Journal Information

- Manuscript Submission Site: [https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/photobiomodulation](https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/photobiomodulation)
- Editorial Office Contact: photob_eo@liebertpub.com
- Support Contact: prosupport@liebertpub.com
- Journal Model: Hybrid (Open Access option)
- Blinding: Single Blind
- File formatting requirement stage: Upon submission
- Instant Online Option (immediate publication of accepted version): No
- Submission fee: No
- Average time to initial decision: 22 days

About the Journal

*Photobiomodulation, Photomedicine, and Laser Surgery* provides rapid publication of new and cutting-edge techniques and research in phototherapy, low level laser therapy (LLLT), and laser medicine and surgery.

Manuscript Types and Guidelines

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Manuscript Type</th>
<th>Word Limit</th>
<th>Structured Abstract</th>
<th>Figure/Table Limit</th>
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<tr>
<td>Original Research Articles</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>No more than 250</td>
<td>Maximum 10 figures/tables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Review Articles</td>
<td>6,000</td>
<td>No more than 150</td>
<td>Maximum 10 figures/tables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Case Reports</td>
<td>Only rare, novel, or exceptional Case Reports will be considered</td>
<td>No more than 150</td>
<td>Maximum 2 figures/tables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rapid Communications</td>
<td>1,000</td>
<td>No more than 150</td>
<td>May include 1 figure OR table</td>
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<td><strong>Editorials</strong></td>
<td>We are happy to consider unsolicited editorials, which will be externally peer reviewed.</td>
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<th><strong>Letters to the Editor</strong></th>
<th>Only in exceptional circumstances, when the argument is laid out in an accompanying letter, can the following limits be exceeded.</th>
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<td>May include one (1) figure OR table</td>
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<td>Reference citations are identical in style to those of full original articles, but should not exceed five (5).</td>
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| **Other** | In addition to the above article types, personal view articles, drug/therapy/intervention reports, critical review and debate, and reports drawing attention to potential clinical problems are welcomed. |

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<th><strong>Protocol</strong></th>
<th>The Protocol manuscript type is dedicated to supporting the awareness and publication of operating procedures for methodologies that reinforce key advances in the field. The step-by-step protocol provided in a Protocol Article is intended to establish peer-reviewed methodologies and enable technical improvements for specialists and non-specialists. The Protocol Article submission should describe a method that has already been used to produce results in a peer-reviewed original research article and should describe a technological or methodological update or advancement when compared to the &quot;state-of-the art&quot; methodology.</th>
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<td>Every submitted Protocol Article must provide data and compare the new process to existing processes or identify gaps in prior related protocol publications.</td>
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<td>350-word structured abstract</td>
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<td>Composition: Introduction, Method, Experiment, Results, and Discussion</td>
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<td>10 figures maximum</td>
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<td>6 tables maximum</td>
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Word limits do NOT pertain to the abstract, disclosure statements, author contribution statements, funding information, acknowledgments, tables, figure legends, or references.

**Additional Information**

**Abstract**

The structured format for the abstract consists of 1) the objective of one or two sentences; 2) the background data is a short paragraph describing the present status of the field; 3) methods is a statement of the plan and/or methods used in the study; 4) the results is a concise summary of the essential features verified by the data; and 5) the conclusions is a brief description of the objective findings of the study. References are not permitted in the abstract.

**Parameters**

All submitted manuscripts must include a detailed description of the treatment (light or energy delivery) as well as the device used in performing such treatment (light or energy delivery). A description of the device must include the name of the manufacturer, the manufacturer's geographical location, the equipment model, power output, the wavelength of the light source, including a description of the source, e.g., solid state, gas, laser diode, light-emitting diode, etc., and
the shape, size and type of treatment applicator (delivery system or device) used in delivering treatment. Similarly, a detailed description of treatment parameters is necessary and should, at a minimum, include:

- The irradiance or power density measured in W/cm²,
- The dose in the form of energy density or fluence measured in J/cm²,
- The duration of each treatment session, preferably measured in seconds,
- The frequency of treatment (i.e., the number of times treatment was done per week), and
- The cumulative dose given, i.e., the individual doses multiplied by the number of treatment sessions.

It is highly recommended that the parameters used be provided in the form of a table in addition to their inclusion in the text of the Materials and Methods section of the manuscript.

Please refer to the following references for additional information and guidance in the reporting of parameters prior to submission of manuscripts:

- WALT recommended treatment doses for low level laser therapy: [http://waltza.co.za/documentation-links/recommendations/](http://waltza.co.za/documentation-links/recommendations/)

References

*Photobiomodulation, Photomedicine, and Laser Surgery* uses Mary Ann Liebert’s *Vancouver* reference format. Templates are available in [Zotero](https://www.zotero.org/) and through the CSL Style Repository. An *Endnote template* is also available.

**Liebert Vancouver Style: Order of Citation**

- Reference List: Prepared in sequential order as cited in text.
- In-text Citations: All references must be cited in text in numerical order, set in superscript Arabic numerals outside of any punctuation. Do not set reference numbers in parentheses or brackets. To cite several references at once, use commas to separate non-sequential citations and use dashes to separate sequential citations; do not include spaces. Ex: 3,7,12–15
- Journal titles should follow the abbreviation style of PubMed/Medline.
- Include among the references any articles that have been accepted but have not yet published; identify the name of publication and add "In Press." If the reference has been published online, provide the DOI number in place of the page range.

**Style Examples for Reference List:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Reference</th>
<th>Punctuation and Order of Elements in Reference List</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
Journal article with more than 3 authors


Edited Book


Chapter in an Edited Book


Authored Book


Website


Personal communications

References that are unpublished (ie: personal communications, emails, letters) are not to be included in the reference list. Instead, insert “Personal communication; [name], date” parenthetically at the point of citation within text.

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There is no obligation to use either the free or paid service. No editorial, review, nor any other decisions will be dependent on its use.

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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).

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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.
- Note: Figures that will not be reproduced in color must be readable and interpretable in black and white.

**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.

**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/contribution statement (CRediT format is preferred)
- 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.

Please note that paragraphs should be no longer than 15 lines once typeset.
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.

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**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.

**Authorship Confirmation/Contribution Statement**

An authorship contribution statement must be included with the manuscript. We strongly recommend that the authorship contribution statement follow the CRediT Taxonomy guidelines. ([https://credit.niso.org/](https://credit.niso.org/))

- Conceptualization (Ideas; formulation or evolution of overarching research goals and aims.)
- Data curation (Management activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later re-use.)
- Formal analysis (Application of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyze or synthesize study data.)
• Funding acquisition (Acquisition of the financial support for the project leading to this publication.)

• Investigation (Conducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence collection.)

• Methodology (Development or design of methodology; creation of models.)

• Project administration (Management and coordination responsibility for the research activity planning and execution.)

• Resources (Provision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation, computing resources, or other analysis tools.)

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• Visualization (Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualization/data presentation.)

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• Writing – review & editing (Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group, specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.)

Example

Author 1: review and editing (equal). **Author 2**: Conceptualization (lead); writing – original draft (lead); formal analysis (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 3**: Software (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 4**: Methodology (lead); writing – review and editing (equal). **Author 5**: Conceptualization (supporting); Writing – original draft (supporting); Writing – review and editing (equal).

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• 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 or removed from 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.

• If authors are added or removed upon revision submission, without accompanying documentation of the request, the manuscript will be unsubmitted.
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Please contact the Director of Production and Editorial to confidentially update your record. Identification or documentation is not required, apart from confirmation that the change is on behalf of yourself (requests cannot be made for other individuals).

Updates will be made to the online versions of the article, but without a formal correction notice and without coauthors being notified.

We recommend authors update ScholarOne and ORCID records with any name changes.

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- **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.

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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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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. Please see https://www.icmje.org/icmje-recommendations.pdf for additional information.

The publisher requires a statement from authors in the Materials and Methods section to confirm that the appropriate ethical approval has been received, that appropriate processes have been followed, and the name of the committee.

Informed consent by patients/participants should always be secured. A statement confirming that informed patient/participant consent was obtained is required in the Materials and Methods section. The statement of IRB review is accepted as covering the review of consent documentation.

If the study is judged exempt from review, a statement from the committee is required in the Materials and Methods section, including, if applicable, documentation of institutionally approved waiver of informed consent.

**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**

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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.

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Datasets should be cited in the reference list.

**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.

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