DESCRIPTION

Progress in Neurobiology is an international journal that publishes groundbreaking original research, comprehensive review articles and opinion pieces written by leading researchers. The journal welcomes contributions from the broad field of neuroscience that apply neurophysiological, biochemical, pharmacological, molecular biological, anatomical, computational and behavioral analyses to problems of molecular, cellular, developmental, systems, and clinical neuroscience.

AUDIENCE

Neuroscientists, neurophysiologists, neurochemists and neuropharmacologists.

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SCOPE

Progress in Neurobiology is an international journal that publishes groundbreaking original research, comprehensive review articles and opinion pieces written by leading researchers. The journal welcomes contributions from the broad field of neuroscience that apply neurophysiological, biochemical, pharmacological, molecular biological, anatomical, computational and behavioral analyses to problems of molecular, cellular, developmental, systems, cognitive and clinical neuroscience.

GENERAL INFORMATION

TYPES OF ARTICLES

For additional information on all types of articles, see ?MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION?.

Original Research Article: A report of highly original research which makes a significant contribution to and advances the body of knowledge in a given area. Articles should be written in sufficient detail to allow others to verify/replicate the described methods. Research articles will be initially evaluated by the Board of Editors, and only the most promising papers will undergo full open peer review.

Review: Review articles provide a comprehensive overview on a topic of broad interest. Importantly, these articles should have a novel synthesis and not be a mere summary of the literature. Articles should be of sufficient clarity to be suitable for assimilation by doctoral and postdoctoral students as well as by research scientists in neuroscience and allied fields. Reviews require pre-approval and inquiries should be sent to the Editor-in-Chief (please see presubmission inquiries).

Perspective: Perspectives reflect on the state of the art of a topic or subfield, provide novel synthesis and allow readers to gain a good idea of the subject matter in a short time. Articles should be informative and interesting to experts and non-specialists. Perspectives are more focused and less comprehensive than reviews and seek to review a topic from a particular viewpoint. Perspectives require pre-approval and inquiries should be sent to the Editor-in-Chief (please see presubmission inquiries).

Controversies: These are part of a small series of articles (2-4) from different authors presenting the different viewpoints on a particular, currently heavily debated and controversial topic in neuroscience. Authors, who want to initiate a controversy topic should contact the Editor-in-Chief, or one of the Associate Editors, and discuss the topic, and possible contributors. These individuals can also become involved as guest editors for the article series, if they wish.

Editorial: Editorials are welcome on any topic. However, we particularly welcome contributions providing mentorship to young scientists or discussing topics relevant to both science and society. Authors who are considering submitting an editorial should contact the Editor-in-Chief with a brief outline of the proposed contribution before submission.

Special Issues: The editors welcome proposals for special issues, which present a collection of articles on a topic of broad interest and significance. Proposals should include a statement of the significance and timeliness of the topic, and a tentative list of contributors and brief abstracts of the articles. Organizers of special issues may serve as guest editors.

Pre-submission inquiries

For reviews, Perspective and controversy papers, we are asking all authors for a pre-inquiry (https://www.journals.elsevier.com/progress-in-neurobiology/non-research-article-pre-submission-enquiries/). Pre-inquiries should be sent to the Editor-in-Chief, who will consult with the Associate Editors and the Board to reach a decision. The following materials should be provided: (i) Topic and detailed (1-2 page) outline of the paper. (ii) Statement why the topic is timely, significant and of interest to a broad readership. We are particularly looking for work that crosses disciplinary boundaries and will be of interest to several subdisciplines from the field of neuroscience (please list the ones that will apply to your article). (iii) Statement why the article provides a novel synthesis and is not a mere summary of the literature. (iv) Authors' expertise: Please briefly summarize your contributions to the topic of your choice and list 3-5 recent publication reflecting your expertise in that area.
For original articles, presubmission inquiries are welcomed, but not required.

It should be noted that pre-approval of a review, Perspective or controversy piece will not guarantee publication. The article itself will undergo rigorous peer review, on the basis of which the editors will decide about the suitability for publication.

Author inquiries
Inquiries about the status of a manuscript, technical difficulties during the submission process etc. should be directed to PRONEU@elsevier.com.

**PEER REVIEW PROCESS**

**Philosophy**

The evaluation of scientific articles of any type is an important part of the scientific publishing process in order to assure the highest quality of rigor in the scientific process, appropriate scholarship and effective scientific communication. The editors of Progress in Neurobiology embrace a progressive version of the traditional peer review for evaluation of the journal's content. We will embark on an interactive, and transparent process that is focused on supporting authors to publish articles of the highest standards. We embrace open peer review and will publish the editorial decision letter, reviews (in anonymized form), and the authors' rebuttal along with the article. We also embrace collaborative review and reserve the right to discuss particularly conflicting reviews with our reviewers, as necessary, so that a clear and unified statement can be sent to authors.

**Editorial process**

The Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editors aim for a transparent, rigorous and fair peer review process. They will evaluate initial submissions of original research and pre-inquiries of reviews, perspectives and controversies. Decisions on the suitability for consideration of publication are made collectively and are based on the opinions of at least two experts. The editors handle the review process for fully submitted articles and will secure at least one review, in most cases 2-3. The reviews may be discussed among the editors to reach an editorial decision. The rationale for the decision as well as clear feedback will be provided to the authors. Information for reviewers can be found on our website [https://www.elsevier.com/reviewersguidelines].

**Reviewer recognition**

Our reviewers are a vital part of the journal's operation, and their engagement determines the high quality of scientific publishing that Progress in Neurobiology achieves. As a small token of our gratitude, we recognize reviewers once a year by listing them with a note of thanks in one of the volumes.

**STM PEER REVIEW TAXONOMY PILOT**

This journal is participating in the STM Peer Review Taxonomy Pilot. This pilot aims to identify and standardise definitions and terminology in peer review practices across publishers to help make the peer review process for articles and journals more transparent, and enable the community to better assess and compare peer review practices between different journals. More information is available here.

The following summary describes the peer review process for this journal:

**Identity transparency: Single anonymized**

**Reviewer interacts with:** Editor

**Review information published:** Review reports reviewer opt in, Author/editor communication, Editor identities

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**MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION**

**Review articles** Articles should provide an in-depth, scholarly review of a topic, including historical background. Thus, reviews should not be limited to the work of the authors but must cover the work of several individuals who have contributed to the field under consideration. It is essential that reviews present not only a summary of the present literature, but synthesize ideas and concepts in the literature in novel and exciting ways. Articles should be written by individuals who have considerable experience and a strong record of publication in the topic being reviewed. We expect that the reviews
should be of sufficient clarity to be suitable for assimilation by doctoral and postdoctoral students as well as by research scientists in the broader neuroscience community. Length of reviews will be ~10,000 words, or as per discussion with one of the editors.

**Original articles** A report of highly original research which makes a significant contribution to and advances the body of knowledge in a given area. Articles should be written in sufficient detail to allow others to verify/replicate the described methods. Instructions on the organization of an original research article and recommendations for the length and content of the different parts are given below. We welcome papers that have been posted on preprint servers.

**Perspective** Perspectives should review a particular field to identify outstanding issues and/or challenges and propose new hypotheses or directions. A Perspective may highlight emerging science, controversial ideas, or issues within the field and seek to address them by offering a novel perspective. Recommended length for a perspective: 4,000 – 6,000 words.

**Controversies** These are part of a small series of articles (2-4) from different authors presenting the different viewpoints on a particular, currently heavily debated and controversial topic in neuroscience. Recommended length for a controversy piece: 4,000 words.

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**Author names and affiliations.** Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.

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If there is more than one appendix, they should be identified as A, B, etc. Formulae and equations in appendices should be given separate numbering: Eq. (A.1), Eq. (A.2), etc.; in a subsequent appendix, Eq. (B.1) and so on. Similarly for tables and figures: Table A.1; Fig. A.1, etc.

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Progress in Neurobiology will retract articles upon the request of the author at any time. The authors may choose to describe the reasons for a retraction in a brief note. The editors reserve the right to retract articles in cases of violations of policies, particularly related to the responsible conduct in publishing.

**POLICIES**

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Each author is required to declare his or her individual contribution to the article: all authors must have materially participated in the research and/or article preparation, so roles for all authors should be described. The statement that all authors have approved the final article should be true and included in the disclosure.

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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, superscripts and subscripts 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.

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Highlights are optional yet highly encouraged for this journal, as they increase the discoverability of your article via search engines. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that capture the novel results of your research as well as new methods that were used during the study (If any). Please have a look at the examples here: example Highlights.

Highlights should be submitted in a separate editable file in the online submission system. Please use 'Highlights' in the file name and include 3 to 5 bullet points (maximum 85 characters, including spaces, per bullet point).

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