APPETITE

DESCRIPTION

Appetite is an international research journal specializing in cultural, social, psychological, sensory and physiological influences on the selection and intake of foods and drinks. It covers normal and disordered eating and drinking and welcomes studies of both human and non-human animal behaviour toward food. Appetite publishes research reports, reviews and commentaries. Thematic special issues appear regularly. From time to time the journal carries abstracts from professional meetings. Submissions to Appetite are expected to be based primarily on observations directly related to the selection and intake of foods and drinks; papers that are primarily focused on topics such as nutrition or obesity will not be considered unless they specifically make a novel scientific contribution to the understanding of appetite in line with the journal's aims and scope.

Research areas covered include:

- Psychological, social, sensory and cultural influences on appetite
- Cognitive and behavioural neuroscience of appetite
- Clinical and pre-clinical studies of disordered appetite
- Nutritional influences on appetite
- Food attitudes and consumer behaviour towards food
- Psychology and ethnography of dietary habits
- History of food cultures

Benefits to authors

We also provide many author benefits, such as free PDFs, a liberal copyright policy, special discounts on Elsevier publications and much more. Please click here for more information on our author services.

Please see our Guide for Authors for information on article submission. If you require any further information or help, please visit our Support Center.

AUDIENCE

Psychology, Social Research, Neuroscience, Physiology, Nutrition, Sensory Food Science

IMPACT FACTOR

2021: 5.016 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2022
ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Scopus
PubMed/Medline
ISI Web of Knowledge
ISI Science Citation Index

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
M. Hetherington, University of Leeds, Leeds, United Kingdom

Deputy Editors-in-Chief
N. Geary, Weill Cornell Medicine, New York, New York, United States of America
C. Nederkoorn, Maastricht University, Maastricht, Netherlands

Executive Editors
G. Ares, University of the Republic Uruguay, Montevideo, Uruguay
J. Blechert, Paris Lodron University of Salzburg, Salzburg, Austria
C. Davis, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
C. G. Forde, Wageningen University, Wageningen, Netherlands
J. Graça, University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands
K. Keller, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, United States of America
T. V. E. Kral, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States of America
N. B. Kroemer, University Hospital Bonn, Department of Psychiatry and Psychotherapy, Bonn, Germany
L. Lähteenmäki, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark
D. G. Liem, Deakin University School of Exercise and Nutrition Sciences, Geelong, Australia
J. Loxton, Griffith University School of Applied Psychology Mount Gravatt Campus, Mount Gravatt, Australia
J. C. Lumeng, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States of America
P. de Morais Sato, Federal University of Bahia School of Nutrition, SALVADOR, Brazil
A. Raynor, The University of Tennessee System, Knoxville, Tennessee, United States of America
J. Temple, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, United States of America

Advisory Editors
J. Blissett, Aston University, Birmingham, United Kingdom
D. Broom, Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, United Kingdom
J. M. Brunstrom, University of Bristol, Bristol, United Kingdom
M. Caraher, City University of London, London, United Kingdom
S. Carnell, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America
P. Chandon, INSEAD, Fontainebleau, France
B. K. Cheon, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore, Singapore
R. Finkelstein, Stony Brook University College of Business, Stony Brook, New York, United States of America
C. Fisher, National Centre for Scientific Research, Paris, France
J. O. Fisher, Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States of America
A. Frankel, University of Houston, Houston, Texas, United States of America
K. G. Grunert, Aarhus University, Aarhus, Denmark
A. Hardman, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, United Kingdom
C. Hartmann, ETH Zurich, Department of Health Sciences and Technology, Zurich, Switzerland
C. P. Herman, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
L. Holm, Copenhagen University, Department of Food and Resource Economics, Frederiksberg, Denmark
A. Jansen, Maastricht University, Maastricht, Netherlands
P. W. Jansen, Erasmus Medical Center, Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry/Psychology, Rotterdam, Netherlands
E. Kemps, Flinders University, Adelaide, Australia
H. Kissileff, Columbia University Irving Medical Center, New York, New York, United States of America
S. E. La Fleur, Amsterdam UMC Location AMC, Amsterdam, Netherlands
G. de Lartigue, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, United States of America
R. Lowe, Drexel University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States of America
K. McCrickerd, Singapore Institute for Clinical Sciences, Singapore, Singapore
L. Meiselman
K. J. Moding, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana, United States of America
S. Mollen, University of Amsterdam Amsterdam School of Communications Research, Amsterdam, Netherlands
E. K. Papies, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom
Y. Pepino, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, United States of America
B. Piqueiras-Fiszman, Wageningen University & Research, Wageningen, Netherlands
H. Preissl, Eberhard-Karls-Universität Tübingen, Tübingen, Germany
A. Roefs, Maastricht University, Maastricht, Netherlands
B. J. Rolls, The Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania, United States of America
M. B. Ruby, La Trobe University School of Psychology and Public Health, Melbourne, Australia
A. Sclafani, City University of New York, New York, New York, United States of America
D. M. Small, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, United States of America
P. A. M. Smeets, Wageningen University, Wageningen, Netherlands
R. Stevenson, Macquarie University, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
A-M. Torregrossa, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York, United States of America
S. Tronieri, University of Pennsylvania, Department of Psychiatry, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States of America
U. Vainik, University of Tartu, Tartu, Estonia
M. R. Yeomans, University of Sussex, Brighton, United Kingdom
D. A. Zellner, Montclair State University, Montclair, New Jersey, United States of America

Founding Editor
D. A. Booth, University of Sussex, Brighton, United Kingdom
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

Types of article

Full length papers

Full length papers including empirical reports and theoretical reviews are published. Reviews may be of any length consistent with succinct presentation, subdivided as appropriate to the subject matter.

Special Sections or Issues

Proposals for a themed collection, symposium or commentary should be sent to the Contact Editor and appetite@elsevier.com, listing provisional authors, titles and lengths of papers and suggesting Executive, Advisory or Guest Editors with a timetable for recorded peer-reviewing, revision and transmittal in the format required for publication. The reviews or reports in a special section or issue will be subject to the normal process of peer-review.

Commentary sections

Commentary sections may include a keynote paper, brief comments and reply.

Conference Abstracts

Conference Abstracts in guest-edited sets from international multidisciplinary conferences are sometimes published. All the abstracts in a set must be limited to a total word count of no more than 300 (4 per page) and formatted as a single paragraph with no subheadings. The abstract starts with the title (mostly in lower case), name(s) of author(s) (upper case) and one postal address, complete with postcode and country, followed on the same line by one stand-alone e-mail address. Any acknowledgements or references are included within the paragraph: between the cited author(s) and year can be placed the abbreviated title of the journal, volume and pages. Tables, Figures and footnotes are not allowed. A published abstract should not promise findings or discussion, nor refer to presentation at the meeting. The title of the meeting as the main title, the location and dates as a sub-title must be provided to form the heading of the set of abstracts. Any session titles, special lectures or other material must fit into the format and word count for the abstracts in that set.

Please note that questionnaires and interview protocols (in Figure form) are not published.

Contact details for submission

Authors should submit their articles electronically at: https://www.editorialmanager.com/appetite/Default.aspx

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.

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

All necessary files have been uploaded:

Manuscript:

- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print

Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)

Supplemental files (where applicable)

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 Internet)
• A competing interests statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
• Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
• Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

For further information, visit our Support Center.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Ethics in publishing
Please see our information on Ethics in publishing.

Studies in humans and animals

Research involving human participants, human material, or human data, must have been performed in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki and must have been approved by an appropriate independent ethics committee. A statement detailing the approval, including the name of the ethics committee and the reference number where appropriate, must appear in all manuscripts reporting such research. If an appropriate committee granted an exemption from requiring ethics approval, this should also be detailed in the manuscript, including the name of the ethics committee that granted the exemption. Further information and documentation to support this should be made available to the Editor on request. The manuscript should be in line with the Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals and aim for the inclusion of representative human populations (sex, age and ethnicity) as per those recommendations. The terms sex and gender should be used correctly.

Required disclosures: We require every research article submitted to include a statement in the methods section that the study obtained ethics approval (or a statement that it was not required and why), including the name of the ethics committee(s) or institutional review board(s) and a statement that participants gave informed consent before taking part and a statement about assent for children and youth where appropriate. Wherever possible authors should also insert a specific ethics/approval number. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

Papers that report studies involving vertebrate animals must conform to the ARRIVE Guidelines summarised at www.nc3rs.org.uk and should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments, or the National Institutes of Health guide for the care and use of Laboratory animals (NIH Publications No. 8023, revised 1978) and the authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed. The sex of animals must be indicated, and where appropriate, the influence (or association) of sex on the results of the study. The Editors will not accept papers that have not been reviewed and approved by an animal experimentation ethics committee or regulatory organisation.

Required disclosures: Where a paper reports studies involving vertebrate animals, authors must state in the Methods section the institutional and national guidelines for the care and use of animals that were followed and that all experimental procedures involving animals were approved by the [insert name of the ethics committee or other approving body; wherever possible authors should also insert a specific ethics/approval number].

Declaration of interest
All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors must disclose any interests in two places: 1. A summary declaration of interest statement in the title page file (if double anonymized) or the manuscript file (if single anonymized). If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'. 2. Detailed disclosures as part of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches. More information.
Data code and availability statements
All papers must include a statement regarding the availability of all data used in the study. Where data was downloaded from the public domain, the source and means of obtaining the data should be stated. Data, or metadata that were newly acquired for the present study should ideally be made available to the community via a suitable open repository, preferably at the time of paper submission. If data is not able to be made openly available then a reasonable rationale should be provided, such as ethics or privacy issues of clinical data, or restrictions imposed by the administering institution. If data is only to be made available via a request to the Authors, then the conditions of such a request, and any restrictions - such as the need for a formal data sharing agreement - should be clearly stated.

Declaration of generative AI in scientific writing
The below guidance only refers to the writing process, and not to the use of AI tools to analyse and draw insights from data as part of the research process.

Where authors use generative artificial intelligence (AI) and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process, authors should only use these technologies to improve readability and language. Applying the technology should be done with human oversight and control, and authors should carefully review and edit the result, as AI can generate authoritative-sounding output that can be incorrect, incomplete or biased. AI and AI-assisted technologies should not be listed as an author or co-author, or be cited as an author. Authorship implies responsibilities and tasks that can only be attributed to and performed by humans, as outlined in Elsevier’s AI policy for authors.

Authors should disclose in their manuscript the use of AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process by following the instructions below. A statement will appear in the published work. Please note that authors are ultimately responsible and accountable for the contents of the work.

Disclosure instructions
Authors must disclose the use of generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process by adding a statement at the end of their manuscript in the core manuscript file, before the References list. The statement should be placed in a new section entitled ‘Declaration of Generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process’.

Statement: During the preparation of this work the author(s) used [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] in order to [REASON]. After using this tool/service, the author(s) reviewed and edited the content as needed and take(s) full responsibility for the content of the publication.

This declaration does not apply to the use of basic tools for checking grammar, spelling, references etc. If there is nothing to disclose, there is no need to add a statement.

Authors are requested to declare if their work has been peer-reviewed previously, and if so they are encouraged to supply along with their manuscript files their responses to previous review comments.

Submission declaration and verification
Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract, a published lecture or academic thesis, see ‘Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication’ for more information), 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 in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically without the written consent of the copyright-holder. To verify compliance, your article may be checked by Crossref Similarity Check and other originality or duplicate checking software.

Preprints
Please note that preprints can be shared anywhere at any time, in line with Elsevier’s sharing policy. Sharing your preprints e.g. on a preprint server will not count as prior publication (see ‘Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication’ for more information).

Use of inclusive language
Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Content should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader; contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health
condition; and use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, stereotypes, slang, reference to dominant culture and/or cultural assumptions. We advise to seek gender neutrality by using plural nouns ("clinicians, patients/clients") as default/wherever possible to avoid using "he, she," or "he/she." We recommend avoiding the use of descriptors that refer to personal attributes such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition unless they are relevant and valid. Authors should use person first language when referring people/participants who are living with various conditions e.g. people with obesity (not obese people or people who are obese). These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

**Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses**

**Reporting guidance**

For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and the SAGER guidelines checklist. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

**Definitions**

Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth ("sex assigned at birth"), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

**Changes to authorship**

Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors before submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only before the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such a change, the Editor must receive the following from the corresponding author: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, 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. Only in exceptional circumstances will the Editor consider the addition, deletion or rearrangement of authors after the manuscript has been accepted. While the Editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the Editor will result in a corrigendum.

**Article transfer service**

This journal uses the Elsevier Article Transfer Service to find the best home for your manuscript. This means that if an editor feels your manuscript is more suitable for an alternative journal, you might be asked to consider transferring the manuscript to such a journal. The recommendation might be provided by a Journal Editor, a dedicated Scientific Managing Editor, a tool assisted recommendation,
or a combination. If you agree, your manuscript will be transferred, though you will have the opportunity to make changes to the manuscript before the submission is complete. Please note that your manuscript will be independently reviewed by the new journal. More information.

**Copyright**
Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' (see more information on this). 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. 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.

For gold open access articles: Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'License Agreement' (more information). Permitted third party reuse of gold open access articles is determined by the author's choice of user license.

**Author rights**
As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. More information.

**Elsevier supports responsible sharing**
Find out how you can share your research published in Elsevier journals.

**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, it is recommended to state this.

**Open access**
Please visit our Open Access page for more information.

**Elsevier Researcher Academy**
Researcher Academy is a free e-learning platform designed to support early and mid-career researchers throughout their research journey. The "Learn" environment at Researcher Academy offers several interactive modules, webinars, downloadable guides and resources to guide you through the process of writing for research and going through peer review. Feel free to use these free resources to improve your submission and navigate the publication process with ease.

**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 Author Services.

**Sex and gender reporting**
Appetite encourages researchers to take sex and gender into account when establishing objectives, developing methods of study, obtaining and evaluating data, and reporting the results of their work. We also acknowledge that sex and gender refer to a wide range of physiological, psychological and cultural variables that do not have clear scientific boundaries. Therefore, we recommend that authors describe participants in the terms that they endorsed when choosing to enter the study, e.g., male, female, man, woman, non-binary etc. In addition, authors may wish to refer to sex/gender effects rather than assuming a sharp categorization.
**Submission**

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.

**Submit your article**

Please submit your article via https://www.journals.elsevier.com/appetite

**Referees**

Please submit, with the manuscript, the names, addresses and e-mail addresses of three potential referees along with your reasons for suggesting them. Note that the editor retains the sole right to decide whether or not the suggested reviewers are used.

**PREPARATION**

**Queries**

For questions about the editorial process (including the status of manuscripts under review) or for technical support on submissions, please visit our Support Center.

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.

Appetite has published an editorial with guidelines on design and statistics, which authors are encouraged to consult.

**Cover letter**

Cover letters should be addressed to the Editor in Chief.

The letter should: 1) identify the author who has been designated by co-authors as the corresponding author and include the corresponding author’s contact details, including email address and full postal address; 2) verify that all authors accept full responsibility for all aspects of to the work described; 3) verify that the manuscript is not under review elsewhere; 4) verify that the corresponding author can provide all original data for review.

In addition, if the study is part of a large study that is or will be published in pieces, an explanation for this choice should be included as well as a verification that the current manuscript includes discussion of how it relates to the other pieces and that full references to the other pieces are included. Multiple manuscripts in which it seems that the dependent variables are just different measures of the same tendencies will not be considered.

If the authors wish to suggest that a particular Executive Editor would be especially appropriate to handle the submission, this may be included in the cover letter.

**Ethics**

Research involving human participants, human material, or human data must have been performed in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki and must have been approved by an appropriate independent ethics committee. Similarly, research involving non-human animals or material derived from them must have been approved by an appropriate independent ethics committee. A statement detailing the approval, including the name of the ethics committee and the reference number where appropriate, must appear in the method all manuscripts reporting such research. If an appropriate committee granted an exemption from requiring ethics approval, this should also be detailed in the manuscript, including the name of the ethics committee that granted the exemption. Further information and documentation to support this should be made available to the Editor on request. If an appropriate committee granted an exemption from requiring ethics approval, this should also be detailed in the manuscript, including the name of the ethics committee that granted the exemption. Further information and documentation to support this should be made available to the Editor on request.
Manuscript Preparation

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. Appetite has published an editorial with guidelines on design and statistics, which authors are encouraged to consult.

Peer review
This journal operates a single anonymized 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 two independent expert reviewers 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. Editors are not involved in decisions about papers which they have written themselves or have been written by family members or colleagues or which relate to products or services in which the editor has an interest. Any such submission is subject to all of the journal's usual procedures, with peer review handled independently of the relevant editor and their research groups. 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.

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. Please ensure your paper has consecutive line numbering, this is an essential peer review requirement.

Article Structure

Articles should include page and line numbering and the line spacing should be 1.5 or 2 and the font should be no less than 11 point (and ideally 12 point).

Subdivision - numbered sections

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

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

Methods
Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described. Include an ethics-approval statement as described above. Include a section describing the statistical approach. This should include: 1) A statement that the hypotheses were specified before the data were collected; 2) A statement that the analytic plan was pre-specified and any data-driven analyses are clearly identified and discussed appropriately.

Results

Results should be clear and concise. Authors are encouraged to read and comply with our Guideline on Statistics. When possible, quantify findings and present them with appropriate indicators of measurement error or uncertainty.

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.

Appendices

Appendices are not encouraged. Critical details of Method should be described in that section of the manuscript.

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. Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lowercase 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. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are 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. As per the journal style, the abstract text should not be more than 280 words (1500 characters including spaces). The abstract should be formatted as a single paragraph.

Graphical abstract

Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. 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. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site.
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.

Abbreviations
Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

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.).

Author Contributions
Each author should to declare his or her individual contribution to the article. The statement that all authors have approved the final article should be true and included in the disclosure. Such a statement should be included immediately following the Acknowledgements section of the article.

Formatting of funding sources
List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

It is not necessary to include detailed descriptions on the program or type of grants and awards. When funding is from a block grant or other resources available to a university, college, or other research institution, submit the name of the institute or organization that provided the funding.

If no funding has been provided for the research, it is recommended to include the following sentence:

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

Units
Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other units are mentioned, please give their equivalent in SI. Ensure that the data are reported with reasonable precision. Age, BMI and similar demographic data rounded to 0.1 at the most, 0-100 VAS to 1, Likert-scale data to 0.1, etc.

Math formulae
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).

Footnotes
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.

Artwork
Electronic Artwork
General points Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork. Embed the used fonts if the application provides that option. Aim to use the following fonts in your illustrations: Arial, Courier, Times New Roman, Symbol, or use fonts that look similar. Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text. Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files. Provide captions to illustrations separately. Size the illustrations close to the desired dimensions of the published version. Submit each illustration as a separate file.

A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available. You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.

Formats

If your electronic artwork is created in a Microsoft Office application (Word, PowerPoint, Excel) then please supply 'as is' in the native document format. Regardless of the application used other than Microsoft Office, 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 all used fonts. TIFF (or JPEG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones), keep to a minimum of 300 dpi. TIFF (or JPEG): Bitmapped (pure black and white pixels) line drawings, keep to a minimum of 1000 dpi. TIFF (or JPEG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale), keep to a minimum of 500 dpi.

Please do not: Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); these typically have a low number of pixels and limited set of colors. 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 online (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 online only. Further information on the preparation of electronic artwork.

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
Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on separate page(s) at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.

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.

Web references
As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.
Data references
This journal encourages you to cite underlying or relevant datasets in your manuscript by citing them in your text and including a data reference in your Reference List. Data references should include the following elements: author name(s), dataset title, data repository, version (where available), year, and global persistent identifier. Add [dataset] immediately before the reference so we can properly identify it as a data reference. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

Preprint references
Where a preprint has subsequently become available as a peer-reviewed publication, the formal publication should be used as the reference. If there are preprints that are central to your work or that cover crucial developments in the topic, but are not yet formally published, these may be referenced. Preprints should be clearly marked as such, for example by including the word preprint, or the name of the preprint server, as part of the reference. The preprint DOI should also be provided.

References in a special issue
Please ensure that the words 'this issue' are added to any references in the list (and any citations in the text) to other articles in the same Special Issue.

Reference management software
Most Elsevier journals have their reference template available in many of the most popular reference management software products. These include all products that support Citation Style Language styles, such as Mendeley. Using citation plug-ins from these products, authors only need to select the appropriate journal template when preparing their article, after which citations and bibliographies will be automatically formatted in the journal's style. If no template is yet available for this journal, please follow the format of the sample references and citations as shown in this Guide. If you use reference management software, please ensure that you remove all field codes before submitting the electronic manuscript. More information on how to remove field codes from different reference management software.

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 article number or 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: Citations in the text should follow the referencing style used by the American Psychological Association. You are referred to the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, Sixth Edition, ISBN 978-1-4338-0561-5, copies of which may be ordered online or APA Order Dept., P.O.B. 2710, Hyattsville, MD 20784, USA or APA, 3 Henrietta Street, London, WC3E 8LU, UK.

List: references should be arranged first alphabetically and then further sorted chronologically if necessary. More than one reference from the same author(s) in the same year must be identified by the letters 'a', 'b', 'c', etc., placed after the year of publication.

Examples:
Reference to a journal publication:

Reference to a journal publication with an article number:

Reference to a book:

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Reference to a website:
Reference to a dataset:

Reference to a conference paper or poster presentation:

**Journal abbreviations source**
Journal names should be abbreviated according to the List of Title Word Abbreviations.

**Video**
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 file in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 150 MB per file, 1 GB in total. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including ScienceDirect. 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. 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.

**Data visualization**
Include interactive data visualizations in your publication and let your readers interact and engage more closely with your research. Follow the instructions here to find out about available data visualization options and how to include them with your article.

**Supplementary material**
Supplementary material such as applications, images and sound clips, can be published with your article to enhance it. Submitted supplementary items are published exactly as they are received (Excel or PowerPoint files will appear as such online). Please submit your material together with the article and supply a concise, descriptive caption for each supplementary file. If you wish to make changes to supplementary material during any stage of the process, please make sure to provide an updated file. Do not annotate any corrections on a previous version. Please switch off the 'Track Changes' option in Microsoft Office files as these will appear in the published version.

**Online Studies**
Online studies are becoming increasingly common and they have some advantages over in person studies e.g. easier recruitment of larger and more diverse samples. However, there are potential limitations e.g. low data quality due to malicious programs, or bots, generating invalid data. Therefore authors are requested to outline in their manuscript the steps they have taken to improve data quality and detect bots. Such strategies might include the use of recaptcha at the start of a survey, dummy/implausible questions, attention check questions, collecting timing and page use data, and consistency checks.

**Research data**
This journal requires and enables you to share data that supports your research publication where appropriate, and enables you to interlink the data with your published articles. Research data refers to the results of observations or experimentation that validate research findings, which may also include software, code, models, algorithms, protocols, methods and other useful materials related to the project.
Below are a number of ways in which you can associate data with your article or make a statement about the availability of your data when submitting your manuscript. When sharing data in one of these ways, you are expected to cite the data in your manuscript and reference list. Please refer to the "References" section for more information about data citation. For more information on depositing, sharing and using research data and other relevant research materials, visit the research data page.

**Data linking**

If you have made your research data available in a data repository, you can link your article directly to the dataset. Elsevier collaborates with a number of repositories to link articles on ScienceDirect with relevant repositories, giving readers access to underlying data that gives them a better understanding of the research described.

There are different ways to link your datasets to your article. When available, you can directly link your dataset to your article by providing the relevant information in the submission system. For more information, visit the database linking page.

For supported data repositories a repository banner will automatically appear next to your published article on ScienceDirect.

In addition, you can link to relevant data or entities through identifiers within the text of your manuscript, using the following format: Database: xxxx (e.g., TAIR: AT1G01020; CCDC: 734053; PDB: 1XFN).

**Research Elements**

This journal enables you to publish research objects related to your original research – such as data, methods, protocols, software and hardware – as an additional paper in a Research Elements journal.

Research Elements is a suite of peer-reviewed, open access journals which make your research objects findable, accessible and reusable. Articles place research objects into context by providing detailed descriptions of objects and their application, and linking to the associated original research articles. Research Elements articles can be prepared by you, or by one of your collaborators.

During submission, you will be alerted to the opportunity to prepare and submit a manuscript to one of the Research Elements journals.

More information can be found on the Research Elements page.

**Data statement**

To foster transparency, we require you to state the availability of your data in your submission if your data is unavailable to access or unsuitable to post. This may also be a requirement of your funding body or institution. You will have the opportunity to provide a data statement during the submission process. The statement will appear with your published article on ScienceDirect. For more information, visit the Data Statement page.

**AFTER ACCEPTANCE**

**Online proof correction**

To ensure a fast publication process of the article, we kindly ask authors to provide us with their proof corrections within two days. Corresponding authors will receive an e-mail with a link to our online proofing system, allowing annotation and correction of proofs online. The environment is similar to MS Word: in addition to editing text, you can also comment on figures/tables and answer questions from the Copy Editor. Web-based proofing provides a faster and less error-prone process by allowing you to directly type your corrections, eliminating the potential introduction of errors. If preferred, you can still choose to annotate and upload your edits on the PDF version. All instructions for proofing will be given in the e-mail we send to authors, including alternative methods to the online version and PDF.

We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. 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. 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.
**Offprints**
The corresponding author will, at no cost, receive a customized [Share Link](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/appet) providing 50 days free access to the final published version of the article on [ScienceDirect](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/appet). The Share Link can be used for sharing the article via any communication channel, including email and social media. For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Corresponding authors who have published their article gold open access do not receive a Share Link as their final published version of the article is available open access on ScienceDirect and can be shared through the article DOI link.

**AUTHOR INQUIRIES**
Visit the [Elsevier Support Center](http://www.elsevier.com) to find the answers you need. Here you will find everything from Frequently Asked Questions to ways to get in touch. You can also check the status of your submitted article or find out when your accepted article will be published.

© Copyright 2018 Elsevier | [https://www.elsevier.com](https://www.elsevier.com)