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### DESCRIPTION

*Alcohol* is an international, peer-reviewed journal that is devoted to publishing multi-disciplinary biomedical research on all aspects of the **actions** or **effects** of **alcohol** on the **nervous system** or on other **organ systems**. Emphasis is given to studies into the causes and consequences of **alcohol abuse** and **alcoholism**, and biomedical aspects of diagnosis, etiology, treatment or prevention of alcohol-related health effects.

Intended for both research scientists and practicing clinicians, the journal publishes original research on the neurobiological, neurobehavioral, and pathophysiological processes associated with alcohol drinking, alcohol abuse, alcohol-seeking behavior, tolerance, dependence, withdrawal, protracted abstinence, and relapse. In addition, the journal reports studies on the effects alcohol on brain mechanisms of neuroplasticity over the life span, biological factors associated with adolescent alcohol abuse, pharmacotherapeutic strategies in the treatment of alcoholism, biological and biochemical markers of alcohol abuse and alcoholism, pathological effects of uncontrolled drinking, biomedical and molecular factors in the effects on liver, immune system, and other organ systems, and biomedical aspects of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder including mechanisms of damage, diagnosis and early detection, treatment, and prevention. Articles are published from all levels of biomedical inquiry, including the following: molecular and cellular studies of alcohol's actions *in vitro* and *in vivo*; animal model studies of genetic, pharmacological, behavioral, developmental or pathophysiological aspects of alcohol; human studies of genetic, behavioral, cognitive, neuroimaging, or pathological aspects of alcohol drinking; clinical studies of diagnosis (including dual diagnosis), treatment, prevention, and epidemiology. The journal will publish 9 issues per year; the accepted abbreviation for *Alcohol* for bibliographic citation is *Alcohol*.

*Alcohol* subscribes to the tenets of [The Farmington Consensus](#). [Submission](#) of a paper to the journal will be taken as evidence that the authors have complied with the tenets set forth in the Consensus. All submitted material will be subject to peer review. *Alcohol* considers three types of manuscripts for publication:

- Original research articles are full-length reports of the authors' original research addressing topics consistent with the Aims and Scope of the journal. Submissions outside the scope of the journal, or incomplete or fragmentary submissions, will not be considered.

- Rapid communications are original, high-quality manuscripts that describe new data of high impact and major importance to the field. These contributions are typically short (e.g., 4 journal pages), and will be peer-reviewed by at least one expert in the field of the research and an [Editor](#), and will be either

accepted with minimal or no revisions or rejected. Publication of accepted rapid communications will be expedited.

- Invited review articles will be considered for publication, upon invitation from the Editor-in-Chief, as full-length papers or mini-reviews. These contributions will be peer-reviewed. Contact the Editor-in-Chief concerning the suitability of a topic for an invited review.

There are no page charges for articles published in *Alcohol*, and the current practice is to provide the corresponding author with 50 free reprints of his/her article. Effective May 2006, authors from all countries are invited to submit manuscripts, complete in all respects and following the Instructions to Authors (revised May 2006), to Charles R. Goodlett, Editor-in-Chief, via Elsevier electronic submission at <http://ees.elsevier.com/alcohol>

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## GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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### INTRODUCTION

*Alcohol* is an international, peer-reviewed journal that is devoted to publishing multi-disciplinary biomedical research on all aspects of the actions or effects of alcohol on the nervous system or on other organ systems. Emphasis is given to studies into the causes and consequences of alcohol abuse and alcoholism, and biomedical aspects of diagnosis, etiology, treatment or prevention of alcohol-related health effects.

Intended for both research scientists and practicing clinicians, the journal publishes original research on the neurobiological, neurobehavioral, and pathophysiological processes associated with alcohol drinking, alcohol abuse, alcohol-seeking behavior, tolerance, dependence, withdrawal, protracted abstinence, and relapse. In addition, the journal reports studies on the effects alcohol on brain mechanisms of neuroplasticity over the life span, biological factors associated with adolescent alcohol abuse, pharmacotherapeutic strategies in the treatment of alcoholism, biological and biochemical markers of alcohol abuse and alcoholism, pathological effects of uncontrolled drinking, biomedical and molecular factors in the effects on liver, immune system, and other organ systems, and biomedical aspects of fetal alcohol spectrum disorder including mechanisms of damage, diagnosis and early detection, treatment, and prevention. Articles are published from all levels of biomedical inquiry, including the following: molecular and cellular studies of alcohol's actions *in vitro* and *in vivo*; animal model studies of genetic, pharmacological, behavioral, developmental or pathophysiological aspects of alcohol; human studies of genetic, behavioral, cognitive, neuroimaging, or pathological aspects of alcohol drinking; clinical studies of diagnosis (including dual diagnosis), treatment, prevention, and epidemiology. The journal will publish 8 issues per year; the accepted abbreviation for *Alcohol* for bibliographic citation is *Alcohol*.

*Alcohol* subscribes to the tenets of [The Farmington Consensus](#). Submission of a paper to the journal will be taken as evidence that the authors have complied with the tenets set forth in the Consensus.

### Types of paper

All submitted material will be subject to peer review. The requirements set forth in the Instructions to Authors apply to all 3 types of manuscripts accepted for publication in *Alcohol*, as follows:

- **Original research articles** are full-length reports of the authors' original research addressing topics consistent with the Aims and Scope of the journal. Submissions outside the scope of the journal, or incomplete or fragmentary submissions, will not be considered.

- **Rapid communications** are original, high-quality manuscripts that describe new data of high impact and major importance to the field. These contributions are typically short (e.g., 4 journal pages), and will be peer-reviewed by at least one expert in the field of the research and an Editor, and will be either accepted with minimal or no revisions or rejected. Publication of accepted rapid communications will be expedited.

- **Review articles** can be submitted upon invitation from journal editors or following appropriate screening from editors. Authors with ideas for potential review articles should submit a title, outline and list of authors to David Lovinger, Editor-in-Chief, *Alcohol*. Suggestions will be considered by the editors and recommendations for submission will be made following a brief review of the proposal.

- **Invited editorials or commentaries** will be considered for publication, upon agreement by the Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editor. These contributions should be relatively short (2-3 journal pages), and focused on topics of high current interest, controversy, or fast-paced change. They will be peer reviewed by at least one member of the Editorial staff and another recognized expert in the area. Authors should contact the Editor-in-Chief concerning the suitability of a topic for an invited editorial or commentary.

### Contact details for submission

If you have questions regarding any of the requirements for submitting a manuscript to the journal, please contact the editorial office at:

David M. Lovinger  
Editor-in-Chief, *Alcohol*

Rockville, MD 20832

Tel: +1-301-728-3874

E-mail: david.lovinger@gmail.com

### **Submission checklist**

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

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### *Language (usage and editing services)*

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Our online submission system guides you stepwise through the process of entering your article details and uploading your files. The system converts your article files to a single PDF file used in the peer-review process. Editable files (e.g., Word, LaTeX) are required to typeset your article for final publication. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, is sent by e-mail.

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Please submit your article via <https://www.elsevier.com/profile/api/navigate/ALCOHOL>.

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Please submit the names and institutional e-mail addresses of several potential referees. For more details, visit our [Support site](#). Note that the editor retains the sole right to decide whether or not the suggested reviewers are used.

## **PREPARATION**

### **Peer review**

This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of one independent expert reviewer to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. [More information on types of peer review.](#)

### *Use of word processing software*

It is important that the file be saved in the native format of the word processor used. The text should be in single-column format. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. In particular, do not use the word processor's options to justify text or to hyphenate words. However, do use bold face, italics, subscripts, superscripts etc. When preparing tables, if you are using a table grid, use only one grid for each individual table and not a grid for each row. If no grid is used, use tabs, not spaces, to align columns. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the [Guide to Publishing with Elsevier](#)). Note that source files of figures, tables and text graphics will be required whether or not you embed your figures in the text. 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**

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Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Subsections should be used as much as possible when cross-referencing text: refer to the subsection by heading as opposed to simply 'the text'.

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

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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.

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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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Highlights should be submitted in a separate editable 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).

## Abstract

Include an abstract that briefly summarizes the work, limited to a short paragraph of about 300 words. Succinctly state purpose of the study, basic methods and procedures, the most important findings, and principal conclusions. Prepare as one continuous paragraph without sections or subheadings.

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Use in abstract only if necessary. Terms appearing frequently within the text of the manuscript may be abbreviated (do not abbreviate the term "ethanol"). For a list of standard abbreviations, consult the *Council of Biology Editors Style Guide* (available from the Council of Science Editors, 9650 Rockville Pike, Bethesda, MD 20814). Write out the full term for each abbreviation at its first use (unless it is a standard unit of measure), with the abbreviation following in parentheses; terms should not be abbreviated in tables or figures. Abbreviations that appear as word entries in *Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary* do not need to be defined the first time they are used. Abbreviations are to be used for standard Latin terms, statistics, and reference terms in parenthetical material (e.g., i.e.), as well as for standard units of measure.

## Acknowledgements

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

## Formatting of funding sources

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Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other units are mentioned, please give their equivalent in SI.

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Please submit math equations as editable text and not as images. Present simple formulae in line with normal text where possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., X/Y. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text).

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Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors can build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Otherwise, please indicate the position of footnotes in the text and list the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article. Do not include footnotes in the Reference list.

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### *Electronic artwork*

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- Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
- Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
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