Pharmacogenomics

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Commissioning Editor

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The audience for *Pharmacogenomics* consists of clinicians, R&D scientists, decision-makers and marketing professionals in the pharmaceutical industry and associated biotechnical and research spheres. Authors should bear in mind the multidisciplinary status of the readership when writing the article. *Pharmacogenomics* review articles have been engineered specifically for the online environment. The structure is designed to draw the reader's attention directly to the information they require. Three features in particular contribute to the unique value of *Pharmacogenomics* review articles: highlights, expert opinion and outlook.

Article format

Specific requirements for each article type are given below – these should be followed closely. It is recognized however that the structure of individual articles must reflect the topic.

Title page

The title page of all article types should include the following information:

- Title (not more than 120 characters)
- Authors' names, including first name in full (no more than six authors per review)
- Authors' affiliations, including phone/fax/e-mail
- Summary – not more than 150 words this should not be an abstract but merely a scene-setting summary outlining the article scope and briefly putting it in context. The role of the summary is to draw in the interested casual browser.
- Keywords – up to 10 keywords (including therapeutic area, mechanism(s) of action etc.) plus names of drugs and compounds mentioned in the text.

Article structure

Introduction

The introduction should seek to define the area under review and relate it to potential therapeutic applications.

Body of review

This section should provide the bulk of the review and be divided according to the specific approaches reviewed within. No limits will be applied to the number of approaches described but each should be clearly defined as of current or speculative interest to research organizations. Whilst it is not the purpose of the publication to provide in-depth scientific justification of each approach, evidence supporting their pertinence will be expected.

The references should highlight centers of excellence for each approach and the principal scientists concerned. In addition to discussing the relative advantages/disadvantages of each approach covered, articles should include as much information as possible on which companies are working in the field, their particular research focus and what stages of development they have reached.

Expert opinion

A summary of the data and concepts presented in the review, including your 'Expert opinion'; a personal assessment of the subject under review. This section should examine such questions as: What significant advantages will the approaches/concepts covered have over those currently available? What are the prospects for combination approaches? What further improvements would be desirable? Are there significant hurdles to overcome before full therapeutic potential can be realized? Finally, the author should present their expert opinion on the likely impact of the new therapies on treatment guidelines and disease management.

Outlook

The author is challenged to include speculative viewpoint on how the field will have evolved 5–10 years from the point at which the review was written.

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Highlights

An executive summary of the authors' main points (bulleted) is very useful for time-constrained readers requiring a rapidly accessible overview. The executive summary should comprise of a series of bulleted statements (typically 8–10) representing key conclusions, unresolved issues and points for emphasis of work in future.

References

References should not include data on file or personal communication (mention in text)

Summary tables and/or figures are very useful. The article should include up to six illustrations, with tables included as necessary. Where supporting commentary is provided, which is neither a figure nor a table and which could be viewed as 'stand-alone', this should be included in a separate box. An example would be a summary of a particular trial or trial series, a case study summary or a series of terms explained.

Article types

Review articles

Each review article should concentrate on the most recent developments in the field. These articles aim to summarize current therapeutic practice, highlighting recent significant advances in research, ongoing challenges and unmet needs. Authors should strive for brevity and clarity. The article should include a Highlights box and Outlook.

Perspectives

These should more speculative and very forward looking, even visionary. They also offer the author the opportunity to present criticism or address controversy. Authors of perspectives are encouraged to be highly opinionated. The intention is very much that perspectives should represent a personal perspective. Referees will be briefed to review these articles for quality and relevance of argument only. They will not necessarily be expected to agree with the authors' sentiments. As for regular reviews, the article should include a Highlights box and Outlook.

Technology Reports

These articles will focus on a specific aspect of performance of a particular technology or approach. This could address one issue among those comprising a complete overview of a new technology. As for regular reviews, the article should include a Highlights box and Outlook.

Special Reports

These articles cover topical aspects of the field, alerting readers to upcoming developments and challenges or highlighting recent progress in ongoing genomics-related projects. Authors should strive for brevity and clarity. As for regular reviews, the article should include a Highlights box and Outlook.

Manuscript preparation

Extent

Manuscripts should be up to 4000 words in length (special reports should be up to 2000 words in length) with a target of no more than 80 references.

Spacing and headings

Please use double line spacing throughout the manuscript. Four levels of subheading should be used to divide the text: LEVEL 1, Level 2, Level 3, Level 4

Abbreviations

Abbreviations should be defined on their first appearance; commonly used abbreviations need not be defined. Use SI units or quote SI equivalents where possible. To indicate atom positions in a molecule, use the convention C-1, C-2 etc.

Spelling

US-preferred spelling will be used in the finished publication (e.g., leukemia, not leukaemia).

Companies and compounds

Companies are treated as single entities requiring a verb in the third person singular, e.g., Glaxo is developing an AII antagonist. When referring to a lead compound (or compounds claimed in patents) for the first time, please ensure that the name of the relevant company is given in the text.

References and reference annotations

Authors should focus on recent papers and papers older than 5 years should not be included except for an over-riding purpose.

NB. Papers or patents of particular interest should be identified using one or two asterisk symbols (* = of interest, ** = of considerable interest) and annotated with a brief sentence explaining why the reference is considered to be of interest.

References should be denoted numerically and in sequence in the text, using Arabic numerals placed in square brackets, i.e., [12]. List refer-

ences in numerical order in the Reference list. If websites or patents are included, please use a separate numbering system for them, i.e., start numbering website references at [101] and patents at [201] to allow the reader to distinguish between websites/patents and primary literature references both in the text and in the bibliography. Please ensure that each reference applies to only one website.

Format for reference citations

Author's names should appear without full stops in their initials.

Quote first six authors' names. If there are more, then quote first three *et al.*

A colon follows authors' names.

Journal names in italics and abbreviated to standard format.

Volume number followed by a comma, not in bold.

Page number range separated by a hyphen and no spaces, followed by the year in brackets and then a full stop.

- Journal example
  Fantl JA, Cardozo L, McClish DK *et al.*: estrogen therapy in the management of urinary incontinence in postmenopausal women: a meta-analysis. First report of the Hormones and Urogenital Therapy Committee. *Obstet. Gynecol.* 83(1), 12–18 (1994).
- Book example
  De Groat WC, Booth AM, Yoshimura N: Neurophysiology of micturition and its modification in animal models of human disease. In: *The Autonomic Nervous System (Volume 6). Nervous Control of the Urogenital System.* Andrews WR (Ed.), Harwood Academic Publishers, London, UK, 227–289 (1993).
- Meeting abstracts example
  Smith AB, Jones CD: Recent progress in the therapy of diseases of the small bowel. Proceedings of the 13th International Symposium on Medicinal Chemistry. Atlanta, USA, MED197 (1994).
- Patent example
  Merck Frosst Canada, Inc. WO9714691 (1997).
  (Use the following formats for patent numbers issued by the World, US and European patent offices, respectively: WO1234567, US1234567, EP-123456-A)

Illustrations

Please provide electronic copies if possible. If this is not possible, please ensure that camera-ready copy is of the highest resolution available.

Figures should be numbered consecutively according to the order in which they have been first cited in the text. Define in the legend all abbreviations that are used in the figure.

Figures and structures should be in separate files to the text. It is unnecessary to incorporate the figures into the body of the manuscript. If a figure has been published, acknowledge the original source and submit written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce the material. If payment is required for use of the figure, this should be covered by the author honorarium, unless otherwise agreed.

Chemical structures

If possible, please submit structures drawn in ISISDraw or Chemdraw format. However, chemical structures can be redrawn in-house. Please use the following conventions:

- Always indicate stereochemistry where necessary – use the wedge and hash bond convention for chiral centres and mark cis/trans bonds as such.
- Draw small peptides (up to five amino acids) in full; use amino acid abbreviations (Gly, Val, Leu etc.) for larger peptides.
- Refer to each structure with a number in the text; submit a separate file (i.e., not pasted throughout the text) containing these numbered structures in the original chemical drawing package that you used and as a hard copy.

Electronic figure files

Please submit any other illustrations/schemes in an electronic format such as Adobe Illustator, Microsoft Powerpoint, Excel or as postscripted/encapsulated postscripted (.ps/.eps) files. Otherwise, please ensure camera-ready copy is of high resolution.

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rial so that we can see that any special requirements with regard to wording and placement of credits are fulfilled. Keep the originals for your files.

Submission

Please submit manuscripts in Microsoft Word 2000 format via e-mail. Figures should be submitted as Microsoft PowerPoint, Adobe Illustrator or Photoshop (*.eps). Graphs and charts can also be submitted as Microsoft Excel.

Deadlines and peer-review

Please ensure that manuscripts are submitted on or before the agreed deadline. Please also provide an outline of your review not later than one month prior to the submission deadline. This will enable us to find a suitable referee in advance. Once the manuscript has been received in-house, it will be peer-reviewed (this usually takes up to three weeks). A further two weeks is then allowed for any revisions (suggested by the referee/Editor) to be made. If a manuscript requires authorization by your organization before submission, please remember to take this into account when working towards these deadlines.

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