TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Description p.1
- Audience p.1
- Abstracting and Indexing p.2
- Editorial Board p.2
- Guide for Authors p.9

DESCRIPTION

The Journal of Controlled Release (JCR) publishes high-quality research articles in the broad field of delivery science and technology. This includes drug delivery systems and all aspects of formulations, such as physicochemical and biological properties of drugs, design and characterization of dosage forms, release mechanisms, in vivo testing, and formulation research and development in the disciplines of pharmaceutical, diagnostic, agricultural, environmental, cosmetic, and food industries. Manuscripts that advance fundamental understanding of principles and/or demonstrate advantages of novel technologies in safety and efficacy over current clinical standards will be given priority. Each issue has the cover story highlighting the significance of a selected article published in the issue.

Benefits to authors
We also provide many author benefits, such as free PDFs, a liberal copyright policy, special discounts on Elsevier publications and much more. Please click here for more information on our author services.

Please see our Guide for Authors for information on article submission. If you require any further information or help, please visit our Support Center.

AUDIENCE

Investigators involved in pharmacy, biomaterials, chemistry, polymer chemistry, several specializations in medicine, agricultural sciences, pharmaceutics, chemical technology and mechanical engineering.
ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

CAB International
Chemical Abstracts
Current Contents - Life Sciences
Embase
International Pharmaceutical Abstracts
Polymer Contents
Science Citation Index
PubMed/Medline
BIOSIS Citation Index
Scopus

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
Stefaan De Smedt, Ghent University Laboratory of General Biochemistry and Physical Pharmacy, Gent, Belgium
Advanced drug delivery, nanomedicines, nucleic acids

Deputy Editors-in-Chief
Yoon Yeo, Purdue University, Department of Industrial and Physical Pharmacy, West Lafayette, Indiana, United States of America
Research Expertise, Nanoparticle-based drug/gene carriers, drug delivery for cancer immunotherapy and inflammatory/infectious diseases, nanoparticle surface modification, functional biomaterials, in vitro evaluation of drug delivery systems (with a vision to expand to IVIVC of complex parenteral dosage forms)
Yu-Kyoung Oh, Seoul National University Nano Biodrug Delivery Lab, Seoul, South Korea

Associate Editors
Ana Beloqui, Catholic University of Louvain Louvain Drug Research Institute, Brussels, Belgium
Oral drug delivery, biologics, lipid-based formulations, nanoparticles, type 2 diabetes mellitus, NAFLD, inflammatory bowel diseases
Paolo Caliceti, University of Padua, Department of Pharmacy Science, Padova, Italy
Advanced drug delivery, Smart colloidal systems, Active and passive targeting, Bioconjugates, Stimuli sensitive systems
Yunching (Becky) Chen, National Tsing Hua University Institute of Biomedical Engineering, Hsinchu, Taiwan
Honggang Cui, Dept. of Materials Science and Engineering, Whiting School of Engineering, Dept. of Oncology and The Sidney Kimmel Comprehensive Cancer Center Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, The Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America
Prodrugs, bioconjugates, peptide therapeutics, hydrogels, supramolecular biomaterials, self-assembling biomaterials, peptide-based biomaterials, nanoparticle synthesis, nanomedicines, local delivery, HIV.
Laura Ensign, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland, United States of America
Drug delivery, nanotechnology
Jong Oh Kim, Yeungnam University College of Pharmacy, Gyeongsan, South Korea
Research Expertise: Combination, chemotherapy, immuno-phootherapy, on-demand, hybrid nanoparticle, solubilization
Kanjiro Miyata, The University of Tokyo Graduate School of Engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Department of Materials Engineering, Bunkyo-Ku, Japan
Biomaterials, Nanomedicines, Polymer self-assemblies, Nucleic acid delivery
Dan Peer, Tel Aviv University The Shumis School of Biomedicine and Cancer Research, Tel Aviv, Israel
Lipid nanoparticles, selective targeting to subsets of cells, RNA Therapeutics, Liposomes, mAbs
Amirali Popat, The University of Queensland School of Pharmacy, Woolloongabba, Queensland, Australia
Nanomedicine, Controlled Drug Delivery, Oral Drug Delivery, Peptides and protein delivery, 3D printing, biological barriers, Colonic Delivery, pH responsive materials, Nanomaterials
Xun Sun, West China School of Pharmacy, Key Laboratory of Drug Targeting and Drug Delivery System, Sichuan University, Chengdu, China
Research Expertise: Vaccine delivery, nucleic acid delivery, Transdermal delivery, Mucosal delivery, Immunomodulatory, Exosome
Associate Editors, Invited Reviews & Invited Contributions

Twan Lammers, RWTH Aachen University Medical Faculty, Aachen, Germany
Nanomedicine, Drug Targeting, Imaging, Inflammation, Fibrosis, Immunotherapy, Biomarkers, Cancer, Liver Disease, Kidney Disease

Zhiyuan Zhong, Soochow University, Suzhou, China
Biomedical Polymers, Nanomedicines, Pharmaceutics, Targeted Delivery, Cancer Therapy

Associate Editor, Special Issues

Raymond Schiffelers, University Medical Centre Utrecht Laboratory of Clinical Chemistry and Haematology, Utrecht, Netherlands
Nucleic acid therapeutics, Lipid nanoparticles, Liposomes, Biologics, Drug targeting

Associate Editor, Perspectives

Randy Mrsny, University of Bath, Department of Life Sciences, Bath, United Kingdom
Variety of aspects of epithelial cell structure/function in health and disease

Assistant Editors

Davide Brambilla, University of Montreal Pharmaceutical Nanotechnology Laboratory, Montréal, Quebec, Canada
Nanomedicine, Microneedles, Diagnostic devices, Biotechnology

Daishun Ling, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Shanghai, China
Biomedical Polymers, Nanomedicines, Pharmaceutics, Targeted Delivery, Cancer Therapy

Assistant Editors, Invited Reviews & Invited Contributions

Yang Shi, RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany
Pharmaceutics, biomaterials, polymers, cancer, immunotherapy, chemotherapy

Lichen Yin, Soochow University Institute of Functional Nano and Soft Materials, Suzhou, China
Pharmaceutics, biomaterials, polymers, cancer, immunotherapy, chemotherapy

Editorial Board

Kirsty Ainslie, UNC/NCSU Joint, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Raleigh, North Carolina, United States of America

Hidetaka Akita, Tohoku University Graduate School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Sendai, Japan
Antisense, Biodegradable polymers, Biomaterials, Cationic lipids, Controlled delivery, Controlled release, DNA/oligonucleotide delivery, Gene delivery, Gene therapy, In situ hybridization, Intracellular trafficking, siRNA,

Khuloud Al-Jamal, King's College London Institute of Pharmaceutical Science, London, United Kingdom
Cancer immunotherapy, Brain delivery, Carbon nanostructures, Nucleic acids, Extracellular vesicles, Lipid nanoparticles

Christine Allen, University of Toronto Leslie Dan, Faculty of Pharmacy, Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Maria Alonso, Universidade de Santiago de Compostela, Faculty of Pharmacy, Santiago de Compostela, Spain
Pharmacy, Pharmacology, Drug Delivery, Nanomedicine, Cancer

Carmen Alvarez-Lorenzo, University of Santiago de Compostela, Santiago de Compostela, Spain
Cellulose derivatives, Drug carriers, 3D printing, Electrospinning, Drug-device combination products

Mansoor Amiji, Northeastern University, School of Pharmacy, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Boston, United States of America
Biomaterials, Pharmaceutical formulations, Nanomedicine, Drug delivery, Gene delivery

Brian Amsden, Queen's University, Department of Chemical Engineering, Kingston, Ontario, Canada
Hydrogels, Degradable polymers, Protein/peptide release, Mathematical modelling, Implantation response, Angiogenesis, Cell delivery

Leila Arabi, Mashhad University of Medical Sciences, Mashhad, Iran
Nanoscale Drug Delivery Systems, Nanoparticles, Liposomes, Targeted Therapy, Cancer Immunotherapy, Combination Therapy, Gene Therapy

Marianne Ashford, AstraZeneca UK Limited, Macclesfield, United Kingdom
Drug delivery, drug development

You Han Bae, The University of Utah, Department of Pharmaceutics and Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Salt Lake City, Utah, United States of America
Advanced drug delivery, Drug development, Long-acting injectables and implantables, Nanoparticle-based drug/gene delivery, Infectious diseases, Vaccines, Contraception, Drug development
Tuo Jin, Shanghai Jiao Tong University - Fahua Campus, Shanghai, China
Arwyn Jones, Cardiff University, Cardiff, United Kingdom
Alexander Kabanov, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, United States of America
Kazunori Kataoka, Kawasaki Institute of Industrial Promotion, Kawasaki, Japan
Polymeric therapeutics, Polymeric micelles, Block copolymers, Gene delivery, Targeting, Hydrogel, Nanoparticle
In-San Kim, Korea Institute of Science and Technology Biomedical Research Division, Seongbuk-Gu, Seoul, South Korea
Kwangmeyung Kim, Korea Institute of Science and Technology Center for Theragnosis, Seongbuk-gu, South Korea
Sun Hwa Kim, Korea Institute of Science and Technology Biomedical Research Division, Seongbuk-Gu, Seoul, South Korea
Jindrich Kopecek, The University of Utah, Salt Lake City, Utah, United States of America
Glen Kwon, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, Wisconsin, United States of America
Biologics, Biomaterials, Controlled release, Drug delivery, Pharmaceuticals.
Ick Chan Kwon, Korea Institute of Science and Technology Biomedical Research Division, Seongbuk-Gu, Seoul, South Korea
Activatable fluorescence probe, Cancer, Caspase, CD47-mediated endocytosis, Direct cell reprogramming
Hagar Labouta, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Nanomedicine, Organ-on-a-chip, Placenta, Maternal and fetal health, Drug Delivery
Hyukjin Lee, Ewha Womans University College of Pharmacy, Seodaemun-gu, South Korea
Gene Therapy, Drug delivery
Min Hyung Lee, Kyung Hee University, Department of Applied Chemistry, Yongin, South Korea
Nanomaterials synthesis and patterning, Energy Conversion, Green energy, Energy Storage
Wooin Lee, Seoul National University College of Pharmacy, Seoul, South Korea
Pharmacokinetics, Pharmacodynamics, Pharmacokinetic modeling, Drug transporters, Nanoformulations
Claus-Michael Lehr, Helmholtz Institute for Pharmaceutical Research Saarland, Saarbrücken, Germany
Biodegradable drug carriers/polymeras, Non-viral gene delivery and Immunotherapy, Drug Delivery, Tissue Engineering scaffolds
Jean-Christophe Leroux, ETH Zurich Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Zurich, Switzerland
Polymeric micelles/Liposomes
Tonglei Li, Purdue University, Department of Industrial and Physical Pharmacy, West Lafayette, Indiana, United States of America
Jinyao Liu, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Shanghai, China
Giovanna Lollo, University Claude Bernard Lyon 1, Villeurbanne, France
Nanomedicine, biomaterials, drug delivery, gene delivery, biomedical science
Karsten Mäder, Martin Luther University Halle Wittenberg, Halle/Saale, Germany
Pharmaceutics, Controlled Release, Nanomaterials, Biodegradable Polymers, Implants, In situ forming implants, Phospholipids, Stimulus sensitive drug delivery, Imaging, Optical Imaging, ESR spectroscopy, EPR spectroscopy, microenvironment, Drug Delivery
Katharina Maisel, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland, United States of America
Immunotherapy, Lymphatic system, Nanoparticles, Surface chemistry, Biological barriers, Mucosal drug delivery
Enrico Mastrobattista, Utrecht University, Utrecht, Netherlands
Francesca Mastrotto, University of Padua, Department of Pharmacy Science, Padova, Italy
Polymer, Nanoparticles, Cancer, Immunotherapy, Inflammation, Therapeutic nucleic acid delivery
Edith Mathiowitz, Brown University, Providence, Rhode Island, United States of America
drug delivery, biopolymers, oral delivery, protein delivery, bioadhesion, polymer morphology, Drug delivery, bio adhesion, Polymer morphology, polymer characterization, liquid crystals and mesophases, biomaterials
Simon Matooi, University of Montreal, Montréal, Quebec, Canada
Roy van der Meel, Eindhoven University of Technology, Eindhoven, Netherlands
Lipid nanoparticles, Nucleic acid therapeutics, siRNA, mRNA, Gene editing, Nanoimmunotherapy
Lin Mei, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences & Peking Union Medical College Institute of Biomedical Engineering, Tianjin, China
Smart biomaterials, Nanomedicine, Molecular pharmaceutics, Cancer immunotherapy, Drug/gene delivery for the treatment of various diseases including cancer and cardiovascular diseases.

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK 3 Sep 2023 www.elsevier.com/locate/jconrel
Ana Melero Zaera, University of Valencia, Valencia, Spain
Controlled Release, Skin drug Delivery, transdermal drug delivery, liposomes, flexosomes, microneedles

Olivia Merkel, Ludwig Maximilians University Munich, München, Germany
RNA formulation, inhalation, dry powder, RNA vaccine, lung disease

Antonios G. Mikos, Rice University, Department of Bioengineering, Houston, Texas, United States of America
Nanotechnology, Tissue engineering

Tamara Minko, Rutgers University, Department of Pharmaceutics, Piscataway, New Jersey, United States of America

Samir Mitragotri, Harvard University John A Paulson School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States of America
Biological barriers and drug delivery, bioinspired nanoparticles, bio-synthetic hybrid systems, transdermal drug delivery

Seyed Moein Moghimi, Newcastle University School of Pharmacy, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom

James Moon, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States of America
Immuoneering

Simona Mura, Paris-Saclay University, Faculty of Pharmacy, Chatenay Malabry, France
Nanomedicine, Biomimetic carriers, Controlled drug delivery, 3D in vitro models

Yukio Nagasaki, University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba, Japan

Elizabeth Nance, University of Washington, Department of Chemical Engineering, Seattle, Washington, United States of America
Nanomedicine, Biophysics, Drug delivery, Neurological disease, Pediatric formulations

Hanne M. Nielsen, University of Copenhagen, København, Denmark

Nobuhiro Nishiyama, Tokyo Institute of Technology - Suzukakedai Campus, Yokohama, Japan

Hiroaki Okada, Tokyo University of Pharmacy and Life Science School of Pharmacy, Tokyo, Japan

Teruo Okano, The University of Utah, Cell Sheet Tissue Engineering Center, Salt Lake City, Utah, United States of America

Tissue Engineering Polymers

Daniel Pack, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Urbana, Illinois, United States of America

Jae Hyung Park, Sungkyunkwan University School of Chemical Engineering, Suwon, South Korea
Drug Delivery, Nanomedicine, Exosome, Immunotherapy

Kamin Park, Purdue University Weldon School of Biomedical Engineering, West Lafayette, Indiana, United States of America
PLGA microparticles, Surface morphology, Polymer separation, Long-acting injectables

Nicholas Peppas, The University of Texas at Austin Institute for Biomaterials Drug Delivery and Regenerative Medicine, Austin, Texas, United States of America
Biomaterials; controlled drug delivery; biomedical engineering; bionanotechnology; molecular recognition processes; polymer physics; diffusion in polymers; molecular modeling of protein structures in contact with biomaterials and tissues

Yvonne Perrie, University of Strathclyde Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences, Glasgow, United Kingdom
Liposomes, Nanomedicines, Vaccines, Nanoparticles, LNPs

Yuan Ping, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

Mark R. Prausnitz, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America
Drug and vaccine delivery, Microneedle technology, Biomedical engineering

Suzie Pun, University of Washington, Seattle, Washington, United States of America

Thomas Rades, University of Copenhagen, København, Denmark
Drug delivery, Solid state pharmaceutics, Amorphous solids, Lipid based drug delivery, Particulate drug delivery

Koen Raemdonck, Ghent University, Department of Pharmaceutics, Gent, Belgium
Nanomedicines, Nucleic acid therapeutics, Inhalation therapy, Cell therapy, Cancer immunotherapy, Biomaterials, Drug repurposing

Vibin Ramakrishnan, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, North Guwahati, India
Peptide based drug delivery, Network medicine, Bionanocatalysis

Katrien F. Remaut, Ghent University, Gent, Belgium
Non-viral gene delivery, mRNA, ocular administration, peritoneal carcinomatosis

Krishnendu Roy, Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Georgia, United States of America
Areas of controlled drug and vaccine delivery technologies, Immuno-engineering and stem cell engineering with particular focus in biomedical materials with applications in cancer and immunotherapies

Stefano Salmaso, University of Padua, Department of Pharmacy Science, Padova, Italy
Drug delivery, Nanotechnology, Responsive drug nanocarriers, Biomacromolecule delivery, Advanced protein formulation

Mark W. Saltzman, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut, United States of America
Hélder A. Santos, University of Helsinki Division of Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Technology, Helsinki, Finland
Biomaterials, Drug delivery, In vivo and In vitro, Nanomaterials, Nanotechnology, Porous silicon, Theranostics

Bruno Sarmento, University of Porto Institute for Research and Innovation in Health Sciences, Porto, Portugal
Drug Delivery

Ronit Satchi-Fainaro, Tel Aviv University, Tel Aviv, Israel
3D-biprinted cancer models, Cancer, Nanomedicines, Polymer therapeutics, Theranostics, Tumor-host interactions

Avi Schroeder, Technion Israel Institute of Technology, Faculty of Chemical Engineering, Haifa, Israel
Personalized Cancer Treatment, Synthetic Cells, Targeting Tumor Microenvironment, Proteolytic Protein Delivery, Targeting Metastasis, Agricultural Nanotechnology

Steven Schwendeman, University of Michigan, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Ann Arbor, Michigan, United States of America

Youqing Shen, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China
Biomedical Polymers, Biomaterials, cancer drug delivery, gene delivery, nanomedicine

Molly S. Shoichet, University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
Tissue engineering, Regenerative medicine, Drug and cell delivery strategies in the central nervous system (brain, spinal cord, retina), 3D hydrogel culture systems to model cancer

Ronald Siegel, University of Minnesota Twin Cities, Minneapolis, Minnesota, United States of America
Drug release mechanisms mathematical modelling coated dosage forms matrix tablets controlled release

Dmitri Simberg, University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Aurora, Colorado, United States of America

Sofie Snipstad, Norwegian University of Science and Technology, Trondheim, Norway
Nanomedicine, Nanoparticles, Ultrasound, Microbubbles, Drug delivery, Cancer, Brain diseases, Blood-brain barrier, Medical imaging, Microscopy

Siowling Soh, National University of Singapore, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Singapore, Singapore

Molly Stevens, Imperial College London, Department of Materials, London, United Kingdom

Jin Sun, Shenyang Pharmaceutical University Wuya, Faculty of Innovation, Shenyang, China

Minjie Sun, China Pharmaceutical University School of Pharmacy, Nanjing, China
Gene delivery, Nanomedicine, Cell therapy, Immunotherapy, Vaccine research, Bioresponsive delivery, Theranostics based delivery

Hsing-Wen Sung, National Tsing Hua University, Hsinchu, Taiwan
Biomaterials, Drug/Gene Delivery, Tissue Engineering

Vladimir Torchilin, Northeastern University Center for Pharmaceutical Biotechnology and Nanomedicine, Boston, Massachusetts, United States of America

Giovanni Traverso, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, United States of America

Tjeoma Uchegbu, University College London School of Pharmacy, London, United Kingdom

Arto Urtti, University of Helsinki Computational Drug Discovery Group, HELSINKI, Finland
DNA delivery, Intravitreal, Kinetic simulation, Ocular, Retina, Topical ocular

Pieter Vader, University Medical Centre Utrecht, Utrecht, Netherlands
Extracellular vesicles, Exosomes, RNA therapeutics, Lipid nanoparticles

Rita Vanbever-Zaman, Catholic University of Louvain, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium
Pulmonary drug delivery, Drug delivery to the skin, Protein therapeutics, Polymer-drug conjugates, Liposomes, Vaccines

Maria Vicent, Fundacion de la Comunidad Valenciana Centro de Investigacion Principe Felipe, Valencia, Spain
Polymer Therapeutics, Polypeptide-based drug delivery technologies, targeted drug delivery, metastatic tumors, combination therapy, delivery to CNS, relevant preclinical models

Ernst Wagner, Ludwig Maximilian University Munich Chair of Pharmaceutical Biology Biotechnology, München, Germany
Polyplexes, Gene transfer, siRNA delivery, Protein delivery, CRISPR-Cas9 delivery

Chi-Hwa Wang, National University of Singapore, Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, Singapore, Singapore
Particle Technology; Renewable Energy; Drug Delivery.

Jun Wang, South China University of Technology, Guangzhou, China

Wei Wei, Institute of Process Engineering Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China

Maike Windbergs, Saarland University, Saarbrücken, Germany

Asako Yamayoshi, Nagasaki University Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Nagasaki, Japan
Nucleic Acid drug, DDS, Exosome, Antibody

Yi-Cheun Yeh, National Taiwan University, Taipei, Taiwan
Hydrogels, Functional polymeric nanocomposites, Stimuli-responsive materials, Dynamic covalent chemistry, Material-biology interface

Yu Seok Youn, Sungkyunkwan University School of Pharmacy, Suwon, South Korea
Drug targeting, Nanoparticle delivery, Hydrogel systems, Targeted therapy

Eiji Yuba, Osaka Metropolitan University, Department of Applied Chemistry, Osaka, Japan
Cancer immunotherapy, Liposomes, Stimuli-sensitive polymers, Immunoengineering, Inflammation, Gene delivery

Qiang Zhang, Peking University School of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Beijing, China

Zhiping Zhang, Huazhong University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, Hubei, China

Xinyuan Zhu, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, Shanghai, China
Research interests: •Surface modification including structured surfaces; •Biocompatible materials; •Anti-fouling materials; •Bio-detection/bio-imaging materials; •Interactions of biomolecules and cells at interfaces.

Assaf Zinger, Technion Israel Institute of Technology, Haifa, Israel
Biomimetic nanoparticles, Drug delivery, Nanomedicine, Translational therapeutics, Cancer, Rare diseases

Honorary Editor
Tsuneji Nagai, Tokyo, Japan

Founding Editors
Jan Feijen, Hengelo, Netherlands
Jorge Heller†, Ashland, Oregon, United States of America
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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

SCOPE OF THE JOURNAL
The Journal of Controlled Release (JCR) publishes high-quality research articles in the broad field of delivery science and technology. This includes formulation design and development in the disciplines of pharmaceutical, diagnostic, agricultural, environmental, cosmetic, and food industries. With a major focus on the design and characterization of drug formulations and dosage forms, release mechanisms of cargo from formulations and, in vivo evaluation of drug formulations. Manuscripts that advance fundamental understanding of principles and/or demonstrate advantages of novel technologies in terms of safety and efficacy over current clinical standards will be given priority. For more information about the types of articles sought by JCR please read the this editorial.

The Cover Letter should explain the originality and significance of the submitted work.

Please note that figures and tables should be embedded in the text as close as possible to where they are initially cited and for REVISED PAPERS ONLY it is mandatory to upload separate graphic and table files also as these will be required if your manuscript is accepted for publication.

Type of Manuscripts
The journal publishes original research articles, review articles, letters to the editor, perspectives (by invitation only), opinion papers (by invitation only), magna opera (by invitation only).

We encourage authors to submit proposals for review articles. As part of this process, authors are requested to upload a separate "Review Proposal" file in Editorial Manager, in addition to their Cover Letter. This Review Proposal file should include the following 6 sections:

1 - Statement on the relevance of the content covered, for the JCR readership, drug delivery science and beyond (Why this topic?):

2 - Description of the originality and the timeliness of the review (What is new? And why now?):

3 - Summary of the expertise and track record of the author(s) (Why you?):

4 - List of 5 representative publications of the author(s) related to the content of the review:

5 - List of the 5 best publications of the author(s) in drug delivery science and/or general:

6 - List of 5-10 internationally renowned scientists who are leaders in the field of the Review Article, and who may serve as experts to judge upon the suitability of this manuscript for JCR. Please provide their names, institutions, field of expertise, and email addresses and ORCID.

Please ensure that any recommendations that you make in this section are in line with standards on Competing Interests and Ethics in Publishing, and that you have duly considered inclusion and diversity when making any recommendations.

The selection of proposals and manuscripts that will be considered for full review will be based on adherence to the above criteria, as well as on high-quality standards. If authors have already compiled their review manuscript, they are urged to submit this in Editorial Manager together with the requested "Review Proposal" form.

Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication. The Letters to the Editor should be brief. If the Letter relates or refers to an article previously published in the Journal of Controlled Release it will be shared with the authors of that publication and they will be provided an opportunity to respond to
the Letter. Efforts will be made to publish the Letter to the Editor and the original authors response in the same issue. Note that a Letter to Editor should not deal with (an) experimental detail(s) or typos in a previously published article (which is matter to be reported by referees). JCR prefers Letters to the Editor which add a critical view to the main objectives and/or conclusions of previously published articles. The Letters to the Editor and the authors response should be of sufficient interest to the readership of the journal.

Authors interested in developing a special issue for the journal should send an outline and a CV to the Special Issue Editor, Raymond Schiffelers (e-mail: r.schiffelers@umcutrecht.nl) for consideration.

**Submission checklist**

You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

**Ensure that the following items are present:**

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:

- E-mail address
- Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:

*Manuscript*:
- Include keywords
- All figures (include relevant captions)
- All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
- Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
- Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print

*Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files* (where applicable)

*Supplemental files* (where applicable)

Further considerations

- Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
- All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
- Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
- 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.

*Getting permission before submission*

Authors should ensure that prior to submission of their manuscript, permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet). This includes the (re-)use of figures, tables, and other material from previously published papers.

**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

*Ethics in publishing*

Please see our information on Ethics in publishing.

*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’.

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.

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 compliance, your article may be checked by Crossref Similarity Check and other originality or duplicate checking software.

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. 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; 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", "blocklist" and "allowlist". 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.

Reporting sex- and gender-based analyses
Reporting guidance
For research involving or pertaining to humans, animals or eukaryotic cells, investigators should integrate sex and gender-based analyses (SGBA) into their research design according to funder/sponsor requirements and best practices within a field. Authors should address the sex and/or gender dimensions of their research in their article. In cases where they cannot, they should discuss this as a limitation to their research's generalizability. Importantly, authors should explicitly state what definitions of sex and/or gender they are applying to enhance the precision, rigor and reproducibility of their research and to avoid ambiguity or conflation of terms and the constructs to which they refer (see Definitions section below). Authors can refer to the Sex and Gender Equity in Research (SAGER) guidelines and the SAGER guidelines checklist. These offer systematic approaches to the use and editorial review of sex and gender information in study design, data analysis, outcome reporting and research interpretation - however, please note there is no single, universally agreed-upon set of guidelines for defining sex and gender.

Definitions
Sex generally refers to a set of biological attributes that are associated with physical and physiological features (e.g., chromosomal genotype, hormonal levels, internal and external anatomy). A binary sex categorization (male/female) is usually designated at birth (“sex assigned at birth”), most often based solely on the visible external anatomy of a newborn. Gender generally refers to socially constructed roles, behaviors, and identities of women, men and gender-diverse people that occur in a historical and cultural context and may vary across societies and over time. Gender influences how people view themselves and each other, how they behave and interact and how power is distributed in society. Sex and gender are often incorrectly portrayed as binary (female/male or woman/man) and unchanging whereas these constructs actually exist along a spectrum and include additional sex categorizations and gender identities such as people who are intersex/have differences of sex development (DSD) or identify as non-binary. Moreover, the terms "sex" and "gender" can be ambiguous—thus it is important for authors to define the manner in which they are used. In addition to this definition guidance and the SAGER guidelines, the resources on this page offer further insight around sex and gender in research studies.

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.

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.

Article transfer service
This journal uses the Elsevier Article Transfer Service to find the best home for your manuscript. This means that if an editor feels your manuscript is more suitable for an alternative journal, you might be asked to consider transferring the manuscript to such a journal. The recommendation might be provided by a Journal Editor, a dedicated Scientific Managing Editor, a tool assisted recommendation, or a combination. If you agree, your manuscript will be transferred, though you will have the opportunity to make changes to the manuscript before the submission is complete. Please note that your manuscript will be independently reviewed 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.

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, it is recommended to state this.

Open access
Please visit our Open Access page for more information.

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 Language Editing service available from Elsevier's Language 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.

Additional information
The authors should ensure that they have written entirely original works, and if the authors have used the work and/or words of others, this has been appropriately cited or quoted. An author should not in general publish manuscripts describing essentially the same research in more than one journal of primary publication. Plagiarism in all its forms as well as submission of the same manuscript to more than one journal concurrently constitutes unethical publishing behaviour and are unacceptable. Thus, the Letter of Submission should explain in one paragraph the originality and significance of the submitted work. The manuscript will not be processed without this information.
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.

NEW SUBMISSIONS
Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts your files to a single PDF file, which is used in the peer-review process.

As part of the Your Paper Your Way service, you may choose to submit your manuscript as a single file to be used in the refereeing process. This can be a PDF file or a Word document, in any format or layout that can be used by referees to evaluate your manuscript. It should contain high enough quality figures for refereeing. If you prefer to do so, you may still provide all or some of the source files at the initial submission. Please note that individual figure files larger than 10 MB must be uploaded separately.

References
There are no strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. References can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Where applicable, author(s) name(s), journal title/book title, chapter title/article title, year of publication, volume number/book chapter and the article number or pagination must be present. Use of DOI is highly encouraged. The reference style used by the journal will be applied to the accepted article by Elsevier at the proof stage. Note that missing data will be highlighted at proof stage for the author to correct.

Formatting requirements
There are no strict formatting requirements but all manuscripts must contain the essential elements needed to convey your manuscript, for example Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Conclusions, Artwork and Tables with Captions.

If your article includes any Videos and/or other Supplementary material, this should be included in your initial submission for peer review purposes.

Divide the article into clearly defined sections.

Figures and tables embedded in text
Please ensure the figures and the tables included in the single file are placed next to the relevant text in the manuscript, rather than at the bottom or the top of the file. The corresponding caption should be placed directly below the figure or table.

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 one independent expert reviewer 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.

REVISED SUBMISSIONS
Use of word processing software
Regardless of the file format of the original submission, at revision you must provide us with an editable file of the entire article. Keep the layout of the text as simple as possible. Most formatting codes will be removed and replaced on processing the article. The electronic text should be prepared in a way very similar to that of conventional manuscripts (see also the Guide to Publishing with Elsevier). See also the section on Electronic artwork.

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

Article structure
Introduction
State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey and summary of the results.
Material and methods
Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and supported with citation of a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

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.

Essential title page information
• Title. Keep it short: be concise and informative (limit 100 characters). Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible. Be clear and accurate. The title should accurately convey the content of the manuscript without overselling. Include relevant key words. Ensure the title includes words that will enable the manuscript to be found through a literature search. Keep it simple. Avoid the use of abbreviations and acronyms. Refer to chemicals by their common names.
• 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 example Highlights.

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
Authors must supply a graphical abstract at the time the paper is submitted. The abstract should summarize the contents of the paper in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership and for compilation of databases. The graphical abstract is posted online only. Carefully drawn figures that serve to illustrate the theme of the paper are desired. Authors may also provide appropriate text, not exceeding 30 words. The content of the graphical abstract will be typeset
and should be kept within an area of 5 cm by 17 cm (189 x 642 pixels), images should have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi and line art should be between 1000dpi and 1200dpi. Authors must supply the graphic separately as an electronic file. For examples of graphical abstracts, please visit the home page of Journal of Controlled Release at https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/01683659.

**Keywords**
Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

**Abbreviations**
Abbreviations that are unavoidable must be defined at their first use in the manuscript. Ensure consistency of abbreviations throughout the article.

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

**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.

**Footnotes**
Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word processors build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Should this not be the case, indicate the position of footnotes in the text and present the footnotes themselves separately at the end of the article.

**Artwork**

**Electronic artwork**

- Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
- Preferred fonts: Arial (or Helvetica), Times New Roman (or Times), Symbol, Courier.
- Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
- Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
- Indicate per figure if it is a single, 1.5 or 2-column fitting image.
- For Word submissions only, you may still provide figures and their captions, and tables within a single file at the revision stage.
- Please note that individual figure files larger than 10 MB must be provided in separate source files.

A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available.

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

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

- EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings. Embed the font or save the text as 'graphics'.
- TIFF (or JPG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones): always use a minimum of 300 dpi.
TIFF (or JPG): Bitmapped line drawings: use a minimum of 1000 dpi.
TIFF (or JPG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale): a minimum of 500 dpi is required.

Please do not:
• Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); the resolution is too low.
• Supply files that are too low in resolution.
• Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

Color artwork
Please make sure that artwork files are in an acceptable format (TIFF (or JPEG), EPS (or PDF), or MS Office files) and with the correct resolution. If, together with your accepted article, you submit usable color figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear in color online (e.g., ScienceDirect and other sites) regardless of whether or not these illustrations are reproduced in color in the printed version. For color reproduction in print, you will receive information regarding the costs from Elsevier after receipt of your accepted article. Please indicate your preference for color: in print or online only. Further information on the preparation of electronic artwork.

Figure captions
Ensure that each illustration has a caption. A caption should comprise a brief title (not on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

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

References
Citation in text
Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

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.

**References in a special issue**
Please ensure that the words 'this issue' are added to any references in the list (and any citations in the text) to other articles in the same Special Issue.

**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 formatting**
There are no strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. References can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Where applicable, author(s) name(s), journal title/book title, chapter title/article title, year of publication, volume number/book chapter and the article number or pagination must be present. Use of DOI is highly encouraged. The reference style used by the journal will be applied to the accepted article by Elsevier at the proof stage. Note that missing data will be highlighted at proof stage for the author to correct. If you do wish to format the references yourself they should be arranged according to the following examples:

**Reference style**

**Text:** Indicate references by number(s) in square brackets in line with the text. The actual authors can be referred to, but the reference number(s) must always be given.

Example: '..... as demonstrated [3,6]. Barnaby and Jones [8] obtained a different result ....'

**List:** Number the references (numbers in square brackets) in the list in the order in which they appear in the text.

**Examples:**
Reference to a journal publication:
Reference to a journal publication with an article number:
Reference to a book:
Reference to a chapter in an edited book:
Reference to a website:
Reference to a dataset:
Reference to software:

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

Video
Elsevier accepts video material and animation sequences to support and enhance your scientific research. Authors who have video or animation files that they wish to submit with their article are strongly encouraged to include links to these within the body of the article. This can be done in the same way as a figure or table by referring to the video or animation content and noting in the body text where it should be placed. All submitted files should be properly labeled so that they directly relate to the video file's content. In order to ensure that your video or animation material is directly usable, please provide the file in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 150 MB per file, 1 GB in total. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including ScienceDirect. Please supply 'stills' with your files: you can choose any frame from the video or animation or make a separate image. These will be used instead of standard icons and will personalize the link to your video data. For more detailed instructions please visit our video instruction pages. Note: since video and animation cannot be embedded in the print version of the journal, please provide text for both the electronic and the print version for the portions of the article that refer to this content.

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 requires 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. When sharing data in one of these ways, you are expected 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).

**Research Elements**
This journal enables you to publish research objects related to your original research – such as data, methods, protocols, software and hardware – as an additional paper in a Research Elements journal.

Research Elements is a suite of peer-reviewed, open access journals which make your research objects findable, accessible and reusable. Articles place research objects into context by providing detailed descriptions of objects and their application, and linking to the associated original research articles. Research Elements articles can be prepared by you, or by one of your collaborators.

During submission, you will be alerted to the opportunity to prepare and submit a manuscript to one of the Research Elements journals.

More information can be found on the Research Elements 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.

**Additional information**
Sources of commercial products need not be listed unless unique. Published methods need not be restated but must be referenced. Where the reference is to papers under review or in press, copies should be provided to the Editor to facilitate review. Full chemical names of drugs/polymers/exipients, etc. should be given. Trade names should not be used. Appropriate statistical analysis of data should be provided.

The Declaration of Helsinki as amended in Fortaleza 2013 for humans, and the European Community guidelines as accepted principles for the use of experimental animals, must be adhered to. Therefore, the Journal of Controlled Release will only consider manuscripts that describe experiments that have been carried out under approval of an institutional or local ethics committee. Authors must state in the manuscript that the protocol complies with the particular recommendation and that approval of their protocols was obtained.

Full chemical names of drugs/polymers/exipients, etc. should be given. Trade names should not be used. Appropriate statistical analysis of data should be provided.

**AFTER ACCEPTANCE**

**Online proof correction**
To ensure a fast publication process of the article, we kindly ask authors to provide us with their proof corrections within two days. 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.
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. 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