TOXICON
An Interdisciplinary Journal on the Toxins Derived from Animals, Plants and Microorganisms

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.5

DESCRIPTION

Toxicon's "aims and scope" are to publish: articles containing the results of original research on problems related to toxins derived from animals, plants and microorganisms; papers on novel findings related to the chemical, pharmacological, toxicological, and immunological properties of natural toxins; molecular biological studies of toxins and other genes from poisonous and venomous organisms that advance understanding of the role or function of toxins clinical observations on poisoning and envenoming where a new therapeutic principle has been proposed or a decidedly superior clinical result has been obtained. Material on the use of toxins as tools in studying biological processes and material on subjects related to venom and antivenom problems. Articles on the translational application of toxins, for example as drugs and insecticides epidemiological studies on envenoming or poisoning, so long as they highlight a previously unrecognised medical problem or provide insight into the prevention or medical treatment of envenoming or poisoning. Retrospective surveys of hospital records, especially those lacking species identification, will not be considered for publication. Properly designed prospective community-based surveys are strongly encouraged. Articles describing well-known activities of venoms, such as antibacterial, anticancer, and analgesic activities of arachnid venoms, without any attempt to define the mechanism of action or purify the active component, will not be considered for publication in Toxicon. Review articles on problems related to toxinology.

To encourage the exchange of ideas, sections of the journal may be devoted to Short Communications, Letters to the Editor and activities of the affiliated societies.

Toxicon strives to publish articles that are current and of broad interest and importance to the toxinology research community. Emphasis will be placed upon articles that further the understanding and knowledge of toxinology.

Types of paper

Full-Length Research Papers: Articles containing the results of original research on problems related to toxins derived from animals, plants and microorganisms.

Short Communications: Short communications differ from full manuscripts only in that the research study does not lend itself to an extended presentation. Even though brief, the Short communication should represent a complete, coherent and self contained study. The quality of Short Communications is expected to be as good as that of full articles, and both full articles and Short communications will be refereed in an identical manner. The form is identical to that for a full article except that the report
should not be divided into Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion. An abstract of not more than 75 words should be provided. The Short Communication may not be longer than five double-spaced typewritten pages (not including references, tables and figures) and should include not more than two tables of two figures or one of each.

**Letters to the Editor:** These may be published if judged by the Editor to be of interest to the broad field of toxinology or of special significance to a smaller group of workers in a specialized field of toxinology. They should be headed `Letter to the Editor` which should be followed by a title for the communication. Names of authors and affiliations should be at the end of the letter.

**Announcements:** *Toxicon* will only accept for publication announcements of great interest to toxinologists, such as notices of relevant meetings and symposia and activities of the International Society of Toxinology, The Brazilian Society of Toxinology, and the North American Society of Toxinology.

**Reviews and mini-Reviews:** *Toxicon* will publish reviews and mini-reviews on topics of interest to toxinologists. Suggestions for reviews or mini-reviews can be made at any time to the Editor-in-Chief or the relevant Associate Editor. In addition, articles of significant broad interest to toxinologists that are published in journals other than *Toxicon* may be abstracted in the Reviews section of *Toxicon*. Readers who feel that a particular article or book should be abstracted in this section are encouraged to bring their opinion to the attention of one of the Editor-in-Chief.

**Clinical reports:** *Toxicon* will publish clinical reports on poisoning or envenoming where a new therapeutic principle has been proposed or a decidedly superior clinical result has been established. Please consult the Clinical Reports Guidelines

**AUDIENCE**

Toxicologists, toxinologists, molecular biologists and chemists.

**IMPACT FACTOR**

2017: 2.352 © Clarivate Analytics Journal Citation Reports 2018

**ABSTRACTING AND INDEXING**

EMBiology
Research Alert
BIOSIS
Elsevier BIOBASE
Cambridge Scientific Abstracts
Chemical Abstracts
Current Contents/Life Sciences
EMBASE
Current Contents/BIOMED Database
PASCAL/CNRS
Current Contents/Science Citation Index
Current Contents/SciSearch Database
MEDLINE®
Scopus

**EDITORIAL BOARD**

*Editor-in-Chief*

**Glenn King**, Inst. for Molecular Bioscience, Division of Chemistry & Structural Biology, University of Queensland, St. Lucia, 4072, Queensland, Australia, Fax: +61 7 3346-2101
https://twitter.com/VenomsLab?lang=en
Honorary Editor-in-Chief

Alan L. Harvey, Strathclyde Inst. of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences (SIPBS), University of Strathclyde, The John Arbuthnott Building, 27 Taylor Street, G4 0NR, Glasgow, Scotland, UK, Fax: +44 141 552 8376

Associate Editors

Jose Maria Gutiérrez, Inst. Clodomiro Picado, Fac. de Microbiologia, Universidad de Costa Rica, San José, Costa Rica
Brett A. Neilan, School of Environmental and Life Sciences, The University of Newcastle, University Drive, Callaghan, NSW 2038, New South Wales, Australia
Ornela Rossetto, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences, Università degli Studi di Padova, Via Ugo Bassi 58/B, I-35121, Padova, Italy
Denise Tambourgi, Immunochemistry Laboratory, Av. Vital Brazil, 1500, Instituto Butantan, 05503-900, São Paulo, Brazil
Kevin Welch, Poisonous Plant Research Lab, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), 1150 E 1400 N, Logan, Utah, UT 84341, USA

Editorial Council

Klaus Aktories, Inst. of Pharmacology and Toxicology, Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Freiburg, Germany
Isaac Asuzu, Dept. of Veterinary Pharmacology and Physiology, University of Nigeria, Nsukka, Nigeria
G.L. Boyer, Syracuse, New York, USA
Bryan W. Brooks, Dept. of Environmental Science, Baylor University, Waco, Texas, USA
Juan Calvete, Lab. de Proteinómica Estructural, Instituto de Biomedicina de Valencia, C.S.I.C., Valencia, Spain
Célia R. Carlini, Dept. de Biofísica e Centro de Biotecnologia, Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre RS, Brazil
Edmond E. Creppy, Toxicologie et Hygiène, Université Victor Segalen Bordeaux 2, Bordeaux Cedex, France
Frederic Ducancel, Lab. d’Ingénierie des Anticorps pour la Santé, Commissariat à l’Énergie Atomique (CEA), Gif-Sur-Yvette, France
Marc Edery, Molécules de communication et adaptation des micro-organismes, Museum National d’Histoire Naturelle, Paris Cedex 05, France
Jay Fox, Dept. of Microbiology, Virginia Commonwealth University, Charlottesville, Virginia, USA
Ponnampalam Gopalakrishnakone, Dept. of Anatomy, National University of Singapore, Singapore
Robert Horison, Sch. of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, University of Liverpool, Liverpool, UK
Wray, Hodgson, Dept. of Pharmacology, Monash University, Clayton, Victoria, Australia
R.J. Huxtable, Tucson, Arizona, USA
Geoff Isbister, Fac. of Health, The University of Newcastle, Callaghan, New South Wales, Australia
M. Ismail, Dept. of Clinical Pharmacy, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt
Evangelides Kalapothakis, Dept. de Biologia Geral, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais (UFMG), Belo Horizonte, MG, Brazil
William Kem, Dept. of Pharmacology & Therapeutics, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, USA
R. Manjunatha Kini, Dept. of Biological Sciences, National University of Singapore, Singapore, Singapore
Igor Krizaj, Fac. of Chem. & Chem. Technology, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia
Michel Lazdunski, UMR 6097, Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), Valbonne, France
Richard Lewis, Inst. for Molecular Bioscience, University of Queensland, St Lucia, Queensland, Australia
Francis Markland Jr., School of Medicine, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, USA
Marie-France Martin-Eauclaire, IFR Jean-Roche, Université de la Méditerranée, Marseille, France
Dietrich Mebs, Zentrum der Rechtsmedizin, Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Frankfurt, Germany
Edward Moczydłowski, Nanobiology, Sandia National Laboratories, Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA
Cesare Montecucco, Dept. of Biomedical Sciences, Università degli Studi di Padova, Padova, Italy
G.M. Nicholson, Sydney, Australia
B.M. Olivera, Salt Lake City, Utah, USA
Stephan Pflugmacher, Dept. of Inland Fisheries, Leibniz Institute of Freshwater Ecology, Berlin, Germany
Mark A. Poli, Div. of Integrated Toxicology, United States Army Medical Research Inst. of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID), Ft. Detrick, Maryland, USA
Louirval D. Possani, Instituto de Biotecnologia, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), Cuernavaca, Mexico
Solange M.T. Serrano, Lab. Especial de Toxicologia Aplicada, Instituto Butantan, Sao Paulo, Brazil
W.T. Shier, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA
Kaarina Sivonen, Dept. of Applied Chemistry and Microbiology, University of Helsinki, Helsinki, Finland
Toru Tamiya, Dept. of Chemistry, Sophia University, Tokyo, Japan
Aurelia Tubaro, Dipart. dei Materiali e delle Risorse Naturali (DMRN), Università di Trieste, Trieste, Italy
Jan Tytgat, Lab. of Toxicology, KU Leuven, Leuven, Belgium
David Warrell, Nuffield Dept. of Clinical Medicine, John Radcliffe Hospital, Oxford, UK
Julian White, Dept. of Toxicology, Women's and Children's Hospital, North Adelaide, South Australia, Australia
Yun Zhang, Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Kunming, China
R.B. Zingali, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
International Society on Toxinology

Secretary-Treasurer

Professor Julian White, Toxinology Department, Women's & Children's Hospital; North Adelaide SA 5006, Australia; www.toxinology.org; Phone: +(61)(0)8-8161 7000, Fax: +(61)(0)8-81618024
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
Official Journal of The International Society on Toxinology (http://www.toxinology.org/), Toxicon's "aims and scope" are laid down in the journal as:

To publish:
• articles containing the results of original research on problems related to toxins derived from animals, plants and microorganisms
• papers on novel findings related to the chemical, pharmacological, toxicological, and immunological properties of natural toxins
• molecular biological studies of toxin and other genes from poisonous and venomous organisms that advance understanding of the role or function of toxins
• clinical observations on poisoning and envenomung where a new therapeutic principle has been proposed or a decidedly superior clinical result has been obtained. Toxicon will not accept single-case reports unless they describe new, previously unreported, clinical features; envenomings or poisonings by rare animals, plants, fungi or microorganisms for which there is little or no clinical information in the literature; or treatment that employs a new therapeutic principle for which effectiveness is convincingly demonstrated. Such case reports must include: (1) expert species identification; (2) meticulous clinical documentation of symptoms, signs, laboratory data, treatment and clinical outcomes; (3) originality (adding to knowledge of the clinical phenotype); (4) where feasible, photographic documentation of clinical signs.
• material on the use of toxins as tools in studying biological processes and material on subjects related to venom-antivenom problems
• articles on the translational application of toxins, for example as drugs and insecticides
• epidemiological studies on envenomung or poisoning, so long as they highlight a previously unrecognised medical problem or provide insight into the prevention or medical treatment of envenomung or poisoning. Retrospective surveys of hospital records, especially those lacking species identification, will not be considered for publication. Properly designed prospective community-based surveys are strongly encouraged.
• articles describing well-known activities of venoms, such as antibacterial, anticancer, and analgesic activities of venoms, without any attempt to define the mechanism of action or purify the active component, will not be considered for publication in Toxicon
• review articles on problems related to toxinology.

And
To encourage the exchange of ideas, sections of the journal may be devoted to Short Communications, Letters to the Editor and activities of the International Society on Toxinology.

Toxicon strives to publish articles that are current and of broad interest and importance to the toxinology research community. Emphasis will be placed upon articles that further the understanding and knowledge of toxinology.

Types of paper

Full-Length Research Papers: Articles containing the results of original research on problems related to toxins derived from animals, plants and microorganisms.

Short Communications: Short communications differ from full manuscripts only in that the research study does not lend itself to an extended presentation. Even though brief, the Short communication should represent a complete, coherent and self contained study. The quality of Short Communications is expected to be as good as that of full articles, and both full articles and Short communications will be refereed in an identical manner. The form is identical to that for a full article except that the report should not be divided into Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion. An abstract
of not more than 75 words should be provided. The Short Communication may not be longer than five
double-spaced typewritten pages (not including references, tables and figures) and should include
not more than two tables of two figures or one of each.

**Correspondence:** These may be published if judged by the Editor to be of interest to the broad field
of toxinology or of special significance to a smaller group of workers in a specialized field of toxinology.
They should be headed 'Correspondence' which should be followed by a title for the communication.
Names of authors and affiliations should be at the end of the letter.

**Reviews and Short Reviews:** Articles of interest to toxinologists which are published in journals
other than *Toxicon* may be abstracted in the Reviews section of *Toxicon*. Readers who feel that a
particular article or book should be abstracted in this section are encouraged to bring their opinions to
the attention of one of the Review Editors. Mini-Reviews and proposals for mini-Reviews are welcome

**Molecular Biology:** Papers on molecular biological aspects of toxins are welcome. They can include
cloning, expression, genetic and related studies. The papers must add to the understanding of the role
or function of toxins. Papers providing cDNA sequences without any relevant conclusions are
not acceptable. If cDNA sequences are included, authors must guarantee that the sequences will be
deposited in a public gene bank before the publication of the paper in *Toxicon*.

There is another category of review articles which aims to educate and inform both the experienced
scientist and new scientists entering the field of toxinology. These articles should serve as a reference
guide for anyone using toxins. Please contact Dr. Ed Rowan with your suggestions for inclusion in
this review article feature.

**Case reports:** *Toxicon* will publish clinical reports on poisoning where a new therapeutic principle
has been proposed or a decidedly superior clinical result has been established. Please observe the
following: *Case Reports Guidelines*.

**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.

Human and animal rights
If the work involves the use of human subjects, the author should ensure that the work described has been carried out in accordance with The Code of Ethics of the World Medical Association (Declaration of Helsinki) for experiments involving humans; Uniform Requirements for manuscripts submitted to Biomedical journals. Authors should include a statement in the manuscript that informed consent was obtained for experimentation with human subjects. The privacy rights of human subjects must always be observed.

All animal experiments should comply with the ARRIVE guidelines and should be carried out in accordance with the U.K. Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act, 1986 and associated guidelines, EU Directive 2010/63/EU for animal experiments, 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. For all experiments involving humans or animals, details of the appropriate ethics committee approval(s) must be provided.

Conflict of Interest
Toxicon follows the ICMJE recommendations regarding conflict of interest disclosures. All authors are required to report the following information with each submission: All third-party financial support for the work in the submitted manuscript. All financial relationships with any entities that could be viewed as relevant to the general area of the submitted manuscript. All sources of revenue with relevance to the submitted work who made payments to you, or to your institution on your behalf, in the 36 months prior to submission. Any other interactions with the sponsor of outside of the submitted work should also be reported. Any relevant patents or copyrights (planned, pending, or issued). Any other relationships or affiliations that may be perceived by readers to have influenced, or give the appearance of potentially influencing, what you wrote in the submitted work.

As a general guideline, it is usually better to disclose a relationship than not. This information will be acknowledged at publication in a Transparency Document. Additional information on the ICMJE recommendations can be found at: http://www.icmje.org. The form for conflict of interest disclosure can be downloaded here, or at http://www.icmje.org/coi_disclosure.pdf (if this link does not display properly in your browser, please right-click the link and select "Save Target As..." or "Save Link as..." from the popup menu.)

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).

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 article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement then this should be stated.

**Funding body agreements and policies**
Elsevier has established a number of agreements with funding bodies which allow authors to comply with their funder's open access policies. Some funding bodies will reimburse the author for the gold open access publication fee. Details of existing agreements are available online.

**Open access**
This journal offers authors a choice in publishing their research:

**Subscription**
- Articles are made available to subscribers as well as developing countries and patient groups through our universal access programs.
- No open access publication fee payable by authors.
- The Author is entitled to post the accepted manuscript in their institution’s repository and make this public after an embargo period (known as green Open Access). The published journal article cannot be shared publicly, for example on ResearchGate or Academia.edu, to ensure the sustainability of peer-reviewed research in journal publications. The embargo period for this journal can be found below.

**Gold open access**
- Articles are freely available to both subscribers and the wider public with permitted reuse.
- A gold open access publication fee is payable by authors or on their behalf, e.g. by their research funder or institution.
Regardless of how you choose to publish your article, the journal will apply the same peer review criteria and acceptance standards.

For gold open access articles, permitted third party (re)use is defined by the following Creative Commons user licenses:

**Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY)**
Let others distribute and copy the article, create extracts, abstracts, and other revised versions, adaptations or derivative works of or from an article (such as a translation), include in a collective work (such as an anthology), text or data mine the article, even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit the author(s), do not represent the author as endorsing their adaptation of the article, and do not modify the article in such a way as to damage the author's honor or reputation.

**Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-NoDerivs (CC BY-NC-ND)**
For non-commercial purposes, lets others distribute and copy the article, and to include in a collective work (such as an anthology), as long as they credit the author(s) and provided they do not alter or modify the article.

The gold open access publication fee for this journal is **USD 3300**, excluding taxes. Learn more about Elsevier's pricing policy: https://www.elsevier.com/openaccesspricing.

**Green open access**
Authors can share their research in a variety of different ways and Elsevier has a number of green open access options available. We recommend authors see our green open access page for further information. Authors can also self-archive their manuscripts immediately and enable public access from their institution's repository after an embargo period. This is the version that has been accepted for publication and which typically includes author-incorporated changes suggested during submission, peer review and in editor-author communications. Embargo period: For subscription articles, an appropriate amount of time is needed for journals to deliver value to subscribing customers before an article becomes freely available to the public. This is the embargo period and it begins from the date the article is formally published online in its final and fully citable form. Find out more.

This journal has an embargo period of 12 months.

**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 WebShop.

**Submission**
Our online submission system guides you stepwise through the process of entering your article details and uploading your files. The system converts your article files to a single PDF file used in the peer-review process. Editable files (e.g., Word, LaTeX) are required to typeset your article for final publication. All correspondence, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revision, is sent by e-mail.

**Referees**
The Editors welcome submissions by the authors of the names and addresses of up to five individuals who could expertly review the paper, and who are not from the same institutions as the authors. The Editors reserve the right to use these or other reviewers.

**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 and has consecutive line numbering—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.

Article structure
Subdivision - numbered sections
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 details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.

Experimental
Provide sufficient details to allow the work to be reproduced by an independent researcher. Methods that are already published should be summarized, and indicated by a reference. If quoting directly from a previously published method, use quotation marks and also cite the source. Any modifications to existing methods should also be described.
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.**

Theory/calculation

A Theory section should extend, not repeat, the background to the article already dealt with in the Introduction and lay the foundation for further work. In contrast, a Calculation section represents a practical development from a theoretical basis.

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

The main conclusions of the study may be presented in a short Conclusions section, which may stand alone or form a subsection of a Discussion or Results and Discussion section.

Appendices

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.

**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.** 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.
- **Corresponding author.** Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. **Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are kept up to date by the corresponding author.**
- **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.

Abstract

A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

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
Humans 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 125 characters including spaces, or, maximum 20 words per bullet point). See http://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**

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**

Collate acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the article before the references and do not, therefore, include them on the title page, as a footnote to the title or otherwise. List here those individuals who provided help during the research (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.).

**Formatting of funding sources**

List funding sources in this standard way to facilitate compliance to funder's requirements:

Funding: This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health [grant numbers xxxx, yyyy]; the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Seattle, WA [grant number zzzz]; and the United States Institutes of Peace [grant number aaaa].

It is not necessary to include detailed descriptions on the program or type of grants and awards. When funding is from a block grant or other resources available to a university, college, or other research institution, submit the name of the institute or organization that provided the funding.

If no funding has been provided for the research, please include the following sentence:

This research did not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-profit sectors.

**Math formulae**

Please submit math equations as editable text and not as images. Present simple formulae in line with normal text where possible and use the solidus (/) instead of a horizontal line for small fractional terms, e.g., X/Y. In principle, variables are to be presented in italics. Powers of e are often more conveniently denoted by exp. Number consecutively any equations that have to be displayed separately from the text (if referred to explicitly in the text).

**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/half-tone (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**
Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on separate page(s) at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.

**References**

**Citation in text**
Please ensure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa). Any references cited in the abstract must be given in full. Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list, but may be mentioned in the text. If these references are included in the reference list they should follow the standard reference style of the journal and should include a substitution of the publication date with either 'Unpublished results' or 'Personal communication'. Citation of a reference as 'in press' implies that the item has been accepted for publication.

**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.

Web references
As a minimum, the full URL should be given and the date when the reference was last accessed. Any further information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), should also be given. Web references can be listed separately (e.g., after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or can be included in the reference list.

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.

References in a special issue
Please ensure that the words 'this issue' are added to any references in the list (and any citations in the text) to other articles in the same Special Issue.

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 and Zotero, as well as EndNote. Using the word processor 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.

Users of Mendeley Desktop can easily install the reference style for this journal by clicking the following link:
http://open.mendeley.com/use-citation-style/toxicon
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:

Journal abbreviations source
Journal names should be abbreviated according to the List of Title Word Abbreviations.

Taxonomy and toxin nomenclature
Authors should ensure that they are using the most up-to-date taxonomic description of any animal or plant described in their manuscript. For some taxa, up-to-date taxonomic information is readily available online (e.g., for spiders at www.wsc.nmbe.ch). For new, unidentified, or potentially cryptic species, a voucher specimen should be deposited in a natural history museum, or other facility, as appropriate.

Authors are encouraged to use rational nomenclature for all toxins described in their manuscript. Ad hoc naming schemes only serve to introduce confusion and make it difficult to compare toxins and establish evolutionary relationships. Suggested nomenclature has been published for spider toxins (King et al., Toxicon 52, 264-276, 2008; PMID 18619481), centipede toxins (Undheim et al., Mol. Biol. Evol.31, 2124-2148, 2014; PMID 24847043), sea anemone toxins (Oliveira et al., Toxicon 60, 539-550, 2012; PMID 22683676), and some classes of scorpion toxins (Tytgat et al., Trends Pharmacol. Sci. 20, 444-447, 1999; PMID 10542442).

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.

AudioSlides
The journal encourages authors to create an AudioSlides presentation with their published article. AudioSlides are brief, webinar-style presentations that are shown next to the online article on ScienceDirect. This gives authors the opportunity to summarize their research in their own words and to help readers understand what the paper is about. More information and examples are available. Authors of this journal will automatically receive an invitation e-mail to create an AudioSlides presentation after acceptance of their paper.
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. Before submitting your article, you can deposit the relevant datasets to Mendeley Data. Please include the DOI of the deposited dataset(s) in your main manuscript file. 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

AUTHOR INFORMATION PACK 22 Jul 2018 www.elsevier.com/locate/toxicon
editorially reviewed and published in the open access data journal, Data in Brief. Please note an open access fee of 500 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
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, at no cost, will be provided with a PDF file of the article via e-mail (the PDF file is a watermarked version of the published article and includes a cover sheet with the journal cover image and a disclaimer outlining the terms and conditions of use). 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 WebShop. Authors requiring printed copies of multiple articles may use Elsevier WebShop's 'Create Your Own Book' service to collate multiple articles within a single cover.

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