

## Guide to Authors: calling all authors!

**The 'Guide to Authors' provides detailed information on manuscript preparation and submission, the editorial process, and editorial and publishing policies. Awareness of these requirements can help avoid delays in the review and publication process.**

*Nature Cell Biology's* 'Guide to Authors' is updated at regular intervals as our editorial and publishing policies evolve in response to a dynamic publishing landscape and the changing needs of the research community. Crucial information on issues such as author responsibilities, availability of materials and data sharing, plagiarism and duplicate publication, can also be found at the 'Author and Referees' site. All authors are strongly encouraged to consult the 'Guide to Authors' before submission. Here, we highlight a few important points.

**Submission policies.** Manuscripts should be submitted through our online submission system, which allows authors to check the integrity of their uploaded data and monitor the status of their manuscript during the editorial and review process. The corresponding author is ultimately responsible for providing all relevant information and for communicating with the editors. Although it is the primary responsibility of the senior author(s) involved in the study to ensure the integrity of the data, submission is taken to imply that all the authors stand by the contents of the study. During the initial submission, or while a manuscript is under consideration at *Nature Cell Biology*, if related work from the same authors is submitted or accepted elsewhere they must provide us with a copy of that manuscript. In each case, the existence of related work should be mentioned in the cover letter. Conceptual advance is an important criterion at *Nature Cell Biology*, and the publication of related work (with or without overlapping authors) could jeopardize the success of a manuscript.

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**Finally, production bound!** Once a manuscript is accepted for publication in principle, the handling editor and the production team assess the text and figures for adherence to the editorial and production requirements. Our decision letter and the 'Guide to Authors' provide detailed information on preparing the manuscript text and figures. Strict adherence to these requirements can facilitate rapid publication. Common errors include failure to follow the guidelines for statistical analysis, providing images below the required resolution, and providing flattened multilayered images. If in doubt, authors are advised to contact the handling editor.

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