

Cell Reports Information for Authors

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- AIMS AND SCOPE
- EDITORIAL PROCESS
- EDITORIAL POLICIES
- PRESUBMISSION AND STATUS INQUIRIES
- RESEARCH ARTICLE FORMATS
- PREPARATION AND ONLINE SUBMISSION OF RESEARCH ARTICLES
- INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF SPECIFIC SECTIONS
- ACCEPTABLE IMAGE FORMATS FOR ONLINE SUBMISSION
- SUBMISSION OF REVISED MANUSCRIPTS
- CHECKLIST FOR FINAL SUBMISSION
- PRODUCTION AND PROOFS
- CONTACTS

AIMS AND SCOPE

Cell Reports is an open-access journal from Cell Press. *Cell Reports* publishes high-quality papers across the entire life sciences spectrum. The primary criterion for publication in *Cell Reports*, as for all Cell Press journals, is new biological insight. *Cell Reports* publishes thought-provoking, cutting-edge research, with a focus on a shorter single-point story, called a Report, in addition to a longer Article format. *Cell Reports* also publishes Resources, which highlight significant technical advances and/or major informational data sets.

The professional in-house editors of *Cell Reports* work closely with authors, reviewers, and the journal's scientific editorial board. The editorial board comprises future leaders in their respective fields who guide the journal with regard to its scope, the types of content it publishes, and of course, the quality of the papers it publishes. However, editorial decisions at *Cell Reports* are made independently by its in-house editors.

[\[back to top\]](#)

EDITORIAL PROCESS

EDITORIAL TIMELINE

All submissions are initially evaluated in depth by the scientific editors. Papers that do not conform to the general criteria for publication will be returned to the authors, without detailed review, typically within 2–4 days. Otherwise, manuscripts will be sent to reviewers who have agreed in advance to assess the paper rapidly. The editors will make every effort to reach decisions on these papers within 3 weeks of the submission date. If revisions are a condition of publication, we generally allow 2 months for revisions and consider only one revised version of the paper. Evaluations of conceptual advance and significance are made on the basis of the literature that is available on the day of the final decision, not the day of submission. Accepted papers will be published within 1–2 months of acceptance. Any major changes after acceptance are subject to review and may delay publication.

TRANSFER OF PAPERS BETWEEN CELL PRESS JOURNALS

Each Cell Press journal is editorially independent. Cell Press has developed a manuscript-transfer policy designed to provide maximal flexibility, efficiency, and control for the authors. If a paper is reviewed and rejected at one Cell Press journal, the editor of that journal can, upon the author's request, make the reviews and reviewer identities available to the editor of another Cell Press journal. Authors interested in pursuing this option should email the editor of the second Cell Press journal directly. In many cases the second editor will be able to reach a decision based on the advice of these reviewers. In some cases he/she may need to seek comments from additional reviewers. The

authors are also free to submit the paper to another Cell Press title without mentioning the first review process, in which case the manuscript will be evaluated by the editor and, as appropriate, reviewed independently without reference to the original reviews.

COSUBMISSION

In the limited number of instances in which a paper is potentially appropriate in scope for the readership of two different Cell Press titles, Cell Press offers authors a unique opportunity, not provided by any other journal group, to submit a manuscript for joint consideration at two journals at the same time. Authors interested in pursuing this option should contact the editors of both journals for further information.

[\[back to top\]](#)

EDITORIAL POLICIES

Manuscripts are considered with the understanding that no part of the work has been published previously in print or electronic format and the paper is not under consideration by another publication or electronic medium. Prior publication could include, but is not limited to, deposition of all or part of the data in a publicly-accessible preprint or poster repository. Questions related to this policy should be directed to the editors at reports@cell.com. All in-press or submitted works that are pertinent to the manuscript under consideration by the journal (including those cited in the manuscript under consideration) must accompany the submission. Any related manuscripts that have been submitted elsewhere during the period of revision must accompany revised manuscripts. Failure to provide copies of related manuscripts under consideration elsewhere may delay the review process and may be grounds for rejection. Under no circumstances will any paper be considered that contains any data that have been submitted for publication elsewhere.

AUTHORSHIP

The corresponding author is responsible for ensuring that all appropriate contributors are listed as authors and that all authors have agreed to the manuscript's content and its submission to *Cell Reports*. In a case where we become aware of an authorship dispute, authorship must be approved in writing by all of the parties.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cell Reports requires all authors to disclose any financial conflict of interest that might be construed to influence the results or interpretation of their manuscript. Authors must declare any such conflict in the cover letter accompanying the manuscript and in the Acknowledgments section of the manuscript itself. The corresponding author will be asked to sign a form on behalf of all the authors regarding potential conflicts of interest at the time of acceptance. As a guideline, any affiliation associated with a payment or financial benefit exceeding \$10,000 p.a. or 5% ownership of a company or research funding by a company with related interests would constitute a conflict that must be declared. This policy applies to all submitted research manuscripts and review material. Examples of statement language include: AUTHOR is an employee and shareholder of COMPANY; AUTHOR is a founder of COMPANY and a member of its scientific advisory board; This work was supported in part by a grant from COMPANY.

STUDIES INVOLVING HUMANS AND ANIMALS

For manuscripts reporting studies involving human subjects, statements identifying the committee approving the studies and confirming that informed consent was obtained from all subjects must appear in the Experimental Procedures section.

All experiments on live vertebrates or higher invertebrates must be performed in accordance with relevant institutional and national guidelines and regulations. In the manuscript, a statement identifying the committee approving the experiments and confirming that all experiments conform to the relevant regulatory standards must be included in the Experimental Procedures section.

The editors reserve the right to seek comments from reviewers or additional information from authors on any cases in which concerns arise.

DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS AND DATA

One of the terms and conditions of publishing in *Cell Reports* is that authors be willing to distribute any materials and protocols used in the published experiments to qualified researchers for their own use. Materials include but are not limited to cells, DNA, antibodies, reagents, organisms, and mouse strains or, if necessary, the relevant ES cells. These must be made available with minimal restrictions and in a timely manner, but it is acceptable to request reasonable payment to cover the cost of maintenance and transport of materials. If there are restrictions to the availability of any materials, data, or information, these must be disclosed in the cover letter and the experimental procedures section of the manuscript at the time of submission.

Nucleic acid and protein sequences, macromolecular structures determined by X-ray crystallography (along with structure factors), and microarray data must be deposited in the appropriate **public database** and must be accessible without restriction from the date of publication. An entry name or accession number must be included at the last paragraph of the Experimental Procedures section in the final version of the manuscript. Microarray data should be MIAME compliant (for guidelines, see <http://www.mged.org/Workgroups/MIAME/miame.html>).

In addition to the information that must be deposited in public databases as detailed above, authors are encouraged to contribute additional information to the **appropriate databases**. Authors are also encouraged to deposit materials used in their studies to the **appropriate repositories** for distribution to researchers.

OPEN ACCESS/COPYRIGHT POLICY

Authors will be asked to sign a nonexclusive publishing agreement that allows them to retain copyright of their work. Authors can choose to publish their work under one of two Creative Commons licenses.

The first option is the Creative Commons Attribution 3.0 Unported License, which allows users to alter and build upon the article and then distribute the resulting work, even commercially. As with all Creative Commons licenses the work must be attributed to the original author and publisher. This license encourages maximum use and redistribution. The full details of the license are available at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/3.0/legalcode>.

The second option is the Creative Commons Attribution-Noncommercial-No Derivative Works 3.0 Unported License, which allows users to copy and distribute the article, provided the work is attributed back to the original author and publisher. The article cannot be changed in any way or used commercially. The full details of the license are available at <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/legalcode>.

PUBLICATION FEE

To provide open access, expenses are offset by a publication fee of \$5000 (USD) that will allow *Cell Reports* to support itself in a fully sustainable way. This publication charge is the only fee that is requested. *Cell Reports* will consider reducing or waiving author fees for those who have difficulties with the fee, on a case-by-case basis.

Some universities have signed the Compact for Open-Access Publishing Equity (COPE): "the timely establishment of durable mechanisms for underwriting reasonable publication charges for articles written by its faculty and published in fee-based open-access journals and for which other institutions would not be expected to provide funds." More information about COPE and the list of signatories can be found at <http://www.oacompact.org>.

A list of institutions that provide funding for open access can be found at <http://www.arl.org/sparc/bm~doc/oa-funds-in-action-attachment.pdf>.

US NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) POSTING POLICY

As a service to our authors, Cell Press will deposit to PubMed Central (PMC) author manuscripts on behalf of Cell Press authors reporting National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded research. The service will help authors comply with the NIH revised "Public Access Policy", effective April 7, 2008. The NIH's revised policy requires that NIH-funded authors submit to PMC, or have submitted on their behalf, their peer-reviewed author manuscripts, to appear on PMC no later than 12 months after final publication.

Publication in *Cell Reports* ensures compliance with this policy.

WELLCOME TRUST FUNDING

As of October 1, 2006, authors whose work has been funded by the Wellcome Trust, a UK funding agency, are required to submit an electronic copy of any newly published research paper into PubMed Central (PMC). The Wellcome Trust requires that the work be made freely available to the public, via PMC, no later than six months after the official date of final publication.

Publication in *Cell Reports* ensures compliance with this policy.

DATA PROCESSING

Authors should make every attempt to reduce the amount of post acquisition processing of data. Some degree of processing may be unavoidable in certain instances, and is permitted provided that the final data accurately reflects that of the original. In the case of image processing, alterations must be applied to the entire image (e.g. brightness, contrast, color balance). In rare instances where this is not possible (e.g. alterations to a single color channel on a microscopy image) any alterations must be clearly stated in the figure legend and in

the Experimental Procedures section. Groupings and consolidation of data (e.g. cropping of images or removal of lanes from gels and blots) must be made apparent and should be explicitly indicated in the appropriate figure legends. Data comparisons should only be made from comparative experiments, and individual data should not be utilized across multiple figures. In cases where data are used multiple times (e.g. multiple experiments were performed simultaneously with a single control experiment) this must be clearly stated within each figure legend. In the event that it is deemed necessary for proper evaluation of the manuscript, authors will be required to make the original unprocessed data available to the editors of the journal.

PERMISSIONS

If excerpts from other copyrighted works are included in your manuscript, you must obtain written permission from the copyright owners and credit the sources in the article. To obtain permission to use material from Cell Press and Elsevier journals and books, e-mail permissions@elsevier.com. If you have adapted a figure from a published figure, please check with the copyright owners to see if permission is required and include a complete citation or reference for the original article. Obtaining permissions can take up to several weeks. As lack of appropriate permissions can delay publication, we recommend that you request permission at the time of submission. Note that the permissions you request must reflect the terms of the Creative Commons license under which the article will be published.

PREPUBLICATION POLICY

Work intended for submission to *Cell Reports*, currently under consideration at *Cell Reports*, or in press at *Cell Reports* may not be discussed with the media before publication. Providing preprints, granting interviews, discussing data with members of the media, or participating in press conferences in advance of publication without prior approval from the *Cell Reports* editorial office may be grounds for rejection. With regards to the scientific literature, papers in press in *Cell Reports* should not be discussed in reviews elsewhere prior to the date of publication. Authors are welcome to present and discuss material intended for publication in *Cell Reports* at scientific meetings; however, we do require that they refrain from discussing the findings with members of the press beyond those included in the formal presentation. In addition, we encourage meeting organizers to contact our editorial office in advance of a meeting if they have any questions regarding this policy. Any questions or issues regarding prepublication publicity should be directed to the press officer, Mary Beth O'Leary (moleary@cell.com).

INTERACTION WITH MEMBERS OF THE PRESS FOR PAPERS IN PRESS

Authors are free to talk with the press starting on the Friday of the week before publication and to release information provided that its use is embargoed until 12 p.m. US Eastern Time on the day of online publication. We also allow authors to discuss their work in press with other scientific journals for purposes of coverage in review material. Please refer any inquiries from other journals to us. If your press office wishes to issue a press release, they should contact us in advance for final embargo information. Any questions or issues regarding interaction with the press should be directed to the press officer of Cell Press, Mary Beth O'Leary (moleary@cell.com).

[\[back to top\]](#)

PRESUBMISSION AND STATUS INQUIRIES

PRESUBMISSION INQUIRIES

If you would like editorial input on whether your paper might be a strong candidate for consideration at *Cell Reports*, you may send a presubmission inquiry. This should include an abstract plus a brief description of the results and an explanation of the interest and significance to the broad readership of *Cell Reports*. You can submit a presubmission inquiry via an [online form](#) or via email to reports@cell.com. We usually respond to presubmission inquiries within 3–5 days.

STATUS INQUIRIES

Editorial Manager identifies the status of a manuscript as “with editor” until a decision is made. If you would like more information about the status of your submitted manuscript, please email reports@cell.com.

[\[back to top\]](#)

RESEARCH ARTICLE FORMATS

All research article formats are all handled through our online submission system, Editorial Manager, at <http://www.editorialmanager.com/cell-reports/>. A brief description of each article type is provided below. Please refer to "Preparation and Online Submission of Research Manuscripts" below for detailed information about the organization of research articles and their submission.

REPORTS

Reports cover a single point of strong significance that can be presented clearly within a shorter format. The total character count should be under 32,000 characters (including spaces, references, and figure legends) and there should be no more than 4 figures and/or tables. Additional items may be published online as Supplemental Information at the discretion of the editor.

RESEARCH ARTICLES

Research Articles present conceptual advances of unusual significance regarding an important biological question of wide interest to a particular community. Research papers should be as concise as possible and written in a style that is accessible to the broad *Cell Reports* readership. The total character count of an article must be under 55,000 (including spaces, references, and figure legends) and there should be no more than 7 figures and/or tables. Additional items may be published online as Supplemental Information at the discretion of the editor.

RESOURCE ARTICLES

The Resource format is designed to highlight significant technical advances or other resources that are of value and interest to the broad *Cell Reports* readership. Resource articles are organized like Research Articles, have the same limits on length and figure/table number, and should be presented to be accessible to the broad *Cell Reports* readership.

[\[back to top\]](#)

PREPARATION AND ONLINE SUBMISSION OF RESEARCH ARTICLES

OVERVIEW

Cell Reports encourages authors to submit manuscripts via our online submission system, Editorial Manager (EM), which can be accessed via <http://www.editorialmanager.com/cell-reports/>. An author tutorial regarding online submission is available at the EM website. Authors may contact the editorial office (reports@cell.com) for assistance. If you are unable to submit your manuscript online, a copy of the manuscript may be sent to Editor, *Cell Reports*, Cell Press, 600 Technology Square, Cambridge, MA 02139, USA. Please include a CD with electronic files of text and figures in the acceptable formats (see subsequent sections in this document for more information about acceptable formats).

EM will prompt you to upload the individual components of your manuscript (cover letter, text, figures, Supplemental Information, etc.) as separate files. Upon completion of this step, the website will build a composite PDF file of your entire manuscript that will contain links for the editors and reviewers to download the individual high-resolution files of each component. Please note that the version of the PDF file that is accessible to reviewers does not contain the cover letter; any information therein will remain confidential.

Please be aware that EM will send all communications about the paper (including the request for final approval and the confirmation of submission) to the person who is checked off as corresponding author during the submission process, or if no name is designated, to the person whose account is used to submit the manuscript. If you wish to specify a different author for editorial correspondence after submission please contact the editorial office at reports@cell.com.

COVER LETTER

Each submission should be accompanied by a cover letter, which should contain a brief explanation of what was previously known, the conceptual advance provided by the findings, and the significance of the findings to a broad readership. A cover letter may contain suggestions for appropriate reviewers and up to three requests for reviewer exclusions. The cover letter is confidential to the editor and will not be seen by reviewers.

GENERAL ARTICLE ORGANIZATION AND TEXT SPECIFICATIONS

All three article types—Reports, Articles, and Resources—generally contain the following sections in this order: Title, Author List, Affiliations, Author Footnotes, Contact Information, Summary, Highlights, Introduction, Results, Discussion, Experimental Procedures, Acknowledgments,

References, Figure Titles and Legends, Tables. The text (Title through Tables) should be provided as one document. Figures should be provided separately. Supplemental Information should be provided separately (see the [Supplemental Information guidelines](#) for information about supplemental files).

Manuscript file types that we can accept for submission include *.doc, *.docx, or *.rtf. Required items differ for each article type and are specified during the submission process.

Gene symbols should be italicized; protein products of the loci are not italicized. Nonstandard abbreviations should be defined when first used in the text. Use of abbreviations should be kept at a minimum.

Please note that the text should be double-spaced and pages should be numbered. Although summaries need to be entered as text files separate from the body of the manuscript during the online submission process, they should also be included within the manuscript file as usual.

Manuscripts that do not conform to the format guidelines may be returned to the authors for reformatting.

[\[back to top\]](#)

INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE PREPARATION OF SPECIFIC SECTIONS

TITLE

Titles may occupy no more than three lines of type. Each line should contain no more than 50 characters, including spaces. The title should convey the conceptual significance of the paper to a broad readership.

AUTHORS AND AFFILIATIONS

Author names should be spelled out rather than set in initials. Affiliations should be noted with superscripted numerical footnotes. Affiliations should contain *all* of the following core information: department(s) and subunit(s); institution; city; state or region; postal code; country.

ADDITIONAL FOOTNOTES

A present address or statement of equal contribution may also be noted with numerical footnotes.

CORRESPONDENCE FOOTNOTE

The published corresponding author is responsible for ensuring adherence to all editorial and submission policies and for any communications that may result after publication.

The correspondence footnote should be the last footnote in the list. It should include the email address and the phone and fax numbers of the corresponding author. The footnote should be an asterisk (*), not a numerical footnote.

One corresponding author is preferred, but two are allowed (for two corresponding authors, use double asterisks [******] to note the second corresponding author).

SUMMARY

The Summary consists of a single paragraph of no more than 150 words. It should clearly convey the conceptual advance and significance of the work to a broad readership. In particular, the Summary should contain a brief background of the question, a description of the results without extensive experimental detail, and a clear indication of the significance of the findings. References should not be cited in the Summary.

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT

A Graphical Abstract is required for all article types. The Graphical Abstract should allow readers to quickly gain an understanding of the main take-home message of the paper and is intended to encourage browsing, promote interdisciplinary scholarship, and help readers more quickly identify which papers are most relevant to their research interests. Graphical Abstracts can be uploaded in Editorial Manager by selecting "Graphical Abstract" when uploading files.

The maximum size of the image should be 400 x 400 pixels. Text font should be Arial, with a size of 12–16 points. Acceptable file formats are *.psd, *.eps, *.tif, *.pdf, *.jpg (use maximum quality settings), and *.gif.

A Graphical Abstract should be one image and should not contain multiple panels; it should help readers visualize one process or make one point clear. For ease of browsing, images should have a clear start and end, preferably "reading" from top to bottom or left to right. Try to reduce distracting and cluttering elements as much as possible, and provide a visual indication of the biological context of the results depicted (subcellular location, tissue or cell type, species, etc.). Simple labels are often useful.

See the [Graphical Abstract guidelines](#) for more information about creating a Graphical Abstract.

HIGHLIGHTS

Highlights are required for all article types. They are a short collection of bullet points that quickly convey the core findings of the article. This list of points will be displayed online with the summary of the article but will not appear in print.

Up to 4 bullet points may be included. The length of an individual bullet point should not exceed 85 characters (including spaces).

Note: Highlights should be entered in the "Highlights" field in the electronic submission system, Editorial Manager (<http://www.editorialmanager.com/cell-reports/>) during the initial submission process and then updated within that field as necessary at the final revision stage.

INTRODUCTION

The introduction should be succinct and should present the background information necessary to provide a biological context for the results. Subheadings may not be used in the Introduction section.

RESULTS

The Results section should be divided with subheadings. Footnotes should not be used and will be transferred to the text if included.

DISCUSSION

The Discussion section should explain the significance of the results and place them into a broader context. It should not be redundant with the Results section. Subheadings may be used but should be avoided if possible. Do not cite figures or tables in this section.

Note that for Reports, the Results and Discussion sections may be combined at the authors' or editors' discretion.

EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES

The Experimental Procedures section needs to include sufficient detail so that readers can understand how the experiments were done and so that all procedures can be repeated, in conjunction with cited references. This section should also include a description of any statistical methods employed in the study. A more detailed version of the procedures and details, such as oligo sequences, strains, and specifics of how constructs were made, may be included in the Supplemental Information, but it is not appropriate to move the entirety of the Experimental Procedures to the Supplemental Information in order to shorten the text.

EQUATIONS

Any equations must be created with MathType. Do not format equations as images.

You may also use Word's Equation Editor to format equations. Please note that, due to technical problems associated with the program, Equation Builder (the default equation tool in Word 2007/2010) should *not* be used. To insert an Equation Editor equation in Word 2007/2010, go to the Insert tab, select the pull-down option labeled "Object", and choose "Microsoft Equation 3.0."

Alternatively, the manuscript may be formatted in LaTeX. However, please be aware that for such manuscripts, an additional 1–2 weeks will be added to the production timeline to allow for conversion into .doc format.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This section may acknowledge contributions from non-authors, list funding sources, and should include a statement of any conflicts of interest. *Please check this section carefully*, as we are unlikely to make amendments or publish corrections after publication. This section may also be used to list the contributions of individual authors (names should be noted with initials).

ACCESSION NUMBERS

If your paper includes new gene sequences, protein sequences, stem cells, microarray data, or other data to be deposited in an online database, please include an "Accession Numbers" section in which you list the accession numbers in the following format:

"The [databank] accession number for the _____ [data/sequence] reported in this paper is ____."

REFERENCES AND CITATIONS

References should include only published or in-press articles. For in-press articles, a doi number and/or publication date should be included; if one is not available (or will not be available in the next 2–3 weeks), the reference should be cited as unpublished data, data not shown, or personal communication (see below for more information about each type). Unpublished data, submitted manuscripts, personal communications, abstracts, and conference presentations should be cited within the text only. Use initials in citations for attribution of work by current authors; use first initials and full surnames for attribution of work by other authors.

"Unpublished data" or "data not shown" should be used for work by one or more of the current authors. The citation should include the initials of the author(s) to whom it is attributed; "data not shown" needs no attribution. For example: (J.S. and S.Y., unpublished data) or (data not shown).

"Personal communication" should be used for another author's work. All personal communication should be documented by a letter of permission, uploaded with the submission materials (an email communication will suffice for this purpose).

Abstracts and conference presentations should be cited in the following format: "(X. Zou et al., 2011, Soc. Neurosci., abstract)" or "(R. Smith et al., 2011, Soc. Neurosci., conference presentation)."

Please use the following style for references:

Article in a periodical: Sondheimer, N., and Lindquist, S. (2000). Rnq1: an epigenetic modifier of protein function in yeast. *Mol. Cell* 5, 163–172.

Article in a book: King, S.M. (2003). Dynein motors: Cell Stem Cell, Mechanochemistry and Regulation. In *Molecular Motors*, M. Schliwa, ed. (Weinheim, Germany: Wiley-VCH Verlag GmbH), pp. 45–78.

An entire book: Cowan, W.M., Jessell, T.M., and Zipursky, S.L. (1997). *Molecular and Cellular Approaches to Neural Development* (New York: Oxford University Press).

In-press article: Demireva, E.Y., Shapiro, L.S., Jessell, T.M., and Zampier, N. (2011). *Cell*. Published online October 28, 2011. 10.1016/j.cell.2011.09.037

FIGURE LEGENDS

Legends should be included in the submitted manuscript as a separate section, appearing after the reference list. Each figure legend should have a brief title that describes the entire figure without citing specific panels or including parenthetical information. The title should be followed by a description of each panel and/or a general description of the figure. For any figures presenting pooled data, the measures should be defined in the figure legends (for example, "data are represented as mean +/- SEM").

TABLES

Tables should be included as the last item in the manuscript. **Please do not submit tables as separate files.**

When creating tables, please refer to the following guidelines:

- Do not submit tables in Excel or PDF format. Do not place an Excel table in a Word document.
- Format tables with Word's Table function; do not use tabs or spaces to create a table.
- Do not use line breaks or spaces to separate data within a cell. Use separate cells for all discrete data elements within a table.
- Number tables as Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, etc., rather than as Table 1a, Table 1b, Table 1c, etc.
- Tables should include a title above the table and a legend and/or footnotes below. The legend and/or footnotes should be concise.
- If bold or italic font is used within a table to indicate some feature of the data, please give an explanation of its usage in the legend.
- All abbreviations within a table must be defined in the table legend or footnotes.
- Footnotes should be listed with superscript lowercase letters, beginning with "a." Footnotes may not be listed with numbers or symbols.

If you have questions about formatting your table, contact Megan Waldram, Deputy Managing Editor, at mwaldram@cell.com.

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental Information is a useful resource for presenting essential supporting materials online, and Cell Press is committed to the publication of these materials. However, as the amount of Supplemental Information has grown, it has become increasingly difficult for authors, reviewers, and readers to navigate the supplement because of the volume of information and the lack of defined structure and limits. To address these problems, we have introduced a set of guidelines, which we believe will make Supplemental Information more useful and accessible to readers. You may access the online guide here:

http://download.cell.com/images/EdImages/cellreports/supplemental_information_guidelines.pdf

The online guide aims to define the scope of data presented in Supplemental Information and to provide a structure that integrates Supplemental Information with information presented in the main article, linking the two more constructively.

In general, Supplemental Information is limited to data and other materials that directly support the main conclusions of a paper but are considered additional or secondary support for the main conclusions or cannot be included in the main paper for reasons such as space or file-format restrictions. Supplemental Information should be within the conceptual scope of the main paper and not extend beyond it. The quality and presentation of Supplemental Information should be on par with that in the main paper and is subject to the same scientific standards.

Supplemental Information may include additional control data, validation of methods and reagents, primary data, nonprintable media files, or large data sets. It can also include detailed information regarding Experimental Procedures, including materials (oligonucleotides, plasmids, strains, etc.).

Please see the [online guide](#) for instructions on how to present and submit Supplemental Information.

FIGURE ORGANIZATION AND STYLE

Figures must conform to the following guidelines, or you will be asked to revise them. For figures that have multiple panels, the labels should be set in uppercase Helvetica or Arial font and should not contain periods or parentheses. Please be sure to embed all fonts. Each figure must be assembled into one file that prints onto one 8.5" × 11" page. Please *do not* include separate panels on multiple pages. Micrographs should be provided with a scale bar, if appropriate, instead of magnification.

[\[back to top\]](#)

ACCEPTABLE IMAGE FORMATS

Please see the [figure guidelines](#) for a complete guide to formatting figures for publication.

The following file types are acceptable for online submission of images:

TIFF (.tif)

Encapsulated Postscript (.eps)

Portable Document File (.pdf)

JPEG (.jpg) – use maximum quality settings

Graphics Interchange Format (.gif)

- **TIFF Files (.tif)**

TIFF is our preferred format.

- **Encapsulated Postscript Files (.eps)**

As with all vector files (Adobe Illustrator, etc.), when saving as *.eps, please be sure to embed all fonts or convert to outlines or paths.

Please note that we cannot accept PowerPoint, Adobe Photoshop, or Adobe Illustrator files for online submission through Editorial Manager. These files must be converted to one of the above file types. Converting PowerPoint files frequently results in unexpected changes to the figures (e.g., missing or shifted text; shifted image elements). We recommend that you not create figures in PowerPoint. If you do try to convert from PowerPoint to one of these file types, be very careful to compare the final version to your original.

We also cannot accept image files in Canvas, Freehand, Microsoft Word, or Excel.

RESOLUTION REQUIREMENTS

For black-and-white photographs or micrographs and for any type of graph or drawing in grayscale, the resolution of your file should be a minimum of 500 dpi. For figures that contain color, the resolution should be a minimum of 300 dpi. Please note that figures should meet these resolution numbers at their approximate print sizes.

COLOR IMAGES

We encourage authors to use colors that can be distinguished by color-blind readers. Please submit your figures in RGB or grayscale; do not convert your files to CMYK. This will optimize their appearance online. If possible, embed the ICC profile.

LINE WEIGHTS

Please make sure that all graph lines, error bars, and outlines are at least ½ point in weight. Lines that are less than ½ point may disappear or be broken during printing.

If you have any questions about digital files, please contact Megan Waldram, Deputy Managing Editor, at mwaldram@cell.com.

[\[back to top\]](#)

SUBMISSION OF REVISED MANUSCRIPTS

In addition to the sections described above, revised manuscripts must also contain a detailed point-by-point response to the comments of the reviewers and/or editors. The cover letter should briefly summarize how the revised manuscript addresses these comments. In general, revised manuscripts will be reconsidered only if resubmitted within 2 months of the date of the original decision.

[\[back to top\]](#)

CHECKLIST FOR FINAL SUBMISSION

Author Checklist: http://download.cell.com/images/EdImages/cellreports/author_checklist.pdf

In order for a paper to be accepted and scheduled for publication, you will be asked to send certain documents and format your manuscript and [supplemental information](#) according to specific guidelines. Please take care to format your files according to the guidelines specified in the [checklist](#) before you send your final materials, as acceptance may be delayed if your files are not formatted properly:

If you have a question about any of the items in the checklist, please contact Megan Waldram, Deputy Managing Editor, at mwaldram@cell.com.

Please submit the final files through our online system, Editorial Manager: <http://www.editorialmanager.com/cell-reports/>.

[\[back to top\]](#)

PRODUCTION AND PROOFS

After final acceptance, your manuscript will be passed to our production team to be copyedited and prepared for publication. Figures may be resized during the production process.

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[\[back to top\]](#)

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