TOXICOLOGY IN VITRO  
Official Journal of the European Society of Toxicology in Vitro

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Description p.1
- Audience p.2
- Impact Factor p.2
- Abstracting and Indexing p.2
- Editorial Board p.2
- Guide for Authors p.4

DESCRIPTION

Toxicology in Vitro publishes original research papers, reviews and workshop reports focusing on the application and use of in vitro and in silico systems for toxicological evaluations (collectively described as New Approach Methodologies (NAM)). This includes the utilisation or the development of NAMs for assessing the potential adverse effects of chemicals for human safety assessment. In vitro techniques include primary cells, tissue slices, cell lines and stem cells (adult, embryonic and induced Pluripotent cells) or subcellular preparations thereof. Our journal strongly supports the Reduction, Refinement and Replacement (3R) of animals in toxicology evaluations.

This is a wide topic and thus we have certain preferences including:

Development of in vitro techniques and their application to research and regulatory use (i.e. 3R principle. Mechanistic underpinning of data. Ability to translate outcome to human safety assessment. We strongly encourage: The use of normal (non-transformed) human cells (where appropriate). Reporting the Short Tandem Repeat (STR) profile of the cells used (especially when cells have been provided as a gift or generated in house). Free access to raw (or primary) data. Appropriate model characterisation. The use (or reduction) of animal free components, including serum. [Especially when the system was already developed under such conditions, such as the HK-2 cell line]. Attention to detailed methodology and appropriate statistics. [Readers need to know how you did the experiment, how many times, how many replicates etc?] Reporting the source of the compounded tested, catalogue no. and lot no. Where the chemical has been purified or synthesised a full analytical report is expected. Quantification of compounds in exposure medium and/or cells over time (biokinetics).

We do not accept solely in vivo investigations and rarely accept animal in vivo, in vitro hybrid papers, except where the animal data was critical in the interpretation or validation of the in vitro data (and not merely confirmatory).

We generally discourage investigations relating: Unidentified mixtures - for example in plant extracts. Solely pharmacological investigations (e.g. demonstrating your chemical kills cancer cells in vitro is not generally acceptable). Use of non-human cells when human equivalents exist and are available. The lack of adherence to established protocols, without direct explanation. Reporting cytotoxicity alone, with no mechanistic underpinning and/or no estimation of chemical exposure.
AUDIENCE

Academic, governmental and industrial laboratories using in vitro techniques.

IMPACT FACTOR

2018: 3.067 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2019

ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING

Current Contents - Life Sciences
EMBiology
BIOSIS Citation Index
Chemical Abstracts
Elsevier BIOBASE
Current Contents
Current Contents
Current Contents
Current Contents
Embase
Research Alert
Toxicology Abstracts
Scopus

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief
Paul Jennings, VU Amsterdam, AIIMS, Department of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences, De Boelelaan, 1108, 1081 HZ, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Associate Editors
Kerstin Stemmer, Helmholtz Centre Munich, Business Campus Garching, Institute for Diabetes and Obesity (IDO), Division of Metabolism and Cancer, Business Campus Garching, Parkring 13, 85748 Garching, Germany
Mathieu Vinken, Vrije University Brussel, Department of In Vitro Toxicology, Laarbeeklaan 103, 1090, Brussels, Belgium
Julio Davila, University of Puerto Rico Department of Biochemistry, Medical Sciences Campus, 00936-5067, San Juan, Puerto Rico
Matteo Goldoni, University of Parma Department of Medicine and Surgery Centre of Toxicological Research (CERT), 14 Viale Antonio Gramsci, 43126, Parma, Italy
Maxime Culot, Artois University Blood Brain Barrier Laboratory, LBHE - EA2465, Lens, France
Martin Leonard, Toxicology Department, Centre for Radiation, Chemical and Environmental Hazards, Public Health England, Harwell Science and Innovation Campus, OX11 0RQ, Oxfordshire, United Kingdom

International Editorial Board
Daniel Acosta, University of Cincinnati James L Winkle College of Pharmacy, San Antonio, Texas, United States
Gáspár Bánfalvi, University of Debrecen Department of Microbial Biotechnology and Cell Biology, Debrecen, Hungary
Frank A. Barile, Saint John’s University Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Queens, New York, United States
Martin D. Barratt, Marlin Consultancy Group Ltd, Bedford, United Kingdom
Bas J. Blaauwboer, Utrecht University Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences, Utrecht, Netherlands
Robert L. Bronaugh, Food and Drug Administration Office of Cosmetics and Colors, College Park, Maryland, United States
Robert D. Combes, Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments (FRAME), Nottingham, NG1 4EE, United Kingdom
Marco Cordani, IMDEA Nanoscience Institute, Department of Nanomedicine, Madrid, Spain
Gianni Dal Negro, GlaxoSmithKline SpA, Verona, Italy
George L. DeGeorge, MB Research Laboratories, Spinnerstown, Pennsylvania, United States
Marion Ehrich, Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, Blacksburg, Virginia, United States
Mary Beth Genter, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, Cincinnati, Ohio, United States
Mary Helen Grant, University of Strathclyde Department of Bioengineering, Glasgow, United Kingdom
Roberta L. Grant, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Austin, Texas, United States
Sjeng Horbach, MSD BV Oss, Oss, Netherlands
José E. Manautou, University of Connecticut Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Storrs, Connecticut, United States
Ilka Maschmeyer, TissUse GmbH, Berlin, Germany
Russell Melchert, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Pharmacy, Little Rock, Arkansas, United States
Nancy Monteiro-Riviere, North Carolina State University Center for Chemical Toxicology Research and Pharmacokinetics, Raleigh, North Carolina, United States
Daniel Morgan, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), Respiratory Toxicology, Durham, North Carolina, United States
Marek Murias, Poznan University of Medical Sciences Department of Toxicology, Poznan, Poland
Minako Nagao, National Cancer Center Research Institute, Division of Biochemistry, Tokyo, Japan
Andreas Natsch, Givaudan Switzerland Department of Bioscience, Dübendorf, Switzerland
Andreas K. Nüssler, Technical University of Munich Hospital Rechts der Isar Department of Traumatology, München, Germany
José-Enrique O'Connor, University of Valencia Cytometry Center, Valencia, Spain
L. Garza Ocañas, Autonomous University of Nuevo Leon Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Monterrey, Mexico
Ivonne M.C.M. Rietjens, Wageningen University Sub-department of Toxicology, Wageningen, Netherlands
Rosita Rodriguez Proteau, Oregon State University Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Corvallis, Oregon, United States
Andrzej C. Skladanowski, Intercollegiate Faculty of Biotechnology UG and GUMed Department of Molecular Enzymology, Gdansk, Poland
Miguel Sogorb, Miguel Hernandez University of Elche Institute of Bioengineering, Elche, Spain
Emanuela Testai, National Institute of Health Laboratory of Comparative Toxicology and Ecotoxicology, Roma, Italy
Chiara Urani, University of Milan-Bicocca Department of Environmental and Earth Sciences, Milano, Italy
Jan Van Benthem, National Institute of Public Health and the Environment, Department of Carcinogenesis, Mutagenesis and Reproduction Toxicology, Bilthoven, Netherlands
Bart Van der Burg, BioDetection Systems BV, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Remco Westerink, Utrecht University Institute for Risk Assessment Sciences, Utrecht, Netherlands
Doris Wilflingseder, Innsbruck Medical University Division of Hygiene and Medical Microbiology, Innsbruck, Austria
Anja Wilmes, VU Amsterdam, Division of Molecular and Computational Toxicology, Department of Chemistry and Pharmaceutical Sciences, Amsterdam, Netherlands
Xiaozhong (John) Yu, University of Georgia College of Public Health, Athens, Georgia, United States
GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

Your Paper Your Way
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
Types of paper
The Journal's main purpose will be the publication of papers reporting and interpreting original toxicological research involving the application or development of in vitro techniques. Brief Communications (2,500 word limit) documenting important new findings warranting expeditious publication will also be considered, as will concise interpretative Reviews of toxicological topics of contemporary significance. Letters to the Editor will be limited to comments on contributions already published in the Journal; if a letter is accepted, a response (for simultaneous publication) will be invited from the authors of the original contribution. Toxicology in Vitro also welcomes Correspondence from the scientific community, especially as they relate to Hot Topics and Debates. These are handled directly by the Editor-in-Chief and may be accompanied by responses.

Submission checklist
You can use this list to carry out a final check of your submission before you send it to the journal for review. Please check the relevant section in this Guide for Authors for more details.

Ensure that the following items are present:

One author has been designated as the corresponding author with contact details:
• E-mail address
• Full postal address

All necessary files have been uploaded:
Manuscript:
• Include keywords
• All figures (include relevant captions)
• All tables (including titles, description, footnotes)
• Ensure all figure and table citations in the text match the files provided
• Indicate clearly if color should be used for any figures in print
Graphical Abstracts / Highlights files (where applicable)
Supplemental files (where applicable)

Further considerations
• Manuscript has been 'spell checked' and 'grammar checked'
• All references mentioned in the Reference List are cited in the text, and vice versa
• Permission has been obtained for use of copyrighted material from other sources (including the Internet)
• A competing interests statement is provided, even if the authors have no competing interests to declare
• Journal policies detailed in this guide have been reviewed
• Referee suggestions and contact details provided, based on journal requirements

For further information, visit our Support Center.

BEFORE YOU BEGIN
Ethics in publishing
Please see our information pages on Ethics in publishing and Ethical guidelines for journal publication.

Declaration of interest
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 should complete the declaration of interest statement using this template and upload to the submission system at the Attach/Upload Files step. If there are no interests to declare, please choose: 'Declarations of interest: none' in the template. This statement will be published within the article if accepted. More information.

Submission declaration and verification
Submission of an article implies that the work described has not been published previously (except in the form of an abstract, a published lecture or academic thesis, see 'Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication' for more information), that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that its publication is approved by all authors and tacitly or explicitly by the responsible authorities where the work was carried out, and that, if accepted, it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, in English or in any other language, including electronically without the written consent of the copyright-holder. To verify originality, your article may be checked by the originality detection service Crossref Similarity Check.

Preprints
Please note that preprints can be shared anywhere at any time, in line with Elsevier's sharing policy. Sharing your preprints e.g. on a preprint server will not count as prior publication (see 'Multiple, redundant or concurrent publication' for more information).

Use of inclusive language
Inclusive language acknowledges diversity, conveys respect to all people, is sensitive to differences, and promotes equal opportunities. Articles should make no assumptions about the beliefs or commitments of any reader, should contain nothing which might imply that one individual is superior to another on the grounds of race, sex, culture or any other characteristic, and should use inclusive language throughout. Authors should ensure that writing is free from bias, for instance by using 'he or she', 'his/her' instead of 'he' or 'his', and by making use of job titles that are free of stereotyping (e.g. 'chairperson' instead of 'chairman' and 'flight attendant' instead of 'stewardess').

Changes to authorship
Authors are expected to consider carefully the list and order of authors before submitting their manuscript and provide the definitive list of authors at the time of the original submission. Any addition, deletion or rearrangement of author names in the authorship list should be made only before the manuscript has been accepted and only if approved by the journal Editor. To request such a change, the Editor must receive the following from the corresponding author: (a) the reason for the change in author list and (b) written confirmation (e-mail, letter) from all authors that they agree with the addition, removal or rearrangement. In the case of addition or removal of authors, this includes confirmation from the author being added or removed. Only in exceptional circumstances will the Editor consider the addition, deletion or rearrangement of authors after the manuscript has been accepted. While the Editor considers the request, publication of the manuscript will be suspended. If the manuscript has already been published in an online issue, any requests approved by the Editor will result in a corrigendum.

Article transfer service
This journal is part of our Article Transfer Service. This means that if the Editor feels your article is more suitable in one of our other participating journals, then you may be asked to consider transferring the article to one of those. If you agree, your article will be transferred automatically on your behalf with no need to reformat. Please note that your article will be reviewed again by the new journal. More information.

Copyright
Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' (see more information on this). An e-mail will be sent to the corresponding author confirming receipt of the manuscript together with a 'Journal Publishing Agreement' form or a link to the online version of this agreement.

Subscribers may reproduce tables of contents or prepare lists of articles including abstracts for internal circulation within their institutions. Permission of the Publisher is required for resale or distribution outside the institution and for all other derivative works, including compilations and translations. If excerpts from other copyrighted works are included, the author(s) must obtain written permission from the copyright owners and credit the source(s) in the article. Elsevier has preprinted forms for use by authors in these cases.
For gold open access articles: Upon acceptance of an article, authors will be asked to complete an 'Exclusive License Agreement' (more information). Permitted third party reuse of gold open access articles is determined by the author's choice of user license.

**Author rights**
As an author you (or your employer or institution) have certain rights to reuse your work. More information.

Elsevier supports responsible sharing
Find out how you can share your research published in Elsevier journals.

**Role of the Funding Source**
You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the paper for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated. All sources of funding should be declared as an acknowledgment at the end of the text. Please see https://www.elsevier.com/funding.

**Open access**
Please visit our Open Access page for more information.

**Language (usage and editing services)**
Please write your text in good English (American or British usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors who feel their English language manuscript may require editing to eliminate possible grammatical or spelling errors and to conform to correct scientific English may wish to use the English Language Editing service available from Elsevier's Author Services.

**Submission**
Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts source files to a single PDF file of the article, which is used in the peer-review process. Please note that even though manuscript source files are converted to PDF files at submission for the review process, these source files are needed for further processing after acceptance. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, takes place by e-mail removing the need for a paper trail. https://www.editorialmanager.com/tiv/default.aspx

**Revised versions**
The medium of submission for revised papers is electronic, through the Elsevier website (https://www.editorialmanager.com/tiv/default.aspx). Figures should be submitted as original high quality files of a standard graphics program. Revised versions should be returned within 3 months of the first date of decision. Failure to do so will result in any resubmission being treated as a new version and will therefore carry a new date of receipt.

**Referees**
The Editors require submissions by the authors of the names and addresses of 4 potential reviewers for this submission. The institutional address and e-mail address are required. At least 2 of the referees should be from a different country to the corresponding author's. The Editors reserve the right to use these or other reviewers.

**Experimental Procedures**
All animal experiments should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, the European Communities Council Directive of 24 November 1986 (86/609/EEC) or the National Institutes of Health guide for the care and use of Laboratory animals (NIH Publications No. 8023, revised 1978) and the authors should clearly indicate in the manuscript that such guidelines have been followed. All animal studies need to ensure they comply with the ARRIVE guidelines. More information can be found at http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/page.asp?id=1357.

**PREPARATION**
NEW SUBMISSIONS
Submission to this journal proceeds totally online and you will be guided stepwise through the creation and uploading of your files. The system automatically converts your files to a single PDF file, which is used in the peer-review process.
As part of the Your Paper Your Way service, you may choose to submit your manuscript as a single file to be used in the refereeing process. This can be a PDF file or a Word document, in any format or layout that can be used by referees to evaluate your manuscript. It should contain high enough quality figures for refereeing. If you prefer to do so, you may still provide all or some of the source files at the initial submission. Please note that individual figure files larger than 10 MB must be uploaded separately.

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 article number or 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.

Formatting requirements
There are no strict formatting requirements but all manuscripts must contain the essential elements needed to convey your manuscript, for example Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Conclusions, Artwork and Tables with Captions.
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.

Please ensure the text of your paper is double-spaced– this is an essential peer review requirement.

Figures and tables embedded in text
Please ensure the figures and the tables included in the single file are placed next to the relevant text in the manuscript, rather than at the bottom or the top of the file. The corresponding caption should be placed directly below the figure or table.

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.

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.

Manuscript Format
Manuscripts should be written in clear and concise English; incomprehensible submissions will be returned to authors for revision. All pages must be numbered, including the Title Page, which should carry the title of the paper, the surnames and initials of the authors, and the names and address of the institutions where the work was done (with the affiliation of each author clearly indicated). Titles consisting of declarative or interrogative sentences are not acceptable. Please do not add line numbering to your source file as this will be added automatically by the EES system upon building of the PDF.

Introduction
Introduction: A concise and clear statement on the background, purposes and significance of the work.
Material and methods
Materials and Methods: A detailed description of the experimental design and of any new or improved methods. Well-established methods and techniques may be identified by reference only.

Results
Results: Presented concisely with the aid of tables or figures where appropriate. Duplication between this section and the Discussion must be avoided.

Discussion
Discussion: A succinct interpretation of the data. Extensive literature reviews and highly speculative comments are discouraged.

Essential title page information
• Title. Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.

• Author names and affiliations. Where the family name may be ambiguous (e.g., a double name), please indicate this clearly. Each author's academic or professional qualifications should also be listed. 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.

• Corresponding author. Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. Ensure that telephone and fax numbers (with country and area code) are provided in addition to the e-mail address and the complete postal address.

• Present/permanent address. If an author has moved since the work described in the article was done, or was visiting at the time, a "Present address" (or "Permanent address") may be indicated as a footnote to that author's name. The address at which the author actually did the work must be retained as the main, affiliation address. Superscript Arabic numerals are used for such footnotes.

Highlights
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).

Abstract
Abstract: A self-contained summary of the objectives, results and significance of the study, not exceeding 200 words. Uninformative sentences such as "the significance of the results is discussed" are not acceptable.

Graphical abstract
Although a graphical abstract is optional, its use is encouraged as it draws more attention to the online article. The graphical abstract should summarize the contents of the article in a concise, pictorial form designed to capture the attention of a wide readership. Graphical abstracts should be submitted as a separate file in the online submission system. Image size: Please provide an image with a minimum of 531 × 1328 pixels (h × w) or proportionally more. The image should be readable at a size of 5 × 13 cm using a regular screen resolution of 96 dpi. Preferred file types: TIFF, EPS, PDF or MS Office files. You can view Example Graphical Abstracts on our information site.

Authors can make use of Elsevier's Illustration Services to ensure the best presentation of their images and in accordance with all technical requirements.

Highlights
Highlights are mandatory for this journal. They consist of a short collection of bullet points that convey the core findings of the article and should be submitted in a separate 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, or, maximum 20 words per bullet point). See https://www.elsevier.com/highlights for examples.
Keywords
Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 6 keywords, using American spelling and
avoiding general and plural terms and multiple concepts (avoid, for example, 'and', 'of'). Be sparing
with abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords
will be used for indexing purposes.

Abbreviations
Abbreviations should be used sparingly. Define abbreviations that are not standard in this field in a
footnote to be placed on the first page of the article. Such abbreviations that are unavoidable in the
abstract must be defined at their first mention there, as well as in the footnote. Ensure consistency
of abbreviations throughout the article.

Acknowledgements
Acknowledgements: Providing recognition of sources of funding and donations of materials, and
including any thanks the authors may wish to accord for advisory, technical or other assistance,
since authorship should be limited to those who have made a major contribution to the study and
to the preparation of the paper. Authors are advised to obtain approval for the wording of any
acknowledgement from those whose help is noted.

Nomenclature
The metric system is the standard for all measurements. Test chemicals and enzymes must be clearly
identified, wherever possible, with the aid of CAS Registry and EC numbers.

Footnotes
Footnotes should be used sparingly. Number them consecutively throughout the article. Many word
processors build footnotes into the text, and this feature may be used. Should this not be the case,
indicate the position of footnotes in the text and present the footnotes themselves separately at the
end of the article.

Artwork
Electronic artwork
General points
• Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
• Preferred fonts: Arial (or Helvetica), Times New Roman (or Times), Symbol, Courier.
• Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
• Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
• Indicate per figure if it is a single, 1.5 or 2-column fitting image.
• For Word submissions only, you may still provide figures and their captions, and tables within a
  single file at the revision stage.
• Please note that individual figure files larger than 10 MB must be provided in separate source files.

A detailed guide on electronic artwork is available.

You are urged to visit this site; some excerpts from the detailed information are given here.

Formats
Regardless of the application used, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'save as' or
convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings,
halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):
EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings. Embed the font or save the text as 'graphics'.
TIFF (or JPG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones): always use a minimum of 300 dpi.
TIFF (or JPG): Bitmapped line drawings: use a minimum of 1000 dpi.
TIFF (or JPG): Combinations bitmapped line/halftone (color or grayscale): a minimum of 500 dpi
is required.

Please do not:
• Supply files that are optimized for screen use (e.g., GIF, BMP, PICT, WPG); the resolution is too low.
• Supply files that are too low in resolution.
• Submit graphics that are disproportionately large for the content.

Color artwork
Please make sure that artwork files are in an acceptable format (TIFF (or JPEG), EPS (or PDF), or
MS Office files) and with the correct resolution. If, together with your accepted article, you submit
usable color figures then Elsevier will ensure, at no additional charge, that these figures will appear
in color online (e.g., ScienceDirect and other sites) regardless of whether or not these illustrations
are reproduced in color in the printed version. For color reproduction in print, you will receive
information regarding the costs from Elsevier after receipt of your accepted article. Please indicate your preference for color: in print or online only. Further information on the preparation of electronic artwork.

Figure captions
Ensure that each illustration has a caption. A caption should comprise a brief title (not on the figure itself) and a description of the illustration. Keep text in the illustrations themselves to a minimum but explain all symbols and abbreviations used.

Tables
Tables should be intelligible without reference to the text and should be planned to fit the page size of the Journal. The same data may not be reproduced in both a table and a figure. Each table must have a title and on each column there should be a heading that clearly identifies the data therein. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text. Place footnotes to tables below the table body and indicate them with superscript lowercase letters. Avoid vertical rules. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in tables do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article.

Reference links
Increased discoverability of research and high quality peer review are ensured by online links to the sources cited. In order to allow us to create links to abstracting and indexing services, such as Scopus, CrossRef and PubMed, please ensure that data provided in the references are correct. Please note that incorrect surnames, journal/book titles, publication year and pagination may prevent link creation. When copying references, please be careful as they may already contain errors. Use of the DOI is highly encouraged.

A DOI is guaranteed never to change, so you can use it as a permanent link to any electronic article. An example of a citation using DOI for an article not yet in an issue is: VanDecar J.C., Russo R.M., James D.E., Ambeh W.B., Franke M. (2003). Aseismic continuation of the Lesser Antilles slab beneath northeastern Venezuela. Journal of Geophysical Research, https://doi.org/10.1029/2001JB000884. Please note the format of such citations should be in the same style as all other references in the paper.

Data references
This journal encourages you to cite underlying or relevant datasets in your manuscript by citing them in your text and including a data reference in your Reference List. Data references should include the following elements: author name(s), dataset title, data repository, version (where available), year, and global persistent identifier. Add [dataset] immediately before the reference so we can properly identify it as a data reference. The [dataset] identifier will not appear in your published article.

Reference management software
Most Elsevier journals have their reference template available in many of the most popular reference management software products. These include all products that support Citation Style Language styles, such as Mendeley. Using citation plug-ins from these products, authors only need to select the appropriate journal template when preparing their article, after which citations and bibliographies will be automatically formatted in the journal's style. If no template is yet available for this journal, please follow the format of the sample references and citations as shown in this Guide. If you use reference management software, please ensure that you remove all field codes before submitting the electronic manuscript. More information on how to remove field codes from different reference management software.

Users of Mendeley Desktop can easily install the reference style for this journal by clicking the following link:
When preparing your manuscript, you will then be able to select this style using the Mendeley plug-ins for Microsoft Word or LibreOffice.

Reference formatting
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 article number or 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. If you do wish to format the references yourself they should be arranged according to the following examples:
Reference style

Text: All citations in the text should refer to:

1. **Single author:** the author's name (without initials, unless there is ambiguity) and the year of publication;
2. **Two authors:** both authors' names and the year of publication;
3. **Three or more authors:** first author's name followed by 'et al.' and the year of publication.

Citations may be made directly (or parenthetically). Groups of references can be listed either first alphabetically, then chronologically, or vice versa.

Examples: 'as demonstrated (Allan, 2000a, 2000b, 1999; Allan and Jones, 1999).... Or, as demonstrated (Jones, 1999; Allan, 2000).... Kramer et al. (2010) have recently shown ...'

List: References should be arranged first alphabetically and then further sorted chronologically if necessary. More than one reference from the same author(s) in the same year must be identified by the letters 'a', 'b', 'c', etc., placed after the year of publication.

Examples:

Reference to a journal publication:

Reference to a journal publication with an article number:

Reference to a book:

Reference to a chapter in an edited book:

Reference to a website:

Reference to a dataset:

Video

Elsevier accepts video material and animation sequences to support and enhance your scientific research. Authors who have video or animation files that they wish to submit with their article are strongly encouraged to include links to these within the body of the article. This can be done in the same way as a figure or table by referring to the video or animation content and noting in the body text where it should be placed. All submitted files should be properly labeled so that they directly relate to the video file's content. In order to ensure that your video or animation material is directly usable, please provide the file in one of our recommended file formats with a preferred maximum size of 150 MB per file, 1 GB in total. Video and animation files supplied will be published online in the electronic version of your article in Elsevier Web products, including ScienceDirect. Please supply 'stills' with your files: you can choose any frame from the video or animation or make a separate image. These will be used instead of standard icons and will personalize the link to your video data. For more detailed instructions please visit our video instruction pages. Note: since video and animation cannot be embedded in the print version of the journal, please provide text for both the electronic and the print version for the portions of the article that refer to this content.

Data visualization

Include interactive data visualizations in your publication and let your readers interact and engage more closely with your research. Follow the instructions here to find out about available data visualization options and how to include them with your article.

Supplementary material

Supplementary material such as applications, images and sound clips, can be published with your article to enhance it. Submitted supplementary items are published exactly as they are received (Excel or PowerPoint files will appear as such online). Please submit your material together with the article and supply a concise, descriptive caption for each supplementary file. If you wish to make changes to
supplementary material during any stage of the process, please make sure to provide an updated file. Do not annotate any corrections on a previous version. Please switch off the 'Track Changes' option in Microsoft Office files as these will appear in the published version.

**Research data**

This journal encourages and enables you to share data that supports your research publication where appropriate, and enables you to interlink the data with your published articles. Research data refers to the results of observations or experimentation that validate research findings. To facilitate reproducibility and data reuse, this journal also encourages you to share your software, code, models, algorithms, protocols, methods and other useful materials related to the project.

Below are a number of ways in which you can associate data with your article or make a statement about the availability of your data when submitting your manuscript. If you are sharing data in one of these ways, you are encouraged to cite the data in your manuscript and reference list. Please refer to the "References" section for more information about data citation. For more information on depositing, sharing and using research data and other relevant research materials, visit the research data page.

**Data linking**

If you have made your research data available in a data repository, you can link your article directly to the dataset. Elsevier collaborates with a number of repositories to link articles on ScienceDirect with relevant repositories, giving readers access to underlying data that gives them a better understanding of the research described.

There are different ways to link your datasets to your article. When available, you can directly link your dataset to your article by providing the relevant information in the submission system. For more information, visit the database linking page.

For supported data repositories a repository banner will automatically appear next to your published article on ScienceDirect.

In addition, you can link to relevant data or entities through identifiers within the text of your manuscript, using the following format: Database: xxxx (e.g., TAIR: AT1G01020; CCDC: 734053; PDB: 1XFN).

**Mendeley Data**

This journal supports Mendeley Data, enabling you to deposit any research data (including raw and processed data, video, code, software, algorithms, protocols, and methods) associated with your manuscript in a free-to-use, open access repository. During the submission process, after uploading your manuscript, you will have the opportunity to upload your relevant datasets directly to Mendeley Data. The datasets will be listed and directly accessible to readers next to your published article online.

For more information, visit the Mendeley Data for journals page.

**Data in Brief**

You have the option of converting any or all parts of your supplementary or additional raw data into one or multiple data articles, a new kind of article that houses and describes your data. Data articles ensure that your data is actively reviewed, curated, formatted, indexed, given a DOI and publicly available to all upon publication. You are encouraged to submit your article for Data in Brief as an additional item directly alongside the revised version of your manuscript. If your research article is accepted, your data article will automatically be transferred over to Data in Brief where it will be editorially reviewed and published in the open access data journal, Data in Brief. Please note an open access fee of 600 USD is payable for publication in Data in Brief. Full details can be found on the Data in Brief website. Please use this template to write your Data in Brief.

**MethodsX**

You have the option of converting relevant protocols and methods into one or multiple MethodsX articles, a new kind of article that describes the details of customized research methods. Many researchers spend a significant amount of time on developing methods to fit their specific needs or setting, but often without getting credit for this part of their work. MethodsX, an open access journal, now publishes this information in order to make it searchable, peer reviewed, citable and reproducible. Authors are encouraged to submit their MethodsX article as an additional item directly alongside the revised version of their manuscript. If your research article is accepted, your methods article will
automatically be transferred over to MethodsX where it will be editorially reviewed. Please note an open access fee is payable for publication in MethodsX. Full details can be found on the MethodsX website. Please use this template to prepare your MethodsX article.

Data statement
To foster transparency, we encourage you to state the availability of your data in your submission. This may be a requirement of your funding body or institution. If your data is unavailable to access or unsuitable to post, you will have the opportunity to indicate why during the submission process, for example by stating that the research data is confidential. The statement will appear with your published article on ScienceDirect. For more information, visit the Data Statement page.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Online proof correction
To ensure a fast publication process of the article, we kindly ask authors to provide us with their proof corrections within two days. Corresponding authors will receive an e-mail with a link to our online proofing system, allowing annotation and correction of proofs online. The environment is similar to MS Word: in addition to editing text, you can also comment on figures/tables and answer questions from the Copy Editor. Web-based proofing provides a faster and less error-prone process by allowing you to directly type your corrections, eliminating the potential introduction of errors. If preferred, you can still choose to annotate and upload your edits on the PDF version. All instructions for proofing will be given in the e-mail we send to authors, including alternative methods to the online version and PDF.

We will do everything possible to get your article published quickly and accurately. Please use this proof only for checking the typesetting, editing, completeness and correctness of the text, tables and figures. Significant changes to the article as accepted for publication will only be considered at this stage with permission from the Editor. It is important to ensure that all corrections are sent back to us in one communication. Please check carefully before replying, as inclusion of any subsequent corrections cannot be guaranteed. Proofreading is solely your responsibility.

Offprints
The corresponding author will, at no cost, receive a customized Share Link providing 50 days free access to the final published version of the article on ScienceDirect. The Share Link can be used for sharing the article via any communication channel, including email and social media. For an extra charge, paper offprints can be ordered via the offprint order form which is sent once the article is accepted for publication. Both corresponding and co-authors may order offprints at any time via Elsevier’s Author Services. Corresponding authors who have published their article gold open access do not receive a Share Link as their final published version of the article is available open access on ScienceDirect and can be shared through the article DOI link.

AUTHOR INQUIRIES
Visit the Elsevier Support Center to find the answers you need. Here you will find everything from Frequently Asked Questions to ways to get in touch. You can also check the status of your submitted article or find out when your accepted article will be published.

© Copyright 2018 Elsevier | https://www.elsevier.com