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DESCRIPTION

Neuroscience publishes papers describing the results of original research on any aspect of the scientific study of the nervous system. Any paper, however short, will be considered for publication provided that it reports significant, new and carefully confirmed findings with full experimental details.

IBRO-DEF-02.jpg

Neuroscience is the sister journal of IBRO Reports

AUDIENCE

Neuroscientists from all disciplines.

IMPACT FACTOR

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ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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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.

INTRODUCTION

Neuroscience publishes the results of original research on any aspect of the scientific study of the nervous system. Papers most suitable for publication are those that report new observations that directly contribute to our understanding of how the nervous system works. Any paper, however short, will be considered for publication provided that it reports significant, new and carefully confirmed findings with full experimental details. The Chief Editor, the Associate Editor, and the Senior Editors will initially evaluate all submissions. Articles not estimated to represent strong candidates for publication will be returned to the authors without detailed review within 3-5 days. Otherwise, manuscripts will be sent to reviewers for rapid assessment.

Neuroscience does not have page or figure restrictions, and authors are encouraged to write complete papers that contain all the data necessary to present their findings persuasively.

Editorial Organisation

The Chief and Associate Editors seek advice from Senior Editors representing all major areas of research: Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience, Cellular Neuroscience, Molecular Neuroscience, Developmental Neuroscience, Disease-Oriented Neuroscience, Systems Neuroscience, Pain and Sensory Neuroscience, Theory and Innovative Approaches in Neuroscience.

Each paper is typically evaluated by at least two Editors or ad hoc reviewers. Papers are accepted by the Chief and Associate Editors in consultation with an appropriate Senior Editor.

The Neuroscience Peer Review Consortium

Neuroscience 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 will reduce the load on reviewers and Editors, and speed the publication of research results.

If a manuscript has been rejected by another journal in the Consortium, authors can submit the manuscript to Neuroscience and indicate that the referees' reports from the first journal be made available to the Editors of Neuroscience.

It is the authors' decision as to whether or not to indicate that a set of referee's reports should be forwarded from the first journal to Neuroscience. If an author does not wish for this to happen, the manuscript can be submitted to Neuroscience without reference to the previous submission. No information will be exchanged between journals except at the request of authors. However, if the original referees' reports suggested that the paper is of high quality, but not suitable for the first journal, then it will often be to an author's advantage to indicate that referees' reports should be made available.

Authors should revise the original submission in accordance with the first journal's set of referee reports, reformat the paper to Neuroscience's specification and submit the paper to Neuroscience with a covering letter describing the changes that have been made, and informing the Editors that the authors will ask for the referee's reports to be forwarded from the first Consortium journal. The authors then must contact the first journal, and ask that reviews be forwarded, indicating they have submitted to Neuroscience, and providing the new manuscript ID number.
The Editors of *Neuroscience* will use forwarded referees' reports at their discretion. The Editors may use the reports directly to make a decision, or they may request further reviews if they feel such are necessary.

Visit [http://nprc.incf.org](http://nprc.incf.org) for a list of Consortium journals, as well as further information on the scheme.

**Types of Papers**

(a) **Research papers.** These are full-length papers describing original research. There are no specific page limits although authors are encouraged to be as concise as possible and to use as few, high quality illustrations as necessary to adequately document their findings. Former rapid reports that describe outstanding new discoveries fall under this category and should follow the same layout as research papers. All papers are handled rapidly.

(b) **Reviews.** These are short articles (3,000 to 10,000 words in length), not exhaustive reviews, that are intended to either draw attention to developments in a specific area of research, to bring together observations that seem to point the field in a new direction, to give the author's personal views on a controversial topic, or to direct soundly based criticism at some widely held dogma or widely used technique in neuroscience. Reviews may also provide an historical perspective on an area of neuroscience research. Authors should make their Review understandable to a broad spectrum of neuroscientists. Potential authors are invited to submit a letter of interest to the Associate Editor indicating the topic of a potential Review. Proposals for reviews or commentaries should also contain an outline of the contents, including an abstract (<200 words), a list of 10 relevant articles including 5 from the proposer's own research, and a brief statement on why now is a good time to review the topic in question. Reviews will not be accepted for editorial processing unless pre-approved for submission.

(c) **Neuroscience Forefront Reviews.** These are invited reviews from a select list of scientists who have introduced new concepts, models, or methods in neurobiology. Forefront Reviews enable the authors to express their own opinions in a rigorous way. There is no page limit and the author/authors may choose the focus of the review as long as it remains scientifically sound. The reviews will be promoted through IBRO’s websites and publications, and will be highly visible in the scientific community. Interest by a prominent scientist to contribute a Forefront Review should be sent to Jerome Sanes, Associate Editor, at jnsanes-neuroscience@brown.edu.

(d) **Special Issues.** These are published as separate volumes with prominent neuroscientists as guest editors. Special Issues are devoted to specific topics, preferably "emergent topics" that open new fields in neurobiological research. The Special Issues are used actively in the promotion of *Neuroscience.*

A Special Issue is not a loose collection of topically related articles but a concerted attempt to provide an overview of the status of an emerging field. Cross references between the articles are strongly encouraged.

A Special Issue should normally contain 20-25 articles, corresponding to 200-300 printed pages in total. The articles may include original data. At least one of the articles (typically signed by the guest editors) should provide a general discussion of the implications of the recent advances in the field, and should attempt to identify the directions and challenges of future research.

Manuscripts are subjected to the review process according to the same high standards of quality as regular issues of Neuroscience. The Guest Editor(s) identify reviewers and take responsibility for the further editorial handling of the manuscripts, supported by the San Diego office. As for regular papers, the final decision on each article is taken by the Chief Editor.

Suggestions for special issues should be sent to Juan Lerma, Editor-in-Chief, at jlerma@umh.es. They should contain an outline of the contents, including an abstract (<200 words), a list of articles with preliminary titles and contributors, and a brief statement on why.

(e) **Perspectives.** These are invited commentaries (typically <1,000 words) on current developments and trends in neuroscience research or public activities. A Perspective could highlight one or more recently published article, in any journal, that appears to set a new standard for a field within neuroscience or could recognize national or international events that influence the neuroscience
community. Typically, the Chief or Associate Editor will identify authors to contribute a Perspective. However, potential authors are invited to submit a letter of interest to the Chief or Associate Editor indicating the topic of a potential Perspective.

(f) **Letters to the Editor.** We welcome readers to submit formal comments on the content of articles published in *Neuroscience*. Such comments should provide constructive scientific remarks. Readers may submit these comments as a Letter to the Editor, which should be concise, no more than 500 words, and we will transmit them to the author(s) of the commented-upon paper for their optional reply.

The main Editors of *Neuroscience* will consider the significance of these articles, and whether to proceed with soliciting the opinions of the authors of the commented-upon paper. We expect Letters to the Editor to fall within the spirit of constructive scientific discourse and supported, as needed by References, which should appear in the format used in Neuroscience. Authors should not include unpublished data in a Letter to the Editor. Submitting authors assume full responsibility for the accuracy of their content. Letters to the Editor will appear in the print and on-line version of *Neuroscience*, and as such will be fully citable in bibliographic services, for example PubMed.

(g) **Commentaries.** These are invited commentaries (typically <500 words) on a paper published in the same *Neuroscience* issue, which deserves further comment to call the attention of readers not primarily interested on the paper's topic. Commentaries could include one figure summarizing the main findings.

**BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

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**Policy and ethics**

The authors declare that all experiments on human subjects were conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki and that all procedures were carried out with the adequate understanding and written consent of the subjects. [https://www.wma.net/policies-post/wma-declaration-of-helsinki-ethical-principles-for-medical-research-involving-human-subjects/](https://www.wma.net/policies-post/wma-declaration-of-helsinki-ethical-principles-for-medical-research-involving-human-subjects/)

The authors also certify that formal approval to conduct the experiments described has been obtained from the human subjects review board of their institution and could be provided upon request.

If the studies deal with animal experiments, the authors certify that they were carried out in accordance with the National Institute of Health Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (NIH Publications No. 80-23) revised 1996 or the UK Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 and associated guidelines, or the European Communities Council Directive of 24 November 1986 (86/609/EEC).

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The authors further attest that all efforts were made to minimize the number of animals used and their suffering.

If the ethical standard governing the reported research is different from those guidelines indicated above, the authors must provide information in the submission cover letter about which guidelines and oversight procedures were followed.
The Editors reserve the right to return manuscripts in which there is any question as to the appropriate and ethical use of human or animal subjects.

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All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations 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. Authors must disclose any interests immediately after the Acknowledgements section; additional information may be required (click on More information).

If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'declarations of interest: none'. This summary statement will be ultimately published if the article is accepted. 2. Detailed disclosures as part of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches. More information.

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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.

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

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The Editorial Office reserves the right to revise the wording of manuscripts accepted for publication in the journal.

Each submission should be accompanied by a cover letter, briefly explaining the conceptual advance provided by the findings and their significance to a broad readership.

All revised submissions should provide a clear version of the manuscript file, along with a 'highlighted' or 'tracked changes' version. Both manuscripts should include identical content, which the 'highlighted' or 'tracked changes' version clearly showing the revisisons that have been made.

Subdivision
Divide your article into sections according to the headings listed below. Main sections (Introduction, Experimental Procedures, Results, etc.) and sub-section headings should appear on their own separate line. Use the section and sub-section names for internal cross-referencing: do not just refer to "the text. Neuroscience does not use numerical designations for sections or sub-sections.

Research papers should be organized in the following four main sections: Introduction, Experimental Procedures, Results, Discussion

Reviews and Forefront Reviews should have an introductory section, followed by several information presentation sections and then end with a conclusion section. Section headings should be used to organize the presentation of information.

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This should provide the scientific rationale for the research that is reported. No results should be reported but it should finish with a succinct description of the main finding and conclusion. The heading "Introduction" should be used.

Experimental procedures
Procedures used in the research should be described in sufficient detail to permit the replication of the work by others. Previously published procedures should be referenced and briefly summarized. The source of all materials, including animals and human tissue, must be provided. The location of each supplier should be detailed on first use in the text. The author(s) also agree(s) to make freely available to colleagues in academic research any clones of cells, nucleic acids, antibodies, etc. that were used in the research reported and that are not available from commercial suppliers. Authors must clearly describe all manipulations made to digital data that were collected as images, and images which have been scanned and printed for publication.

Results
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Discussion
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Glossary
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Abstract
A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly in a single paragraph (in <250 words) the purpose of the research and the principal results obtained. The abstract should conclude with a final statement summarizing the major conclusions in such a way that the implications of the work to the field would be clear to a general neuroscience reader. 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. Please bear in mind that the abstract should be a short, stand-alone summary of the study carried out that others can use as an overview of the paper. The abstract should be written in a way comprehensible to a broad readership. It should provide a concise background with the questions to be answered or objectives, a description of the results and approaches in the context of their conceptual interest (without including data values or statistics) and major conclusions of the study and/or broad significance of the work.

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