DESCRIPTION

Gait & Posture is a vehicle for the publication of up-to-date basic and clinical research on all aspects of locomotion and balance.

The topics covered include: Techniques for the measurement of gait and posture, and the standardization of results presentation; Studies of normal and pathological gait; Treatment of gait and postural abnormalities; Biomechanical and theoretical approaches to gait and posture; Mathematical models of joint and muscle mechanics; Neurological and musculoskeletal function in gait and posture; The evolution of upright posture and bipedal locomotion; Adaptations of carrying loads, walking on uneven surfaces, climbing stairs etc; spinal biomechanics only if they are directly related to gait and/or posture and are of general interest to our readers; The effect of aging and development on gait and posture; Psychological and cultural aspects of gait; Patient education.

Index bound in last issue of year.

For details of the GCMAS, ESMAC, SIAMOC, ISPGR please visit their web sites through these links.

AUDIENCE

Orthopaedic surgeons, neurologists, rheumatologists, podiatrists/chiropodists, physiatrists, physical and occupational therapists, research professionals, psychologists, physiologists, bioengineers, kinesiologists, ergonomists and those with an interest in elite performance.

IMPACT FACTOR

2018: 2.414 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2019
ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

OT Bibsys (The Reliable SOURCE)
PubMed/Medline
Embase
Current Contents - Clinical Medicine
Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Development
Scopus

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
T. Dreher, University Hospital Heidelberg Department of Orthopaedics Emergency Surgery and Paraplegia, Switzerland

Emeritus Editor
T. Theologis, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford, United Kingdom

Deputy Editor
J. Stebbins, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre, Oxford, United Kingdom

Associate Editors
M. Aiona, Shriners Hospitals for Children Philadelphia Department of Orthopedic Surgery, 2900 Rocky Point Dr., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, PA 19140, United States
H Böhm, Treatment Center Aschau, 83229, Aschau, Germany
R. Brunner, University Children's Hospital Basel, Neuroorthopaedics, Spitalstrasse 33, 4056, Basel, Switzerland
LS Chou, Iowa State University, Department of Kinesiology, Ames, Iowa, , United States
B. Davidson, University of Denver Department of Mechanical and Materials Engineering, Denver, Colorado, , United States
A. Hatton, The University Of Queensland School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences, Saint Lucia, 4072, Queensland, Australia
A. K. Silverman, Colorado School of Mines Functional Biomechanics Laboratory, 1500 Illinois Street, Golden, Colorado, 80401, United States
T. Wren, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, Children's Orthopaedic Center, 4650 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, California, 90027, United States

Statistical Advisor
R.J. Prescott, The University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, United Kingdom

Editorial Board
G. Alderink, Allendale, United States
J. Allum
F. Asseman, London, United Kingdom
E Brostrom
F Buczek, Washington, United States
J Burns, Sydney, Australia
M. Carpenter
C. Carty, Queensland, Australia
H.G. Chambers, San Diego, CA, USA
R Chong
V. Cimolin
M. Cinelli
J. Davids, Greenville, United States
B. Day, London, United Kingdom
K. Desloover, Leuven, Belgium
V. Dietz, Zurich, Switzerland
J. Duysens, Heverlee, Belgium
G. Earhart, Saint Louis, United States
Y. Ehara, Otawara, Japan
C. Frigo, Milano, Italy
B. Gaina, Newcastle Upon Tyne, United Kingdom
M Gough
K. Graham, Parkville, Australia
J. Hamill, Amherst, United States
J. Harlaar, Amsterdam, Netherlands
G. Harris, Milwaukee, United States
J. Hausdorff
K. Hollands, Liverpool, United Kingdom
M. Hollands, Liverpool, United Kingdom
J. H. Hollman, Rochester, United States
K. Kaufman, Rochester, United States
D. P. LaRoche, Durham, United States
Y. Lajoie
A. Leardini, Bologna, Italy
P. Levinger
S. Lord, Kensington, Australia
S. Lord
B. MacWilliams, Greenville, United States
M. Mancini, Portland, United States
B. McDowell, Belfast, United Kingdom
M. McMulkin, Spokane, United States
B. Mentiplay, Melbourne, Australia
M. Mille, Marseille, Institute of Movement Sciences, Marseille, France
F. Miller, Wilmington, United States
G. Molenears, Leuven, Belgium
A. Nardone, Veruno, Italy
T. Novacheck, Saint Paul, United States
M. Orendurff, Dallas, United States
S. Ounpuu, Hartford, United States
S. Perry, Waterloo, Canada
R. Reed-Jones
J. G. Richards, Newark, United States
D. Robbins, Essex, United Kingdom
A. Roberts, Oswestry, United Kingdom
M. Roerdink, Amsterdam, Netherlands
D. Rosenbaum, Munster, Germany
A. Rozumalski, Saint Paul, United States
J. Salazar-Torres, Belfast, United Kingdom
M. Sangeux, Parkville, Australia
J. Schiffman, Natick, United States
A. Shortland
M. Simoneau, Laval, Canada
R. Soutas-Little, East Lansing, MI, USA
P. Sparto, Pittsburgh, United States
J. Staab, Rochester, United States
B. Stansfield, Glasgow, United Kingdom
C. Stewart, Oswestry, United Kingdom
T. Stoffregen, Minneapolis, USA
S. Stuart
K. Taguchi, Matsumoto, Japan
D. Thewlis, Adelaide, Australia
N. Thompson, Oxford, United Kingdom
V. Weerdesteyn, Nijmegen, Netherlands
S. Wolf, Heidelberg, Germany
W. Zijlstra, Koln, Germany
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

JOURNAL DESCRIPTION
Gait and Posture publishes new and innovative basic and clinical research on all aspects of human movement, locomotion and balance.

The topics covered include: Techniques for the measurement of gait and posture, and the standardization of results presentation; Studies of normal and pathological gait; Treatment of gait and postural abnormalities; Biomechanical and theoretical approaches to gait and posture; Mathematical models of joint and muscle mechanics; Neurological and musculoskeletal function in gait and posture; The evolution of upright posture and bipedal locomotion; Adaptations of carrying loads, walking on uneven surfaces, climbing stairs, running and performing other movements. Spinal biomechanics only if they are directly related to gait and/or posture and are of general interest to our readers; The effect of aging and development on gait and posture; Psychological and cultural aspects of gait; Patient education.

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 3-5 keywords Include a structured abstract (see below for format) 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 pages on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication.

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.

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-hold. 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.

**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.

**Clinical trial results**
In line with the position of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, the journal will not consider results posted in the same clinical trials registry in which primary registration resides to be prior publication if the results posted are presented in the form of a brief structured (less than 500 words) abstract or table. However, divulging results in other circumstances (e.g., investors' meetings) is discouraged and may jeopardise consideration of the manuscript. Authors should fully disclose all posting in registries of results of the same or closely related work.

**Article transfer service**
This journal is part of our Article Transfer Service. This means that if the Editor feels your article is more suitable in one of our other participating journals, then you may be asked to consider transferring the article to one of those. If you agree, your article will be transferred automatically on your behalf with no need to reformat. Please note that your article will be reviewed again 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 an 'Exclusive 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 then this should be stated.

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.

After acceptance, open access papers will be published under a noncommercial license. For authors requiring a commercial CC BY license, you can apply after your manuscript is accepted for publication.

Open access
This journal offers authors a choice in publishing their research:

Subscription
• Articles are made available to subscribers as well as developing countries and patient groups through our universal access programs.
• No open access publication fee payable by authors.
• The Author is entitled to post the accepted manuscript in their institution's repository and make this public after an embargo period (known as green Open Access). The published journal article cannot be shared publicly, for example on ResearchGate or Academia.edu, to ensure the sustainability of peer-reviewed research in journal publications. The embargo period for this journal can be found below.

Gold open access
• Articles are freely available to both subscribers and the wider public with permitted reuse.
• A gold open access publication fee is payable by authors or on their behalf, e.g. by their research funder or institution.

Regardless of how you choose to publish your article, the journal will apply the same peer review criteria and acceptance standards.

For gold open access articles, permitted third party (re)use is defined by the following Creative Commons user licenses:
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 3500, excluding taxes. Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy: https://www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing.

Green open access
Authors can share their research in a variety of different ways and Elsevier has a number of green open access options available. We recommend authors see our open access page for further information. Authors can also self-archive their manuscripts immediately and enable public access from their institution's repository after an embargo period. This is the version that has been accepted for publication and which typically includes author-incorporated changes suggested during submission, peer review and in editor-author communications. Embargo period: For subscription articles, an appropriate amount of time is needed for journals to deliver value to subscribing customers before an article becomes freely available to the public. This is the embargo period and it begins from the date the article is formally published online in its final and fully citable form. Find out more.

This journal has an embargo period of 12 months.

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.

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.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/GAIPOS.

PREPARATION

Peer review
This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of 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. More information on types of peer review.

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

1. Article types accepted are: Original Article (Full Paper or Short Communication), Review Article, Book Review. Word limits are as follows: Full Paper 3,000 words plus no more than 6 figures/tables in total; Short Communication 1,200 words plus no more than 3 figures/tables in total. The recommended word limit for Review Papers is 6,000 words. The word limits are non-inclusive of figures, tables, references, and abstracts. If the Editor feels that a paper submitted as a Full Paper would be more appropriate for the Short Communications section, then a shortened version will be requested. References should be limited to 30 for Full Papers; and 15 for Short Papers; there is no limit for review articles. A structured abstract of no more than 300 words should appear at the beginning of each Article. Authors must state the number of words when submitting.
Short Communications are intended to introduce new techniques that improve the analysis and evaluation of human movement. This article type is not for preliminary or case studies, and such submissions will be rejected without review. Authors submitting a Short Communication should justify why it is a Short Communication rather than a Full Paper in their cover letter. Gait and Posture does not accept case reports.

All papers should contribute to improved understanding of human movement, particularly in clinical populations, and must therefore include a statement of significance in both the structured abstract and the main text. The contribution may be methodological; however Articles that simply validate existing methods or technologies are discouraged. Validation of methodology should instead be included within a larger study in which the methodology is used to answer a clinically relevant question.

2. All publications will be in English. Authors whose 'first' language is not English should arrange for their manuscripts to be written in idiomatic English before submission. A concise style avoiding jargon is preferred.

3. Authors should supply up to five keywords that may be modified by the Editors.

4. Authors should include a structured abstract of no more than 300 words including the following headings: Background, Research question, Methods, Results and Significance. The scientific and clinical background should be explained in 1-2 sentences. One clear scientifically relevant question should be derived from the background which represents the principle research question of the paper. This should be framed specifically as a question not simply as a description. The Methods section should summarise the core study methodology including the type of study (prospective/retrospective, intervention etc), procedures, number of participants and statistical methods. The Results section should summarise the study's main findings. The Significance section should place the results into context. Furthermore this section should highlight the clinical and/or scientific importance of the work, answering the question "so what?" This section should not simply repeat the study results or conclusions.

5. Acknowledgements should be included in the title page. Include external sources of support.

6. The text should be ready for setting in type and should be carefully checked for errors. Scripts should be typed double-spaced on one side of the paper only. Please do not underline anything, leave wide margins and number every sheet.

7. All illustrations should accompany the typescript, but not be inserted in the text. Refer to photographs, charts, and diagrams as 'figures' and number consecutively in order of appearance in the text. Substantive captions for each figure explaining the major point or points should be typed on a separate sheet.

8. Tables should be presented on separate sheets of paper and labelled consecutively but the captions should accompany the tables.

9. Authors should also note that files containing text, figures, tables or multimedia data can be placed in a supplementary data file which will be accessible via ScienceDirect (see later section for further details).

What information to include with the manuscript

Having read the criteria for submissions, authors should specify in their letter of transmittal whether they are submitting their work as an Original Article (Full Paper or Short Communication), Review Article, or Book Review. Emphasis will be placed upon originality of concept and execution. Only papers not previously published will be accepted. Comments regarding articles published in the Journal are solicited and should be sent as "Letter to the Editor". Such Letters are subject to editorial review. They should be brief and succinct. When a published article is subjected to comment or criticism, the authors of that article will be invited to write a letter or reply.

A letter of transmittal must include the statement, “Each of the authors has read and concurs with the content in the final manuscript. The material within has not been and will not be submitted for publication elsewhere except as an abstract.” The letter of transmittal must be from all co-authors.
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.

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.

Work on human beings that is submitted to Gait & Posture should comply with the principles laid down in the Declaration of Helsinki; Recommendations guiding physicians in biomedical research involving human subjects. Adopted by the 18th World Medical Assembly, Helsinki, Finland, June 1964, amended by the 29th World Medical Assembly, Tokyo, Japan, October 1975, the 35th World Medical Assembly, Venice, Italy, October 1983, and the 41st World Medical Assembly, Hong Kong, September 1989. The manuscript should contain a statement that the work has been approved by the appropriate ethical committees related to the institution(s) in which it was performed and that subjects gave informed consent to the work. Studies involving experiments with animals must state that their care was in accordance with institution guidelines. Patients' and volunteers' names, initials, and hospital numbers should not be used.

All Articles should include a justification of their sample size. While there is no set requirement for minimum sample size, studies considered to have too small a sample size to answer the research question will be rejected.

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.

All sources of funding should be declared as an acknowledgement. Authors should declare the role of study sponsors, if any, in the study design, 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.

Authors are encouraged to suggest referees although the choice is left to the Editors. If you do, please supply their postal address and email address, if known to you.

Please note that papers are subject to single-blind review whereby authors are blinded to reviewers.

**Randomised controlled trials**

All randomised controlled trials submitted for publication in Gait & Posture should include a completed Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials (CONSORT) flow chart. Please refer to the CONSORT statement website at [http://www.consort-statement.org](http://www.consort-statement.org) for more information. The Journal has adopted the proposal from the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) which require, as a condition of consideration for publication of clinical trials, registration in a public trials registry. Trials must register at or before the onset of patient enrolment. The clinical trial registration number should be included at the end of the abstract of the article. For this purpose, a clinical trial is defined as any research project that prospectively assigns human subjects to intervention or comparison groups to study the cause-and-effect relationship between a medical intervention and a health outcome. Studies designed for other purposes, such as to study pharmacokinetics or major toxicity (e.g. phase I trials) would be exempt. Further information can be found at [http://www.icmje.org](http://www.icmje.org).

**Review and Publication Process**

1. You will receive an acknowledgement of receipt of the manuscript by the Editorial Office before the manuscript is sent to referees. Please contact the Editorial Office if you do not receive an acknowledgement.
Following assessment one of the following will happen:

A: The paper will be accepted directly. The corresponding author will be notified of acceptance by e-mail or letter. The Editor will send the accepted paper to Elsevier for publication.

B: The paper will be accepted subject to minor amendments. The corrections should be made and the paper returned to the Editor for checking. Once the paper is accepted it will be sent to production.

C: The paper will be rejected outright as being unsuitable for publication in *Gait and Posture*.

2. By submitting a manuscript, the authors agree that the copyright for their article is transferred to the publisher if and when the article is accepted for publication. ([https://www.elsevier.com/copyright](https://www.elsevier.com/copyright)).

3. Page proofs will be sent to the corresponding author for correction, although at this stage any changes should be restricted to typographical errors. Other than these, any substantial alterations may be charged to the authors. Proofs will be sent preferably by e-mail as a PDF file (although they can be sent by overland post) and must be rapidly checked and returned. Please ensure that all corrections are sent back in one communication. Subsequent corrections will not be possible.

4. An order form for reprints will accompany the proofs.

### 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 lower-case 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.

### 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).

### 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.

### 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.

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 printed 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 & 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;
- Supply more than 6 figures per manuscript.

References
All author names should be listed unless there are more than 6 authors, in which case the first 6 names should be listed followed by et al.

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.
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:

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.

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

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, at no cost, receive a customized Share Link providing 50 days free access to the final published version of the article on ScienceDirect. 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. Both corresponding and co-authors may order offprints at any time via Elsevier's Author Services. 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 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