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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.

## AUDIENCE

Neuroscientists from all disciplines.

## IMPACT FACTOR

2016: 3.277 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2017

## ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

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GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

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 Editor-in-Chief, the Associate Editor, and the Section 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.

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The Chief and Associate Editors seek advice from Section Editors representing all major areas of research: Behavioral and Cognitive Neuroscience, Cellular and 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 Section 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*.

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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**

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(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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All submissions to *Neuroscience* must contain experiments that conform to the ethical standards printed below. To confirm their agreement with this, authors are required to include the following statement in their cover letter indicating their agreement with these standards: "I have read and have abided by the statement of ethical standards for manuscripts submitted to *Neuroscience*." A list of ethical standards is *not* required in the cover letter.

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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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Cover illustrations

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PREPARATION

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 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.
**Use of word processing software**

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

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

**Article structure**

Manuscripts should be written in English in a concise and understandable style. Technical jargon or "laboratory slang" should not be used. It is the responsibility of the corresponding author to ensure that the manuscript is written in a style that is grammatically correct and free of spelling or other typographical errors.

All manuscripts must be typewritten with **1.5 line-spacing** throughout and with margins at least 2.5 cm wide. Pages should be numbered in succession, the title page being no. 1.

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.

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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.

**Introduction**

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.

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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.

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Please supply, as a separate list, the definitions of field-specific terms used in your article.

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