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**DESCRIPTION**

**Announcement:** From January 2020 *Neuroimage* is an open access journal. Authors who publish in *Neuroimage* will be able make their work immediately, permanently, and freely accessible.

*Neuroimage* continues with the same aims and scope, editorial team, submission system and rigorous peer review.*Neuroimage* authors will pay an article publishing charge (APC), have a choice of license options, and retain copyright to their published work. The APC will be requested after peer review and acceptance and will be required for all accepted articles submitted after the **13th of October 2019**. The **APC for Neuroimage** will be US$ 3000 (excluding taxes).**Please note:** Authors who have submitted papers before the **13th of October 2019** will have their accepted paper published in *Neuroimage* at no charge. Authors submitting papers after this date will be requested to pay the APC. For full information on publishing your paper open access in *Neuroimage*, visit the journal’s **guide for authors**, or visit our FAQs page.*NeuroImage*, a Journal of Brain Function, provides a vehicle for communicating important advances in the use of neuroimaging to study structure-function and brain-behavior relationships. Though the emphasis is on the macroscopic level of human brain organization, meso-and microscopic neuroimaging across all species will be considered if they provide advances that are of relevance to a systems-level understanding of the human brain.

The main criterion on which papers are judged for *NeuroImage*, is to what extent the scientific contribution helps advance our understanding of brain function, organization, and structure. *NeuroImage* also welcomes papers that explicitly address these questions in animal models or clinical populations. Papers that do not contain significant methodological development, and whose major contribution is to use imaging to advance the understanding of pathology, abnormal development, use of biomarkers or other questions of clinical utility should be referred to *NeuroImage: Clinical*.

*NeuroImage*, publishes original research articles, papers on methods, models of brain function, as well as positions on contentious issues. The journal strives to incorporate theoretical and technological innovations and is committed to publishing the highest quality papers in both print and electronic media. The editors and the editorial board members come from highly diverse specialties, reflecting the fact that imaging neuroscience is a multi-disciplinary science.

**Submitted papers** will generally be considered under eight general themes. However, papers with the above criteria that do not easily fit into any of the below themes will also be handled by an editor with the appropriate expertise.
• Analysis Methods
• Functional MRI Acquisition and Physics
• Computational Modeling and Analysis
• Anatomy and Physiology
• Cognition and Aging
• Social Neuroscience
• Systems and molecule neuroimaging
• Communication, Language, and Learning

AUDIENCE

IMPACT FACTOR
2018: 5.812 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2019

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING
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ISI Web of Knowledge
PubMed/Medline
ISI Science Citation Index
Embase

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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To find out more, please visit the Preparation section below.

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.

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• Disclosure of competing interests or affirmative statement that there are none.
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For further information on data sharing, see "Research data" section below, including possible reporting of research data via Data in Brief.
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For ToolBox and Software papers, code must be made available to the Reviewers, via a suitable means, at the time of submission (see further details below).

This statement will appear in the Methods section of the paper and separately with your published article on ScienceDirect information. For more information, visit the Data Statement page.

**TYPES OF PAPERS**

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Communicating original research papers form the core objective of NeuroImage. Such papers must lie within the journal's scope and strive for the highest standards of innovation, significance, technical accuracy and reproducibility. For further information, see the journal home-page.

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NeuroImage publishes review papers that address and synthesize research areas of outstanding current interest that lie within the scope of the journal. Such papers are usually invited but submitted reviews may be considered. If you plan to submit a review, we encourage you to contact the Editor-in-Chief or a Senior Editor with the relevant expertise, outlining the rationale, intended scope and novelty of the proposed review, prior to submission. Review papers should provide an authoritative and critical perspective. Review papers that are restricted to literature reviews, without broader interpretation and integration, are unlikely to fare well in editorial or peer review.

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Where a commentary addresses a perceived limitation in a recently published (target) article, the tone of the report should be constructive, collegial and address the broader context. Where there is no clear conflict of interest, the Authors of the target article may be invited to appraise the submission for factual errors and will usually be invited to publish a brief (500 word) rejoinder. Authors submitting a commentary on a manuscript should use the protocol under “Submitting a commentary” when uploading their paper.

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NeuroImage encourages submission of ToolBox and Software papers. Such manuscripts should report novel and comprehensive software developments of relevance and significance to the field. ToolBox and Software manuscripts should identify the problem addressed, the computational architecture of the software, and its utility. Similarities and differences (and pros and cons) with respect to existing software/toolboxes should be described, both with respect to the underlying algorithms and the practicalities of usage. The use of the software should be clearly illustrated through application to meaningful real data. Underlying algorithms not previously published and validated should be validated. Manuscripts that report software of very narrow functionality, minor plug-ins for existing toolboxes and extensions of existing algorithms of limited breadth are unlikely to be selected for peer review. Toolboxes that make use of other existing neuroimaging software must be highly transparent about citing this, both in the paper, and when being used. The software should be available for use by the scientific community, ideally including source code for scientific transparency. This needs to be
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**NEW! Registered reports**

**NEW! Registered reports** (click here for more details). These submissions undergo a two-phase review process in which study rationale and methodology are considered prior to the research being undertaken.

**Technical Notes**

Technical notes are brief reports that focus on specific methodological developments of an experimental, computational or analytic nature. They should be concise, focussed on a specific technical issue and brief (~3000 words and 5 or fewer figures). Nonetheless they should report an innovative technical development of broad significance to the neuroimaging community. Technical notes should include empirical testing or validation of the core technique.

If this technical note focuses exclusively on the communication of a toolbox or software development, then it should be submitted as a Toolbox paper for which code and sample data availability are a prerequisite at the time of submission (see above). Papers of a software/toolbox nature but submitted as a technical note without code and sample data will be triaged without peer review.

**EDITORIAL AND PEER REVIEW PROCESS**

**Peer review**

This journal operates a single blind review process. All contributions will be initially assessed by the Editor for suitability for the journal. Papers deemed suitable are then typically sent to a minimum of two (and usually three) independent expert Reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the paper. The Editor is responsible for the final decision regarding acceptance or rejection of articles. The Editor's decision is final. More information on types of peer review.

**The Neuroscience Peer Review Consortium**

NeuroImage is a member of the Neuroscience Peer Review Consortium (NPRC). The NPRC has been formed to reduce the time expended and, in particular, the duplication of effort by, and associated burden on Reviewers involved in the peer review of original neuroscience research papers. It is an alliance of neuroscience journals that have agreed to accept manuscript reviews from other Consortium journals. By reducing the number of times that a manuscript is reviewed, the Consortium aims to reduce the load on Reviewers and Editors and speed the publication of research results.

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Please suggest up to five Reviewers for your paper. These Reviewers should have the appropriate domain-specific expertise. Authors should not suggest Reviewers whom have a clear conflict of interest. A Reviewer has a conflict of interest if they: Have published together within the last five years; Have been co-investigators on the same grant within the last five years; Are currently collaborating
with a view to imminent publication or grant submission; Are in the same department/school/faculty; Have a close social or financial relationship that precludes an unbiased opinion Have a mentor-trainee relationship [e.g. graduate or post-doctoral advisor].

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Authors can list opposed Reviewers who may otherwise be selected by the editorial team but meet one of these criteria. Please ensure to state an explicit reason. Editors may choose to ignore this request if the stated reason is simply "conflict of interest".

**Editorial decisions**
Editors may issue one of a number of decisions, in some cases without further external review. Papers that do not fit the journal's mission, competitiveness profile, preparation standards (including required components noted above), may be rejected or recommended for transfer to another journal.

**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. **Appeals:** If you wish to appeal an decision, you must prepare a formal appeal letter for the Senior Editor who communicated the decision. The appeal should contain a copy of the decision letter and final round of reviews together with a clear argument supporting your appeal. The appeal will be considered by the Senior Editor, together with the Handling Editor and (possible) members of the editorial board or Editor-in-Chief. The senior editor will endeavor to provide you a response to your appeal within 10 working days. **Rejected papers:** The decision to reject a paper is final and no such paper should be resubmitted without prior editorial approval. Papers that are resubmitted without prior approval will be triage rejected without further review. **Reject with option to resubmit:** Papers that have been rejected, but provided with an option to resubmit, should follow the instructions in the decision letter. The expectation of the journal's Editors is that any resubmission will be the result of significant rewriting and additional experimentation or analyses as required to address all Reviewer and Editor concerns. Authors resubmitting previously rejected manuscripts are required to: 1) Identify the manuscript as a resubmitted manuscript in the cover letter to the Editor, including identification of the prior title and manuscript number; 2) Address all Reviewer concerns from the final reviews of the previous, rejected manuscript; and 3) Include a "Response to Reviewers" document that includes those reviews from the previous version and the responses to those reviews. You will also be requested to indicate this status during the submission process in EES.

**FORMATTING REQUIREMENTS: REVISED SUBMISSIONS AND OPTIONAL MANUSCRIPT COMPONENTS**

**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: Original research papers**

Original research papers should confirm to the following guidelines. The structure of Review, Comments and ToolBox papers should be adapted to their content.

**Subdivision - numbered sections**

Divide your article into clearly defined and numbered sections. Subsections should be numbered 1.1 (then 1.1.1, 1.1.2, ...), 1.2, etc. (the abstract is not included in section numbering). Use this numbering also for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to 'the text'. Any subsection may be given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line.

**Introduction**

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