

FORENSIC SCIENCE INTERNATIONAL

An international journal dedicated to the applications of medicine and science in the administration of justice.

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

ISSN: 0379-0738

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Description p.1
Audience p.1
Impact Factor p.1
Abstracting and Indexing p.2
Editorial Board p.2
Guide for Authors p.4

DESCRIPTION

Forensic Science International publishes original contributions in the many different scientific disciplines pertaining to the forensic sciences. Fields include forensic pathology and histochemistry, chemistry, biochemistry and toxicology (including drugs, alcohol, etc.), biology (including the identification of hairs and fibres), serology, odontology, psychiatry, anthropology, the physical sciences, firearms, and document examination, as well as investigations of value to public health in its broadest sense, and the important marginal area where science and medicine interact with the law.

Forensic Science International publishes:Original Research Papers Review Articles Preliminary Communications Letters to the Editor Book Reviews Case ReportsThe journal covers all legal aspects of the general disciplines listed above, as well as specialist topics of forensic interest that are included in, or are related to, these disciplines, e.g.: Biochemical and chemical analyses, and the forensic application of advanced analytical, physical, chemical and instrumental techniques Bitemark evidenceBattered child syndrome Questioned documents Ballistics, projectiles and wounds Fingerprints and identification Tool marks Contact traces Poisoning Breath analysers Accident investigation and mass disasters

AUDIENCE

Pathologists, Anthropologists, Psychiatrists, Biologists, Serologists, Odontologists, Physical Scientists, Toxicologists, Scientists in Legal and Social Medicine, Questioned Documents and Jurisprudence

IMPACT FACTOR

2012: 2.307 © Thomson Reuters Journal Citation Reports 2013

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Bulletin Signalétique
Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
Chemical Abstracts
Criminology, Penology and Police Science Abstracts
Current Contents
MEDLINE®
EMBASE
National Criminal Justice Reference Service
Science Citation Index
Biological Abstracts
Current Awareness in Biological Sciences
Scopus

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief

P. Saukko, (Experimental Forensic Pathology, Traffic Medicine and subjects not listed elsewhere), Department of Forensic Medicine, University of Turku, SF-20520 Turku, Finland, Fax: (+358) 2 3337600

Associate Editors

- **A. Carracedo**, (Forensic Genetics), Institute of Legal Medicine, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, C/Pedrueca, 1., 39003 Santander Cantabria, Spain, Fax: (+34) 981 580336
- **C. Cattaneo**, (Anthropology and Osteology), Instituto de Medicina Legal, Universita degli Studi, Università degli Studi di Milano, Via Mangiagalli 7, 20133 Milano, Italy
- **O.H. Drummer**, (Toxicology), Victorian Institute of Forensic Medicine, 57-83 Kavanagh Street, Southbank, 3006, Australia, Fax: +61 3 9682 7353
- **M.J. Hall**, (Forensic Entomology), Department of Life Sciences, Parasites and Vectors Division, Natural History Museum, Cromwell Road, London, SW7 5BD, UK, Fax: +44 207 942 5229
- **C. Jackowski**, (Forensic Imaging), Institut für Rechtsmedizin; Medizinische Fakultät, Medizinische Fakultät, Universität Bern, Bühlstrasse 20, 3012 Bern, Fax: +41 (0)31 631 38 33
- **P. Margot**, (for: Questioned Documents, with the assistance of A. Khanmy and W. Mazzela; and for Physical Science: ballistics, tool marks, contact traces, drugs analysis, fingerprints and identification etc.), Ecole des Sciences criminelles (School of Criminal Science), Université de Lausanne, bâtiment BCH, CH 1015 Lausanne, Switzerland, Fax: +41 21 692 4605
- **G. Willems**, (Odontology), School of Dentistry, Oral Pathology and Maxillofacial Surgery; Department of Forensic Odontology, Department of Forensic Odontology, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Kapucienenvoer 7, B-3000 Leuven, Belgium, Fax: + 32 16 33.75.78

Assistant Editors

P. Esseiva, (for P. Margot), Lausanne, Switzerland M.A. LeBeau, (for O.H. Drummer), Quantico, VA, USA

Editorial Board

- J. Amendt, Frankfurt, Germany
- P. Beh, Hong Kong, China
- P. Buzzini, Morgantown, WV, USA
- H. Chung, Seoul, South Korea
- J.G. Clement, Melbourne, VIC, Australia
- S.D. Cohle, Grand Rapids, MI, USA
- **S. Cordner**, South Melbourne, VIC, Australia
- G.L. de la Grandmaison, Garches, France
- P. Dickens, Buxton, UK
- H. Druid, Stockholm, Sweden
- A. Eriksson, Umea, Sweden
- J.A.J. Ferris, Auckland, New Zealand
- M.C. Fishbein, Los Angeles, CA, USA
- C. Henssge, Essen, Germany
- M.A. Huestis, Baltimore, MD, USA
- A.W. Jones, Stockholm, Sweden
- H. Kalimo, Helsinki, Finland
- Y. Katsumata, Chiba, Japan
- B. Kneubuehl, Thun, Switzerland

- G. Lau, Singapore
- S. Leadbeatter, Cardiff, Wales, UK
- C. Lennard, Canberra, NSW, Australia
- A. Luna Maldonado, Murcia, Spain
- B. Madea, Bonn, Germany
- H. Maeda, Osaka, Japan
- **D. Meuwly**, The Hague, Netherlands
- C. Neumann, University Park, PA, USA
- **S. Pollak**, Freiburg, Germany
- M.S. Pollanen, Toronto, ONT, Canada
- **D.J. Pounder**, Dundee, Scotland, UK
- K. Püschel, Hamburg, Germany
- G. Quatrehomme, Nice, France
- R. Ramotowski, Washington, DC, USA
- J. Robertson, Canberra, New South Wales, Australia
- C. Roux, Sydney, NSW, Australia
- **J. Stevens**, Exeter, UK
- M. Steyn, Hatfield, South Africa
- I.E. Sääksjärvi, Turku, Finland
- **F. Tagliaro**, Verona, Italy
- **T. Takatori**, Chiba, Japan
- A. Thierauf, Freiburg, Germany
- D. Ubelaker, Washington, DC, USA
- D.N. Vieira, Coimbra, Portugal
- J. Wells, Miami, FL, USA
- P. Wiltshire, Surrey, Scotland, UK
- X. Xu, Shantou, Guandong Province, China
- J. Zieba-Palus, Kracow, Poland

GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Your Paper Your Way
ypyw-gfa-banner.gifyour paper your way

INTRODUCTION

Forensic Science International is a peer-reviewed, international journal for the publication of original contributions in the many different scientific disciplines comprising the forensic sciences. These fields include, but are not limited to, forensic pathology and histochemistry, toxicology (including drugs, alcohol, etc.), serology, chemistry, biochemistry, biology (including the identification of hairs and fibres), odontology, psychiatry, anthropology, the physical sciences, firearms, and document examination, as well as the many other disciplines where science and medicine interact with the law.

Types of paper

- 1. Original Research Articles (Regular Papers)
- 2. Review Articles
- 3. Forensic Anthropology Population Data
- 3. Preliminary Communications
- 4. Letters to the Editor
- 5. Case Reports
- 6. Book Reviews
- 7. Rapid Communications
- 8. Technical Notes

Please note that all contributions of type 4 to 7 will be published as e-only articles. Their citation details, including e-page numbers, will continue to be listed in the relevant print issue of the journal's Table of Contents.

Announcement of Population Data: these types of articles will be published in Forensic Science International: Genetics, only. Please submit these articles via http://www.ees.elsevier.com/fsigen/.

Review Articles and Preliminary Communications (where brief accounts of important new work may be announced with less delay than is inevitable with major papers) may be accepted after correspondence with the appropriate Associate Editor.

Forensic Anthropology Population Data: Although the main focus of the anthropology section of the journal remains on the publication of original research, authors are invited to submit their forensic anthropology population data articles by selecting the "Forensic Anthropology Population Data" article type on the online submission system. When submitting a Forensic Anthropology Population data article, please assure that "Forensic Anthropology Population Data" is included as one of the keywords. These forensic anthropology population data articles involve the application of already published and standardised methods of aging, sexing, determination of ancestry and stature and other well known diagnoses on different populations. This is at the heart of applied forensic anthropology. For example, in order to correctly assess age, stature or even sex of individuals of different ancestry or from different populations, it is fundamental that the method be tested on the specific population one is working on. In building the biological profile of a skeleton in order to aid identification, one needs to calibrate such techniques on the population of interest before applying them. The same may be true in a completely different scenario of anthropology, for example identifying criminals taped on video surveillance systems and aging victims of juvenile pornography. This section is dedicated to forensic anthropological population data and other types of updates (state of the art of particular issues, etc.), particularly concerning the following:

- Sexing
- Aging sub adult skeletal remains
- Aging adult skeletal remains
- Aging living sub adults and adults
- Determining ancestry
- Stature estimation
- Facial reconstruction
- Non metric trait distribution, pathology and trauma
- Positive identification of human skeletal remains

- Positive identification of the living

Forensic Anthropology Population Data articles will be published in abridged form in print (a clear, descriptive summary taken from the abstract), and the full length article will be published online only. Full citation details and a reference to the online article, including e-page numbers, will be published in the relevant print issue of the journal. All submitted manuscripts will be evaluated by a strict peer review process.

Case Reports will be accepted only if they contain some important new information for the readers.

Rapid Communications should describe work of significant interest, whose impact would suffer if publication were not expedited. They should not be longer than 5 printed journal pages (about 10 submitted pages). Authors may suggest that their work is treated as a Rapid Communication, but the final decision on whether it is suitable as such will be taken by the handling Editor. Rapid Communications requiring revision should be resubmitted as a new submission.

Technical Notes report new developments, significant advances and novel aspects of experimental and theoretical methods and techniques which are relevant for scientific investigations within the journal scope. Manuscripts of this type should be short (a few pages only). Highly detailed and specific technical information such as computer programme code or user manuals can be included as electronic supplements. The manuscript title must start with "Technical Note:".

Revisions deadline

Please note that articles that are sent to the author for revision need to be returned within four months. A reminder will be sent in the third month. Any articles that are sent after the fourth month period of revision will be considered a re-submission.

Contact details for submission

Papers for consideration should be submitted by topic. Editors and their topic specialty are listed below.

P. Saukko (Editor-in-Chief): Experimental Forensic Pathology, Traffic Medicine, and subjects not listed elsewhere

Tel: +358 2 3337543 Fax: +358 2 3337600 E-mail: psaukko@utu.fi

A. Carracedo: Forensic Genetics. Please note only review articles on this topic should be submitted to FSI. All non-review papers should be submitted to the FSI daughter journal devoted to this subject Forensic Science International: Genetics, via http://ees.elsevier.com/fsigen/

Fax:+34 981 580336

E-mail: angel.carrafsi@usc.es

C. Cattaneo: Osteology and Anthropology

Tel: +39 2 5031 5678 Fax: +39 2 5031 5724

E-mail: cristina.cattaneo@unimi.it

P. Margot: Questioned Documents and Physical Science: ballistics, tool marks, contact traces, drugs analysis, fingerprints and identification, etc.

Tel: +41 21 692 4605 Fax: +41 21 692 4605

E-mail: pierre.margot@unil.ch

O.H. Drummer: Toxicology Tel: +61 3 9684 4334 Fax: +61 3 9682 7353

E-mail: olaf.drummer@vifm.org

G. Willems: Odontology Tel: +32 16 33 24 59 Fax: +32 16 33 24 35

E-Mail: guy.willems@med.kuleuven.ac.be

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing

For information on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication see http://www.elsevier.com/publishingethics and http://www.elsevier.com/journal-authors/ethics.

Conflict of interest

All authors are requested to disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest including any financial, personal or other relationships with other people or organizations within three years of beginning the submitted work that could inappropriately influence, or be perceived to influence, their work. See also http://www.elsevier.com/conflictsofinterest. Further information and an example of a Conflict of Interest form can be found at: http://help.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a id/286/p/7923.

Submission declaration

Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract or as part of a published lecture or academic thesis or as an electronic preprint, see http://www.elsevier.com/postingpolicy), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere including electronically in the same form, in English or in any other language, without the written consent of the copyright-holder.

Additional information

Multiple submissions is not acceptable to the Editor, and any such papers, together with future submissions from the authors, will be rejected outright. Submission also implies that all authors have approved the paper for release and are in agreement with its content.

Contributors

Each author is required to declare his or her individual contribution to the article: all authors must have materially participated in the research and/or article preparation, so roles for all authors should be described. The statement that all authors have approved the final article should be true and included in the disclosure.

Changes to authorship

This policy concerns the addition, deletion, or rearrangement of author names in the authorship of accepted manuscripts:

Before the accepted manuscript is published in an online issue: Requests to add or remove an author, or to rearrange the author names, must be sent to the Journal Manager from the corresponding author of the accepted manuscript and must include: (a) the reason the name should be added or removed, or the author names rearranged and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, fax, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed. Requests that are not sent by the corresponding author will be forwarded by the Journal Manager to the corresponding author, who must follow the procedure as described above. Note that: (1) Journal Managers will inform the Journal Editors of any such requests and (2) publication of the accepted manuscript in an online issue is suspended until authorship has been agreed.

After the accepted manuscript is published in an online issue: Any requests to add, delete, or rearrange author names in an article published in an online issue will follow the same policies as noted above and result in a corrigendum.

Article transfer service

This journal is part of our Article Transfer Service. This means that if the Editor feels your article is more suitable in one of our other participating journals, then you may be asked to consider transferring the article to one of those. If you agree, your article will be transferred automatically on your behalf with no need to reformat. More information about this can be found here: http://www.elsevier.com/authors/article-transfer-service.

Copyright

This journal offers authors a choice in publishing their research: Open access and Subscription.

For subscription articles

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' (for more information on this and copyright, see http://www.elsevier.com/copyright). An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' form or a link to the online version of this agreement.

Subscribers may reproduce tables of contents or prepare lists of articles including abstracts for internal circulation within their institutions. Permission of the Publisher is required for resale or distribution outside the institution and for all other derivative works, including compilations and translations (please consult http://www.elsevier.com/permissions). If excerpts from other copyrighted works are included, the author(s) must obtain written permission from the copyright owners and credit the source(s) in the article. Elsevier has preprinted forms for use by authors in these cases: please consult http://www.elsevier.com/permissions.

For open access articles

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete an 'Exclusive License Agreement' (for more information see http://www.elsevier.com/OAauthoragreement). Permitted reuse of open access articles is determined by the author's choice of user license (see http://www.elsevier.com/openaccesslicenses).

Retained author rights

As an author you (or your employer or institution) retain certain rights. For more information on author rights for:

Subscription articles please see

http://www.elsevier.com/journal-authors/author-rights-and-responsibilities.

Open access articles please see http://www.elsevier.com/OAauthoragreement.

Role of the funding source

You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated.

Funding body agreements and policies

Elsevier has established agreements and developed policies to allow authors whose articles appear in journals published by Elsevier, to comply with potential manuscript archiving requirements as specified as conditions of their grant awards. To learn more about existing agreements and policies please visit http://www.elsevier.com/fundingbodies.

Open Access

This journal offers authors two choices to publish their research;

1. Open Access

Articles are freely available to both subscribers and the wider public with permitted reuse An Open Access publication fee is payable by authors or their research funder

2. Subscription

Articles are made available to subscribers as well as developing countries and patient groups through our access programs (http://www.elsevier.com/access)

No Open Access publication fee

All articles published Open Access will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. Permitted reuse is defined by your choice of one of the following Creative Commons user licenses:

Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-ShareAlike (CC BY-NC-SA): for non-commercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, to create extracts, abstracts and other revised versions, adaptations or derivative works of or from an article (such as a translation), to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), to text and data mine the article, as long as they credit the author(s), do not represent the author as endorsing their adaptation of the article, do not modify the article in such a way as to damage the author's honor or reputation, and license their new adaptations or creations under identical terms (CC BY NC SA).

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC-BY-NC-ND): for non-commercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, and to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), as long as they credit the author(s) and provided they do not alter or modify the article.

Elsevier has established agreements with funding bodies. This ensures authors can comply with funding body Open Access requirements, including specific user licenses, such as CC-BY. Some authors may also be reimbursed for associated publication fees. www.elsevier.com/fundingbodies

If you need to comply with your funding body policy you can apply for the CC-BY license after your manuscript is accepted for publication.

To provide Open Access, this journal has a publication fee which needs to be met by the authors or their research funders for each article published Open Access. Your publication choice will have no effect on the peer review process or acceptance of submitted articles.

The Open Access publication fee for this journal is \$USD 2,500, excluding taxes.

Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing

Open access

This journal offers authors a choice in publishing their research:

Open access

- Articles are freely available to both subscribers and the wider public with permitted reuse
- An open access publication fee is payable by authors or their research funder

Subscription

- Articles are made available to subscribers as well as developing countries and patient groups through our access programs (http://www.elsevier.com/access)
- No open access publication fee

All articles published open access will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. Permitted reuse is defined by your choice of one of the following Creative Commons user licenses:

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike (CC BY-NC-SA): for noncommercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, to create extracts, abstracts and other revised versions, adaptations or derivative works of or from an article (such as a translation), to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), to text and data mine the article, as long as they credit the author(s), do not represent the author as endorsing their adaptation of the article, do not modify the article in such a way as to damage the author's honor or reputation, and license their new adaptations or creations under identical terms (CC BY-NC-SA).

Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND): for noncommercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, and to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), as long as they credit the author(s) and provided they do not alter or modify the article.

Elsevier has established agreements with funding bodies, http://www.elsevier.com/fundingbodies. This ensures authors can comply with funding body open access requirements, including specific user licenses, such as CC BY. Some authors may also be reimbursed for associated publication fees. If you need to comply with your funding body policy, you can apply for the CC BY license after your manuscript is accepted for publication.

To provide Open Access, this journal has a publication fee which needs to be met by the authors or their research funders for each article published open access.

Your publication choice will have no effect on the peer review process or acceptance of submitted articles.

The publication fee for this journal is **\$2500**, excluding taxes. Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy: http://www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing.

Language (usage and editing services)

Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who feel their English language manuscript may require editing to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and to conform to correct scientific English may wish to use the English Language Editing service available from Elsevier's WebShop (http://webshop.elsevier.com/languageediting/) or visit our customer support site (http://support.elsevier.com) for more information.

Submission

Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts source files to a single PDF file of the article, which is used in the peer-review process. Please note that even though manuscript source files are converted to PDF files at submission for the review process, these source files are needed for further processing after acceptance. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, takes place by e-mail removing the need for a paper trail.

Submit your article

Please submit your article via http://ees.elsevier.com/fsi.

PREPARATION

NEW SUBMISSIONS

Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts your files to a single PDF file, which is used in the peer-review process.

As part of the Your Paper Your Way service, you may choose to submit your manuscript as a single file to be used in the refereeing process. This can be a PDF file or a Word document, in any format or layout that can be used by referees to evaluate your manuscript. It should contain high enough quality figures for refereeing. If you prefer to do so, you may still provide all or some of the source files at the initial submission. Please note that individual figure files larger than 10 MB must be uploaded separately.

References

There are no strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. References can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Where applicable, author(s) name(s), journal title/book title, chapter title/article title, year of publication, volume number/book chapter and the pagination must be present. Use of DOI is highly encouraged. The reference style used by the journal will be applied to the accepted article by Elsevier at the proof stage. Note that missing data will be highlighted at proof stage for the author to correct.

Formatting requirements

There are no strict formatting requirements but all manuscripts must contain the essential elements needed to convey your manuscript, for example Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Conclusions, Artwork and Tables with Captions.

If your article includes any Videos and/or other Supplementary material, this should be included in your initial submission for peer review purposes.

Divide the article into clearly defined sections.

Figures and tables embedded in text

Please ensure the figures and the tables included in the single file are placed next to the relevant text in the manuscript, rather than at the bottom or the top of the file.

Double-blind review

This journal uses double-blind review, which means that both the reviewer and author name(s) are not allowed to be revealed to one another for a manuscript under review. The identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. For more information please refer to http://www.elsevier.com/reviewers/peer-review. To facilitate this, please include the following separately:

Title page (with author details): This should include the title, authors' names and affiliations, and a complete address for the corresponding author including telephone and e-mail address.

Blinded manuscript (no author details): The main body of the paper (including the references, figures, tables and any Acknowledgements) should not include any identifying information, such as the authors' names or affiliations.

REVISED SUBMISSIONS

Use of word processing software

Regardless of the file format of the original submission, at revision you must provide us with an editable file of the entire article. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the Guide to Publishing with Elsevier: http://www.elsevier.com/guidepublication). See also the section on Electronic artwork.

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

Article structure

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.

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.

Conclusions

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.

Essential title page information

- *Title.* Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.
- **Author names and affiliations.** Where the family name may be ambiguous (e.g., a double name), please indicate this clearly. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.
- Corresponding author. Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. Ensure that phone numbers (with country and area code) are provided in addition to the e-mail address and the complete postal address. Contact details must be kept up to date by the corresponding author.
- **Present/permanent address.** If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a 'Present address' (or 'Permanent address') may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.

Abstract

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 optional and 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. The image should be readable at a size of 5×13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. See http://www.elsevier.com/graphicalabstracts for examples.

Authors can make use of Elsevier's Illustration and Enhancement service to ensure the best presentation of their images also in accordance with all technical requirements: Illustration Service.

Highlights

Highlights are mandatory for this journal. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article and should be submitted in a separate file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point). See http://www.elsevier.com/highlights for examples.

Keywords

Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

Acknowledgements

Please provide Acknowledgements as a separate file and remove this from the manuscript. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

Footnotes

Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many wordprocessors build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Should this not be the case, indicate the position of footnotes in the text and present the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

Table footnotes

Indicate each footnote in a table with a superscript lowercase letter.

Artwork

Electronic artwork

General points

- Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
- Preferred fonts: Arial (or Helvetica), Times New Roman (or Times), Symbol, Courier.
- Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
- Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
- Indicate per figure if it is a single, 1.5 or 2-column fitting image.
- For Word submissions only, you may still provide figures and their captions, and tables within a single file at the revision stage.
- Please note that individual figure files larger than 10 MB must be provided in separate source files. A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available on our website:

http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions.

You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here. Formats

Regardless of the application used, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'save as' or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):

EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings. Embed the font or save the text as 'graphics'.

TIFF (or JPG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones): always use a minimum of 300 dpi.

TIFF (or JPG): Bitmapped line drawings: use a minimum of 1000 dpi.

TIFF (or JPG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale): a minimum of 500 dpi is required.

Please do not:

- Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); the resolution is too low.
- Supply files that are too low in resolution.
- Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

Color artwork

Please make sure that artwork files are in an acceptable format (TIFF (or JPEG), EPS (or PDF), or MS Office files) and with the correct resolution. If, together with your accepted article, you submit usable color figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in color on the Web (e.g., ScienceDirect and other sites) regardless of whether or not these illustrations are reproduced in color in the printed version. **For color reproduction in print, you will receive**

information regarding the costs from Elsevier after receipt of your accepted article. Please indicate your preference for color: in print or on the Web only. For further information on the preparation of electronic artwork, please see http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions.

Please note: Because of technical complications which can arise by converting color figures to 'gray scale' (for the printed version should you not opt for color in print) please submit in addition usable black and white versions of all the color illustrations.

Figure captions

Ensure that each illustration has a caption. A caption should comprise a brief title (**not** on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

Tables

Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text. Place footnotes to tables below the table body and indicate them with superscript lowercase letters. Avoid vertical rules. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in tables do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article.

References

Citation in text

Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

Reference links

Increased discoverability of research and high quality peer review are ensured by online links to the sources cited. In order to allow us to create links to abstracting and indexing services, such as Scopus, CrossRef and PubMed, please ensure that data provided in the references are correct. Please note that incorrect surnames, journal/book titles, publication year and pagination may prevent link creation. When copying references, please be careful as they may already contain errors. Use of the DOI is encouraged.

Reference management software

This journal has standard templates available in key reference management packages EndNote (http://www.endnote.com/support/enstyles.asp) and Reference Manager (http://refman.com/support/rmstyles.asp). Using plug-ins to wordprocessing packages, authors only need to select the appropriate journal template when preparing their article and the list of references and citations to these will be formatted according to the journal style which is described below.

Reference formatting

There are no strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. References can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Where applicable, author(s) name(s), journal title/book title, chapter title/article title, year of publication, volume number/book chapter and the pagination must be present. Use of DOI is highly encouraged. The reference style used by the journal will be applied to the accepted article by Elsevier at the proof stage. Note that missing data will be highlighted at proof stage for the author to correct. If you do wish to format the references yourself they should be arranged according to the following examples:

Reference style

Text: Indicate references by number(s) in square brackets in line with the text. The actual authors can be referred to, but the reference number(s) must always be given.

Example: '.... as demonstrated [3,6]. Barnaby and Jones [8] obtained a different result'

List: Number the references (numbers in square brackets) in the list in the order in which they appear in the text.

Examples:

Reference to a journal publication:

[1] J. van der Geer, J.A.J. Hanraads, R.A. Lupton, The art of writing a scientific article, J. Sci. Commun. 163 (2010) 51–59.

Reference to a book:

[2] W. Strunk Jr., E.B. White, The Elements of Style, fourth ed., Longman, New York, 2000.

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

[3] G.R. Mettam, L.B. Adams, How to prepare an electronic version of your article, in: B.S. Jones, R.Z. Smith (Eds.), Introduction to the Electronic Age, E-Publishing Inc., New York, 2009, pp. 281–304.

Video data

Elsevier accepts video material and animation sequences to support and enhance your scientific research. Authors who have video or animation files that they wish to submit with their article are strongly encouraged to include links to these within the body of the article. This can be done in the same way as a figure or table by referring to the video or animation content and noting in the body text where it should be placed. All submitted files should be properly labeled so that they directly relate to the video file's content. In order to ensure that your video or animation material is directly usable, please provide the files in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 50 MB. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including ScienceDirect: http://www.sciencedirect.com. Please supply 'stills' with your files: you can choose any frame from the video or animation or make a separate image. These will be used instead of standard icons and will personalize the link to your video data. For more detailed instructions please visit our video instruction pages at http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions. Note: since video and animation cannot be embedded in the print version of the journal, please provide text for both the electronic and the print version for the portions of the article that refer to this content.

AudioSlides

The journal encourages authors to create an AudioSlides presentation with their published article. AudioSlides are brief, webinar-style presentations that are shown next to the online article on ScienceDirect. This gives authors the opportunity to summarize their research in their own words and to help readers understand what the paper is about. More information and examples are available at http://www.elsevier.com/audioslides. Authors of this journal will automatically receive an invitation e-mail to create an AudioSlides presentation after acceptance of their paper.

Supplementary data

Elsevier accepts electronic supplementary material to support and enhance your scientific research. Supplementary files offer the author additional possibilities to publish supporting applications, high-resolution images, background datasets, sound clips and more. Supplementary files supplied will be published online alongside the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including ScienceDirect: http://www.sciencedirect.com. In order to ensure that your submitted material is directly usable, please provide the data in one of our recommended file formats. Authors should submit the material in electronic format together with the article and supply a concise and descriptive caption for each file. For more detailed instructions please visit our artwork instruction pages at http://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions.

Submission checklist

The following list will be useful during the final checking of an article prior to sending it to the journal for review. Please consult this Guide for Authors for further details of any item.

Ensure that the following items are present:

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address
- Full postal address
- Telephone

All necessary files have been uploaded, and contain:

- Keywords
- All figure captions
- All tables (including title, description, footnotes)

Further considerations

- Manuscript has been 'spell-checked' and 'grammar-checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference list are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Web)
- Color figures are clearly marked as being intended for color reproduction on the Web (free of charge) and in print, or to be reproduced in color on the Web (free of charge) and in black-and-white in print
- If only color on the Web is required, black-and-white versions of the figures are also supplied for printing purposes

For any further information please visit our customer support site at http://support.elsevier.com.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Availability of accepted article

This journal makes articles available online as soon as possible after acceptance. This concerns the accepted article (both in HTML and PDF format), which has not yet been copyedited, typeset or proofread. A Digital Object Identifier (DOI) is allocated, thereby making it fully citable and searchable by title, author name(s) and the full text. The article's PDF also carries a disclaimer stating that it is an unedited article. Subsequent production stages will simply replace this version.

Use of the Digital Object Identifier

The Digital Object Identifier (DOI) may be used to cite and link to electronic documents. The DOI consists of a unique alpha-numeric character string which is assigned to a document by the publisher upon the initial electronic publication. The assigned DOI never changes. Therefore, it is an ideal medium for citing a document, particularly 'Articles in press' because they have not yet received their full bibliographic information. Example of a correctly given DOI (in URL format; here an article in the journal *Physics Letters B*):

http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.physletb.2010.09.059

When you use a DOI to create links to documents on the web, the DOIs are guaranteed never to change.

Proofs

One set of page proofs (as PDF files) will be sent by e-mail to the corresponding author (if we do not have an e-mail address then paper proofs will be sent by post) or, a link will be provided in the e-mail so that authors can download the files themselves. Elsevier now provides authors with PDF proofs which can be annotated; for this you will need to download Adobe Reader version 9 (or higher) available free from http://get.adobe.com/reader. Instructions on how to annotate PDF files will accompany the proofs (also given online). The exact system requirements are given at the Adobe site: http://www.adobe.com/products/reader/tech-specs.html.

If you do not wish to use the PDF annotations function, you may list the corrections (including replies to the Query Form) and return them to Elsevier in an e-mail. Please list your corrections quoting line number. If, for any reason, this is not possible, then mark the corrections and any other comments (including replies to the Query Form) on a printout of your proof and return by fax, or scan the pages and e-mail, or by post. Please use this proof only for checking the typesetting, editing, completeness and correctness of the text, tables and figures. Significant changes to the article as accepted for publication will only be considered at this stage with permission from the Editor. We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately – please let us have all your corrections within 48 hours. It is important to ensure that all corrections are sent back to us in one communication: please check carefully before replying, as inclusion of any subsequent corrections cannot be guaranteed. Proofreading is solely your responsibility. Note that Elsevier may proceed with the publication of your article if no response is received.

Offprints

The corresponding author, at no cost, will be provided with 25 free paper offprints, or, alternatively, a personalized link providing 50 days free access to the final published version of the article on ScienceDirect. This link can also be used for sharing via email and social networks. For an extra charge, more paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Both corresponding and co-authors may order offprints at any time via Elsevier's WebShop (http://webshop.elsevier.com/myarticleservices/offprints). Authors requiring printed copies of multiple articles may use Elsevier WebShop's 'Create Your Own Book' service to collate multiple articles within a single cover (http://webshop.elsevier.com/myarticleservices/booklets).

Author orders

When your article is published, you can commemorate your publication with printed author copies of the journal issue, customized full-color posters, extra offprints, and more. Please visit http://webshop.elsevier.com to learn more.

AUTHOR INQUIRIES

You can track your submitted article at http://help.elsevier.com/app/answers/detail/a_id/89/p/8045/. You can track your accepted article at http://www.elsevier.com/trackarticle. You are also welcome to contact Customer Support via http://support.elsevier.com.

© Copyright 2014 Elsevier | http://www.elsevier.com