

## Instructions to authors

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### 1 Editorial procedure and general submission guidelines

#### Online submission

Manuscripts should be submitted online using the link on the journal's homepage or directly via <http://jmm.manuscriptcentral.com>. Please prepare your manuscript and illustrations in an appropriate format; be sure that your paper conforms to the scientific and style instructions of the journal, given below. For submission logon to the manuscriptcentral page, where you either create an account for yourself by clicking on the "Create an Account" button – if you have not already done so before. You may click on the "Check for Existing Account" button if you already have an account but forgot your login and password. Once logged on enter the "Author Center" and follow the on-screen instructions guiding you through the submission process. Online help is available to you at any stage during the submission. For any questions or support do not hesitate to contact us at [Manuscript-Central@Springer.de](mailto:Manuscript-Central@Springer.de) or contact the editorial office directly.

On screen 1 please select the appropriate Editor-in-Chief. Manuscripts from Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia should preferably be submitted to the European Editor-in-Chief. Manuscripts from the USA, Canada, South America and all other countries should be submitted to the US Editor-in-Chief.

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During submission please print out the mandatory "Consent of Authorship" form. It must be signed by all authors and sent by fax to the editorial office. The copyright form can be obtained from the journal homepage or directly at <http://jmm.manuscriptcentral.com> under "instructions and forms".

### 2 Types of manuscripts

■ **Original Articles** present important new research results including the entire content of the research project. Manuscripts should be as concise as possible and should ordinarily not exceed seven to eight printed pages, including figures, tables and references.

■ **Reviews** provide a comprehensive overview of state-of-the-art knowledge in a defined area and emphasize new questions and future research directions. Their major purpose is to educate readers. Reviews are limited to ten printed pages, including figures, tables and references.

■ **Rapid Communications.** Concise papers (five printed pages or less) of unusual scientific importance that represent definitive and original studies will be considered. Requests for rapid publication may be made. These papers will be reviewed in the same manner as regular manuscripts. However, if accepted, their publication will be expedited.

■ **Gene Therapy/Clinical Protocols** report gene therapy or clinical trial protocols that are intended to be monitored in clinical trials and comply with the recommendations of the *Deutsche Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Gentherapie e.V. (DAG-GT)*. An example of a gene therapy protocol can be found in *J Mol Med* (2002) 80: 610-614.

### 3 Manuscript preparation

Manuscripts in English will be considered. Manuscripts must be typed in double spacing with at least 2.5 cm (1 inch) margins. All pages must be numbered consecutively. Abbreviations should only be used if they facilitate reading. The text must be concise and consistent as to spelling, abbreviations, etc. The use of figures or schematics is strongly encouraged. The desired positions of figures and tables should be indicated. The manuscript should be prepared as carefully as possible, as only printer's errors should be corrected in the proof. A charge will be made for extensive changes introduced at the proof stage that are not due to typesetting errors.

Reviews should normally not exceed 10 printed pages; original articles and rapid communications should not exceed 5-8 printed pages in length, including tables and figures. The space required for the figures and tables should be calculated on the basis of their final printed size. (Approximately 3 manuscript pages equal one printed page).

All manuscripts are subject to copy editing.

To help you prepare your manuscript, Springer offers a template that can be used with Winword 7 (Windows 95), 97, 2000, and Word for Macintosh. For details see the *Technical instructions for manuscripts and illustrations in electronic form* (available on the journal's homepage or published in the journal).

■ **Sharing of materials/nucleotide sequence data.** It is the policy of the *Journal of Molecular Medicine (JMM)* that cell lines, DNA clones, hybridomas, and biological reagents described in a published article be made readily available to qualified scientists interested in obtaining them.

■ **Accession numbers and gene symbols.** Authors should be aware that all the new sequence information, including that which extends a previously determined sequence already present in the database (and which already has an accession number) must be submitted to any of the three major collabora-

tive databases (DDBJ/EMBL/GenBank) for a new accession number, and accession numbers must be provided when the paper is accepted.

#### ■ Title page

- A concise and informative title
- The name(s) of the author(s)
- The affiliation(s) and address(es) of the author(s)
- The e-mail address, telephone and fax numbers of the communicating author

■ **Abstract.** Each paper must be preceded by an abstract presenting the most important results and conclusions in no more than 350 words.

■ **Keywords.** 3 to 6 keywords taken from *Index Medicus* (Medical Subject Headings) should be supplied after the Abstract for indexing purposes.

■ **Abbreviations** should be defined at first mention in the abstract and again in the main body of the text and used consistently thereafter.

■ The **Introduction** should state the purpose of the investigation and give a short review of the pertinent literature.

■ The **Materials and methods** section should follow the Introduction and should provide enough information to permit repetition of the experimental work. The statistical methods used to evaluate the results should be described.

■ The **Results** section should describe the outcome of the study. Data should be presented as concisely as possible, if appropriate in the form of tables or figures, although very large tables should be avoided.

■ The **Discussion** should be an interpretation of the results and their significance with reference to work by other authors.

■ **Acknowledgements** should be as brief as possible. Authors are expected to disclose any commercial or other associations that might pose a conflict of interest in connection with submitted material. All funding sources supporting the work and institutional or corporate affiliations of the authors should be acknowledged.

■ The list of **References** should only include works that are cited in the text and that have been published or accepted for publication. Personal communications should only be mentioned in the text.

References should be numbered in the order in which they appear in the text and listed in numerical order. Journal titles should be abbreviated according to *Index Medicus*. References with correct punctuation should be styled as follows:

Nikiforow S, Bottomly K, Miller G (2001) CD4 T-cell effectors inhibit Epstein-Barr virus-induced B-cell proliferation. *J Virol* 75:3740-3452

Gospadorowicz D (1990) Growth factors or vascular endothelial cells. In: Piper HM (ed) *Cell culture techniques for heart and vessel research*. Springer, Berlin Heidelberg New York, pp 230-244

Personal communications or unpublished data cannot be included in the reference list, but should be mentioned in the text in parentheses: this also applies to papers presented at meetings but not yet published or accepted for publication. A date should be given for both "personal communications" and "unpublished data".

If available the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) of the cited literature should be added at the end of the reference in question. Example: Balmer D,

Goldstine J, Rao YM, LaSalle JM Elevated methyl-CpG-binding protein 2 expression is acquired during postnatal human brain development and is correlated with alternative polyadenylation. *J Mol Med* DOI 10.1007/s00109-002-0396-5

■ **Illustrations and Tables.** All figures (photographs, graphs or diagrams) and tables should be cited in the text, and each numbered consecutively throughout. Figure parts should be identified by lower-case roman letters. For submission of figures in electronic form see the *Technical instructions for manuscripts and illustrations in electronic form* (available on the journal's homepage or published in the journal).

Submissions should contain relevant figures. The number of figures must be kept to a minimum consistent with the clarity of the text.

**Line drawings.** Please prepare good-quality prints. The inscriptions should be clearly legible after reduction to the final size.

**Halftone illustrations** (black and white and color). Please prepare well-contrasted photographic prints. Magnification should be indicated by scale bars.

For online submission also prepare the electronic files of your figures. For details see the *Technical instructions for manuscripts and illustrations in electronic form* available on the journal's homepage or published in the journal and the submission instructions at <http://jmm.manuscriptcentral.com>

**Plates.** Several figures or figure parts should be grouped in a plate on one page.

**Size of figures/plates.** The figures should either match the width of the column (8.6 cm) or the entire page width (17.6 cm). The maximum length is 23.6 cm.

For **color illustrations** the authors will be expected to make a contribution (€ 485, US \$ 475, plus 16% VAT) towards the extra costs, irrespective of the number of color figures.

**Figure legends** must be brief, self-sufficient explanations of the illustrations. The legends should be placed at the end of the text.

**Tables** should have a title and a legend explaining any abbreviation used in that table. Footnotes to tables should be indicated by superscript lower-case letters (or asterisks for significance values and other statistical data).

#### 4 Proofreading

Authors should make their proof corrections on a printout of the pdf file supplied, checking that the text is complete and that all figures and tables are included. After online publication, further changes can only be made in the form of an Erratum, which will be hyperlinked to the article. The author is entitled to formal corrections only. Substantial changes in content, e.g. new results, corrected values, title and authorship are not allowed without the approval of the responsible editor. In such a case please contact the Editorial Office or the Editor-in-Chief before returning the proofs to the publisher.

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## Journal of Molecular Medicine

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