

Biomedical Engineering / Biomedizinische Technik: Instructions for authors

Scope

Biomedical Engineering / Biomedizinische Technik (BMT) is a high-quality forum for the exchange of knowledge in the fields of biomedical engineering, medical information technology and biotechnology/bioengineering. As an established journal with a tradition of 50 years, *BMT* addresses engineers, natural scientists, and clinicians working in research, industry, or clinical practice. Subject areas are: Diagnostic imaging → image processing, biosignal processing, modelling and simulation, biomechanics → information and communication in medicine, telemedicine and e-health → surgery, minimum invasive interventions, endoscopy and image guided therapy → diagnostic and therapeutic instrumentation, clinical engineering → micro- and nanosystems in medicine, active implants, biosensors → neuroengineering, neural systems, rehabilitation and prosthetics → biomaterials, cellular and tissue engineering, artificial organs → biomedical engineering for audiology, ophthalmology, emergency and dental medicine → general subjects (e.g., education and training, health technology assessment) → special topics (e.g., linking proteomics and genomics with biomedical engineering, emergency medicine).

As of volume 51 (2006), *Biomedical Engineering / Biomedizinische Technik (BMT)* is published in six issues/year. On a regular basis, the DGBMT magazine *Health Technologies* is inserted in *BMT*.

Editorial policy

BMT publishes reviews, research articles, short communications, case reports, letters to the editor, and book reviews. Manuscripts must be submitted in English language.

Submissions must be original in that the information is not copyrighted, published or submitted elsewhere, except in abstract form. Scientific originality should be demonstrated by a contribution to knowledge beyond the confirmation state.

Each manuscript should be accompanied by a cover letter containing a brief statement by the authors as to the element of novelty upon which they base their request for publication in *BMT*. The authors may indicate the names, full postal addresses, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail addresses of four impartial potential peer reviewers.

Contributors must conform to standards of responsible authorship in the following ways:

1. All of the authors must accept responsibility for the entire content of submitted manuscripts. Multi-authored submissions must provide cover letters signed by all co-authors.
2. Authorship is restricted to those who have made a significant contribution to the conceptual design of the work, the execution of the study, data analysis or writing of the manuscript. "Honorary" authorship is strongly discouraged. The cover letter with each submission should show how authors have contributed significantly.
3. The authors must describe safeguards to meet standards of ethical conduct of research (e.g., approval of research protocols by institutional committees). Where applicable, authors must confirm in writing that they have complied with the World Medical Association Declaration of Helsinki regarding ethical conduct of research involving human subjects and/or animals.
4. The authors must declare if there is a conflict of financial, or other, interest.

Each Editor of the journal takes the ownership of a manuscript that matches his professional expertise. Each submission (except book reviews) is reviewed by at least two independent experienced reviewers. The Editors are responsible for all decisions regarding publication. On the average, (first) decisions will be reached within four weeks of submission. When papers are accepted subject to revision, the revised manuscript must be returned within 12 weeks (research articles, reviews) respectively 6 weeks (short communications, case reports, letters to the editors) after the author has been notified of the decision.

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Preparation of manuscripts

General format and length

Manuscripts (including table legends, figure legends and references) should be typed double-spaced with font size 12 letters. Pages should be numbered (with the title page as 1) and have margins of 2.5 cm (1 inch) on all sides. Footnotes in the text should be avoided; parentheses should be used instead. Research papers and reviews should occupy no more than eight printed pages, short communications, case reports should not exceed five printed pages, letters to the editor should not exceed two printed pages. Each full page of printed text corresponds to approximately 1400 words. Please allow sufficient space for tables and illustrations within the page limit.

The text of the manuscript must be carefully checked for grammatical and typing errors to avoid correction in the proof. All tables and calculations should also be carefully checked.

Language

NEW! As of now, manuscripts must be provided in English language only. Non-English speakers are encouraged to have their manuscripts checked by a native English speaker before submission. **For accepted manuscripts of non-native English speakers, the publisher continues to offer a professional language polishing service free of charge.**

General structure of the text body

Research articles should be organised into Title page, Abstract, Keywords, list of non-standard abbreviations, Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements, References, Tables and Figure legends.

Short communications and case reports should be subdivided into Abstract, Keywords, and a single section of main text without headings. Experimental procedures should be described in legends to figures or footnotes to tables. Acknowledgements and References should be presented as in full length papers.

Title page

The Title page should include (a) a short and informative full article title (series titles are not accepted); (b) names of all authors (with one forename in full for each author), followed by their affiliations (department, institution, city with postcode, country); (c) the mailing address, fax and phone number and e-mail address of the corresponding author; (d) a running title of 50 characters or less. If there is more than one institution involved in the work, authors' names should be linked by superscript consecutive numbers to the appropriate institutions. If required, small superscript letters should be used to indicate present addresses.

Abstract and Keywords

The second page of the manuscript should contain the Abstract and the Keywords. The Abstract should be a single paragraph of no more than 200 words (research article or review) or 100 words (short communication or case report) which must be comprehensible to readers before they have read the paper. Abbreviations and reference citations should be avoided. Below the Abstract, up to six Keywords, which are not part of the title, should be given in alphabetical order and separated by semicolons.

Abbreviations

All non-standard abbreviations should be listed alphabetically, (e.g.: DIN, dissolved inorganic nitrogen;) after the keywords. In the text body, abbreviations should be used only after they have been defined in the list.

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viations are spelled out at first mention. Thereafter, only these abbreviations are to be used.

Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements should be placed at the end of the text. Names of funding organisations should be spelled out in full.

References

The Reference list at the end of the manuscript should be in alphanumerical order (see samples below). In the text body, please quote only the respective reference number in square brackets, e.g., [1], [1, 2, 9–11] etc.

Books:

[Ref. no.] Eisen HN. Immunology: an introduction to molecular and cellular principles of the immune response. 5th ed. New York: Harper and Row 1974.

Institutional publications:

[Ref. no.] Institute of Medicine (US). Looking at the future of the Medicaid program. Washington: The Institute 1999.

Chapters in books:

[Ref. no.] Weinstein L, Swartz MN. Pathogenic properties of invading microorganisms. In: Sodeman WA Jr, Sodeman WA, editors. Pathologic physiology: mechanisms of disease. Philadelphia: WB Saunders 1974: 457–472.

Articles in journals with up to 6 authors:

[Ref. no.] Ge Q, Filip L, Bai A, Nguyen T, Eisen HN, Chen J. Inhibition of influenza virus production in virus-infected mice by RNA interference. Proc Natl Acad Sci USA 2004; 101: 8676–8681.

Articles in journals with more than 6 authors:

[Ref. no.] You CH, Lee KY, Chey WY, et al. Electrogastrographic study of patients with unexplained nausea, bloating and vomiting. Gastroenterology 1980; 79: 311–314.

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Manuscripts accepted for publication

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