DESCRIPTION

The Journal of Comparative Pathology is an International, English language, peer-reviewed journal which publishes full length articles, short papers and review articles of high scientific quality on all aspects of the pathology of the diseases of domesticated and other vertebrate animals.

Articles on human diseases are also included if they present features of special interest when viewed against the general background of vertebrate pathology.

AUDIENCE

Research Workers in Veterinary Pathology and all those interested in the pathology of diseases of domesticated and other vertebrate animals.

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Scopus
Embase
PubMed/Medline
Science Citation Index Expanded
AGRICOLA
BIOSIS Previews
Current Contents - Life Sciences
Current Contents - Agriculture, Biology & Environmental Sciences

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
S. Kennedy, Belfast, United Kingdom

Editorial Board
C. Benazzi, Ozzano Dell Emilia, Italy
R. J. Blundell, Neston, United Kingdom
M.P. Dagleish, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
M.T. Fox, Hatfield, United Kingdom
R.P. Kitching, Victoria, BC, Canada
K. Osterrieder, Hong Kong, Hong Kong
V. Perez, Leon, Spain
K.C. Smith, Hertfordshire, United Kingdom
D. Werling, Hertfordshire, United Kingdom
J. A. Wright, Herefordshire, United Kingdom

Proof Reader
P. Beynon, Abergavenny, United Kingdom

Editorial Advisors
C. Acin, Zaragoza, Spain
J. Baily, Stirling, United Kingdom
W. Baumgärtner, Hannover, Germany
J. Benavides, Leon, Spain
P. J. Canfield, Sydney, NSW, Australia
C. Cantile, Pisa, Italy
J.P. Cassidy, Dublin, Ireland
J. Del-Pozo, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
K. Dittmer, Palmerston North, New Zealand
J. Dykstra, Saint Paul, Minnesota, United States of America
R. W. Else, Edinburgh, United Kingdom
G. Foster, Inverness, United Kingdom
M. Garcia Hartmann, Mougins, France
L. González, Huesca, Spain
R. Klopfleisch, Berlin, Germany
G.D. Kommers, SANTA MARIA, Brazil
M. Krockenberger, Sydney, New South Wales, Australia
T. Kuiken, Rotterdam, Netherlands
A. Malbon, Midlothian, United Kingdom
J. Mansell, College Station, TX, United States of America
M. Marcondes, SAO PAULO, Brazil
E. McInnes, Warfield, United Kingdom
H. Nakayama, Tokyo, Japan
M.G. O’Sullivan, Minneapolis, MN, United States of America
G.R. Pearson, Bristol, United Kingdom
A. Pospischil, Zurich, Switzerland
S.L. Priestnall, Hatfield, United Kingdom
A. R. Resendes, Lisboa, Portugal
C. Scudamore, North Mymms, United Kingdom
A. Sukura, HELSINKI, Finland
B. Ytrehus, Uppsala, Sweden
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Notes for Contributors

Scope

The *Journal of Comparative Pathology* exists to publish articles recording research and original scientific findings relevant to the diseases of domesticated and other vertebrate animals. Articles on diseases of man are also appropriate if they present features of special interest when viewed against the general background of vertebrate pathology.

In addition, the Journal may publish Short Papers. These are intended to include reports of small completed investigations, new techniques or case descriptions. They should not have the subdivisions of a full length paper, but should include a brief summary and essential references. They would normally not exceed a word limit of 2,000 and should include no more than four supportive figures (as individual images) or tables. Such submissions should be clearly marked 'Short Paper'. Single case reports will be accepted only if they make a significant contribution to knowledge.

The Journal publishes Review Articles on topics of broad interest from invited authors with acknowledged expertise in their field. Unsolicited Review Articles will be considered, but authors intending to prepare a review should first contact the Editor-in-Chief to discuss their proposal for a review article.

The Journal will publish `Mini Reviews? on topical subjects that fall within the overall scope of the Journal. A Mini Review will summarize in succinct fashion the key points related to (for example) the pathogenesis and pathology of a disease process and provide a `cutting edge? overview of current research and future research directions related to that disease or subject area. Mini Reviews will normally be commissioned by the Editor of the Journal, but unsolicited contributions will be considered and subjected to the normal peer review process.

- A Mini Review will be restricted to a 1,750 to 2,000 word limit (not including abstract and references) and key points may be made by the use of bullet points.
- A Mini Review will be supported by no more than 10 key current references. References must be cited within the text in standard Journal format.
- A Mini Review should be supported by between four to six photographic images (e.g. of gross or microscopical pathology or diagrammatic summaries of key disease mechanisms).
- A Mini Review must have a standard abstract with up to 10 suggested Key Words.
- A Mini Review should follow the general Journal format for title, authors and affiliations, reference and citation style, Acknowledgments and Conflict of Interest Statement as detailed within the Notes for Contributors.

The Journal of Comparative Pathology offers an online 'Pathology Matters' platform for the journal's international community of readers, authors, editors and editorial advisers to comment on topical issues related to veterinary pathology.

Submissions to `Pathology Matters' should comprise substantive, concise and focussed commentary that is clear, compelling and attractive to our international readership of scientists in the veterinary and wider life science disciplines.

Contributions that are well argued and clearly written within the 600-word limit, are more likely to be accepted.

Comment pieces should have a concise and appealing title. Up to five references, preferably as hyperlinks within the text, can be included if necessary. If URLs cannot be provided for references, they can be typed at the end of the piece in the format of the Journal of Comparative Pathology. Authors
should provide a one- or two-sentence biography at the end of the piece to identify themselves. A recent high quality portrait photograph of the lead author may also be submitted to accompany the article, as well as their Twitter handle if desired.

Comment pieces will not normally be subject to peer review but will be published, edited or rejected at the discretion of the Editor. It is a condition of submission that authors accept that contributions to *Pathology Matters* can be edited and published online without the approval of the author.

Please read the journal’s policy on competing interests and add the appropriate statement from this document to your article.

**Page charges**

This journal has no page charges.

**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

*Ethics in publishing*

Please see our information on *Ethics in publishing.*

*Animal experimentation*

Circumstances relating to animal experimentation must meet the International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals as issued by the Council for the International Organizations of Medical Sciences. They are obtainable from: Executive Secretary C.I.O.M.S., c/o WHO, Via Appia, CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland, or at the following URL: http://www.cioms.ch/publications/guidelines/1985_texts_of_guidelines.htm. Such studies must meet Animals in Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments (ARRIVE) guidelines (https://arriveguidelines.org/sites/arrive/files/documents/ARRIVE%20guidelines%202.0%20-%20English.pdf). Unnecessary suffering in animal experimentation is not acceptable to the Editors of the *Journal of Comparative Pathology.* Authors must indicate the nature of ethical approval for a study in the appropriate section of the Materials and Methods of a manuscript.

*Declaration of interest*

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors must disclose any interests in two places: 1. A summary declaration of interest statement in the title page file (if double anonymized) or the manuscript file (if single anonymized). If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'. 2. Detailed disclosures as part of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches. More information.

*Declaration of generative AI in scientific writing*

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

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

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

*Disclosure instructions*

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

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK 9 Jul 2023
Statement: During the preparation of this work the author(s) used [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] in order to [REASON]. After using this tool/service, the author(s) reviewed and edited the content as needed and take(s) full responsibility for the content of the publication.

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

Conditions of Acceptance
The Editorial Board accepts papers on the understanding that they have not been published elsewhere and, if accepted, will not be reprinted in whole or in part without the Board's written approval. The Board reserves the right to reject, on scientific, ethical or other grounds, any manuscript submitted to it. Each person named in the list of authors of a paper must have made a substantial scientific or critical contribution to the work described and have read and approved the version submitted to the Journal.

Papers will be published with the minimum of delay, bearing the dates of receipt and acceptance. The period between receipt of an article and publication depends on the amount of editorial work and correspondence required and the number of articles already awaiting publication. Exceptionally, the Editor may use discretion in determining whether a degree of accelerated publication could be offered.

Use of inclusive language
Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Content should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader; contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition; and use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, stereotypes, slang, reference to dominant culture and/or cultural assumptions. We advise to seek gender neutrality by using plural nouns (“clinicians, patients/clients”) as default/wherever possible to avoid using “he, she,” or “he/she.” We recommend avoiding the use of descriptors that refer to personal attributes such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, disability or health condition unless they are relevant and valid. When coding terminology is used, we recommend to avoid offensive or exclusionary terms such as "master", "slave", "blacklist" and "whitelist". We suggest using alternatives that are more appropriate and (self-) explanatory such as "primary", "secondary", "blocklist" and "allowlist". These guidelines are meant as a point of reference to help identify appropriate language but are by no means exhaustive or definitive.

Author contributions
For transparency, we require corresponding authors to provide co-author contributions to the manuscript using the relevant CRediT roles. The CRediT taxonomy includes 14 different roles describing each contributor’s specific contribution to the scholarly output. The roles are: Conceptualization; Data curation; Formal analysis; Funding acquisition; Investigation; Methodology; Project administration; Resources; Software; Supervision; Validation; Visualization; Roles/Writing - original draft; and Writing - review & editing. Note that not all roles may apply to every manuscript, and authors may have contributed through multiple roles. More details and an example.

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 a 'License Agreement' (more information). Permitted third party reuse of gold open access articles is determined by the author's choice of user license.

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

**Role of the funding source**
You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement, it is recommended to state this.

**Open access (OA)**
This journal offers authors a choice in publishing their research:

**Open Access**
- Articles are freely available to both subscribers and the wider public with permitted reuse
- An open access publication fee is payable by authors or their research funder

Please visit our Open Access page for more information.

**Subscription**
- Articles are made available to subscribers as well as developing countries and patient groups through our access programs
- No open access publication fee

All articles published open access will be immediately and permanently free for everyone to read and download. Permitted reuse is defined by your choice of one of 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.

Elsevier has established agreements with funding bodies, https://www.elsevier.com/fundingbodies. This ensures authors can comply with funding body open access requirements, including specific user licenses, such as CC BY. Some authors may also be reimbursed for associated publication fees. If you need to comply with your funding body policy, you can apply for the CC BY license after your manuscript is accepted for publication.

To provide open access, this journal has a publication fee which needs to be met by the authors or their research funders for each article published open access.

Your publication choice will have no effect on the peer review process or acceptance of submitted articles.

**Language services**
The Journal of Comparative Pathology is published in British and not American English. 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 https://webshop.elsevier.com/language-editing-services/language-editing/ or visit our customer support site https://service.elsevier.com for more information.
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

PREPARATION

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

Reference Style
The 'Vancouver Numbered' reference style should be used in your paper:

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.

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 book:

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:
[3] Mettam GR, Adams LB. How to prepare an electronic version of your article. In: Jones BS, Smith RZ, editors. Introduction to the electronic age. New York: E- Publishing Inc; 1999, p. 281?304. Note shortened form for last page number. e.g., 51-9, and that for more than 6 authors the first 6 should be listed followed by 'et al'. For further details you are referred to 'Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts submitted to Biomedical Journals' (J Am Med Assoc 1997;277:927-34), see also http://www.nlm.nih.gov/tsd/serials/terms_cond.html.

Peer review
This journal operates a single anonymized review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. Editors are not involved in decisions about papers which they have written themselves or have been written by family members or colleagues or which relate to products or services in which the editor has an interest. Any such submission is subject to all of the journal's usual procedures, with peer review handled independently of the relevant editor and their research groups. More information on types of peer review.

Format of Articles
Articles must be concise and unnecessary duplication of data in text, tables and graphs should be avoided. Allusions to published work must be brief and limited to what is necessary to evaluate the findings in the manuscript. Extensive reviews of the literature will not be permitted, except in Review Articles.

To avoid repetition, if a related article by the same authors, or some of them, is being offered to a different journal, a copy of that article must be provided, in confidence, for comparison.

Manuscripts should be word processed. Times New Roman font at 12 pitch should be used, with generous margins and full double spacing throughout. Each line should be numbered by using the line numbering facility within the word processing package.

Papers should normally comprise:
1. An Abstract of the findings presented in the paper and the conclusions drawn from them. Authors may, if they wish, suggest up to 8 Keywords that should follow the Abstract.

2. A brief Introduction stating the purpose of the paper.

3. A concise account of the Materials and Methods used. Authors should note that appropriate positive and negative controls should be performed for all experimental techniques and the nature of these controls should be described with the methodology.

4. A record of the Results. Systeme Internationale (S.I.) units should be used.

5. A Discussion of the significance of the results.

6. Any necessary Acknowledgments for assistance. All contributors who do not meet the criteria for authorship as defined above should be listed in an acknowledgments 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. Finally, the acknowledgments section should include a declaration concerning Funding and any Role of the Funding Source. 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.

7. A 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.

**Graphical Abstracts**
The Journal will publish a 'graphical abstract' in the on-line version of the Table of Contents for each issue of the Journal. Graphical abstracts comprise a single image (that may or may not be one of the figures in a paper) that encapsulates the subject of the paper. The image may be accompanied by a single sentence of text (of no more than 50 words) that describes the key message of the paper. Graphical abstracts will not be published in the print or on-line versions of the actual paper. Graphical abstracts are optional, but where authors would like to include such an abstract the image and proposed sentence must be submitted with a revised manuscript. The sentence may be modified by the Editor-in-Chief.

**Tabulated Material**
Tables require captions and should be self-explanatory. Each column should have a heading that accurately describes all entries beneath.

**Illustrative Material**
All illustrative material must be of high quality. Text figures (i.e., diagrams, charts, graphs), should bear lettering, numbers and symbols large enough to be legible after sizing to the journal pages. The figures will be inserted in the text at appropriate places. Authors should submit composite images electronically. The typesetter will use them as provided. Where the author wishes to draw attention to particular features by means of arrows or lettering, these should be superimposed electronically on the photographs. **No charge will be made for a reasonable number of figures or for the use of colour for photographic illustrations if, in the Editor's opinion, it enhances the presentation of results.** The maximum page area available for blocks is 23 x 16.9 cm. Figures designed to span one or both columns on a page should be 8.2 cm or 16.9 cm wide, respectively.

Legends to all illustrations should be included at the end of the manuscript and, where appropriate, should state the stain, and magnification. The magnification, where appropriate, should be indicated by a bar placed directly on the image with the distance represented typed in sufficiently large font to be legible on the published image.
The following formats can be used to submit figures electronically: EPS; TIFF (minimum resolution of 300 dpi for colour and halftones, 1000 dpi for bitmapped line drawings and 500 dpi for combination halftone/line drawing); DOC/XLS/ (if figures are created in any Microsoft Office application please supply "as is"). For a detailed guide on electronic artwork please visit our website https://www.elsevier.com/artworkinstructions.

**Use of Copyright Material**
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: contact Elsevier's Rights Department, Oxford, UK: phone (+1) 215 239 3804 or +44(0)1865 843830, e-mail healthpermissions@elsevier.com. Requests may also be completed online via https://www.elsevier.com/permissions.

Material in unpublished letters and manuscripts is also protected and must not be published unless permission has been obtained.

**Essential Title Page Information**
- **Title.** Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae.
- **Author names and affiliations.** Where the family name may be ambiguous (e.g., a double name), please indicate this clearly. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a 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.
- **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.
- **Present/permanent address.** If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, the current affiliation of that author may be indicated in the Acknowledgments section of the manuscript.

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

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

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

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

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

**Reference links**
Increased discoverability of research and high quality peer review are ensured by online links to the sources cited. In order to allow us to create links to abstracting and indexing services, such as Scopus, CrossRef and PubMed, please ensure that data provided in the references are correct. Please note that incorrect surnames, journal/book titles, publication year and pagination may prevent link creation. When copying references, please be careful as they may already contain errors. Use of the DOI is highly encouraged.

A DOI is guaranteed never to change, so you can use it as a permanent link to any electronic article. An example of a citation using DOI for an article not yet in an issue is: VanDecar J.C., Russo R.M., James D.E., Ambeh W.B., Franke M. (2003). Aseismic continuation of the Lesser Antilles slab beneath northeastern Venezuela. Journal of Geophysical Research, https://doi.org/10.1029/2001JB000884. Please note the format of such citations should be in the same style as all other references in the paper.
Web references
As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

Data references
This journal encourages you to cite underlying or relevant datasets in your manuscript by citing them in your text and including a data reference in your Reference List. Data references should include the following elements: author name(s), dataset title, data repository, version (where available), year, and global persistent identifier. Add [dataset] immediately before the reference so we can properly identify it as a data reference. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

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

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, which may also include software, code, models, algorithms, protocols, methods and other useful materials related to the project.

Below are a number of ways in which you can associate data with your article or make a statement about the availability of your data when submitting your manuscript. 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).
**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**

**Use of the Digital Object Identifier**
The Digital Object Identifier (DOI) may be used to cite and link to electronic documents. The DOI consists of a unique alpha-numeric character string which is assigned to a document by the publisher on initial electronic publication. The assigned DOI never changes. Therefore, it is an ideal medium for citing a document, particularly 'Articles in press' because they have not yet received their full bibliographic information. Example of a correctly given DOI (in URL format; here an article in the journal *Physics Letters B*): http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.physletb.2010.09.059
When you use a DOI to create links to documents on the web, the DOIs are guaranteed never to change.

**Proofs**
One set of page proofs (as PDF files) will be sent by e-mail to the corresponding author (if we do not have an e-mail address then paper proofs will be sent by post) or a link will be provided in the e-mail so that authors can download the files themselves. To ensure a fast publication process of the article, we kindly ask authors to provide us with their proof corrections within two days. Elsevier now provides authors with PDF proofs which can be annotated; for this you will need to download the free Adobe Reader, version 9 (or higher). Instructions on how to annotate PDF files will accompany the proofs (also given online). The exact system requirements are given at the Adobe site.
If you do not wish to use the PDF annotations function, you may list the corrections (including replies to the Query Form) and return them to Elsevier 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 scan the pages and return via e-mail. 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. 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. 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’s Rights**
As an author you (or your employer or institution) may do the following:

- make copies (print or electronic) of the article for your own personal use, including for your own classroom teaching use
- make copies and distribute such copies (including through e-mail) of the article to research colleagues, for the personal use by such colleagues (but not commercially or systematically, e.g., via an e-mail list or list server)
- post a pre-print version of the article on Internet websites including electronic pre-print servers, and to retain indefinitely such version on such servers or sites
- post a revised personal version of the final text of the article (to reflect changes made in the peer review and editing process) on your personal or institutional website or server, with a link to the journal homepage (on elsevier.com)
• present the article at a meeting or conference and to distribute copies of the article to the delegates attending such a meeting
• for your employer, if the article is a 'work for hire', made within the scope of your employment, your employer may use all or part of the information in the article for other intra-company use (e.g., training)
• retain patent and trademark rights and rights to any processes or procedure described in the article
• include the article in full or in part in a thesis or dissertation (provided that this is not to be published commercially)
• use the article or any part thereof in a printed compilation of your works, such as collected writings or lecture notes (subsequent to publication of your article in the journal)
• prepare other derivative works, to extend the article into book-length form, or to otherwise re-use portions or excerpts in other works, with full acknowledgement of its original publication in the journal

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