

New Editorial Instructions

We wish to draw the attention of authors to two features of publishing in the journal *Biomaterials*.

The first concerns the authorship of papers. In the *Mandatory Author Declaration*, we make it clear that there are guidelines for the inclusion of names on the list of authors. In a few recent cases, concerns about the interpretation of these guidelines have come to light. In particular we note that it might be considered acceptable to change, either in substance or in format, the list of authors during the process of manuscript revision. Whilst such a change could be considered as a helpful clarification of the contribution of individual authors, it could also be highly inappropriate if one of the authors of the original submission either has their information changed or is left off altogether. To avoid any problems in the future, it is now essential that a revised *Mandatory Author Declaration* is submitted with a revised manuscript if there has been any change, of any nature, to the list of authors. This has to be signed and dated by all authors of the revised submission and has to include a signed and dated statement from any person who was on the original list but is excluded from the revised list, giving consent for the removal of their name.

The following addition is now included in the *Mandatory Author Declaration* under the Heading Authorship:

If there is any change, of any nature, to the list of authors during manuscript revision, a new *Mandatory Author Declaration* form has to be submitted with the revision, signed by all authors. In the event that one of the authors on the original list is excluded from the revised list, a signed and dated statement from that author agreeing to his /her omission should be submitted with the revised form.

The second point concerns the use of colour in illustrations. Colour is reproduced in high resolution online. However, consistent with Elsevier's global policy on colour that became effective in June 2008, colour will not be used in the print version, apart from exceptional circumstances, for example with papers commissioned by the Editor-in-Chief where colour is essential. The reason for this is that the vast majority of readers access the journal solely online and the high cost of colour reproduction in printed versions that are only rarely accessed cannot be justified. We suggest that authors may wish to alter their own methods of producing illustrations to take this into account. It is rare that colour actually enhances graphs and charts, and authors should resist the submission of such illustrations where the sole means of distinguishing lines or columns is by colour. We also suggest that PowerPoint illustrations are avoided as they are not usually consistent with the serious scientific information that is contained within the figure. It is recognised that some figures that appear within papers submitted to *Biomaterials* are rendered un-readable in black and white, for example those that display multiple colour stains or fluorescent images. In such cases, in order to avoid the frustration of readers, the Appendix to a paper which will indicate that some Supplementary Information associated with the article can be found on the on-line version, quoting the DOI, will also explicitly state that the differential colours of such illustrations can be seen in the online version. This indicator will be included at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief.

This will specify, for example:

Appendix: Figures with essential colour discrimination.

Certain figures in this article are difficult to interpret in black and white. The full colour images can be found in the on-line version on ScienceDirect.