Announcement: From January 2020 Cancer Treatment and Research Communications will become an open access journal. Authors who publish in Cancer Treatment and Research Communications will be able to make their work immediately, permanently, and freely accessible. Cancer Treatment and Research Communications authors will pay an article publishing charge (APC), have a choice of license options, and retain copyright to their published work.

Cancer Treatment and Research Communications is an international peer-reviewed publication dedicated to providing comprehensive basic, translational, and clinical oncology research. The journal is devoted to articles on detection, diagnosis, prevention, policy, and treatment of cancer and provides a global forum for the nurturing and development of future generations of oncology scientists. Cancer Treatment and Research Communications publishes comprehensive reviews and original studies describing various aspects of basic through clinical research of all tumor types. The journal also accepts clinical studies in oncology, with an emphasis on prospective early phase clinical trials.

Specific areas of interest include basic, translational, and clinical research and mechanistic approaches; cancer biology; molecular carcinogenesis; genetics and genomics; stem cell and developmental biology; immunology; molecular and cellular oncology; systems biology; drug sensitivity and resistance; gene and antisense therapy; pathology, markers, and prognostic indicators; chemoprevention strategies; multimodality therapy; cancer policy; and integration of various approaches. Our mission is to be the premier source of relevant information through promoting excellence in research and facilitating the timely translation of that science to health care and clinical practice.

PubMed/Medline

Associate Editors
Neeraj Agarwal, Huntsman Cancer Institute, Salt Lake City, Utah, United States
Mili Arora, University of California Davis Medical Center, Davis, California, United States
Afsaneh Barzi, University Of Southern California, Pasadena, California, United States
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Your Paper Your Way
We now differentiate between the requirements for new and revised submissions. You may choose to submit your manuscript as a single Word or PDF file to be used in the refereeing process. Only when your paper is at the revision stage, will you be requested to put your paper in to a 'correct format' for acceptance and provide the items required for the publication of your article. To find out more, please visit the Preparation section below.

INTRODUCTION

Cancer Treatment and Research Communications is an international peer-reviewed publication dedicated to providing comprehensive basic, translational, and clinical oncology research. The journal provides a global forum for nurturing and development of future generations of oncology scientists, and the dissemination of knowledge related to the research and treatment of cancer. Cancer Treatment and Research Communications publishes comprehensive reviews, original studies, and case reports describing various aspects of basic through clinical research of all tumor types and is devoted to articles on detection, diagnosis, prevention, policy, and treatment of cancer.

Specific areas of interest include basic, translational, and clinical research and mechanistic approaches; cancer biology; molecular carcinogenesis; genetics and genomics; stem cell and developmental biology; immunology; molecular and cellular oncology; systems biology; drug sensitivity and resistance; gene and antisense therapy; pathology, markers, and prognostic indicators; chemoprevention strategies; multimodality therapy; cancer policy; and integration of various approaches. Our mission is to be the premier source of relevant information through promoting excellence in research and facilitating the timely translation of that science to health care and clinical practice.

Types of paper

**Review Article:** Review articles collate, describe, and evaluate prior publications of important basic, translational and clinical subjects, accompanied by critical analysis leading to rational conclusions. These Reviews should contain very little, if any, original data from an author's own study; however, such data can be used to support the overall thesis of the article. We also accept targeted mini-reviews that cover specific topics or therapies.

**Mechanics:** Reviews articles should contain a short abstract stating the goal of the review, an introduction, discussion, and conclusion. We recommend that Review articles contain 2000-10,000 words, ≤ 7 figures and/or tables, and 50-120 references.

**Original Article:** Original Studies articles present results of original basic, clinical and/or translational (basic research with clinical applications) research. This article focuses on new data collected by the author(s) during the course of a clinical or preclinical trial, although other studies may be cited for support. The Original Study should contain the following sections: Title Page, Structured Abstract, Introduction, Patients (or Materials) and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusion.

**Mechanics:** Original Studies should contain a MicroAbstract and a structured abstract with the following sections: Background (or Purpose), Patients (or Materials) and Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusion. Original Studies should also contain a short clinical practice points section after the conclusion of the manuscript. We recommend that Original Studies contain 2000-8000 words, ≤ 7 figures and/or tables, and 30-60 references.

**Case Reports:** Case Reports of educational value may describe a single case or a small series of cases. All Case Reports should include a review of the literature to be considered for publication. Case Reports should draw attention to important clinical situations, unusual clinical phenomena, new treatment protocols, or new complications in a single patient or in a small number of patients. Case reports may also cover novel diagnostic imaging techniques, eg, MRI, CT, PET, SPECT. Modalities for diagnostic purposes, on outcome according to the pathologic grade or to monitor distant lesions, are of interest to the readership.
Mechanics: Case Reports should contain the following sections: Title Page, Clinical Practice Points, Introduction, Discussion, and Conclusion. We recommend that Case Reports contain 500-1500 words, 1-2 figures and/or tables, and 15-30 references. Imaging articles dealing with individual cases contain 500-1500 and that case series contain 2000-3000 words, 3-5 figures and/or tables, and 30-45 references.

Correspondence: Correspondence also known as short communications or commentaries focus on clinical topics that are novel or controversial and require rapid dissemination. These articles may also highlight treatment options, protocols, and/or novel case treatments. Authors who wish to submit an unsolicited Commentary should send a brief abstract to the Editor-in-Chief prior to submission in order to receive approval.

Mechanics: Commentaries should contain the following sections: Title Page, Introduction, Discussion, and Conclusion. We recommend Commentaries contain 1000-2000 words, 1-2 figures and/or tables, and 15-30 references.

Letters to the Editor: Letters to the Editor should focus on articles published within the journal during the last 12 months. These letters should be timely and seek to engage the authors of the original article in discussion. The authors of the original article will be asked to respond to a Letter to the Editor, commenting on their article. The Letter to the Editor and the Reply to the Letter to the Editor will be published together.

Mechanics: We recommend that letters contain 500-1000 words, and they may contain 1-2 figures and/or tables and 5-15 references.

Other Items: The journal also publishes highlights/reports of scientific meetings and book reviews. Please contact the editorial office for further information.

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)
- Relevant declarations of interest have been made
- Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
- Minimum of 3 suggested reviewers, with institutional affiliations, and email addresses

For further information, visit our Support Center.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN
**Ethics in publishing**
Please see our information pages on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication.

**Studies in humans and animals**
If the work involves the use of human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans. 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.

Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

All animal experiments should comply with the ARRIVE guidelines 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.

**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-blind) or the manuscript file (if single-blind). If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'. This summary statement will be ultimately published if the article is accepted. 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.

At the end of the text, under a subheading 'Conflict of interest statement', all authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organisations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential conflicts of interest include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding.

**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 originality, your article may be checked by the originality detection service Crossref Similarity Check.

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. Articles should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader, should contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of race, sex, culture or any other characteristic, and should use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, for instance by using 'he or she', 'his/her' instead of 'he' or 'his', and by making use of job titles that are free of stereotyping (e.g. 'chairperson' instead of 'chairman' and 'flight attendant' instead of 'stewardess').
**Author contributions**

For transparency, we encourage authors to submit an author statement file outlining their individual contributions to the paper using the relevant CRediT roles: Conceptualization; Data curation; Formal analysis; Funding acquisition; Investigation; Methodology; Project administration; Resources; Software; Supervision; Validation; Visualization; Roles/Writing - original draft; Writing - review & editing. Authorship statements should be formatted with the names of authors first and CRediT role(s) following. More details and an example

**Authorship**

All authors should have made substantial contributions to all of the following: (1) the conception and design of the study, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data, (2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content, (3) final approval of the version to be submitted.

**When submitting a paper authors must complete the Authorship form** download from https://www.elsevier.com/__data/promis_misc/authorship_ctrc.pdf. This form confirms that all authors agree to publication if the paper is accepted and allows authors to declare any conflicts of interest, sources of funding and ethical approval (if required). Please download the form and submit it with your paper. Submissions that do not include a completed form will be returned without review.

**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.

**Copyright**

Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete an 'Exclusive License Agreement' (see more information on this). Permitted third party reuse of 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 then this should be stated.

All sources of funding should be declared as an acknowledgement at the end of the text. Authors should declare the role of study sponsors, if any, in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the manuscript; and in the decision to submit the manuscript for publication. If the study sponsors had no such involvement, the authors should so state.

Funding body agreements and policies

Elsevier has established a number of agreements with funding bodies which allow authors to comply with their funder's open access policies. Some funding bodies will reimburse the author for the gold open access publication fee. Details of existing agreements are available online.
Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND)
For non-commercial purposes, let 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.

The gold open access publication fee for this journal is USD 650, excluding taxes. Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy: https://www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing.

From January 2020 Cancer Treatment and Research Communications will become an open access journal. After the 1st of October 2019, this fee will be USD 1500, excluding taxes, and will be requested for all accepted papers.

PLEASE READ: IMPORTANT CHANGES From January 2020 Cancer Treatment and Research Communications will become an open access journal. Authors who publish in Cancer Treatment and Research Communications will be able make their work immediately, permanently, and freely accessible. Cancer Treatment and Research Communications authors will pay an article publishing charge (APC), have a choice of license options, and retain copyright to their published work.

Cancer Treatment and Research Communications continues with the same aims and scope, editorial team, submission system and rigorous peer review.

Please note: Authors who have submitted papers before the 1st of October 2019 will have their accepted paper published in Cancer Treatment and Research Communications at no charge. Authors submitting papers after this date will be requested to pay the APC.

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.

Informed consent and patient details
Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper. Appropriate consents, permissions and releases must be obtained where an author wishes to include case details or other personal information or images of patients and any other individuals in an Elsevier publication. Written consents must be retained by the author but copies should not be provided to the journal. Only if specifically requested by the journal in exceptional circumstances (for example if a legal issue arises) the author must provide copies of the consents or evidence that such consents have been obtained. For more information, please review the Elsevier Policy on the Use of Images or Personal Information of Patients or other Individuals. Unless you have written permission from the patient (or, where applicable, the next of kin), the personal details of any patient included in any part of the article and in any supplementary materials (including all illustrations and videos) must be removed before submission.

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.
Online Submission of Manuscripts
Submission and peer review of all papers is conducted entirely online, increasing efficiency for editors, authors, and reviewers, and enhancing publication speed. Authors requesting further information on online submission are strongly encouraged to view the system, including a tutorial, at https://www.editorialmanager.com/ctc/default.aspx. For any additional enquiries please visit our Support Center.

You may also provide the names and contact addresses (including e-mail) of two potential reviewers that have not been involved with the case and are not co-workers. These may or may not be used at the Editor's discretion.

'Uniform Requirements
These guidelines generally follow the 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals,' published by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE). The complete document appears at http://www.icmje.org.

Submit your article

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 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.

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. The corresponding caption should be placed directly below the figure or table.

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). 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
In general, articles should conform to the conventional structure of Abstract, Introduction, Presentation of Case, Discussion, Conclusion, Consent, Conflict of Interest Statement and References plus figures and/or tables.

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

**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.

**Title page**
Your title page, numbered as 1, should give the title in capital letters (not exceeding 100 letters), a running title (not exceeding 50 letters) and the authors names (as they are to appear), affiliations and complete addresses, including postal (zip) codes. The author and address to whom correspondence should be sent must be clearly indicated. Please supply telephone, fax and e-mail numbers for the corresponding author.

**Highlights**
Highlights are optional yet highly encouraged for this journal, as they increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (if any). Please have a look at the examples here: example Highlights.

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**
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.

The abstracts should be structured as follows:

Introduction, Presentation of Case, Discussion, Conclusion.

The section headings should be in upper case followed by a colon and a space.

**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.).

All contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship as defined above should be listed in an acknowledgements section. Examples of those who might be acknowledged include a person who provided purely technical help, writing assistance, or a department chair who provided only general support. Authors should disclose whether they had any writing assistance and identify the entity that paid for this assistance.

**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, please 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.

**Units and Abbreviations**

**Footnotes**
Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors 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.

**Artwork**
Figures of good quality should be submitted online as separate files. For detailed instructions on the preparation of electronic artwork, consult the Artwork Instructions to Authors: [https://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions](https://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions). Permission to reproduce illustrations should always be obtained before submission and details included with the captions. To help authors submit high-quality artwork early in the process, the Artwork Quality Control Tool automatically checks the submitted artwork and other file types when they are first uploaded against the artwork requirements outlined in the Artwork Instructions to Authors. Each figure/file is checked only once, so further along in the process only new uploaded files will be checked.

**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.

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.

**Illustration services**
Elsevier's Author Services offers Illustration Services to authors preparing to submit a manuscript but
concerned about the quality of the images accompanying their article. Elsevier's expert illustrators
can produce scientific, technical and medical-style images, as well as a full range of charts, tables
and graphs. Image 'polishing' is also available, where our illustrators take your image(s) and improve
them to a professional standard. Please visit the website to find out more.

**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. Tables
should be submitted online as a separate file, bear a short descriptive title, and be numbered in Arabic
numbers. Tables should be cited in the text.

**Referees**
Each submitted manuscript is required to include at least three suggested reviewers, with affiliations,
and email addresses. Authors should consider carefully their suggested reviewers. Suggested
reviewers should not have a conflict of interest for the submitted manuscript, nor have substantial ties
to the authors of the manuscript. Email addresses must be from the suggested reviewer's institutional
affiliation, not a non-specific, generic email address. Suggested reviewers should have expertise in
the subject matter of the submitted manuscript. 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.

**References**

**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.
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.

Users of Mendeley Desktop can easily install the reference style for this journal by clicking the following link:
http://open.mendeley.com/use-citation-style/cancer-treatment-communications

When preparing your manuscript, you will then be able to select this style using the Mendeley plug-ins for Microsoft Word or LibreOffice.

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: 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:
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:

References

Manuscripts should use the Vancouver style for references, which should be numbered consecutively (using superscript numerals) in the order in which they are first cited in the text and listed at the end of the paper.

For journal references, all authors should be included when there are six or fewer (first three followed by “et al. when seven or more), followed by the title of article, name of journal abbreviated according to Index Medicus (see http://www.nih.nlm.gov), year, volume, and first and last pages. For example:

For book references, the author(s) should be followed by the chapter title (if appropriate), editor(s) (if applicable), book title, place of publication, publisher, year and (if relevant) page numbers. For example:


**Journal abbreviations source**

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

**Research data**

This journal encourages 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. To facilitate reproducibility and data reuse, this journal also encourages you to share your 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. If you are sharing data in one of these ways, you are encouraged 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).

**Mendeley Data**

This journal supports Mendeley Data, enabling you to deposit any research data (including raw and processed data, video, code, software, algorithms, protocols, and methods) associated with your manuscript in a free-to-use, open access repository. During the submission process, after uploading your manuscript, you will have the opportunity to upload your relevant datasets directly to Mendeley Data. The datasets will be listed and directly accessible to readers next to your published article online.

For more information, visit the Mendeley Data for journals page.

**Data statement**

To foster transparency, we encourage you to state the availability of your data in your submission. This may be a requirement of your funding body or institution. If your data is unavailable to access or unsuitable to post, you will have the opportunity to indicate why during the submission process, for example by stating that the research data is confidential. The statement will appear with your published article on ScienceDirect. For more information, visit the Data Statement page.

**AFTER ACCEPTANCE**

One set of page proofs in PDF format will be sent by e-mail to the corresponding author, which they are requested to correct and return within 48 hours. Elsevier sends PDF proofs that can be annotated; for this you will need to download Adobe Reader version 7 available free from
http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html. Instructions on how to annotate PDF files will accompany the proofs. The exact system requirements are given at the Adobe website: http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/acrrsystemreqs.html#70win

If you do not wish to use the PDF annotations function, you may list the corrections (including replies to the Query Form) 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. Therefore, it is important to ensure that all of your 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.

**Reviewing Articles**

For manuscripts that are accepted for publication, all of the authors and co-authors are expected to review at least two manuscripts over the two years following publication. The publication process for each submitted manuscript requires external peer-review, with significant time, effort, and input from its voluntary reviewers. Therefore, it is appropriate that those authors who have benefited from the peer process should, in turn, be willing to peer-review other authors' manuscripts.

**Online proof correction**

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 be notified and receive a link to the published version of the open access article on ScienceDirect. This link is in the form of an article DOI link which can be shared via email and social networks. For an extra charge, 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 Author Services.

**AUTHOR INQUIRIES**

Visit the Elsevier Support Center 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