Aims and Scope
Psychiatry has suffered tremendously by the limited translational pipeline. Nobel laureate Julius Axelrod’s discovery in 1957 of monoamine reuptake by pre-synaptic neurons still forms the basis of contemporary antidepressant treatment. There is a substantial gap between the explosion of knowledge in neuroscience and conceptually novel treatments for our patients.

Translational Psychiatry bridges this gap by fostering and highlighting the pathway from discovery to clinical applications, healthcare and global health. We view translation broadly, as the full spectrum of work that marks the pathway from discovery to global health. The steps of translation that are within the scope of Translational Psychiatry include

(i) fundamental discovery,
(ii) bench to bedside,
(iii) bedside to clinical applications (clinical trials), (iv) translation to policy and health care guidelines, (v) assessment of health policy and usage, and (vi) global health.

All areas of medical research, including – but not restricted to – molecular biology, genetics, pharmacology, imaging and epidemiology are welcome as they contribute to enhance the field of translational psychiatry. Translational Psychiatry invites submissions of original articles and reviews, along with invited editorials and perspectives, all of which fall within the field of translational psychiatry.
## ARTICLE TYPE SPECIFICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article Description</th>
<th>Abstract</th>
<th>Word Limit</th>
<th>Tables/Figures</th>
<th>References</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Original Articles</strong></td>
<td>Unstructured abstract</td>
<td>Abstract: 250 words</td>
<td>Article: 5,000 words excluding abstract and references.</td>
<td>Max of 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reviews</td>
<td>Unstructured abstract</td>
<td>Abstract: 250 words</td>
<td>Article: 6,000 words</td>
<td>Max of 6-8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Correspondence</strong></td>
<td>No abstract required</td>
<td>Article: 700 words (900 if no image)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Max of 1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Correspondence

Correspondence contributions must respond to an original research article published in *Translational Psychiatry* no earlier than six months prior to the proposed letter’s submission. Original authors will have the opportunity to respond to the letter, should it be chosen for acceptance. This response will be published alongside the correspondence.

**Correspondence should contain no original or novel data.** Contributions should start with a two- or three-sentence paragraph that contains the message of the article without specialized terminology.

Joint first authors are not allowed.

In consultation with the author, the editor may change the title of a Correspondence.

## PREPARATION OF ARTICLES

Please note that original articles must contain the following components. Please see below for further details.

- Cover letter (must include a Conflict of Interest statement)
- Title page (excluding acknowledgements)
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Materials (or patients) and Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Acknowledgements
- Conflict of Interest
- References
- Figure legends
- Tables
- Figures

**Cover Letter:** The uploaded cover letter must state the material is original research, has not been previously published and has not been submitted for publication elsewhere while under consideration. The cover letter must also include a Conflict of Interest statement, which is also included in the text of the manuscript (see Editorial Policy section).

**Title Page:** The title page should bear the title of the paper, the full names of all the authors, highest academic degree obtained, and their affiliations; also, the name, full postal address, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address of the author to whom correspondence and offprint requests are to be sent (This information is also asked for on the electronic submission site). The title should be brief, informative, of 150 characters or less and should not make a statement or conclusion. The running title should consist of not more than 50 letters and spaces. It should be as brief as possible, convey the essential message of the paper and contain no abbreviations.

**Abstract:** The Abstract should consist of one, single, continuous paragraph 150-250 words in length.
Introduction: The Introduction should assume that the reader is knowledgeable in the field and should therefore be as brief as possible but can include a short historical review where desirable.

Materials/Subjects and Methods: This section should contain sufficient detail, so that all experimental procedures can be reproduced, and include references. Methods, however, that have been published in detail elsewhere should not be described in detail. Authors should provide the name of the manufacturer and their location for any specifically named medical equipment and instruments, and all drugs should be identified by their pharmaceutical names, and by their trade name if relevant.

Results and Discussion: The Results section should briefly present the experimental data in text, tables or figures. Tables and figures should not be described extensively in the text, either. The discussion should focus on the interpretation and the significance of the findings with concise objective comments that describe their relation to other work in the area. It should not repeat information in the results. The final paragraph should highlight the main conclusion(s), and provide some indication of the direction future research should take.

Acknowledgements: These should be brief, and should include sources of support including sponsorship (e.g. university, charity, commercial organization) and sources of material (e.g. novel drugs) not available commercially.

Conflict of Interest: Authors must declare whether or not there are any competing financial interests in relation to the work described. This information must be included at this stage and will be published as part of the paper. Conflict of interest should be noted in the cover letter and as part of the submission process. Please see the Conflict of Interest documentation in the Editorial Policy section for detailed information.

References: Only papers directly related to the article should be cited. Exhaustive lists should be avoided. References should follow the Vancouver format. In the text, they should appear as numbers, and at the end of the paper they should be listed (double-spaced) in numerical order corresponding to the order of citation in the text. All authors should be quoted for papers with up to six authors; for papers with more than six authors, the first six only should be quoted, followed by et al.

Abbreviations for titles of medical periodicals should conform to those used in the latest edition of Index Medicus. The first and last page numbers for each reference should be provided. Abstracts and letters must be identified as such. Papers in press and papers already submitted for publication may be included in the list of references, but no citation is required for work that is not yet submitted for publication.

Personal communications must be allocated a number and included in the list of references in the usual way or simply referred to in the text; the authors may choose which method to use. In either case, authors must obtain permission from the individual concerned to quote his/her unpublished work.


EndNote users should select The Pharmacogenomics Journal output style for the correct reference style.

Tables: These should be labeled sequentially and cited within the text. Each table should be presented on its own page, numbered, and titled. Reference to table footnotes should be made by means of Arabic numerals. Tables should not duplicate the content of the text. They should consist of at least two columns; columns should always have headings. Authors should ensure that the data in the tables are consistent with those cited in the relevant places in the text, totals add up correctly, and percentages have been calculated correctly. Unlike figures or images, tables may be embedded into the word processing software if necessary, or supplied as separate electronic files.

Figures: Figures and images should be labeled sequentially, numbered and cited in the text. Figure legends should be brief, specific, and appear on a separate manuscript page after the References section. Refer to (and cite) figures specifically in the text of the paper. Figures should not be embedded within the text. If a table or figure has been published before, the authors must obtain written permission to reproduce the material in both print and electronic formats from the copyright owner be ready to present it upon request. This follows for quotes, illustrations, and other materials taken from previously
published works not in the public domain. The original source should be cited in the figure caption or table footnote. The use of three-dimensional histograms is strongly discouraged when the addition of the third dimension gives no extra information. Scale markers should be used in the image for electron micrographs, and indicate the type of stain used. Detailed guidelines for submitting artwork can be found by downloading the guidelines PDF.

**House Style**

- Do not make rules thinner than 1pt (0.36mm).
- Use a coarse hatching pattern rather than shading for tints in graphs.
- Color should be distinct when being used as an identifying tool.
- Spaces, not commas should be used to separate thousands.
- Abbreviations should be preceded by the words they stand for in the first instance of use.
- Use SI units throughout.
- Text should be double spaced with a wide margin.
- At first mention of a manufacturer, the town (and state, if in USA) and country should be provided.

**Language Editing**

Authors who are not native speakers of English sometimes receive negative comments from referees or editors about the language and grammar usage in their manuscripts, which can contribute to a paper being rejected. To reduce the possibility of such problems, we strongly encourage such authors to take at least one of the following steps:

- Have your manuscript reviewed for clarity by a colleague whose native language is English.
- Review the tips for technical writing here: [http://www.nature.com/authors/author_resources/how_write.html](http://www.nature.com/authors/author_resources/how_write.html).
- Use an English language editing service such as Nature Publishing Group Language Editing. An editor will improve the English to ensure that your meaning is clear and to identify problems that require your review.

Please note that the use of a language editing service is at the author's own expense and does not guarantee that the article will be selected for peer review or accepted.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

**Online Submission**

We only accept manuscript submissions via our online manuscript submission system. Before submitting a manuscript, authors are encouraged to consult both our Editorial Policies and the Submission Instructions for our online manuscript submission system. If you have not already done so, please register for an account with our online manuscript system. You will be able to monitor the status of your manuscript online throughout the editorial process.

**Submission of Revisions**

Authors submitting a revised manuscript after review are asked to include the following:

1) A rebuttal letter, indicating point-by-point how you have addressed the comments raised by the reviewers. If you disagree with any of the points raised, please provide adequate justification in your letter.

2) A marked-up version of the manuscript that highlights changes made in response to the reviewers' comments in order to aid the Editors and reviewers.

3) A 'clean' (non-highlighted) version of the manuscript.

**POST-ACCEPTANCE**

*Translational Psychiatry* is an open-access journal. All papers are freely accessible online immediately upon publication. Authors are also permitted to post the final, published PDF of their article on a website, institutional repository or other free public server, immediately on publication.

Articles are published under a CC BY license (Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License). The CC BY license is preferred by many research funding bodies. It allows for maximum dissemination and re-use of open access materials: under this license users are free to share (copy, distribute and transmit) and remix (adapt) the contribution including for commercial purposes, providing they attribute the contribution in the manner specified by the author or licensor ([read the full legal code](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/legalcode)).

The CC BY-NC-ND and CC BY-NC-SA licenses are available on request: please contact the editorial office on acceptance of your article to discuss these options.

Under Creative Commons licenses, authors retain copyright in their work.

Once a manuscript is accepted, the corresponding author must complete and sign a License to Publish form on behalf of all authors and return it to the editorial office. Failure to promptly return the form will result in delay of publication.
Waiver of institutional open access policies

Please note that Harvard University FAS, MIT, Princeton, UCSF, University of Hawaii at Manoa, California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and the Georgia Institute of Technology have enacted Open Access policies that conflict with our own policy for articles published via the subscription route. If any corresponding or contributing authors are from these institutions, you will need to provide a waiver from the institution of every affected author, which can be obtained from the institution. This waiver should be submitted at the same time as the Open Access Licence to Publish form. This requirement does not apply to articles published via the open access route.

Proofs

The corresponding author will receive an e-mail containing a URL linking to the proofing site. Proof corrections must be returned within 48 hours of receipt. Failure to do so may result in delayed publication. Extensive corrections cannot be made at this stage.

Manuscript deposition service

This service is currently available to authors publishing original research articles. NPG’s automated manuscript deposition service enables authors to meet the open access or public access policies of all of the participating funders, making it simple and free for researchers to comply.

Costs

Open access publication

_Translational Psychiatry_ levies the following Article-Processing Charges (APC) (plus local taxes where applicable) per article accepted for publication: £2,400/$3,900/€2,800 for Original Articles and £700/$1,100/€900 for Correspondence.

With regards to payment, usual credit terms are 30 days from receipt of invoice. Failure to pay your invoice within the stated credit term may result in restrictions on your ability to publish with Nature Publishing Group or _Translational Psychiatry_ in the future, involvement of a third party debt collection agency, and legal proceedings.

Open access funding

NPG also offers an APC support service to make it easier for NPG authors to discover and apply for open access funding. For advice on what funding is available to you and help in approaching funders and institutions, please contact us at apcwaivers@springernature.com.

For more information about NPG’s open access publishing options and policies, please see our open access homepage.

Editorial policies

_Translational Psychiatry_ is committed to maintaining high standards for the integrity of the published scientific record. Authors should take note and adhere to the journal editorial policies noted below. The journal will investigate any instances of suspected scientific fraud, image manipulation, plagiarism, duplicate publication, undocumented conflicts of interest, and other cases that compromise research ethics or the journal’s scientific integrity. As a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics, _Translational Psychiatry_ will follow best practice in pursuing an investigation until the concern is addressed and resolved.

Duplicate Publication

Papers must be original and not published or submitted for publication elsewhere. This rule applies to non-English language publications. NPG allows and encourages prior publication on recognized community preprint servers for review by other scientists before formal submission to a journal. The details of the preprint server concerned and any accession numbers should be included in the cover letter accompanying manuscript submission. This policy does not extend to preprints available to the media or that are otherwise publicized outside the scientific community before or during the submission and consideration process.

Permissions

If a table or figure has been published before, the authors must obtain written permission to reproduce the material in both print and electronic formats from the copyright owner and be prepared to produce it upon request. This follows for quotes, illustrations and other materials taken from previously published works not in the public domain. The original source should be cited in the figure caption or table footnote. Color figures can be reproduced if necessary, but the authors will be expected to contribute towards the cost of publication.

Clinical Trials

As defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal
Editors (ICMJE), a clinical trial is any research project that prospectively assigns human subjects to intervention and comparison groups to study the cause- and-effect relationship between a medical intervention and a health outcome. A medical intervention is any intervention used to modify a health outcome and includes but is not limited to drugs, surgical procedures, devices, behavioral treatments, and process-of-care changes. A trial must have at least one prospectively assigned concurrent control or comparison group in order to trigger the requirement for registration. Nonrandomized trials are not exempt from the registration requirement if they meet the above criteria.

When reporting experiments on human subjects, please indicate whether the procedures were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional or regional) or with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975 (as revised in 1983). Include Institutional Review Board or Animal Care and Use Committee approvals.

All clinical trials must be registered in a public registry prior to submission. Translational Psychiatry follows the trials registration policy of the ICMJE (www.icmje.org) and considers only trials that have been appropriately registered before submission, regardless of when the trial closed to enrolment. Acceptable registries must meet the following ICMJE requirements:

- Be publicly available, searchable, and open to all prospective registrants
- Have a validation mechanism for registration data
- Be managed by a not-for-profit organization

Examples of registries that meet these criteria include:

- The registry sponsored by the United States National Library of Medicine, [www.clinicaltrials.gov](http://www.clinicaltrials.gov)
- The International Standard Randomized Controlled Trial Number Registry, [www.controlled-trials.com](http://www.controlled-trials.com)
- The European Clinical Trials Database, [https://eudract.ema.europa.eu](https://eudract.ema.europa.eu)

Nature Publishing Group endorses the toolkits and guidelines produced by the following bodies:

- Committee on Publication Ethics
- Good Publication Practice
- Medical Publishing Insights and Practices Initiative

Conflicts of Interest

In the interests of transparency and to help readers form their own judgments of potential bias, authors must declare whether or not there are any competing financial interests in relation to the work described. This information must be included in their cover letter and on the title page of their manuscript. In cases where the authors declare a competing financial interest, a statement to that effect is published as part of the article. If no such conflict exists, the statement will simply read that the authors have nothing to disclose. For the purposes of this statement, competing interests are defined as those of a financial nature that, through their potential influence on behavior or content, or from perception of such potential influences, could undermine the objectivity, integrity or perceived value of a publication. They can include any of the following:

- Funding: Research support (including salaries, equipment, supplies, reimbursement for attending symposia, and other expenses) by organizations that may gain or lose financially through this publication. The role of the funding body in the design of the study, collection and analysis of data and decision to publish should be stated.
- Employment: Recent (while engaged in the research project), present or anticipated employment by any organization that may gain or lose financially through this publication.
- Personal financial interests: Stocks or shares in companies that may gain or lose financially through publication; consultation fees or other forms of remuneration from organizations that may gain or lose financially; patents or patent applications whose value may be affected by publication.

It is difficult to specify a threshold at which a financial interest becomes significant, but note that many US universities require faculty members to disclose interests exceeding $10,000 or 5% equity in a company. Any such figure is arbitrary, so we offer as one possible practical alternative guideline: Declare all interests that could embarrass you were they to become publicly known after your work was published. We do not consider diversified mutual funds or investment trusts to constitute a competing financial interest.

The statement must contain an explicit and unambiguous statement describing any potential conflict of interest, or lack thereof, for any of the authors as it relates to the subject of the report. Examples include “Dr. Smith receives compensation as a consultant for XYZ Company,” “Dr. Jones and Dr. Smith have financial holdings in ABC Company,” or “Dr. Jones owns a patent on the diagnostic device described in this report.” These statements must be included in the manuscript under the heading Conflict of Interest. The Conflict of Interest disclosure appears in the cover letter, in the manuscript submission process, and before the References section in the manuscript.

Potential conflicts of interest should be provided for all authors, including compensation for professional services. Neither the precise amount received from each entity nor the aggregate income from these sources needs to be provided. Professional services include any activities for which the individual is, has been, or will be compensated with cash, royalties, fees, stock or stock options in exchange for work performed, advice or counsel provided, or for other services related to the author’s professional knowledge and skills. This would include, but not necessarily be limited to, the identification of organizations from which the author received contracts or in which he or she holds an equity stake if professional services were provided in conjunction with the transaction.

Examples of declarations are:

- Conflict of interest. The authors declare no conflict of interest.
- Conflict of interest.
Dr Caron's work has been funded by the NIH. He has received compensation as a member of the scientific advisory board of Acadia Pharmaceutical and owns stock in the company. He also has consulted for Lundbeck and received compensation. Dr Rothman and Dr Jensen declare no potential conflict of interest.

Communication with the Media

Material submitted must not be discussed with the media. We reserve the right to halt the consideration or publication of a paper if this condition is broken. If a paper is particularly newsworthy, the press release will be sent to our list of journalists in advance of publication with an embargo that forbids any coverage of the manuscript, or the findings of the manuscript, until the time and date clearly stated. Authors whose papers are scheduled for publication may also arrange their own publicity (for instance, through their institution’s press offices), but they must strictly adhere to our press embargo and are advised to coordinate their own publicity with our press office.

Communication between Scientists

We do not wish to hinder communication between scientists. We ask you to communicate with other researchers as much as you wish, whether on a recognized community preprint server, by discussion at scientific meetings or by online collaborative sites such as wikis, but we do not encourage premature publication by discussion with the press (beyond a formal presentation, if at a conference).

Authorship

Authorship requirements for all categories of articles largely conform to the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals,” developed by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), which state that authorship credit should be based on:

1) Substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data;
2) Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and
3) Final approval of the version to be published.

Any changes to the author list after submission, such as a change in the order of the authors, or the deletion or addition of authors, needs to be approved by a signed letter from every author.

A manuscript will be considered for publication on the understanding that:

1) All named authors have agreed to its submission
2) It is not currently being considered for publication by another journal
3) If the paper is accepted it will not subsequently be published in the same or similar form in any language without the consent of publishers

Additional contributors to the submitted work should appear in the Acknowledgments. Medical writers and industry employees can be authors or contributors. Their roles, affiliations, and potential conflicts of interest should be included in the author list or noted in the Acknowledgments section concurrent with their contribution to the work submitted. Articles found to have been ‘ghost authored’ (eg, written by unacknowledged freelance writers) will be considered to have violated Translational Psychiatry’s authorship policy.

Correspondence with the Journal

One author is designated the contact author for matters arising from the manuscript (materials requests, technical comments and so on). It is this author’s responsibility to inform all co-authors of matters arising and to ensure such matters are dealt with promptly. After acceptance for publication, proofs are e-mailed to this corresponding author who should circulate the proof to all co-authors and coordinate corrections among them.

Plagiarism and Fabrication

Plagiarism is when an author attempts to pass off someone else’s work as his or her own. Duplicate publication, sometimes called self-plagiarism, occurs when an author reuses substantial parts of his or her own published work without providing the appropriate references. If plagiarism is found, the journal will, as a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics, follow best practice in pursuing an investigation until the concern is addressed and resolved.

Image Integrity and Standards

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, 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:

- Authors should list all image acquisition tools and image processing software packages used. Authors should document key image-gathering settings and processing manipulations in the Methods section.
- Images gathered at different times or from different locations should not be combined into a single image, unless it is stated that the resultant image is a product of time-averaged data or a time-lapse sequence. If juxtaposing images is essential, the borders should be clearly demarcated in the figure and described in the legend.
- Touch-up tools, such as cloning and healing tools in Photoshop, or any feature that deliberately obscures manipulations, is to be avoided.
- Processing (such as changing brightness and contrast) is appropriate only when it is applied equally across the entire image and is applied equally to controls. Contrast should not be adjusted so that data disappear. Excessive manipulations, such as processing to
emphasize one region in the image at the expense of others (for example, through the use of a biased choice of threshold settings), is inappropriate, as is emphasizing experimental data relative to the control.

For gels and blots, positive and negative controls, as well as molecular size markers, should be included on each gel and blot – either in the main figure or an expanded data supplementary figure. The display of cropped gels and blots in the main paper is encouraged if it improves the clarity and conciseness of the presentation. In such cases, the cropping must be mentioned in the figure legend.

- 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.
- Cropped gels in the paper must retain important bands.
- Cropped blots in the body of the paper should retain at least six band widths above and below the band.
- High-contrast gels and blots are discouraged, as overexposure may mask additional bands. Authors should strive for exposures with gray backgrounds. Immunoblots should be surrounded by a black line to indicate the borders of the blot, if the background is faint.
- For quantitative comparisons, appropriate reagents, controls and imaging methods with linear signal ranges should be used.

Microscopy adjustments should be applied to the entire image. Threshold manipulation, expansion or contraction of signal ranges and the altering of high signals should be avoided. If ‘pseudo-coloring’ and nonlinear adjustment (for example ‘gamma changes’) are used, this must be disclosed. Adjustments of individual color channels are sometimes necessary on ‘merged’ images, but this should be noted in the figure legend. We encourage inclusion of the following with the final revised version of the manuscript for publication:

- 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 pseudo-colour 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.

Availability of Data and Materials

As of March 2014, Translational 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.

An inherent principle of publication is that others should be able to replicate and build upon the authors’ published claims. Therefore, a condition of publication is that authors are required to make materials, data, and associated protocols available in a publicly accessible database. Where one does not exist, the information must be made available to referees at submission and to readers promptly upon request. Any restrictions on material availability or other relevant information must be disclosed in the manuscript’s Methods section and should include details of how materials and information may be obtained.

Sequences, Structures and “Omics”

Papers reporting protein or DNA sequences and molecular structures will not be accepted without an accession number to Genbank/EMBL/DDBJ, Protein DataBank, SWISS-PROT or other publicly available database in general use in the field that gives free access to researchers from the date of publication.

Authors of papers describing structures of biological macromolecules must provide experimental data upon the request of Editor if they are not already freely accessible in a publicly available database such as Protein DataBank, Nucleic Acids Database or Biological Magnetic Resonance Databank.

Gene Nomenclature

Authors should use approved nomenclature for gene symbols, and use symbols rather than italicized full names (Ttn, not titin). Please consult the appropriate nomenclature databases for correct gene names and symbols. Approved human gene symbols are provided by HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee (HGNC), www.genenames.org. Approved mouse symbols are provided by The Jackson Laboratory, www.informatics.jax.org/mgihome/nomen. For proposed gene names that are not already approved, please submit the gene symbols to the appropriate nomenclature committees as soon as possible, as these must be deposited and approved before publication of an article. Avoid listing multiple names of genes (or proteins) separated by a slash, as in ‘Oct4/Pou5f1’, as this is ambiguous (it could mean a ratio, a complex, alternative names or different subunits). Use one name throughout and include the other at first mention: ‘Oct4 (also known as Pou5f1)’.

Human and Other Animal Experiments

For primary research manuscripts reporting experiments on live vertebrates and/or higher invertebrates, the corresponding author must confirm that all experiments...
were performed in accordance with relevant guidelines and regulations. The manuscript must include a statement identifying the institutional and/or licensing committee approving the experiments, including any relevant details regarding animal welfare, patient anonymity, drug side effects and informed consent.

For experiments involving human subjects, authors must identify the committee approving the experiments, and include with their submission a statement confirming that informed consent was obtained from all subjects.

Biosecurity Policy
The Editor may seek advice about submitted papers not only from technical reviewers but also on any aspect of a paper that raises concerns. These may include, for example, ethical issues or issues of data or materials access. Occasionally, concerns may also relate to the implications to society of publishing a paper, including threats to security. In such circumstances, advice will usually be sought simultaneously with the technical peer-review process. As in all publishing decisions, the ultimate decision whether to publish is the responsibility of the editor of the journal concerned.

Peer Review
All contributions that are selected for peer review are sent to two or more independent reviewers. The identity of reviewers is confidential and manuscripts are considered private information. Papers may be rejected without external review at the Editor’s discretion. Authors are encouraged to suggest or recommend for exclusion reviewers at the time of submissions.

Anonymity and Confidentiality
Reviewers' identities are not released to authors, except when reviewers specifically ask to be identified. If this is the case, and reviewers wish to reveal their identities while the manuscript is under consideration, this needs to be done through the Editor; however, it is the journal’s strong preference this process remains anonymous both during and after the manuscript’s consideration. Should a reviewer contact an author directly, we ask authors to inform the Editor as soon as possible. We prohibit any attempt by authors to confront reviewers or determine their identities. Our own policy is to neither confirm nor deny any speculation about reviewers' identities, and we encourage reviewers to adopt a similar policy.

Selecting Peer Reviewers
Reviewer selection is critical to the publication process, and we base our choices on many factors, including expertise, reputation, and specific recommendations.

Correction and Retraction Process
We recognize our responsibility to correct errors. Content published online is final and cannot be amended. Please note the following policy for making corrections to peer-reviewed content:

- **Erratum.** Notification of an important error made by the journal that affects the publication record or the scientific integrity of the paper, or the reputation of the authors, or of the journal.
- **Corrigendum.** Notification of an important error made by the author that affects the publication record or the scientific integrity of the paper, or the reputation of the authors or the journal.
- **Retraction.** Notification of invalid results. All co-authors must sign a retraction specifying the error and stating briefly how the conclusions are affected.

Decisions about corrections are made by the Editor (sometimes with peer-reviewers' advice) and this sometimes involves author consultation. Requests to make corrections that do not affect the paper in a significant way or impair the reader's understanding of the contribution (a spelling mistake or grammatical error, for example) are not considered.

In cases where co-authors disagree about a correction, the editors will take advice from independent peer-reviewers.

FURTHER INFORMATION
For inquiries related to submission requirements or submitted manuscripts, please contact the editorial office. For inquiries related to advertising, subscriptions, permissions, papers in production or publishing a supplement, please contact the publisher's office.