



Guide for Authors

All reviews and illustrations must be received by the deadline specified in your invitation letter, as your article will be published as part of a themed section. Please note that your review might be published online, in advance of the cover date for the issue, depending on date of manuscript submission and the speed of the editorial and production process. Please follow these instructions carefully, as our editorial policy differs in important respects from that of primary research journals.

Please contact your Content Development Manager (CDM), Lorraine van Nes, if you have any questions; email L.Nes@elsevier.com.

The review

The aim of the manuscript is to review recent articles, with particular emphasis on those articles published in the **past two years**. In addition to describing recent trends, you are encouraged to give your subjective opinion of the topics discussed, although you should not concentrate unduly on your own research. Your review should be approximately 2000 words (not including references or reference notes), with approximately 50 references and, as such, the review is intended to be a concise view of the field as it is at the moment, rather than a comprehensive overview. Our audience ranges from student to professor, so articles must be accessible to a wide readership. Please avoid jargon, but do not oversimplify: be accurate and precise throughout. Occasionally, unpublished data can be referred to, but only when essential and should never be used to substantiate any significant point.

Please ensure that the document is typed in the following order in a single document including tables, boxes and figure legends (12 pt, double-spaced) with numbered pages.

1. Title

The title should be short and enticing (eight words or fewer), and should not contain abbreviations. Please feel free to suggest your own title. You should include a truncated form of the title (~4 words) that will be used at the top of each page of your article.

2. Author(s)

Please provide the names of all authors in full, including first name. No more than five authors should be listed (only those who contributed to the actual writing of the manuscript, rather than members of the laboratory contributing to primary work). Anyone else who contributed to the article can be thanked in the acknowledgements section.

3. Addresses

Include full addresses for all authors, including e-mail addresses, and nominate a corresponding author (usually the invited author).

4. Summary of recent advances

All reviews should be prefaced by a summary of 100–120 words. The summary is important: it should contain sufficient information for the reader to be able to appreciate the relevance of the full article when read alone. Summaries are used by abstracting services and many users of these services read only the summary. It should include background information and *specific examples of recent advances*, rather than promises that a particular subject „will be discussed“ - the scope of the review should instead appear at the end of the introduction. References should not be included and abbreviations should be avoided as far as possible.

5. Introduction

The introduction should be accessible to a wide variety of scientists by avoiding the use of jargon and concepts not familiar to non-specialists. It should outline the time period covered and the scope of the review, including the importance of and rationale behind your article. The introduction should include only a few background references.

6. Main text of review

Use concise, logical subheadings to provide clear links between the different sections and guide the reader through your review. Please write all abbreviations in full on first use, and use the abbreviation thereafter. Any algebra should be >14pt, with variables in italics and vectors in bold.

7. Conclusions

The conclusions section should summarise the topics discussed and describe future directions, including the author's opinions, as appropriate.

8. Acknowledgements

In addition to any acknowledgement of help in the production of the manuscript, funding bodies should also be mentioned (please give full names rather than abbreviations), together with any relevant grant numbers.

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The format for *Current Opinion* journals is available in Endnote 4.0. Each reference should be typed EXACTLY as shown in the following examples:

JOURNAL

de Alba E, Antoro J, Rico MA, Jimenez MA: **De novo design of a monomeric three-stranded anti-parallel β -sheet.** *Protein Sci* 1999, **8**:854-865.

BOOK

Archer MD, Barber J (Eds): *Molecular to Global Photosynthesis*. Imperial College Press; 2004.

CHAPTER IN BOOK

Barber J, Kuhlbrandt W: **Photosynthesis and photoconversion.** In *Molecular to Global Photosynthesis*. Edited by Archer M, Barber J. Imperial College Press; 2004:3-89.

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If more than eleven authors are credited for an article, please list only the first ten, then add *et al.* Please DO NOT shorten the list of authors before the cut-off of ten. Journal names should be abbreviated in accordance with Index Medicus.

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When citing online journal references, please adhere to the convention described above, inserting the digital object identifier (DOI) after the year.

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When citing references in the text, please use [square brackets] rather than (parentheses) or superscript_{1,2} to denote the citations. Please also ensure the citations are numbered and NOT Harvard referencing style (i.e. [Moore 1965; Myrdal 1957]).

- Annotations

The majority of the references (please aim to cite approximately 50) should come from the period under review (i.e. **the past two years**) and, in general, at least 10% of these should be selected and annotated as being papers of special interest () or outstanding interest (). Annotated references **MUST** be from the past two years, and the annotation should provide a brief description of the major findings and the importance of the study. **This is an essential part of each review** and is very popular with our readers. For example:

30. Wong FS, Karttunen J, Dumont C, Wen L, Visintin I, Pilip IM, Shastri N, Pamer EG, Janeway CA Jr: **Identification of an MHC class I-restricted autoantigen in type 1 diabetes by screening an organ-specific cDNA library.** *Nat Med* 1999, **5**:1026-1031.

Using class I tetramers, the authors demonstrate that insulin-specific CD8+ T cells account for a large proportion of infiltrated T cells in the islets of prediabetic NOD mice. This is the first study to use peptide multimers to decipher the mechanism of autoimmunity.

- Exclude from reference list

Unpublished data (including papers in preparation, papers submitted for publication and personal communications), conference abstracts, PhD theses, websites/URLs and computer programs/databases **should not** be mentioned in the reference list. If you feel that the citation is crucial to the review, please mention it in the text only (see below). Please keep in mind that citations should be restricted to sources freely available to most readers. (If a submitted paper is accepted for publication before we go to press, then this information can be added in an „Update“ section). These references should be presented in the text as follows (please list the first author only, including initials and surname):

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4. PhD theses: (R Arthur Goode, PhD thesis, University of Hawaii, 1988)

5. Websites: (Biological Biochemical Image Database; URL: <http://bbid.grc.nia.nih.gov/>)

4. Computer program/database: (Actin database, University of Harvard).

(unless the program/database details have been published, in which case cite as a normal reference. For example, Nicholls A, Bharadwaj R, Honig B: **GRASP: a graphical representation and analysis of surface properties.** *Biophys J* 1993, **64**:166-170.)

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We have the facility to include additional or supplementary information (e.g. tables/figures/videos/audio) with articles. This supplementary material will be published online only and will not appear in the print issue. The supplementary material should appear as a „stand alone“ document. Therefore, please supply a word file containing all of the relevant information (i.e. the text, tables and references should be in one document). For lengthy tables, excel files can be accepted. For more details, please contact the Journal Manager (JM), comicr@elsevier.com.

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