

INSIGHT AND SUPPLEMENT MANUSCRIPT CHECKLIST

The following checklist is intended to aid the publication of your manuscript. Please read through the list carefully and amend your manuscript as appropriate. To avoid delays in the production process, please complete and return this sheet with the final version of your manuscript.

Text

Nature will edit text to conform to house style, for clarity and accessibility, and for consistency with other Insight articles. Please check the following points when preparing the final version of your manuscript.

Review or Perspective

- Title no longer than 80 characters (including spaces), with no punctuation
- First paragraph referenced and no longer than 100 words
- No more than 100 references
- No more than 10% of references with a one-sentence annotation

Introduction or Overview

- Title no longer than 80 characters (including spaces), with no punctuation
- First paragraph unreferenced and no longer than 60 words
- No more than 30 references

Opinion

- Title no longer than 40 characters (including spaces), with no punctuation
- First paragraph unreferenced and no longer than 1 sentence (up to 180 characters including spaces)
- No references permitted

ALL manuscripts

- Abbreviations and symbols defined on first use
- Italic type face used for variables, genes and non-English languages; bold font for vectors
- Equations and special characters in Word in 'normal text' or Symbol font (Word Equation Editor avoided where possible)
- Authored in Compatibility Mode if using Word 2007 (i.e., as a Word 97-2003 document; saved as .doc format, NOT .docx)
- No more than 2 levels of subheadings, of up to 44 characters each
- Other articles in this Insight cited in the text only and not included in the reference list
- Reference citations in superscript, in order of text, table, figure, box
- Reference list in *Nature* style
- Brief title provided for each figure, table and box
- Figure legends no more than 250 words each
- Boxes no more than 500 words
- Tables in Word and prepared using the Word Table menu
- Declaration of any competing interests included in manuscript (http://www.nature.com/authors/editorial_policies/competing.html)

For TeX users

Word or rtf formats are preferred, unless there is very extensive use of special characters or equations. Such formats enable on-screen subediting and the preparation of a 'pre-proof', when the editing can be checked before formal proofs are prepared. We have found that this minimizes the chance of errors being inadvertently introduced.

- Word conversion not practicable

Contact us at reviewsandinsights@nature.com for further help and advice on preparing text for publication.

Artwork

Nature will edit figures to conform to house style, for clarity and accessibility, and for clear reproduction in print. Please check the following points when preparing your figures.

Electronic figure formats

- Preferred file formats for line (or vector) artwork and graphs are unflattened EPS, postscript, PDF and Illustrator .ai
- Preferred file formats for photographic images are TIFF, Photoshop .psd and jpeg. If you have created images with separate components on different layers, please send the photoshop (.psd) file with the layers intact
- Preferred file format for chemical structures is ChemDraw

When preparing and sending figures

- Text (in all artwork), graphs and line artwork in an editable format
- Any images with uneditable labels also provided without labels as separate files
- Photographic images at 300 dpi at print size
- Colour images in CMYK (not RGB) mode
- Statement of origin of each figure and image submitted with manuscript
- Permission obtained and submitted for any illustrations or images to be reproduced or adapted from published work or the Internet
- Suggestions for Insight cover artwork submitted separately

See http://www.nature.com/nature/authors/submissions/final/Final_artwork.pdf for detailed guidelines. For further help and advice, e-mail our art editors at art@nature.com

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