Notice to Contributors

Manuscripts should be sent in triplicate (original plus two copies) to the Editor, Dr Peter Twentyman. The criteria for acceptance of manuscripts to be published in the British Journal of Cancer are originality and high scientific quality. Manuscripts are accepted on the understanding that they report unpublished work that is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, that all named authors have agreed to its submission and that if accepted it will not be published in the same form, in any language, without the consent of the Publishers. Papers should be in English. Authors whose mother-tongue is not English are urgently requested to have their manuscripts checked for linguistic correctness before submission.

Manuscripts should be typewritten, double-spaced with a wide margin and on one side of the paper only. They should be accompanied by a title page numbered as 1, bearing title, authors full names, affiliation and complete addresses, including postal (zip) codes; and a summary of not more than 200 words. The author and address to whom correspondence, proofs and reprint requests are to be sent should be clearly indicated.

Papers disregarding the welfare of experimental animals will be rejected.

Full papers should be divided into sections:
1. Introduction
2. Materials and methods
3. Results
4. Discussion
5. Acknowledgements and References.

Short Communications (~1500 words) should not have the above section headings nor a summary.

The Editors reserve the right to make literary corrections.

Titles These are most important; authors should compose them with great care. They should combine brevity with clarity; the shorter the better, not exceeding 100 letters. Authors should submit their own running title, which must not exceed 50 letters.

References Only papers closely related to the author's work should be quoted, and these should be to original papers only. Exhaustive lists should be avoided. Citation of Conference Proceedings or Meetings Abstracts should also be avoided unless there is no other reference. References in the text should be made by giving the author's surname, with the year of publication in brackets. When the reference is to a specific part of a book, the page number should also be cited. When reference is made to a work by 3 or more authors, the first name followed by et al. should be used on all occasions. If several papers by the same first author and form the same year are cited, a, b, c, etc. should be added after the year of publication. It is the author's responsibility to check the accuracy of all references before submitting a manuscript. References should be brought together at the end of the paper in alphabetical order, where titles of papers and all authors' names should be given in full (except if there are more than 6 authors, when the first 3 names should be followed by & x others, x being the actual number). Names of journals should be abbreviated as in the Index Medicus, but with full stops after abbreviations (and after authors' initials), followed by the volume number and the page number, e.g.: McMANUS, M.J., DOMBROSKIE, S.E., PIENKOWSKI, M.M & 5 others (1978). Successful transplantation of human benign breast tumours into the athymic nude mouse and demonstration of enhanced DNA synthesis by human placental lactogen. Cancer Res., 38, 2243. References to books and monographs should appear as in the following examples:


Abbreviations and units should follow the standards laid down in Units Symbols and Abbreviations published by the Royal Society of Medicine (third edition, 1977).

Figures In the text Arabic numbers should be used and all illustrations should be specifically referred to in the text, e.g. (Figure 2). All illustrations should be submitted at about 1½ times the intended final size and should be numbered as figures whether they are photographs, representational drawings or line diagrams and graphs.

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Line diagrams and graphs should be on separate sheets; they must be drawn with black Indian ink on white paper, of such originals. Lettering on figures should be minimal and must not duplicate the legend. The use of symbols should be consistent within papers, and explanation of symbols should be included in the caption, not on the figure.

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Tables These should be as few as possible and should present only essential data. They should be typewritten on separate sheets, have a title or caption, and given Roman numbers.

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