About the Journal

Aims and Scope

We define molecular psychiatry broadly, as an interdisciplinary field focused on the elucidation of the fundamental biological mechanisms underlying psychiatric disorders and their treatment. The scope of the journal parallels the breadth of this field, with the goal of providing a forum for integrating molecular medicine with clinical psychiatry. In addition to Original Articles, the journal features News & Commentary, Reviews, and Immediate Communications.

Topics of interest include but are not limited to:

- Hypotheses-driven, high-quality work in molecular, cellular or integrative neuroscience.
- Clinical research in psychiatry, including genetics, pathophysiology, imaging, and psychopharmacology.
- Given the potential for a high number of negative genetic studies, a strong rationale is required for submissions of negative genetic data.

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Editor-in-Chief
Professor Julio Licinio, MD

Editorial Office
MolecularPsychiatry@us.nature.com

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EMBASE/Excerpta Medica
MEDLINE/Index Medicus
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Impact Factor
13.314 (2015 Journal Citation Reports, Thomson Reuters, 2016)

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Images submitted with a manuscript for review should be minimally processed (for instance, to add arrows to a micrograph). Authors should retain their unprocessed data and metadata files, as editors may request them to aid in manuscript evaluation. If unprocessed data is unavailable, manuscript evaluation may be stalled until the issue is resolved.

A certain degree of image processing is acceptable for publication (and for some experiments, fields and techniques is unavoidable), but the final image must correctly represent the original data and conform to community standards. The guidelines below will aid in accurate data presentation at the image processing level:

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should document key image-gathering settings and processing manipulations in the Methods section.

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- Vertically sliced gels that juxtapose lanes that were not contiguous in the experiment must have a clear separation or a black line delineating the boundary between the gels.
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- In the Methods section, specify the type of equipment (microscopes/objective lenses, cameras, detectors, filter model and batch number) and acquisition software used. Although we appreciate that there is some variation between instruments, equipment settings for critical measurements should also be listed.
- The display lookup table (LUT) and the quantitative map between the LUT and the bitmap should be provided, especially when rainbow pseudocolor is used. It should be stated if the LUT is linear and covers the full range of the data.
- Processing software should be named and manipulations indicated (such as type of deconvolution, three-dimensional reconstructions, surface and volume rendering, ‘gamma changes’, filtering, thresholding and projection).
- Authors should state the measured resolution at which an image was acquired and any downstream processing or averaging that enhances the resolution of the image.

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As of March 2015, Molecular Psychiatry requires authors of papers that are sent for external review to include in their manuscripts relevant details about several elements of experimental and analytical design. This initiative aims to improve the transparency of reporting and the reproducibility of published results, focusing on elements of methodological information that are frequently poorly reported. Authors being asked to resubmit a manuscript will be asked to confirm that these elements are included by filling out a checklist that will be made available to the editor and reviewers.

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