BIOCHEMICAL PHARMACOLOGY

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DESCRIPTION

Biochemical Pharmacology publishes original research findings, Commentaries and review articles related to the elucidation of cellular and tissue function(s) at the biochemical and molecular levels, the modification of cellular phenotype(s) by genetic, transcriptional/ translational or drug/compound-induced modifications, as well as the pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of xenobiotics and drugs, the latter including both small molecules and biologics.

The journal’s target audience includes scientists engaged in the identification and study of the mechanisms of action of xenobiotics, biologics and drugs and in the drug discovery and development process.

All areas of cellular biology and cellular, tissue/organ and whole animal pharmacology fall within the scope of the journal. Drug classes covered include anti-infectives, anti-inflammatory agents, chemotherapeutics, cardiovascular, endocrinological, immunological, metabolic, neurological and psychiatric drugs, as well as research on drug metabolism and kinetics. While medicinal chemistry is a topic of complimentary interest, manuscripts in this area must contain sufficient biological data to characterize pharmacologically the compounds reported. Submissions describing work focused predominately on chemical synthesis and molecular modeling will not be considered for review.

While particular emphasis is placed on reporting the results of molecular and biochemical studies, research involving the use of tissue and animal models of human pathophysiology and toxicology is of interest to the extent that it helps define drug mechanisms of action, safety and efficacy.

Reports describing experiments conducted with natural product mixtures, plant or animal extracts will not be considered for publication unless the structures and concentrations of all component substances are known, and the agents can be easily obtained by others wishing to replicate the study.

The chemical structure of all novel compounds tested must be included in the submitted manuscript or be readily accessible in the published literature. References to structures in the patent literature must unambiguously identify a single molecular structure. All compounds, reagents, instrumentation and equipment employed in a study must be available from identified commercial suppliers, bio/ pharmaceutical companies or from individuals holding legal rights to their use. Submissions will not be considered for publication if the chemical structures of tested compounds are not revealed, generally known, or accessible in the literature.
Original research submissions must contain: A rationale for the selection of the compound/drug for study as well as for the concentrations/doses employed. Quantities used for concentration- and dose-response experiments should vary logarithmically, e.g., 1, 3, 10, 30 mg/kg, 0.1, 1.0, 10, 100 nanomolar, etc. Justification must be provided for studying only a single concentration or dose of a compound, especially as it relates to reference standards and antagonists/modulators of receptors, enzymes and signaling pathways. Justification must also be provided for the selection of the statistical tests employed as they relate to the experimental design. It is expected that all findings have been subjected to rigorous quantitative analyses, with the calculation and reporting of IC$_{50}$, K$_i$, EC$_{50}$, etc., values. These must be derived from a minimum of three (3) separate and distinct experiments, with the replicates within any single experiment being averaged to obtain a single value for that experimental series. Manuscripts that fail to meet these criteria will be subject to rejection without peer-review.

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AUDIENCE
Pharmacologists, Biochemists, Toxicologists, Neuroscientists, Molecular and Cellular Biologists.

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INTRODUCTION

Biochemical Pharmacology is an international peer reviewed journal devoted to publishing original research and invited reviews and commentaries on the interaction of chemical compounds with biological systems. Manuscripts describing experiments conducted with chemical mixtures, plant or animal extracts will not be considered for publication unless the chemical structures and precise concentrations of all substances are reported.

While particular emphasis is placed on reporting findings that relate to pharmacodynamics, pharmacokinetics, and metabolism of both small molecules and biologics at the biochemical and molecular levels, submissions in the areas of behavioral and physiological pharmacology and toxicology are considered if they describe studies directed at defining mechanisms of action. All areas related to the field of pharmacology are represented in the journal including, but not limited to, chemotherapy, neuropharmacology, inflammation/immunopharmacology, antimicrobials, behavioral, respiratory, gastrointestinal, cardiovascular and endocrine pharmacology and toxicology.

Reports describing de novo results of clinical studies and those that predominately or exclusively concern database mining and analysis and computational methodologies, e.g. CAMD, are outside the scope of the journal.

Types of papers
(1) Full-length Research Papers. Biochemical Pharmacology publishes original research on issues of relevance to the field of pharmacology.
(2) Perspectives and Commentaries. These review articles are by invitation only and provide the authors’ views on a selected topic of interest to pharmacologists.

Manuscript preparation and submission

Provided below is detailed information on the scientific criteria and manuscript formatting required for an article to be considered for publication in Biochemical Pharmacology. The online submission process includes the Scientific Submission Checklist (Table 1) on the Additional Information Screen at https://ees.elsevier.com/bcp. Failure to accurately complete the Scientific Submission Checklist questions, automatically disqualifies the work for consideration. See Mullane et al., Guidelines for Manuscript Submission in the Peer-Reviewed Pharmacological Literature (Biochem. Pharmacol. 97:225-235, 2015; http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0006295215003585) for a detailed discussion of the issues addressed in the Scientific Submission Checklist.

Table 1. Scientific Submission Checklist
Please answer the following questions with "Yes", "No", or "Not applicable".

Formatting
Only video or audio files may be uploaded as supplementary data. The submission will automatically be rejected if the first question is marked "no" (i.e. supplementary tables or figures are not permitted).
1. As Biochemical Pharmacology does NOT publish supplemental data with the exception of audio or video files, are all necessary data included in the body of the manuscript?
2. Are all tables and figures numbered and appropriately titled with descriptive legends that permit stand-alone interpretation? Are all data shown in the tables and figures also described in the Results section, discussed in the Discussion section and stated in the Conclusions?

Introduction Section
3. Is there a clear statement with background describing the hypothesis being tested by this study? Are the primary endpoints clearly stated?

Materials and Methods Section
4. Were human tissues or fluids used in this study? Were the experiments reviewed and approved by the Institutional review Board (IRB)?
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10. Are quantified results (e.g., IC50 and/or EC50 values) of concentration- and dose-response experiments included in the manuscript?
11. Are all group sizes approximately the same and clearly indicated in the text and/or in the tables and figures?
12. Were the criteria used for excluding any data from analysis determined prospectively and clearly stated?
13. Was the investigator responsible for data analysis blinded to which samples/animals represent control and treatment groups?
14. Are the reported data displayed as means +/- standard deviation (SD)? Is the number of replicates of three or more independent experimental observations clearly indicated? Were post-hoc tests used to assess the statistical significance among means? Is the threshold for statistical significance (P value) clearly indicated?

**Results Section**
15. If western blots are shown, are the appropriate loading controls, replication data, and quantification and statistical analysis shown?
16. If PCR and RT-PCR are included, were MIQE guidelines followed? Was a reference standard (positive or negative controls) included in the study to validate the experiment?

**Discussion Section**
17. Are the primary conclusions and any secondary endpoints and their implications clearly stated?
18. Are the limitations of the current study or alternative interpretations of the findings clearly stated?

**Conflict of Interest/Financial Support**
19. Is a conflict of interest statement included in the manuscript?
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