DESCRIPTION

*Placenta* publishes high-quality original articles and invited topical reviews on all aspects of human and animal *placentation*, and the interactions between the mother, the *placenta* and *fetal development*. Topics covered include evolution, development, genetics and epigenetics, stem cells, metabolism, transport, immunology, pathology, pharmacology, cell and molecular biology, and developmental programming. The Editors welcome studies on implantation and the *endometrium*, comparative placentation, the uterine and *umbilical circulations*, the relationship between fetal and *placental development*, clinical aspects of altered placental development or function, the *placental membranes*, the influence of *paternal factors* on placental development or function, and the assessment of biomarkers of *placental disorders*.

Original articles may be full-length papers or Short Communications. Papers describing innovative techniques that will advance the field may be submitted as a Technical Note with a format like a Short Communication. Case Reports are acceptable if they illustrate a point of general importance, and Book reviews and Letters to the Editors are also published.

*Placenta* is the official journal of the *International Federation of Placenta Associations*, and is committed to supporting the scientific community with rapid processing of manuscripts. There are no page charges, and colour plates are free. Reviews are published on an open access basis, while original articles are made available free online 1 year after publication. Authors may chose to pay for open access publication in order to make their article freely available.

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INTRODUCTION
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