DESCRIPTION

At a time when many journals have cut back on the publication of case reports, Human Pathology: Case Reports is an Open Access online journal devoted solely to the publication of quality case reports, which involve all aspects of pathology, regardless of the system affected. The journal welcomes case reports and images in pathology submissions covering the spectrum of pathology including, but not limited to, neoplasms, inflammatory diseases, immune mediated diseases, iatrogenic diseases, and exceptional and unexpected changes related to prosthetic devices. Submissions should report on:

1) An entity that is rare, the first of its kind, or a variant of a known entity; or

2) Present a classic example of a lesion which is not infrequently seen in clinical practice, but has not been published on in the recent literature; or

3) Present a case where new diagnostic modalities, such as immunohistochemistry, make a diagnosis more definitive or molecular studies give additional insights into the etiology or prognosis.

All cases published will be original, of high quality and will use accepted criteria for the diagnosis. All case reports and images in pathology submitted are peer reviewed and if accepted for publication, authors are notified of the decision and requested to pay an Article Processing Fee. Following payment of this fee, the article is made universally available to all on ScienceDirect.

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
EMBASE
Scopus

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
Jagdish W. Butany, MBBS, MS, FRCPC, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Associate Editors
Rick Hegele, MD, FRCPC, PhD, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Vidhya Nair, MBBS, MD, FRCPC, McMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada

Editorial Board

Nadya Al-Faraidy, MD, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Khaidoon Aljerian, MD, Dar Al Uloom University, Saudi Arabia
Jaudah Al-Maghrabi, MD, King Abdulaziz University, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
Negar Azarpira, MD, Shiraz University of Medical Sciences, Shiraz, Iran
Manjit Singh Bain, MBBS, MD, FICP, PMES-I, Rajindra Hospital Patiala, India
Peewee Barnes, MD, FRCP(C), Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Debdatta Basu, MD, Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research, Pondicherry, India
Vinay K Batra, Govind Ballabh Pant Hospital, New Delhi, India
Shivayogi Bhusnurmath, MBBS, MD, FRCP, St. George’s University, Grenada, Grenada
Magdalena Bogdańska, MD, University of Warmia and Mazury, Olsztyn, Poland
Geeta Chaco, MD, PhD, Christian Medical College, Vellore, India
Runjan Chetty, MB BCH, FFPath, FRCP, FRCPA, FRCP (C), PhD, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Annie Cheung, MBBS, MD, PhD, FRCP, FHKPath, FIAC, FHKAM, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, China
Sidney E. Croul, MD, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada
Amit Dinda, MD, PhD, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India
Michelle Downes, MB, BCH, BAO, MRCSI, FRCP, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Ravindra Fernando, MD, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka
Jason Ford, MD, FRCP, Sidra Medical & Research Center, Qatar
Lili–Nazz Hazrati, PhD, MD, FRCP, Paediatric Laboratory Medicine, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Mina Jamali, MD, Sunnybrook Health Science Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Nirmala Jambhekar, MD, DCP, MD, FCRPath, Imperial College London, London, England, UK
R. K. Saran, MD, G.B. Pant Hospital, New Delhi, India
Puja Sakhuja, MD, G.B. Pant Hospital, New Delhi, India
Chitra Sarkar, FASc, FNASc, FICP, All Indian Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, India
Farshid Siadat, MD, Alberta Health Services, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
Fei Sun, MD, United Family Healthcare, Beijing, China
Puay Hoon Tan, MBBS, FRCPA, FAMS, MD, FRCP, MIAC, National University of Singapore, Singapore
Emina Torlakovic, MD, PhD, Toronto General Hospital (TGH), Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Martin Trotter, MD, PhD, FRCP, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Gary M.K. Tse, MBBS (HK), FRCP, FCAP, Dip Am Bd AP, MIAC, Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shatin, N.T., Hong Kong
Francisco Vega, MD, PhD, University of Miami, Miami, Florida, USA
Roberto Verna, MD, PhD, Sapienza University, Rome, Italy
David Wilkinson, MD, PhD, Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), Richmond, Virginia, USA

Managing Editor

M. Skarban, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Social Media Editor
Nicole D. Riddle, MD, FCAP, Ruffolo, Hooper and Associates / University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida
Introduction
At a time when many journals have cut back on the publication of case reports, Human Pathology: Case Reports is an Open Access online journal devoted solely to the publication of quality case reports, which involve all aspects of pathology, regardless of the system affected. The journal welcomes case report submissions and "Images in Pathology" submissions covering the spectrum of pathology including, but not limited to, neoplasms, inflammatory diseases, immune mediated diseases, iatrogenic diseases, and exceptional and unexpected changes related to prosthetic devices. All case reports published will be original, of high quality and will use accepted criteria for the diagnosis.

Types of articles
The principal form of publications are Case Reports

The journal also accepts Images in Pathology: Images are pictures (gross and/or microscopic) that illustrate a key clinical finding(s) that can be presented in the form of a question. The images do not have to be unusual, but should be unique and should convey a diagnosis or important message. Text should be no more than 800 words with a maximum of four references.

The accompanying text should include: one paragraph of clinical information and one paragraph of description of the pathology and discussion, with a maximum of 2 references. The text should describe a clinical scenario and question relating to the image, along with a carefully crafted discussion and answer in the second paragraph. A conclusion is needed at the end of the second paragraph. The aim of the questions and answer should be to educate or to remind readers of a classical morphological finding or the answer to a diagnostic dilemma or demonstrate an important clinical correlation or event.

We recommend that all photographic images be saved in .jpeg or tiff format and the resolution be greater than 300 dpi. A maximum of 4 high quality images may be submitted and these can include appropriate still images from diagnostic imaging. An appropriate scanned histological slide may also be submitted.

Guidelines:
Authors: A maximum of Four
Abstract: Not required
Word limit: Maximum of 800 words (including references and legends)
Structure of manuscript: Case Report, Discussion, Conclusion
Tables: None
Figures: 4 or less
References: Up to 4

Contact details for submission
General enquiries prior to submission should be directed to:
Melissa Skarban
Managing Editor
melissa.skarban@uhn.ca

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

Conflict of Interest
All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Any relevant conflict of interest should be disclosed in the Author Declaration form and in the Acknowledgments and Disclosures section of the manuscript. Examples of potential conflicts of interest include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. If there are no conflicts of interest then please state this: 'Conflicts of interest: none More information

A conflict of interest file is mandatory for this journal and the file needs to be uploaded with other submission files. Please also include the conflict of interest statement within the manuscript above the reference section. If there are no conflicts of interest then please state this: "Conflict of interest: None"
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').

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. Funding sources and their roles should be disclosed in the Author Declaration form and in the Acknowledgments and Disclosures section of the manuscript.

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 Phone numbers
All necessary files have been uploaded, and contain: Keywords All figure captions All tables (including title, description, footnotes) Author Declaration (find template in the form bank: https://www.journals.elsevier.com/human-pathology-case-reports/announcements/formbank signed and dated by all authors
All disclosure statements have been included: Conflict of interest statement (in the Author Declaration file and in the Acknowledgments and Disclosures section of the manuscript) Statement on the order of authors and authorship eligibility (in the Author Declaration file and in the Acknowledgments and Disclosures section of the manuscript) Funding source disclosure (in the Author Declaration file and in the Acknowledgments and Disclosures section of the manuscript) Patient consent statement in the manuscript text Institutional Review Board approval statement in the manuscript text Article Processing Charge acknowledgement in EVISE Open Access acknowledgement in EVISE Funding disclosure in EVISE Authorship statement in EVISE
Further considerations Manuscript has been 'spell-checked' and 'grammar-checked' References are in the correct format for this journal 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 Web) For any further information please visit our customer support site at

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 is an open access journal: all articles will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. To provide open access, this journal has an open access fee (also known as an article publishing charge APC) which needs to be paid by the authors or on their behalf e.g. by their research funder or institution. 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, lets 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 950, excluding taxes. Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy: https://www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing.

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 WebShop.

RESEARCH ETHICS
Studies on patients or volunteers require ethics committee approval and informed consent, which should be documented in the paper. Patient Consent to Publication Please include a consent statement in the Patient Consent section of the manuscript. Specify who provided consent (patient or legal guardian) and whether consent was obtained in writing. 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 and copies of the consents or evidence that such consents have been obtained must be provided to Elsevier on request. For more information, please review the Elsevier Policy on the Use of Images or Personal Information of Patients or other Individuals, https://www.elsevier.com/patient-consent-policy. 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.

**Submit your article**

Please submit your article via [https://www.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/HPCR](https://www.evise.com/profile/api/navigate/HPCR).

**PREPARATION**

**Peer review**

This journal operates a double blind review process. All contributions are 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](#).

**Double-blind review**

This journal uses double-blind review, which means the identities of the authors are concealed from the reviewers, and vice versa. [More information](#) is available on our website. To facilitate this, please include the following separately:

**Title page (with author details):** This should include the title, authors' names, affiliations, acknowledgements and any Declaration of Interest statement, and a complete address for the corresponding author including an e-mail address.

**Blinded manuscript (no author details):** The main body of the paper (including the references, figures, tables and any acknowledgements) should not include any identifying information, such as the authors' names or affiliations.

**Use of word processing software**

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

To avoid unnecessary errors you are strongly advised to use the 'spell-check' and 'grammar-check' functions of your word processor.

**Article structure**

**Introduction**

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

**Material and methods**

Provide sufficient detail to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should be described.

**Theory/calculation**

A Theory section should extend, not repeat, the background to the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a Calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.

**Results**

Results should be clear and concise.
Discussion
This should explore the significance of the results of the work, not repeat them. A combined Results and Discussion section is often appropriate. Avoid extensive citations and discussion of published literature.

Conclusions
The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

Appendices
If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

Essential title page information
- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.
- **Author names and affiliations.** Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lowercase superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.
- **Corresponding author.** Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are kept up to date by the corresponding author.
- **Present/permanent address.** If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a 'Present address' (or 'Permanent address') may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.

Abstract
A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

Graphical abstract
A Graphical abstract is optional and should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership online. Authors must provide images that clearly represent the work described in the article. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. See [https://www.elsevier.com/graphicalabstracts](https://www.elsevier.com/graphicalabstracts) for examples.

Keywords
Authors are invited to submit keywords associated with their paper.

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

Formatting of funding sources
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 published version.
- Submit each illustration as a separate file.

A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available.

**You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.**

**Formats**

If your electronic artwork is created in a Microsoft Office application (Word, PowerPoint, Excel) then please supply 'as is' in the native document format.

Regardless of the application used other than Microsoft Office, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'Save as' or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):

- EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings, embed all used fonts.
- TIFF (or JPEG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones), keep to a minimum of 300 dpi.
- TIFF (or JPEG): Bitmapped (pure black & 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.

**Illustration services**

Elsevier's WebShop 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. Supply captions separately, not attached to the figure. A caption should comprise a brief title (**not** on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

**Tables**

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

**References**
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/human-pathology-case-reports

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

References should be compiled at the end of the article according to the order of citation in the text, not alphabetically. They should be typewritten, double-spaced, under the heading REFERENCES. All reference information must be accurate. Abbreviations for titles of medical periodicals should conform to those used in the latest edition of Index Medicus. Give inclusive page numbers.

Examples of references: Journal article, one author:

Journal article, two or three authors:

Journal article, more than three authors:

Journal article, in press:

Complete book:

Chapter of book:

Paper presented at a meeting:

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.
**Interactive Case Insights**
The journal encourages authors to complement their case reports with test questions that reinforce the key learning points. These author created questions are submitted along with the article (new or revised) and will be made available in ScienceDirect along with your paper. More information and examples are available at [https://www.elsevier.com/about/content-innovation/interactive-case-insights](https://www.elsevier.com/about/content-innovation/interactive-case-insights). Test questions are created online at [http://elsevier-apps.sciverse.com/GadgetICRWeb/verification](http://elsevier-apps.sciverse.com/GadgetICRWeb/verification). Create the test questions, save them as a file to your desktop, and submit along with your (new or revised) manuscript through EES. For questions, please contact icihelp@elsevier.com.

**Submission checklist**
The following list will be useful during the final checking of an article prior to sending it to the journal for review. Please consult this Guide for Authors for further details of any item.

**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
- Phone numbers
All necessary files have been uploaded, and contain:
- Keywords
- All figure captions
- All tables (including title, description, footnotes)
Further considerations:
- Manuscript has been 'spell-checked' and 'grammar-checked'
- References are in the correct format for this journal
- 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 Web)
For any further information please visit our customer support site at [http://support.elsevier.com](http://support.elsevier.com).

**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 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 Webshop. Authors requiring printed copies of multiple articles may use Elsevier Webshop's 'Create Your Own Book' service to collate multiple articles within a single cover.

**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](https://www.elsevier.com)