version…." "For higher throughput a plate based version, Speedy Workstation, is available. With this device screening of large compound libraries will be possible without loss of data quality." In addition please remove all terms of novelty from the title and text (e.g., novel, innovative, unique).

General Manuscript Submission Guidelines and Policies for Mary Ann Liebert Journals

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Submission Preparation

All manuscripts must be prepared in accordance with the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (icmje.org). Please consult your specific journal's requirements for additional information.

All Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. journals follow the standards, guidelines, and best practices set forth by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE; publicationethics.org), the International Committee of Journal Medical Editors (ICJME; www.icmje.org), the World Medical Association (WMA); www.wma.net), and the American Medical Association (www.ama-assn.org).

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. recommends that submissions follow standard relevant reporting guidelines. Please consult The Equator Network for more information.

Manuscript Structure

Specific journal requirements will vary, however the general order of elements in each manuscript should be

- Title page* with full manuscript title, all contributing authors' names and affiliations, a short running title, a denotation of the corresponding author, and a list of 4-6 keywords/search terms,
- Abstract,
- Main text without embedded figures or tables and with appropriate section headings, if applicable. Most research papers should be organized as follows: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions.
- Acknowledgments,
- Authorship confirmation statement,
- Author(s') disclosure (Conflict of Interest) statement(s), even when not applicable,
- Funding statement, even when not applicable,
- References,
- Tables included in the text or as a separate document,
- Figure legends at the end of the main text or in a separate Word file,
- Figures uploaded as individual high-resolution files,
- Supplemental files uploaded as individual files.

*Double-blinded journals require a separate title page with the title, all contributing authors' names and affiliations, a denotation of the corresponding author, author acknowledgements, disclosures, and related identifying information.

Your individual journal may require

- An Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval (or waiver) statement and statement of patient consent as a separate paragraph after the methods section,
- Other relevant ethics attestations (see icmje.org for further guidance),
- Data sharing statement,
- Specific abstract and content sections, depending on manuscript type,
- Word count limits, tables/figure limits, and reference format requirements.

Manuscript Formatting

Manuscript Formatting

Please check your journal's requirements for file formatting. Many journals require formatting compliance only on revision; however, unless stated, the file formatting should comply with the following requirements on submission.

Manuscript Files

The main text file, figure legends, and tables should be prepared in Microsoft Word. Some journals may accept LaTex. Please consult your individual journal instructions for guidance.

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.**
- Title each file with the type of content contained in the file (e.g., manuscript.doc, tables.doc, FigureLegends.doc, Fig1.tif, SupplementalData.pdf, etc.).

Figures

- Submission of high resolution .TIFF or .EPS figure files is preferred. 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 should be numbered consecutively.
- Figure legends may be included at the end of the main text file or uploaded as a separate, double-spaced Word file.
- In each legend, provide explanations for any abbreviations or symbols that appear in the figure.
- If the figure is taken from a copyrighted publication, permission must be secured by the author(s) and supplied at the time of submission with appropriate credit listed in the legend. Permissions and associated fees are the responsibility of the author.

Tables

- Tables may be included after the references at the end of the main text file, or uploaded as a single, separate Word file. All tables should be editable.
- Provide a title for each supplied table.
- Cite tables sequentially in text within parentheses.
- Explain abbreviations used in the body of the table in footnotes using superscript letters, not symbols.
- If a table is taken from a copyrighted publication, permission must be secured by the author(s) and supplied at the time of submission with appropriate credit listed in the legend. Permissions and associated fees are the responsibility of the author.

Supplemental Files

- Supplemental files should be uploaded as individual files. Most text, photo, graphic, and video formats are accepted. Ensure that patient identities are not revealed.
- Supplemental Information will not be copyedited or typeset; it will be posted online as supplied.
- For journals that publish accepted versions of papers prior to copyediting and typesetting, supplemental files will not be posted with the paper until after production has been completed.

Pre-Publication Policies

Funding

Upon manuscript submission, 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 Funder Registry. 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. Funding information must also be provided within the manuscript.

Government Funded Research / Funder Requirements

Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., adheres to national and international funder requirements. Various funders, such as the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Wellcome Trust, Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), have specific requirements for depositing the accepted version and/or the article of record version in a repository after an embargo period. Authors funded by these organizations should follow the self-archiving terms and conditions of these separate agreements based on the policies of the specific funding institutions. If you have questions, please **contact us** for more information.

Peer Review

All submissions are subject to peer review after initial editorial evaluation for suitability. A minimum of two reviews are required for most journals if the manuscript proceeds to the review stage. Final decisions on the manuscript are solely at the discretion of the Editor(s).

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. Conference abstracts are excluded. 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.

Third-party Submissions and Integrity

If a third party is submitting the manuscript, the submitting agent designation must be used, with the identity of the submitting agent disclosed. We reserve the right to reject any manuscript that does not contain this disclosure. The authors are solely responsible for any manuscript submitted on their behalf.

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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. Reviewers are not permitted to contact authors directly.

Sharing of Materials

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.

Conflicts of Interest 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.

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Mary Ann Liebert, Inc., is committed to maintaining the integrity of the peer-review process by upholding the highest standards for all published articles. All manuscripts will be analyzed and evaluated for plagiarism, peer review integrity, and publication integrity. Plagiarized manuscripts or manuscripts with evidence of publication or peer review misconduct will be rejected immediately. If publication misconduct is identified, we reserve the right to rescind acceptance prior to publication.

Authorship

Authorship is defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors in Roles & Responsibilities. Contributors who do not meet all 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 complete their submissions using an ORCID identifier.

Corresponding Authors

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

The submission system permits only one author to be identified as the corresponding author of record. However, we recognize that some submissions call for more than one corresponding author to be noted. In such cases, select one author to be the main point of contact for all communications regarding the peer review process of the paper, and on the title page of the manuscript, designate additional co-corresponding authors by including an asterisk after the authors' names in the byline. Include an accompanying footnote on the title page that reads, "**Co-corresponding authors*." Please ensure that the title page carries the full affiliation details and email address of any author who should be noted as a corresponding author. If the paper is accepted for publication, the full contact information for all designated co-authors will be listed at the end of the article as per usual journal style.

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Changes in authorship after submission or acceptance of a paper are generally not permitted, but the editorial leadership recognizes that in certain circumstances, it may be required. The 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, the nature of the changes, and the names and affiliations of all authors.
- Written approval of all authors named on the manuscript, as well as any individual(s) being added to the author list must be provided. 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.
- Post-publication changes or alterations to conference abstracts are prohibited.

Author Disclosure Statements

Upon submission, authors are required to fully disclose any interests, funding or employment that may inappropriately influence or affect the integrity of the submission. Authors should disclose

- *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.
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- *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.

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 using a superscript asterisk in the author listing and a footnote on the title page indicating "*Current Address"* and listing the new affiliation. Corrections to affiliations or contact information due to relocation after publication is not permitted.

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Ethics

Institutional Review Board Approvals/Waivers

When reporting research involving human data, authors should indicate whether the procedures followed have been assessed by the responsible

institutional and national review committee. If no formal ethics committee is available; authors should indicate if research was completed 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 a sentence declaring adherence should be included in the Materials and Methods section of the main text.

Ethics of Experimentation

See the following resources for studies involving human fetuses, fetal tissue, embryos, and embryonic cells:

- **NIH Grants Policy Statement**
- **National Conference of State Legislatures Embryonic and Fetal Research Laws**

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 of the main text stating whether 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 permission to reproduce any identifiable images of patients. Any identifying information should not be published in descriptions or photographs unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and the patient (or patients' parent/guardian) gives 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 cannot 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 retain and archive all patient consent documentation. Upon submission of a manuscript for review, the authors must make a statement in the cover letter to the Editor/Journal which attests that they have received and archived written patient consent in addition to providing the requisite statement in the manuscript.

Data Sharing

We recommend, but do not require, the sharing and archiving of 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). We recommend that a data availability statement be included in the manuscript in the Methods section or as a separate section at the end of the main text file. Describe the location of the data, details on how it can be accessed and 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.

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

Preprint Servers

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, even those deposited on preprint servers, are subject to peer review and does not guarantee publication in any Mary Ann Liebert, Inc. journal.

The submitting author of a paper which 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.

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Copyright

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Upon acceptance, authors will receive a link to sign and complete the copyright transfer form (subject to exceptions listed above). Authors not permitted to release copyright must still return the form acknowledging the statement for not releasing the copyright.

Post Acceptance/Publication

All accepted manuscripts will go through copyediting, typesetting, figure sizing and placement, author proofing, corrections, revisions (from corrected proofs), online-ahead-of-print release, and lastly, issue assignment. Changes or alterations to a submission are not permitted after acceptance but should be addressed in page proofs.

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Journals in the Just Accepted program (formerly known as Instant Online) publish all accepted papers within 72 hours of receipt of all authors' signed copyright agreement forms in their unedited, uncorrected format on our Just Accepted platform.

The information that is published online, and in all indexing services, is pulled directly from the data that is populated into the fields in ScholarOne Manuscripts™ – NOT from the main text file – when the paper is originally uploaded to the system for peer review. Consequently, any errors contained in the system will remain on our website and all indexing services, including Medline, until the next revision* of the article is published. As such, it is critical that authors enter all authors' names correctly into the system at the time of submission. Any omissions or errors will remain on our website and in indexing services until the subsequent online version is published.

*The next revision will take place after the corresponding author reviews page proofs, makes any necessary corrections, and returns the changes to the Publisher. Once the alterations are completed, the revised version will be published on our website, and the newly corrected information will then be released to Medline/PubMed, in addition to any other indexing services in which the Journal is included.

Please note that the typical time between acceptance of a paper and page proof distribution is approximately 3-6 weeks depending on the length and complexity of the paper.

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Page proofs will be sent to the corresponding author as designated in ScholarOne™ when the manuscript was submitted. It is the corresponding author's responsibility to share the page proofs with co-authors, if desired, and to coordinate all authors' corrections into one proof. The Publisher will not accept corrections from multiple authors/sources.

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