



# EUROPEAN JOURNAL OF PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES

Official Journal of the [European Federation for Pharmaceutical Sciences \(EUFEPS\)](#)

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ISSN: 0928-0987

### DESCRIPTION

The journal publishes research articles, review articles and scientific commentaries on all aspects of the pharmaceutical sciences with emphasis on conceptual novelty and scientific quality. The Editors welcome articles in this multidisciplinary field, with a focus on topics relevant for drug discovery and development.

More specifically, the Journal publishes reports on medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, drug absorption and metabolism, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, pharmaceutical and biomedical analysis, drug delivery (including gene delivery), drug targeting, pharmaceutical technology, pharmaceutical biotechnology and clinical drug evaluation. The journal will typically not give priority to manuscripts focusing primarily on organic synthesis, natural products, adaptation of analytical approaches, or discussions pertaining to drug policy making.

Scientific commentaries and review articles are generally by invitation only or by consent of the Editors. Proceedings of scientific meetings may be published as special issues or supplements to the Journal.

Manuscripts submitted to the Journal are only accepted on the understanding that (a) they are subject to editorial review (generally by two independent reviewers); (b) they have not been, and will not be, published in whole or in part in any other journal; (c) the recommendations of the most recent version of the Declaration of Helsinki, for humans, and the European Community guidelines as accepted principles for the use of experimental animals have been adhered to.

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Pharmaceutical and Biopharmaceutical Scientists, Medicinal Chemists, Pharmacologists, Analytical Chemists, Clinical Pharmacologists, Pharmaceutical Engineers

## IMPACT FACTOR

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## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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### INTRODUCTION

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#### *Types of Paper*

##### *Research articles*

The *European Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences* publishes research articles in the multidisciplinary field of pharmaceutical sciences, with a focus on topics relevant for drug discovery and development.

More specifically, the Journal publishes reports on medicinal chemistry, pharmacology, drug absorption and metabolism, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics, pharmaceutical and biomedical analysis, drug delivery (including gene delivery), drug targeting, pharmaceutical technology, pharmaceutical biotechnology and clinical drug evaluation.

The journal will typically not give priority to manuscripts focusing primarily on organic synthesis, natural products, adaptation of analytical approaches, or discussions pertaining to drug policy making.

Important other criteria for manuscript acceptance are conceptual novelty, scientific rigorousness of the experiments, relevance for a broad readership beyond the specific topic of the manuscript, and adherence to high ethics standards of experimentation. Research articles should comply with the format requirements set forth in the section "Article Structure below".

##### *Review articles*

The manuscript of a review article should be arranged as described for research articles but according to the following sections: title page, abstract and keywords (indexing terms, normally 3-6 items), Introduction, Specific sections determined by the author, Conclusions, Acknowledgements, References, Figure legends and Figures, Tables. Sections ranging from the Introduction to the Conclusions should be numbered. Subdivisions within a section should also be numbered within that section: 2.1., 2.2., 2.3. etc. All pages should be numbered consecutively, the title page being p.1.

##### *Commentaries and Mini-reviews*

One page suggestions for comprehensive reviews, commentaries or mini-reviews should be sent to the Editor-in-Chief at [ejps@sdu.dk](mailto:ejps@sdu.dk) for consideration. Please see detailed information on commentaries and mini-reviews below.

##### *Commentaries (Guidance)*

The definition of a Commentary for EJPS is three-fold. Firstly, it can be an argued piece of provocative scientific writing purporting to take a balanced position on a controversial pharmaceutical science topic. A second option is for the author to approach the topic from a particular viewpoint on one side of an argument. A third option is to provide a topical update on a hot topic in Pharmaceutical Sciences and this can be more informative than controversial.

Commentaries will be commissioned by the editors in advance or invited from non-commissioned authors if they wish to initially submit a one page summary of the intended Commentary to the editors in advance. All manuscripts will be assessed by 2-3 independent referees.

The journal is looking for a stimulating and provoking essays, with referenced material, but without an extensive reference list. Commentaries can contain one summary figure and/or table and should have no more than 30 references to preferably recent peer-reviewed material. The word count should be approximately 2,000 words maximum.

The commentary should have a short abstract summary of 150 to 200 words and 4-5 key words should be included, The text should be broken down into 4-5 numbered sections beginning with an Introduction and ending with a Conclusions section. A model of the structures is to be found in Eur. J. Pharm. Sci. 19, 1-11 by R.D. Combes.

#### *Mini-review (Guidance)*

Mini-reviews are thought provoking reviews of contemporary pharmaceutical research. Themes are as described in the Scope of the Journal section.

Mini-reviews will usually be commissioned by the editors in advance, but contributions are invited from non-commissioned authors if they wish to initially submit a one page summary of the intended review to the editors in advance. All manuscripts will be assessed by 2-3 independent referees.

The structure of the mini-review is as follows: a title page followed by a 200-300 word abstract with 4-5 key words. The text is then divided into numbered sections finishing with a Summary section. References should be kept to a maximum of 60 and should be mostly to recent peer-reviewed material. There is a combined maximum of 5 figures / tables. Authors are encouraged to submit their original unpublished work as part of the review if appropriate. The total length of the review should be a maximum of 4,000 words.

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#### *Introduction*

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

#### *Material and methods*

Provide sufficient detail to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should be described.

#### *Results*

Results should be clear and concise.

Text, tables and figures must show minimal overlap, and must be internally consistent.



### *Discussion*

This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

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The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

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If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

### *Essential title page information*

- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.

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A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

### **Graphical abstract**

A Graphical abstract is mandatory for this journal. It should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership online. Authors must provide images that clearly represent the work described in the article. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more, but should be readable on screen at a size of 200 × 500 pixels (at 96 dpi this corresponds to 5 × 13 cm). Bear in mind readability after reduction, especially if using one of the figures from the article itself. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. See <http://www.elsevier.com/graphicalabstracts> for examples.

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### *Abbreviations*

Abbreviations are a hindrance for the reader. Use as few abbreviations as possible and write out names of compounds, receptors, etc., in full throughout the text of the manuscript, with the exceptions given below. Unnecessary and nonsense abbreviations are not allowed. Generic names should not be abbreviated. As an example, AMP, HAL, HIST, RAMH, TAM, SST, for amphetamine, haloperidol, histamine, (R)- $\alpha$ -methylhistamine, tamoxifen, somatostatin, are not accepted. Abbreviations which

have come to replace the full term (e.g., GABA, DOPA, PDGF, 5-HT, for  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid, 3,4-dihydroxyphenylalanine, PDGF, 5-hydroxytryptamine) may be used, provided the term is spelled out in the abstract and in the body of the manuscript the first time the abbreviation is used. Unwieldy chemical names may be abbreviated. As an example, 8-OH-DPAT, DOI, DTG, BAPTA, for 8-hydroxy-2-(di-*n*-propylamino)tetralin, 1-(2,5-dimethoxy-4-iodophenyl)-2-aminopropane, 1,3-di(2-tolyl)-guanidine, 1,2-bis(*o*-aminophenoxy)ethane-*N,N,N',N'*-tetraacetic acid, are acceptable; however, the full chemical name should be given once in the body of the manuscript and in the abstract, followed in both cases by the abbreviation. Code names may be used, but the full chemical name should be given in the text and in the abstract. *Authors not conforming to these demands may have their manuscripts returned for correction with delayed publication as a result.*

Some abbreviations may be used without definition:

1 ADP, CDP, GDP, IDP 5'-pyrophosphates of adenosine UDPcytidine, guanosine, inosine, uridine AMP etc. adenosine 5'-monophosphate etc. ADP etc. adenosine 5'-diphosphate etc. ATP etc. adenosine 5'-triphosphate etc. CM-cellulose carboxymethylcellulose CoA and acetyl-CoA coenzyme A and its acyl derivatives DEAE-cellulose *O*-(diethylaminoethyl)-cellulose DNA deoxyribonucleic acid EGTA ethylene glycol-bis( $\beta$ -aminoethyl ether)-*N,N,N',N'*-tetraacetic acid FAD flavin-adenine dinucleotide FMN flavin mononucleotide GSH, GSSG glutathione, reduced and oxidized Hepes 4-(2-hydroxyethyl)-1-piperazine-ethanesulphonic acid NAD nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide NADP nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide phosphate NMN nicotinamide mononucleotide Pi, PPi orthophosphate, pyrophosphate RNA ribonucleic acid Tris 2-amino-2-hydroxymethylpropane-1,3-diol

Two alternative conventions are currently in use in some cases. For example, for the phosphoinositides there are both the abbreviations recommended by the IUPAC-IUB and those of the Chilton Convention (e.g., PtdIns(4,5)P<sub>2</sub> vs. PIP<sub>2</sub> for phosphatidylinositol 4,5-bisphosphate). The journal will accept either of these forms but not their combination.

Abbreviations of units of measurements and other terms are as follows:

#### *Units of mass*

1 kilogram kg gram g milligram mg microgram  $\mu$ g nanogram ng mole (gram-molecule) mol millimole mmol micromole  $\mu$ mol nanomole nmol picomole pmol femtomole fmol equivalent eq

#### *Units of time*

1 hour h minute min second s millisecond ms microsecond  $\mu$ s

#### *Units of volume*

1 litre l millilitre ml microlitre  $\mu$ l

#### *Units of length*

1 metre m centimetre cm millimetre mm micrometre  $\mu$ m nanometre nm

#### *Units of concentration*

1 molar (mol/l) M millimolar mM micromolar  $\mu$ M nanomolar nM picomolar pM

#### *Units of heat, energy, electricity*

1 joule J degree Celsius (centigrade) °C coulomb C ampere A volt V ohm  $\Omega$  siemens S

#### *Units of radiation*

1 curie Ci counts per minute cpm disintegrations per minute dpm becquerel Bq

## Miscellaneous

1 gravity  $g$  dissociation constant  $K_d$  median doses  $LD_{50}$ ,  $ED_{50}$  probability  $P$  routes of drug administration i.v., i.p., s.c., i.m. square centimetre  $cm^2$  standard deviation S.D. standard error of the mean S.E.M. Svedberg unit of sedimentation coefficient  $S$  Hill coefficient  $n_H$

The isotope mass number should appear before the atomic symbol, e.g., [3H]noradrenaline, [14C]choline. Ions should be written:  $Fe^{3+}$ ,  $Ca^{2+}$ ,  $Mg^{2+}$ . The term absorbance ( $A$ ) is preferred to extinction or optical density. For abbreviations not included in this list consult: *Units, Symbols and Abbreviations, A Guide for Biological and Medical Authors and Editors*, 1994 (The Royal Society of Medicine, London), ISBN 0-905958-78-0, or *Scientific Style and Format. The CBE Manual for Authors, Editors, and Publishers*, 6th edn. (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge), ISBN 0-521-47154-0.

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