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## DESCRIPTION

*Pharmacological Research* publishes cutting-edge articles in biomedical sciences to cover a broad range of topics that move the pharmacological field forward. We provide a venue through which specialists across disciplines can rapidly exchange information in health sciences that pertains to modern pharmacological topics. The journal publishes articles on molecular, biochemical, translational, and clinical research (including clinical trials); it is proud of its rapid publication of accepted papers that comprises a dedicated, fast acceptance and publication track for high profile articles.

Invited and unsolicited review articles are welcome.

### Journal Sections

Specific sections are dedicated to:

**The cardiovascular system:** CV disease therapy; Signal transduction and receptor pharmacology in the CV system; Target organs; Clinical trials.

**Neuroscience, including psychopharmacology, and neuroendocrinology:** Understanding of the central nervous system in physiological and pathological conditions; Neuropharmacological and molecular mechanisms of learning and memory; Therapeutic and diagnostic challenges for mental illness and neurodegenerative diseases; System biology.

**Oncology:** Targeted cancer therapy; Precision medicine and personalized therapy; Signal transduction studies, as related to drug action; Clinical trials.

**Immunology (clinical and basic):** Immune and inflammatory mechanisms including target identification; Immunotherapy and immunotoxicology; Immunopathology; Vaccines and adjuvants; Treatment of infectious diseases.

**Pharmacogenomics, Pharmacogenetics and Precision Medicine:** We are especially interested in GWAS studies and studies reporting pharmacogenetic data that are relevant in terms of safety and efficacy of drugs. They must provide insight into novel genomic or therapeutic associations that can help guide therapy selection or suggest new indications for established drugs. Studies can also provide details of exceptional responses in limited numbers of patients. We also publish n=1 studies of exceptional responses, provided they are backed up by compelling genomic or

experimental data. Studies must include full clinical description of the case, along with details of the response and supporting molecular information. The molecular information should support the clinical observations and offer a definitive pharmacogenomic insight. Standard clinical sequencing assays (Foundation ONE, Genoptix etc) are only appropriate when the therapeutic or phenotypic response is novel. Ideally, the observational patient studies should be supported by lab based functional data. **Bioactive molecules derived from medicinal plants or natural products:** New, effective bioactive molecules; Drug target identification; Treatment mechanism; Mechanism investigation with -omics and computational technologies; Combinational therapy with natural products; Multi-targeting and network pharmacology; Herbal bioinformatics; Precision medicine of natural products; Evidenced-based research and clinical trials.

Studies reporting on plant extracts in which the active principle(s) has not been defined do not fall into the scope of this journal. Exceptions can be made for papers addressing the mechanisms of actions or the clinical applications of standardized herbal preparations. Clinical studies on commercially-available nutraceuticals are also taken into consideration.

### **Rare diseases and orphan drugs, and drug repositioning**

We also publish articles focusing on: **Gastrointestinal, respiratory and urogenital apparatuses when involving pharmacological issues; Pharmacology of tissue repair/regeneration; Pharmacology of aging; Nutraceuticals (if relevant to human disease); Pharmacoeconomy; Pharmacoepidemiology.**

We do not publish: Papers reporting pharmacological activities of novel compounds if no proper controls with known substances are performed; Bioequivalence studies or studies reporting only the pharmacokinetics profile of a compound; Descriptive pharmacovigilance studies; Single dose/concentration studies and those measuring only one endpoint.

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### **Topics we cover**

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### Types of paper

1. *Original articles.* Original full-length research papers that have not been published previously, except in a preliminary form, may be submitted as regular papers.

2. *Review articles.* Review articles are welcome but should be topical and not just an overview of the literature.

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4. *Letters to the Editor* on relevant issues of pharmacology or commenting on the published literature are also welcome.

Note: Pharmacological Research does not accept case reports for publication, nor short communications.

The type of paper has to be specified in the heading of the manuscript.

**Invited and unsolicited review articles are welcome.**

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### **Author checklist for Original Articles**

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To have a detailed explanation of the reasons and the rationale behind each item please go to <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26523875>.

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In the checklist there is also a free text area in which we ask for suggestions and advice from the authors. *Pharmacological Research* is not a top-down journal and we are building a community of scientists that helps enhancing the quality of the Journal; hence we will appreciate comments and feedbacks from the authors on how to improve the checklist in the next months.

The checklist will have to be uploaded at the time of the initial submission of each original article, effective from the 1st of June 2016. It will not be requested for perspectives or reviews.

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The corresponding author of a manuscript for *Pharmacological Research* has the duty to ensure that all the named authors have seen and approved the original and any revised version of the paper and are in agreement with its content before it is submitted to the Editorial Office. Each author should have participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for the content. The corresponding author should also ensure that all those who have contributed to the research are acknowledged appropriately either as a co-author or in the Acknowledgements. In addition, the corresponding author has the prime responsibility for ensuring the paper is correctly prepared according to the Guide for Authors. Submitted manuscripts not complying with the Guide for Authors may be returned to the authors for possible revision and resubmission.

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### **Referees**

Authors are highly encouraged to include a list of 5-6 potential reviewers for their manuscript, with complete contact information.

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Please make sure that your submission is in strict compliance with the guidelines provided in this document. The Publisher and Editors regret that they are not able to consider submissions that do not follow these guidelines.

Please note also that the following immediate rejection criteria apply:

1. Ethnopharmacological papers, namely studies that deal with locally-consumed plants.
2. In vitro antioxidant activity of plant extracts and pure compounds isolated from them.
3. Papers that describe pharmacological activities of plants which are not easily found worldwide, eg, Chinese herbs.
4. Papers reporting pharmacological activities of novel compounds if no proper controls with known substances are performed.
5. Papers describing the pharmacological activities of natural compounds are considered only if they identify novel mechanisms of action.

Note that ethnopharmacological studies generally do not fall into the scope of this journal. Exceptions are made for papers addressing the mechanisms of actions or the clinical applications of worldwide-used natural substances. Clinical studies on commercially-available nutraceuticals are also taken into consideration.

## **PREPARATION**

### **NEW SUBMISSIONS**

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#### *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 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.

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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**

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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**

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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*

State the objectives of the work and provide an adequate background, avoiding a detailed literature survey or a summary of the results.

### *Material and methods*

Provide sufficient detail to allow the work to be reproduced. Methods already published should be indicated by a reference: only relevant modifications should 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*

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[3] G.R. Mettam, L.B. Adams, How to prepare an electronic version of your article, in: B.S. Jones, R.Z. Smith (Eds.), *Introduction to the Electronic Age*, E-Publishing Inc., New York, 2009, pp. 281–304.

Reference to a website:

[4] Cancer Research UK, Cancer statistics reports for the UK. <http://www.cancerresearchuk.org/aboutcancer/statistics/cancerstatsreport/>, 2003 (accessed 13 March 2003).

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