DESCRIPTION

Virology publishes papers that provide advances to the understanding of virus biology. We have been publishing the results of basic research in all branches of virology for over 60 years. The journal welcomes submissions on virus replication, virus-host biology, viral pathogenesis, immunity to viruses, virus structure, and virus evolution and ecology. Papers should be of broad interest to the community of virologists. We also publish state-of-the-art invited reviews from experts in the field.

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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

Virology publishes papers that provide advances to the understanding of virus biology. We have been publishing the results of basic research in all branches of virology for over 60 years. The journal welcomes submitted articles on virus replication, virus-host biology, viral pathogenesis, immunity to viruses, virus structure, and virus evolution and ecology. Articles should be of broad interest to the community of virologists. We also publish state-of-the-art invited reviews from experts in the field.

Types of paper

Virology publishes three forms of manuscripts: (a) regular manuscripts (b) brief communications consisting of short but complete studies; and (c) invited reviews.

Regular manuscripts present the results of original basic research in all areas of virology described above that break new ground and serve as a valuable addition to the literature in the field.

Brief Communications are short self-contained studies of significant and timely findings. Brief communications should have a maximum of 4 presentation items (combination of figures and tables). The organization of a Brief Communication is the same as that of a Regular manuscript. It is expected that the review of a Brief Communication will take into account the nature of its more limited scope. Manuscripts describing viral sequences without a significant advance in virus biology are not appropriate as Brief Communications.

Invited Reviews describe cutting-edge developments and themes of interest to virologists. The goal of a review is to focus on a sharply defined topic and to make the information accessible to researchers who work in other areas of virology. Reviews should not cover the field in question comprehensively but rather address fundamental concepts, recent findings, and important unresolved issues. We welcome submission of proposals for reviews. All review submissions should be pre-approved by invitation either by an editor or by sending a pre-submission inquiry to the Editor-in-chief or another editor of Virology with a proposed review outline.

Papers will be published in Virology under one of the following subheadings:

- Virus Replication/Gene Expression
- Virus Structure and Assembly
- Virus-Cell Biology
- Gene Therapy/Viral Vectors
- Emerging Viruses
- Unconventional Agents
- Viral Pathogenesis
- Immunity
- Technological Advances
- Genomes and Evolution

Authors should understand that space limitations make it impossible to publish manuscripts that describe work that does not break new ground conceptually, particularly if the work merely mirrors work done on a closely related virus without adding significant new knowledge, such as partial sequences of related viruses, evolutionary studies based on partial sequences, or descriptions of antigenic relationships and epitopes. Exceptions will be made, however, if these data reveal new insights into the fundamental properties of the virus.

Contact details for submission

The editors and their areas of responsibility are given here
**Peer Review Process:** Each editor is responsible for having manuscripts reviewed and for making the final decision concerning the disposition. Each manuscript is reviewed by at least two reviewers. All manuscripts are reviewed as rapidly as possible, and an editorial decision is usually reached within 4 to 5 weeks of the manuscript's submission.

**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**

**Additional Information**
Virology strongly encourages the correct usage and uniformity of virus names as defined by the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV). The ICTV rules of orthography should be consulted at the ICTV website [http://www.ictvonline.org/virusorthography.asp](http://www.ictvonline.org/virusorthography.asp). **Requirements for deposition of structural data**

For papers describing structures of biological macromolecules from electron microscopy experiments, the 3D map should be deposited at either the EMBL-EBI (UK) or RCSB (USA) EMDB deposition site ([http://www.emdatabank.org/](http://www.emdatabank.org/)). Once the map has been deposited, any fitted atomic coordinates should be deposited with the Protein Data Bank (PDB) by following the link provided from the EMDB deposition session. The EMDB and PDB IDs should be included in the manuscript. Both the map and the coordinate data will be made public when the associated article is published.

**Ethics in publishing**
Please see our information on Ethics in publishing.

**Policy and ethics**
Publication of a research article in *Virology* is taken to imply that the authors are prepared to distribute freely to academic researchers for their own use any materials (e.g., viruses, cells, DNA clones, antibodies) used in the published experiments. Prior to publication, nucleotide sequences and protein sequences must be deposited with GenBank (Web site: [http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Genbank/](http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Genbank/)) and an accession number obtained for publication in the manuscript. X-ray crystallographic coordinates must be deposited with the Protein Data Bank (Web site: [http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/](http://www.rcsb.org/pdb/)).
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Author contributions
For transparency, we encourage authors to submit an author statement file outlining their individual contributions to the paper using the relevant CRediT roles: Conceptualization; Data curation; Formal analysis; Funding acquisition; Investigation; Methodology; Project administration; Resources; Software; Supervision; Validation; Visualization; Roles/Writing - original draft; Writing - review & editing. Authorship statements should be formatted with the names of authors first and CRediT role(s) following. More details and an example

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**Additional information**
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**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.

**Streamline Reviews**

If you have a manuscript that has been reviewed and rejected from a high impact journal (Impact Factor over 8 such as Nature, Science, PNAS, Cell Host Microbe, or PLOS Pathogens), you can send us the original reviews, your rebuttal, and a revised manuscript. You should include these extra items as part of your cover letter. We will consider the manuscript based on these reviews. We reserve the option of sending it for an additional assessment, in which case the additional reviewer(s) will also have access to your previous reviews. However, either way it will save you time as you don't need to start the review process all over again with new reviews. This option works best for manuscripts rejected from a high impact journal for perceived reasons of impact, novelty, or significance.

**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.

**Material and methods**

Materials and methods should provide sufficient information to permit the work to be repeated and should be kept concise by referring to previously published procedures. With increasing studies on pathogenicity of viruses, it is important that the provenance of viruses be stated clearly.
Keywords
Immediately after the abstract, provide a maximum of 10 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.

Abstract
Abstract must not exceed 150 words

Units
Follow internationally accepted rules and conventions: use the international system of units (SI). If other quantities are mentioned, give their equivalent in SI. For how to write virus, species, and other taxa names, you are urged to consult the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV): https://talk.ictvonline.org/files/ictv_documents/m/gen_info/7004. The same ICTV web-site provides up-to-date virus taxonomy. Commonly used vernacular names may be used after viruses are first correctly identified. Genetic loci should be italicized; protein products of the loci are not italicized.

Please note that the instructions related to Graphical abstract still apply to all new submissions.

Peer review
This journal operates a single anonymized 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. Editors are not involved in decisions about papers which they have written themselves or have been written by family members or colleagues or which relate to products or services in which the editor has an interest. Any such submission is subject to all of the journal's usual procedures, with peer review handled independently of the relevant editor and their research groups. 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 - unnumbered sections
Divide your article into clearly defined sections. Each subsection is given a brief heading. Each heading should appear on its own separate line. Subsections should be used as much as possible when cross-referencing text: refer to the subsection by heading as opposed to simply 'the text'.

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

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.

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

**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.

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**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.

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For papers describing experimentally determined structures of biological macromolecules, the atomic coordinates and related experimental data (structure factor amplitudes/intensities and/or NMR restraints and chemical shifts) must be deposited in the PDB at a member site of the Worldwide Protein Data Bank ([wwPDB.org](http://www.wwpdb.org)). The wwPDB validation report for each structure should be provided upon manuscript submission.

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*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 JGP): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones): always use a minimum of 300 dpi.
- TIFF (or JGP): Bitmapped line drawings: use a minimum of 1000 dpi.
- TIFF (or JGP): 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) in addition to color reproduction in print. Further information on the preparation of electronic artwork.
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Citation in text
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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.

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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.

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