



About the Journal	1	Post-Acceptance	7
Article Type Specifications	2	Costs	8
Preparation of Articles	3	Editorial Policies	8
How to Submit	6	Further Information	14

ABOUT THE JOURNAL

Aims and Scope

Eye seeks to provide the international practising ophthalmologist with high quality articles, of academic rigour, on the latest global clinical and laboratory based research. Its core aim is to advance the science and practice of ophthalmology with the latest clinical- and scientific-based research. Whilst principally aimed at the practising clinician, the journal contains material of interest to a wider readership including optometrists, orthoptists, other health care professionals and research workers in all aspects of the field of visual science worldwide. Eye is the official journal of The Royal College of Ophthalmologists.

Eye encourages the submission of original articles covering all aspects of ophthalmology including:

- external eye disease
- oculo-plastic surgery
- orbital and lacrimal disease
- ocular surface and corneal disorders
- paediatric ophthalmology and strabismus
- glaucoma
- medical and surgical retina
- neuro-ophthalmology
- cataract and refractive surgery
- ocular oncology
- ophthalmic pathology
- ophthalmic genetics

Journal Details

Editor-in-Chief

Professor Sobha Sivaprasad, DM, FRCOphth, FRCS
University College London Consultant,
Moorfields Eye Hospital London

senswathi@aol.com

Editorial office:

Steve Beet, eye@rcophth.ac.uk

Impact factor: 3.775 (2020 Journal Citation Reports, Clarivate Analytics, 2021)

Frequency: 12 issues a year

Abstracted in:

BIOSIS
Current Contents/Clinical Medicine
EBSCO Discovery Service
Google Scholar
Medline
OCLC
Science Citation Index Expanded (SciSearch)

SCOPUS
Summon by ProQuest
EBSCO Academic Search
EBSCO Advanced Placement Source
EBSCO CINAHL
EBSCO STM Source
EBSCO TOC Premier

ARTICLE TYPE SPECIFICATIONS

ARTICLE DESCRIPTION	ABSTRACT AND KEYWORDS	WORD LIMIT	TABLES/ FIGURES	REFERENCES
<p>Article Reports of current clinical research or laboratory research with clinical relevance. Case Series may also be submitted for consideration.</p> <p>Please note that the journal no longer accepts Case Reports unless of particular novel interest, and in all cases these must first be invited by the Editor. Please see 'Preparation of Original Articles' for more details of preparing an article for submission.</p>	Structured abstract, max 250 words	3,500 words max excluding abstract, references, figures and tables	Max of 5	N/A
<p>Review Article (only by invitation of the Editor) Methodology: search terms and databases used to research the review should be clearly listed after the abstract. Reviews are comprehensive analyses of specific topics that are solicited by the Editor. Proposals for reviews may be submitted; however, authors should only send an outline of the proposed paper for initial consideration. All review articles will undergo peer review prior to acceptance.</p>	Unstructured abstract, max 250 words	8,000 words max excluding abstract, references, figures and tables	Liberal use of tables and figures is encouraged	Max of 100
<p>Correspondence These are letters to the Editor responding to a specific article published in Eye (only letters relating to articles published in print within the last 6 months will be considered).</p>	No abstract required	350 words max excluding, references and title.	Max of 2	Max of 5
<p>Brief Communication These short articles are concise studies of high quality and broad interest, that raise new issues (authors must gain approval from the Editor prior to submission). Brief Communications are subject to critical review and editorial policy.</p>	No abstract required	500 words max excluding, references and title.	Max of 2	Max of 5
<p>Comment (only by invitation of the Editor) Comment articles are personal viewpoints and discussions of important topics of particular interest to ophthalmology. Comments cover basic science and clinical issues as well as those which bridge the gap between research and practise. Approval must be obtained from the Editor prior to submission.</p>	No abstract required	1,000 words max excluding references and title.	Max of 2	Max of 25
<p>Editorials (only by invitation of the Editor) Proposals for Editorials may be submitted; however, authors should only send an outline of the proposed papers for initial consideration.</p>	No abstract required	1,000 words max excluding references and title.	Max of 2	Max of 25
<p>Image For consideration, the image must be a minimum of 300dpi at 21cm wide by 12cm high.</p>	No abstract required	Image description not to exceed 150 words.	Max of 1 image	Max of 5

Journal Cover Images

Unusual or interesting ophthalmic images may be submitted for publication and potential use on the journal's front cover.

Specifications:

- Single image only
- No abstract
- Image description not to exceed 150 words
- No tables
- Max. 5 references
- For consideration as cover art, the image must be a minimum of 300dpi at 21cm wide by 12cm high

PREPARATION OF ARTICLES

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

- Cover letter
- Title page (excluding acknowledgements)
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Materials (or Subjects) and Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- References
- Acknowledgements
- Author Contribution statement
- Conflict of Interest
- Funding Statement
- Figure legends
- Tables
- Figures
- Completed CONSORT checklist and flow diagram (randomised controlled trials only)
- Reports of clinical trials must adhere to the registration and reporting requirements listed in the Editorial Policies.

Cover Letter

The 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. If the manuscript has been previously considered for publication in another journal, please include the previous reviewer comments, to help expedite the decision by the Editorial team.

Please also include a Conflict of Interest statement, see [Editorial Policies](#) for more details.

Group Authorship/Collaborations:

Please note that if in the list of authors you wish to include additional authors/collaborators/ groups/consortiums that aren't part of the core list of authors as 'on behalf of', 'for the' or 'representing the' you need to ensure you list the authors correctly within the paper to ensure these are there deposited correctly in PubMed.

- Groups where there is an 'on behalf of', or 'representing the', or 'for the' will appear in the HTML/PDF as follows: Author A, Author B, Author C and Author D on behalf of...
The list of individual members should then appear in the Acknowledgements section and not under Notes or Appendix
- A Group name who is an author in its own right should have the list of authors as usual and then all the individual authors of the group listed in their own section at the end of the article, NOT in Acknowledgement/Appendix or Notes

Title Page

The title page should contain:

- Title of the paper - brief, informative, of 150 characters or less and should not make a statement or conclusion
- Full names of all the authors and their affiliations, together with the name, full postal address, telephone number and e-mail address of the corresponding author. If authors regard it as essential to indicate that two or more co-authors are equal in status, they may be identified by an asterisk symbol with the caption 'These authors contributed equally to this work' immediately under the address list.
- **Group Authorship/Collaborations** - Please note that if in the list of authors you wish to include additional authors/collaborators/ groups/consortiums that aren't part of the core list of authors as 'on behalf of', 'for the' or 'representing the' you need to ensure you list the authors correctly within the paper to ensure these are there deposited correctly in PubMed.
 - Groups where there is an 'on behalf of', or 'representing the', or 'for the' will appear in the HTML/PDF as follows: Author A, Author B, Author C and Author D on behalf of...The list of individual members should then appear in the Acknowledgements section and not under Notes or Appendix
 - A Group name who is an author in its own right should have the list of authors as usual and then all the individual authors of the group listed in their own section at the end of the article, NOT in Acknowledgement/Appendix or Notes
- Competing Interests statement (see [Editorial Policy](#) section). Authors should disclose the sources of any support for the work received in the form of grants and/or equipment and drugs.

As part of our efforts to improve transparency in authorship, we now request that all authors identified as 'corresponding author' create and link their Open Researcher and Contributor Identifier (ORCID) with their account on the Manuscript Tracking System (MTS) prior to acceptance. For more information please visit <http://www.springernature.com/orcid>

Abstract

Original Articles must be prepared with a structured abstract designed to summarise the essential features of the paper in a logical and concise sequence under the following mandatory headings:

- **Background/Objectives:** What was the main question or hypothesis tested?

- **Subjects/Methods:** How many subjects were recruited, how many dropped out? Was the study randomised, case-controlled etc? Interventions/methods used and duration of administration.
- **Results:** Indicate 95% confidence intervals and exact *P* value for effects.
- **Conclusions:** Answer (significant or not) to main question.

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

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.

Discussion

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 organisation) 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 also on the title page. Please see the Conflict of Interest documentation in the [Editorial Policy](#) section for detailed information.

Funding

The funding section is mandatory. Authors must declare sources of study funding including sponsorship (e.g. university, charity, commercial organization) and sources of material (e.g. novel drugs) not available commercially.

Author Contribution Statement

Authors must include a statement about the contribution of each author to the manuscript (see section on Authorship). The initials of each author may be used.

This is an example for a systematic review: MAJ was responsible for designing the review protocol, writing the protocol and report, conducting the search, screening potentially eligible studies, extracting and analyzing data, interpreting results, updating reference lists and creating 'Summary of findings' tables. SBM was responsible for designing the review protocol and screening potentially eligible studies. She contributed to writing the report, extracting and analyzing data, interpreting results and creating 'Summary of findings' tables. DIH conducted the meta-regression analyses and contributed to the design of the review protocol, writing the report, arbitrating potentially eligible studies, extracting and analyzing data and interpreting results. NAL contributed to data extraction and provided feedback on the report. FRT and RAL provided feedback on the report.

To understand more about authorship definitions, please refer to the [ICMJE Authorship Guidelines](#).

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 starting at one 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. Where a reference is to appear next to a number in the text, for example following an equation, chemical formula or biological acronym, citations should be written as (ref. X) and not as superscript.

Example "detectable levels of endogenous Bcl-2 (ref. 3), as confirmed by western blot"

All authors should be listed for papers with up to six authors; for papers with more than six authors, the first six only should be listed, 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 may be included in the list of references.

Personal communications can 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.

Examples:

Journal article:

Nguyen D, Soygur B, Peng S, Malki S, Hu G & Laird DJ. Apoptosis in the fetal testis eliminates developmentally defective germ cell clones. *Nat Cell Biol* **22**, 1423-1435 (2020)

Journal article, e-pub ahead of print:

Basar, MA, Beck DB & Werner A. Deubiquitylases in developmental ubiquitin signaling and congenital diseases. *Cell Death Differ* (2020).

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41418-020-00697-5>

Complete book:

Atkinson K, Champlin R, Ritz J, Fibbe W, Ljungman P, Brenner MK (eds). Clinical Bone Marrow and Blood Stem Cell Transplantation. 3rd edn. (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2004).

Chapter in book:

Coccia PF. Hematopoietic cell transplantation for osteopetrosis. In: Blume KG, Forman SJ, Appelbaum FR (eds). Thomas' Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation. 3rd edn. (Blackwell Publishing Ltd, Malden, 2004) 1443–1454.

Abstract:

Syrjala KL, Abrams JR, Storer B, Heiman JR. Prospective risk factors for five-year sexuality late effects in men and women after haematopoietic cell transplantation. Abstracts of the 32nd Annual Meeting of the European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation. *Bone Marrow Transplant* **37**, O107 (2006)

Website

Kassambara A. rstatix: pipe-friendly framework for basic statistical tests. 2020. <https://rpkgs.datanovia.com/rstatix/>.

Preprint

Babichev SA, Ries J & Lvovsky AI. Quantum scissors: teleportation of single-mode optical states by means of a nonlocal single photon. Preprint at <http://arXiv.org/quant-ph/0208066> (2002).

Figure Legends

These should be brief, specific and appear on a separate manuscript page after the References section, titled 'Titles and legends to figures'.

Tables

Tables should only be used to present essential data; they should not duplicate what is written in the text. **It is imperative that any tables used are editable**, ideally presented in Excel. Each must be uploaded as a separate workbook with a title or caption and be clearly labelled, sequentially. Please make sure each table is cited within the text and in the correct order, e.g. (Table 3).

Please save the files with extensions .xls / .xlsx / .ods / or .doc or .docx. Please ensure that you provide a 'flat' file, with single values in each cell with no macros or links to other workbooks or worksheets and no calculations or functions.

Figures

Figures and images should be labelled sequentially and cited in the text. Figures should not be embedded within the text but rather uploaded as separate files. Detailed guidelines for submitting artwork can be found by downloading our [Artwork Guidelines](#). The use of three-dimensional histograms is strongly discouraged unless the addition of the third dimension is important for conveying the results.

Please note: composite figures containing more than three individual figures will count as two figures. All parts of a figure should be grouped together.

Where possible large figures and tables should be included as supplementary material.

Artwork Guidelines

Detailed guidelines for submitting artwork can be found by downloading the [guidelines PDF](#). Using the guidelines, please submit production quality artwork with your initial online submission. If you have followed the guidelines, we will not require the artwork to be resubmitted following the peer-review process, if your paper is accepted for publication.

Colour on the web

Authors who wish their articles to have FREE colour figures on the web (**only available in the HTML (full text) version of manuscripts**) must supply separate as supplementary information and authors need to state in the Cover Letter at submission that they would like their figures to appear in colour on the web version of their paper.

Summary Box

Authors of Articles will be asked to include additional summary information on the submission form*. This is divided into two parts; firstly, 'What was known before'; and secondly, 'What this study adds'. There should be two or three bullet points for each heading, with one or two short sentences for each bullet point. The objective of this is to provide the reader with a brief, quick and focused summary of your work in the perspective of other data. *Please note this summary information will not be requested for Reviews or Correspondence.

Graphs, Histograms and Statistics:

- Plotting individual data points is preferred to just showing means, especially where $N < 10$
- If error bars are shown, they must be described in the figure legend
- Axes on graphs should extend to zero, except for log axes
- Statistical analyses (including error bars and p values) should only be shown for independently repeated experiments, and must not be shown for replicates of a single experiment
- The number of times an experiment was repeated (N) must be stated in the legend

Reuse of Display Items

See the [Editorial Policy](#) section for information on using previously published tables or figures.

Standard abbreviations

Because the majority of readers will have experience ophthalmology, the journal will accept papers which use certain standard abbreviations without definition in the summary or in the text. Non-standard abbreviations should be defined in full at their first usage in the Summary and again at the first usage in the text, in the conventional manner. If a term is used 1-4 times in the text, it should be defined in full throughout the text and not abbreviated.

Supplementary Information

Supplementary information is material directly relevant to the conclusion of an article that cannot be included in the printed version owing to space or format constraints. The article must be complete and self-explanatory without the Supplementary Information, which is posted on the journal's website and linked to the article. Supplementary Information may consist of data files, graphics, movies or extensive tables. Please see our [Artwork Guidelines](#) for information on accepted file types.

Authors should submit supplementary information files in the FINAL format as they are not edited, typeset or changed, and will appear online exactly as submitted. When submitting Supplementary Information, authors are required to:

- Include a text summary (no more than 50 words) to describe the contents of each file.
- Identify the types of files (file formats) submitted.
- Include the text "Supplementary information is available at (journal name)'s website" at the end of the article and before the references.

Please note: We do not allow the resupplying of Supplementary Information files for style reasons after a paper has been exported in production, unless there is a serious error that affects the science and, if by not replacing, it would lead to a formal correction once the paper has been published. In these cases we would make an exception and replace the file; however there are very few instances where a Supplementary Information file would be corrected post publication.

Availability of Data and Materials

Please see our [Editorial Policies](#) for information regarding data, protocols, sequences, or structures.

Subject Ontology

Choosing the most relevant and specific subject terms from our subject ontology will ensure that your article will be more discoverable and will appear on appropriate subject specific pages on nature.com, in addition to the journal's own pages. Your article should be indexed with at least one, and up to four unique subject terms that describe the key subjects and concepts in your manuscript. Click [here](#) for help with this.

House Style

- Manuscripts should be written in British English.
- Text should be double spaced with a wide margin.
- All pages and lines are to be numbered. To add page numbers in MS Word, go to Insert then Page Numbers. To add line numbers go to File, Page Setup, then click the Layout tab. In the Apply to box, select Whole document, click Line Numbers then select the Add line numbering check box, followed by Continuous.
- Do not make rules thinner than 1pt (0.36mm).
- Use a coarse hatching pattern rather than shading for tints in graphs.
- Colour should be distinct when being used as an identifying tool.
- Use a comma to separate groups of three digits to the left of the decimal point (if any) for large numbers of five digits or more (i.e., all numbers larger than 9999 such as 64,000 and 1,239,999). Be sure that a comma is not used in place of a decimal point..
- At first mention of a manufacturer, the town (and state if USA) and country should be provided.
- Statistical methods: For normally distributed data, mean (SD) is the preferred summary statistic. Relative risks should be expressed as odds ratios with 95% confidence interval. To compare two methods for measuring a variable the method of Bland & Altman (1986, *Lancet* 1, 307–310) should be used; for this, calculation of P only is not appropriate.
- Units: Use metric units (SI units) as fully as possible. Preferably give measurements of energy in kilojoules or Megajoules with kilocalories in parentheses (1 kcal = 4.186kJ). Use % throughout.
- Abbreviations: On first using an abbreviation place it in parentheses after the full item. Very common abbreviations such as **FFA**, **RNA**, need not be defined. Note these abbreviations: gram **g**; litre **l**; milligram **mg**; kilogram **kg**; kilojoule **kJ**; megajoule **MJ**; weight **wt**; seconds **s**; minutes **min**; hours **h**. Do not add s for plural units.

Language Editing

Eye is read by scientists from diverse backgrounds and many are not native English speakers. In addition, the readership of *Eye* is multidisciplinary; therefore authors need to ensure their findings are clearly communicated. Language and concepts that are well known in one subfield may not be well known in another. Thus, technical jargon should be avoided as far as possible and clearly explained where its use is unavoidable. Abbreviations, particularly those that are not standard, should also be kept to a minimum. The background, rationale and main conclusions of the study should be clearly explained and understandable by all working in the field. Titles and abstracts in particular should be written in language that will be readily understood by all readers.

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.
- Visiting the [English language tutorial](#) which covers the common mistakes when writing in English.
- Using a professional language editing service where editors will improve the English to ensure that your meaning is clear and identify problems that require your review. Two such services are provided by our affiliates [Nature Research Editing Service](#) and [American Journal Experts](#).

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

Pre-submission Enquiries

Pre-submission enquiries should be submitted via the [online submission system](#). All other pre-submission enquiries should be directed to the editorial office:
Email: eye@rcophth.ac.uk

Online Submission

We only accept manuscript submission 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

Once a manuscript is accepted and typeset, the corresponding author will be prompted via the Springer Nature platform called Open Access System Solution to complete and sign a License to Publish form on behalf of all authors. **Failure to complete the form will result in delay of publication.**

Springer Nature does not require authors of original research papers to assign copyright of their published contributions. Authors grant Springer Nature an exclusive licence to publish, in return for which they can re-use their papers in their future printed work. Springer Nature's [author licence page](#) provides details of the policy.

Standard Publication

Manuscripts published under the standard method of publication will be behind a paywall. Readers will be able to access manuscripts through their institutional or personal subscriptions or on a pay-per-view basis. Authors will need to complete the standard Licence to Publish form when prompted. Government employees from the United States, Canada and UK are required to complete the license to publish form relevant to them.

Open Access Publication (gold open access)

Upon acceptance, authors can indicate whether they wish to pay an optional article processing charge (APC) for their article to be made open access online immediately upon publication. Open access articles are published under Creative Commons licenses, which allow authors to retain copyright to their work while making it open to readers.

The cost for open access publication in *Eye* is 3,390 GBP / 4,990 USD / 3,890 EUR (VAT or local taxes will be added where applicable).
For information about the Creative Commons license options and APC prices, visit [this site](#).

If authors opt to publish via the open access route then the corresponding author will receive instructions to complete an open access License to Publish (LTP) form on behalf of all authors, and will be contacted to arrange payment of the associated Article Processing Charge (APC). Please note this process must be completed prior to publication and failure to do so will result in delay of publication. Government employees from the United States, Canada and the UK are required to complete the government open access license to publish form relevant to them.

Please note with regards to payment that usual credit terms are 30 days from receipt of invoice. Failure to pay your invoice within the stated credit term may result in the Open Access status of the paper being rescinded, with the paper being placed behind the paywall. You may also be subject to such penalties as restrictions on your ability to publish with Springer Nature in the future, involvement of a third party debt collection agency and legal proceedings.

To facilitate self-archiving Springer Nature deposits open access articles in PubMed Central and Europe PubMed Central on 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.

Visit our [open research site](#) for further information about licenses, APCs, and our free OA funding support service:

Retrospective open access

Authors who initially opted to publish their paper under the subscription model in a hybrid journal may be able to retrospectively pay an article processing charge (APC) to make their paper open access. To request retrospective open access for an article that has already been published, please contact the Open Research Support Team at ORSupport@springernature.com with your Article's title, DOI and Journal name.

Compliance with open access mandates

Springer Nature's open access journals allow authors to comply with all funders' open access policies worldwide. Authors may need to take specific actions to achieve compliance with funder and institutional open access mandates.
Learn more about [open access compliance](#).

Waiver of institutional open access policies

Please note that Harvard University FAS, Princeton, 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 Licence to Publish form. This requirement does not apply to articles published via the open access route.

Self-archiving and manuscript deposition (green open access)

Authors of original research articles are encouraged to submit the author's version of the accepted paper (the unedited manuscript) to a repository for public release six months after publication. Springer Nature also offers a free, opt-in Manuscript Deposition Service for original research articles in order to help authors fulfil funder and institutional mandates.

Learn more about [self-archiving and manuscript deposition](#)

E-Proofs

The Springer Nature e-proofing system is a unique solution that will enable authors to remotely edit /correct your article proofs.

The corresponding author will receive an e-mail containing a URL linking to the e-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.

For more information and instructions on how to use the e-proofing too please see [here](#).

Advance Online Publication

The final version of the manuscript is published online in advance of print. AOP represents the official version of the manuscript and will subsequently appear unchanged, in print.

Protocol Exchange

If your manuscript is accepted for publication, we encourage you to upload the step-by-step protocols used in your manuscript to the Protocol Exchange.

Protocol Exchange is an open online resource that allows researchers to share their detailed experimental know-how. All uploaded protocols are made freely available, assigned DOIs for ease of citation and fully searchable through nature.com. Protocols can be linked to any publications in which they are used and will be linked to from your article. You can also establish a dedicated page to collect your entire lab Protocols. By uploading your Protocols to Protocol Exchange, you are enabling researchers to more readily reproduce or adapt the methodology you use, as well as increasing the visibility of your protocols and papers. Upload your protocols at the [Protocol Exchange web site](#). Further information can be found [here](#).

Content Sharing

In order to aid the dissemination of research swiftly and legally to the broader community, we are providing all authors with the ability to generate a unique shareable link that will allow anyone to read the published article. If you have selected an Open Access option for your paper, or where an individual can view content via a personal or institutional subscription, recipients of the link will also be able to download and print the PDF.

As soon as your article is published, you can generate your shareable link by entering the DOI of your article here: <http://authors.springernature.com/share>

We encourage you to forward this link to your co-authors, as sharing your paper is a great way to improve the visibility of your work. There are no restrictions on the number of people you may share this link with, how many times they can view the linked article or where you can post the link online. More information on Springer Nature's commitment to content sharing is available [here](#)

COSTS

Colour Charges

There is a charge if authors choose to publish their figures in colour in print publication (which includes the online PDF):

Number of colour illustrations		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8+
Cost	Rest of world USA	FREE	£590 \$910	£878 \$1352	£1,166 \$1,797	£1,342 \$2,067	£1,517 \$2,338	£1,668 \$2,571	£150/\$233 per additional colour figure

(VAT or local taxes will be added where applicable)

Colour charges will not apply to authors who choose to pay an article processing charge to make their paper Open Access.

Open Access Publication

The charge is 3,580 EUR/ 4,480 USD/ 3,060 GBP (VAT or local taxes will be added where applicable) for articles published under the **Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence**.

Offprints

Offprints may be ordered upon acceptance of your article, using the form provided by the editorial office. Charges are necessarily higher if orders for offprints are received after the issue has gone to press.

EDITORIAL POLICIES

Researchers should conduct their research – from research proposal to publication – in line with best practices and codes of conduct of relevant professional bodies and/or national and international regulatory bodies.

Springer Nature is committed to upholding the integrity of the scientific record. As a member of the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#) (COPE), *Eye* abides by COPE's principles on how to deal with potential acts of misconduct, which includes formal investigation of all perceived transgressions.

Authorship

Requirements for all categories of articles should conform to the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals,” developed by the ICMJE (www.icmje.org).

Each author must have contributed sufficiently to the intellectual content of the submission. The corresponding author should list all authors and their contributions to the work. The corresponding author must confirm that he or she has had full access to the data in the study and final responsibility for the decision to submit for publication.

To qualify as a contributing author, one must meet all of the following criteria:

1. Conceived and/or designed the work that led to the submission, acquired data, and/or played an important role in interpreting the results.
2. Drafted or revised the manuscript.
3. Approved the final version.
4. Agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Contributions by individuals who made direct contributions to the work but do not meet all of the above criteria should be noted in the Acknowledgments section of the manuscript. Medical writers and industry employees can be contributors. Their roles, affiliations, and potential conflicts of interest should be included in the author list or noted in the Acknowledgments and/or Contributors section concurrent with their contribution to the work submitted. Signed statements from any medical writers or editors declaring that they have given permission to be named as an author, as a contributor, or in the Acknowledgments section is also required. Failure to acknowledge these contributors can be considered inappropriate, which conflicts with the journal's editorial policy.

Changes to authorship

It is the corresponding author's responsibility to ensure that the author list is correct, both in the manuscript file uploaded and the online submission form. Any changes to an author list, including the removal or addition of any authors, between initial submission and acceptance will require written agreement from all authors should the manuscript be considered for publication. New authors must also confirm that they fully comply with the journal's authorship requirements.

Changes to authorship (addition or removal) will not be allowed once the manuscript has been accepted for publication.

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. Before submission, the corresponding author ensures that all authors are included in the author list, its order agreed upon by all authors, and are aware that the manuscript was submitted. 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.

Duplicate & Redundant Publication

Papers must be original and not published or submitted for publication elsewhere. This rule also applies to non-English language publications.

Redundant publication (also described as "salami publishing") is when one study is split into several parts and submitted to two or more journals. It also includes findings that have previously been published elsewhere without proper cross-referencing, permission or justification. "Self-plagiarism" is considered a form of redundant publication as it concerns recycling or borrowing content from previous work without citation.

Springer Nature 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.

Conflict of Interest

Financial relationships are the most easily identifiable conflicts of interest and the most likely to undermine the credibility of the journal, the authors, and science itself. However, conflicts can occur for other reasons, such as personal relationships, academic competition, and intellectual passion.

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 behaviour 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. This includes positions on an advisory board, board of directors, or other type of management relationship.
- Personal financial interests: Stocks or shares in companies that may gain or lose financially through publication; consultation fees or other forms of remuneration from organisations that may gain or lose financially; patents or patent applications whose value may be affected by publication.
- Patents: Holding, or currently applying for, patents, relating to the content of a manuscript; receiving reimbursement, fees, funding, or salary from an organization that holds or has applied for patents relating to the content of the manuscript.

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 acknowledging or denying conflicts of interest 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.

Following the Conflict of Interest heading, there must be a listing for each author, detailing the professional services relevant to the submission. 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.

Non-financial interests that authors may like to disclose include:

- a close relationship with, or a strong antipathy to, a person whose interests may be affected by publication of the article,
- an academic link or rivalry with someone whose interests may be affected by publication of the article,
- membership in a political party or special interest group whose interests may be affected by publication of the article, or
- a deep personal or religious conviction that may have affected what the author wrote and that readers should be aware of when reading the article.

Reviewers approached for assessment of submitted articles are also requested to declare conflicts of interest that may impede on their judgment of that article. This specifically includes competing research in the same area that could be negatively affected by publication of the submitted article.

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, behavioural 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, authors must 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. The journal 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:

1. the registry sponsored by the United States National Library of Medicine (www.clinicaltrials.gov);
2. the International Standard Randomized Controlled Trial Number Registry (www.controlled-trials.com);
3. the Cochrane Renal Group Registry (<http://www.cochrane-renal.org>);
4. and the European Clinical Trials Database (<https://eudract.ema.europa.eu/>).

The trial registry number must be included in the manuscript and provided on submission.

Randomised Controlled Trials (RCTs) must adhere to the CONSORT statement, (CONSolidated Standards of Reporting Trials) and submissions must be accompanied by a completed CONSORT checklist (uploaded as a related manuscript file). Further information can be found at www.consort-statement.org. Springer Nature endorses the toolkits and guidelines produced by the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE): <http://publicationethics.org/>

Research Data Policy

Eye adheres to Springer Nature’s Data Policy [Type 3](#). This means that a submission to the Journal implies that the materials described in the manuscript, including all relevant raw data, will be freely available to any researcher wishing to use them for non-commercial purposes, without breaching participant confidentiality. It also means that a Data Availability Statement (see here for more details) is required by the journal. Please see the journals guidelines on Research Data policy [here](#).

Reproducibility

EYE requires authors of original research 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.

Plagiarism

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. Minor plagiarism without dishonest intent is relatively frequent, for example, when an author reuses parts of an introduction from an earlier paper.

Springer Nature is a member of Similarity Check (formerly CrossCheck), a multi-publisher initiative used to screen published and submitted content for originality. *Eye* uses Similarity Check to detect instances of overlapping and similar text in submitted manuscripts. To find out more about CrossCheck visit <https://www.crossref.org/services/similarity-check/>

If a case of plagiarism comes to light after a paper is published, the Journal will conduct a preliminary investigation, utilising the guidelines of the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#). If plagiarism is proven, the Journal will contact the author's institute and funding agencies as appropriate. The paper containing the plagiarism may also be formally retracted or subject to correction.

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 submit it with the manuscript. This follows for 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. Permission to reproduce material can usually be obtained through the [Copyright Clearance Center](#).

Informed Consent

Publication of identifiable images from human research participants (or a parent or legal guardian for participants under the age of 16 years) must be accompanied by a statement attesting that the authors have obtained consent to publication of the images. If the participant is deceased, consent must be sought from the next of kin of the participant. In all such instances, all reasonable measures must be taken to protect patient anonymity. Black bars over the eyes are not acceptable means of anonymization. In certain cases, the journal may insist upon obtaining evidence of informed consent from authors. Images without appropriate consent must be removed from publication.

Data Fabrication & Falsification

Falsification is the practice of altering research data with the intention of giving a false impression. This includes, but is not limited to, manipulating images, removing outliers or "inconvenient" results, or changing, adding or omitting data points. Fabrication is the practice of inventing data or results and recording and/or reporting them in the research record. Data falsification and fabrication call into question the integrity and credibility of data and the data record, and as such, they are among the most serious issues in scientific ethics.

Some manipulation of images is allowed to improve them for readability. Proper technical manipulation includes adjusting the contrast and/or brightness or colour balance if it is applied to the complete digital image (not parts of the image). The author should notify the Editor in the cover letter of any technical manipulation. Improper technical manipulation refers to obscuring, enhancing, deleting and/or introducing new elements into an image. See Image Integrity & Standards below for more details.

Misconduct

Springer Nature takes seriously all allegations of potential misconduct. As a member of the [Committee on Publication Ethics \(COPE\)](#), *Eye* will follow the COPE guidelines outlining how to deal with cases of suspected misconduct. As part of the investigation, the journal may opt to do one or more of the following:

- suspend review or publication of a paper until the issue has been investigated and resolved;
- request additional information from the author, including original data or images or ethics committee or IRB approval;
- make inquiries of other titles believed to be affected;
- forward concerns to the author's employer or person responsible for research governance at the author's institution;
- refer the matter to other authorities or regulatory bodies (for example, the Office of Research Integrity in the US or the General Medical Council in the UK); or
- submit the case to COPE in an anonymized form for additional guidance on resolution.

Please note that, in keeping with the journal's policy of the confidentiality of peer review, if sharing of information with third parties is necessary, disclosure will be made to only those Editors who the Editor believes may have information that is pertinent to the case, and the amount of information will be limited to the minimum required.

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-colouring’ and nonlinear adjustment (for example ‘gamma changes’) are used, this must be disclosed. Adjustments of individual colour 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.

Cell Line Authentication

If human cell lines are used, authors are strongly encouraged to include the following information in their manuscript:

- the source of the cell line, including when and from where it was obtained,
- whether the cell line has recently been authenticated and by what method, and
- whether the cell line has recently been tested for mycoplasma contamination.

Further information is available from [the International Cell Line Authentication Committee](#) (ICLAC). We recommend that authors check the [NCBI database](#) for misidentification and contamination of human cell lines.

Sequences, Structures and “Omics”

Reporting protein or DNA sequences and molecular structures will not be accepted without an accession number to [Genbank/EMBL/DBJ](#), [SWISS-PROT](#), [ProteinDataBank](#), 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 [ProteinDataBank](#), [Biological Magnetic Resonance Databank](#), or [Nucleic Acid Database](#).

Studies involving animals and other human subjects

Research involving human subjects, human material, or human data must have been performed in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki and must have been approved by an appropriate ethics committee. A statement detailing this, including the name of the ethics committee and the reference number where appropriate, must appear in all manuscripts reporting such research.

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 in the Supplementary Information (methods) section (or, if brief, within of the print/online article at an appropriate place), 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. Sex and other characteristics of animals that may influence results must be described. Details of housing and husbandry must be included where they are likely to influence experimental results. *Eye* recommends following the [ARRIVE reporting guidelines](#) when documenting animal studies.

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.

Peer Review

Manuscripts sent out for peer review are evaluated by at least one independent reviewer (often two or more). Authors are welcome to suggest independent reviewers to evaluate their manuscript, as well as request individuals or laboratories. All recommendations are considered, but it is at the Editor’s discretion their choice of reviewers. To expedite the review process, only papers that seem most likely to meet editorial criteria are sent for external review. Papers judged by the editors to be of insufficient general interest or otherwise inappropriate are rejected promptly without external review. The editors then make a

decision based on the reviewers' evaluations:

- **Accept**, with or without editorial revisions.
- **Revise**, with the author addressing concerns raised by the reviewers before a final decision is reached.
- **Reject**, but indicate to the authors that further work might justify a resubmission.
- **Reject outright**, typically on grounds of specialist interest, lack of novelty, insufficient conceptual advance or major technical and/or interpretational problems.

Anonymity and Confidentiality

Editors, authors and reviewers are required to keep confidential all details of the editorial and peer review process on submitted manuscripts. Unless otherwise declared as a part of open peer review, the peer review process is confidential and conducted anonymously. All details about submitted manuscripts are kept confidential and no comments are issued to outside parties or organizations about manuscripts under consideration or if they are rejected. Editors are restricted to making public comments on a published article's content and their evaluation.

Upon accepting an invitation to evaluate a manuscript, reviewers must keep the manuscript and associated data confidential, and not redistribute them without the journal's permission. If a reviewer asks a colleague to assist in assessing a manuscript, confidentiality must be ensured and their names must be provided to the journal with the final report.

We ask reviewers not to identify themselves to authors without the editor's knowledge. If they wish to reveal their identities while the manuscript is under consideration, this should be done via the editor; if this is not practicable, we ask authors to inform the editor as soon as possible after the reviewer has revealed their identity. Our own policy is to neither confirm nor deny any speculation about reviewers' identities, and we encourage reviewers to adopt a similar policy.

We deplore any attempt by authors to confront reviewers or try to determine their identities. Reviewers should be aware that it is our policy to keep their names confidential and that we do our utmost to ensure this confidentiality. We cannot, however, guarantee to maintain this confidentiality in the face of a successful legal action to disclose identity.

Regardless of whether a submitted manuscript is eventually published, correspondence with the journal, referees' reports, and other confidential material must not be published, disclosed, or otherwise publicised without prior written consent.

Selecting Peer Reviewers

Reviewer selection is critical to the publication process, and we base our choice on many factors, based on expertise, reputation, and specific recommendations. A reviewer may decline the invitation to evaluate a manuscript where there is a perceived conflict of interest (financial or otherwise).

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).

Pre- and Post-Submissions

Authors are welcome to post pre-submission versions or the original submitted version of the manuscript on a personal blog, a collaborative wiki or a recognized preprint server (such as [ArXiv](#) or [bioRxiv](#)).

Preprint posting is not considered prior publication and will not jeopardize consideration at *Eye*. Preprints will not be considered when determining the conceptual advance provided by a study under consideration at *Eye*. Authors posting preprints are asked to respect our [policy on communications with the media](#).

Our policy on posting and citation of preprints of primary research manuscripts is summarized below:

- The original submitted version of the manuscript (the version that has not undergone peer review) may be posted at any time. Authors should disclose details of preprint posting, including DOI, upon submission of the manuscript to the journal.
- For subscription journals, the Author's Accepted Manuscript (authors' accepted version of the manuscript) of the manuscript may only be posted 6 months after the paper is published, consistent with our [self-archiving embargo](#). Please note that the Author's Accepted Manuscript may not be released under a Creative Commons license. For our Terms of Reuse of archived manuscripts please [click here](#).
- For subscription journals, the published PDF must not be posted on a preprint server or any other website. However, authors are encouraged to obtain a free ShredIt link of their paper, which can be posted online and allows read-only access. ShredIt links can be obtained by submitting the published article DOI at <http://authors.springernature.com/share>
- Preprints may be cited in the reference list as below:
- Babichev, S. A., Ries, J. & Lvovsky, A. I. Quantum scissors: teleportation of single-mode optical states by means of a nonlocal single photon. Preprint at <http://arXiv.org/quantph/0208066> (2002).

If you have posted a preprint on any preprint server, please ensure that the preprint details are updated with a publication reference, including the DOI and a URL to the published version of the article on the journal website.

For subscribed content, the author accepted version of the manuscript, following the review process, may only be posted 6 months after the paper is published in a Springer Nature journal, consistent with our self-archiving policy. A publication reference and URL to the published version on the journal website must be provided on the first page of the postprint. The published version — copyedited and in the individual Springer Nature journal format — may not be posted on any website or preprint server.

For open access content published under a creative commons license, authors can replace the submitted version with the final published version at publication as long as a publication reference and URL to the published version on the journal website are provided.

Correction and Retraction Process

Publishable amendments that affect the publication record and/or the scientific accuracy of published information will receive a DOI and be published in the journal. Five categories of amendments are relevant for peer-reviewed material – detailed below. All five correction types are bi-directionally linked to the original published paper.

Erratum or Publisher Correction. 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 or Author Correction. Notification of an important error made by the author(s) 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 that affect the reliability of a previously published article. The original article is marked as retracted but remains available to readers, and the retraction statement notifying readers of the invalidity of the published paper is bi-directionally linked to the original published paper.

Addendum. Notification of additional information about a paper. Addenda are published when the editors decide that the addendum is crucial to the reader's understanding of a significant part of the published contribution. Addenda include Editorial Expression of Concern, which is an editorial statement alerting our readership to serious concerns with the published paper. Editorial Expressions of Concern are typically updated with another amendment once further information is available.

Editor's Note. An editor's note is a statement from editors notifying readers of issues related to the published paper. It is an online update made only to the HTML version of record of the published article. Editor's notes are typically updated with another amendment once further information is available.

For a correction to be considered, please ensure you complete a [correction request form](#) and submit to the [editorial office](#). 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 and impose the appropriate correction, noting the dissenting author(s) in the text of the published version.

If there is suspicion of misconduct, the journal will carry out an investigation following COPE guidelines. Following an investigation, if the allegation raises valid concerns, the author will be contacted and given an opportunity to address the issue. If misconduct is established beyond reasonable doubt, this may result in the Editor implementing one of the following measures:

- If the article is still under consideration, it may be rejected and returned to the author.
- If the article has already been published online, depending on the nature and severity of the infraction, either a correction will be published alongside the article or, in severe cases, complete retraction of the article will occur. The reason for the correction or retraction must be given.
- In either case, the author's institution or funding agency may be informed.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For inquiries related to submission requirements, 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](#).