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## ABOUT THE JOURNAL

### Aims and Scope

*Cell Death Discovery* is an international online-only open access journal dedicated to the publication of research at the intersection of cell death and medicine, provided it is scientifically sound. The unrestricted access to research findings in *Cell Death Discovery* will foster a dynamic and highly productive dialogue between basic scientists and clinicians as well as researchers in industry with a focus on cancer, neurobiology and inflammation research.

*Cell Death Discovery* is committed to increasing the reproducibility of research

To this end, in conjunction with [Cell Death & Differentiation](#) and [Cell Death & Disease](#), *Cell Death Discovery* provides a unified forum for scientists as well as clinicians and members of the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industry. It is committed to the rapid publication of high quality original papers that relate to these subjects, together with topical, usually solicited, reviews, editorial correspondence and occasional commentaries on controversial and scientifically informative issues.

*Cell Death Discovery* is published on behalf of CDD Press by Nature Publishing Group, a division of Macmillan Publishers Limited.

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### Journal Details

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## ARTICLE TYPE SPECIFICATIONS

ARTICLE DESCRIPTION	ABSTRACT	WORD LIMIT	TABLES/ FIGURES	REFERENCES
<b>Article</b> Please see 'Preparation of Articles' below for further details Full papers should be as comprehensive as possible and are typically 5-10 published pages in length.	Maximum of 300 words	3,500 words maximum excluding abstract, materials & methods, references, figures and tables	6-8	Max of 80
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<b>Editorial</b>	No abstract	1,200 words maximum excluding abstract, references, figures and tables	Maximum of 1, max 12 references	Max of 15

## PREPARATION OF ARTICLES: INSTRUCTIONS

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
- Acknowledgements (including all funding sources)
- Conflict of Interest
- References
- Figure Legends
- Tables
- Figures
- Supplementary Information

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This section will contain two independent pieces of information.

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- Vertically sliced gels that juxtapose lanes that were not contiguous in the experiment must have a clear separation or a black line delineating the boundary between the gels.
- Cropped gels must retain all bands. Irrelevant or cross reactive bands can be indicated as such by using an asterisk and describing them in the legend.
- High-contrast gels and blots are discouraged, as overexposure may mask additional bands. Authors should strive for exposures with grey backgrounds. Artificial (computer generated) backgrounds must not be added. Immunoblots should be surrounded by a black line to indicate the borders of the blot, if the background is faint. Such borders must appear at all places when the images were truncated or cropped
- For quantitative comparisons, appropriate reagents, controls and imaging methods with linear signal ranges should be used.
- The resolution must be a minimum of 300dpi for the original film, blot or capture, and it must be maintained during figure assembly. As a guideline, no squares or blocks indicative of jpeg compression should be visible when the final version is shown at 200% printed size.

**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.

### Availability of Data and Materials

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 for the next three years 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/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](#).

### 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.

All manuscripts reporting animal research must be written up in accordance with the ARRIVE (Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments) guidelines – see <http://www.nc3rs.org/ARRIVE>.

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.

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.

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- **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.

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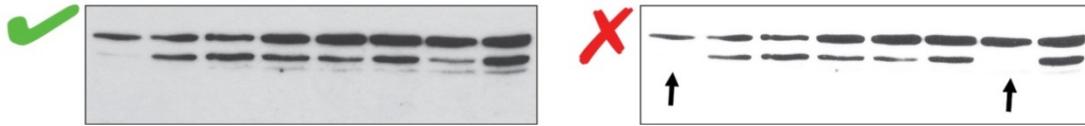
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- 1. Cover Letter**
  - Declaration not submitted elsewhere
  - Concise description of major findings
  - Suggest potential reviewers to include or exclude
- 2. Detailed Attribution of Authorship**
  - Contribution to preparation of manuscript
  - Detailed preparation of figures
- 3. Title page (excluding acknowledgements)**
- 4. Abstract**
  - 300 words maximum
- 5. Introduction**
- 6. Materials (or Subjects) & Methods**
- 7. Results**
- 8. Discussion**
- 9. Acknowledgements**
  - Include all funding sources
- 10. Conflict of Interest**
  - Err on the side of full disclosure
- 11. References**
- 12. Figure Legend**
  - Where appropriate, declare N
  - Define error bars
  - Define scale bars
- 13. Tables**
- 14. Figures**
  - 6-8 figures
  - Where appropriate, include molecular weight markers
  - Where appropriate, include scale bars
  - Manipulate images as little as possible
- 15. Supplementary Information**

# Do's & Don'ts

## 1. Images

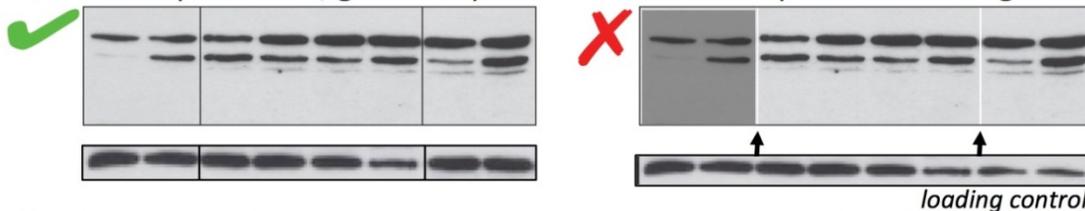
1. DO NOT use **excessive contrast**, removing the background or part of the image



2. DO NOT adjust the **brightness or contrast** only in specific areas of the image. If necessary, apply the same appropriate adjustments to the ENTIRE image.



3. INDICATE **splicing of lanes** and PROVIDE the **full scan as supplementary data**. Images from different experiments, gels or exposures CANNOT be spliced into a single image.



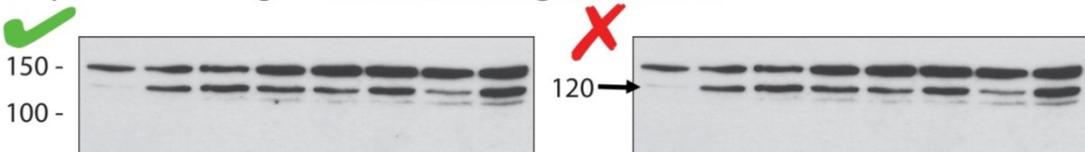
4. DO NOT **overcrop** gels. Mark unknown or cross reactive bands with an asterisk.



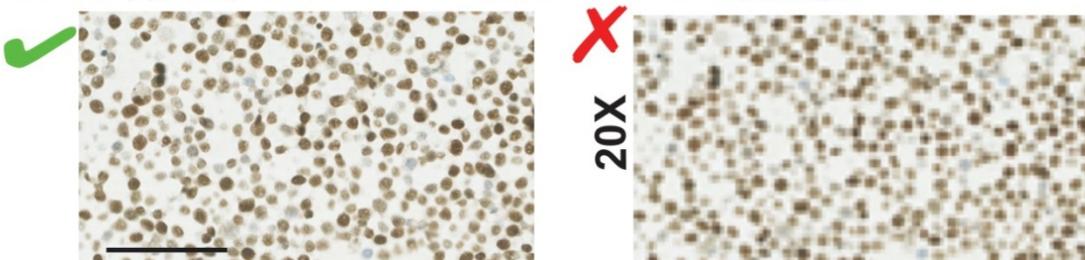
5. DO NOT **remove any part** of the image, including spots and background.



6. Always INCLUDE original **molecular weight markers**.



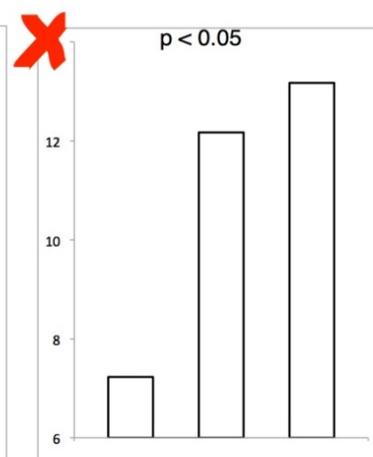
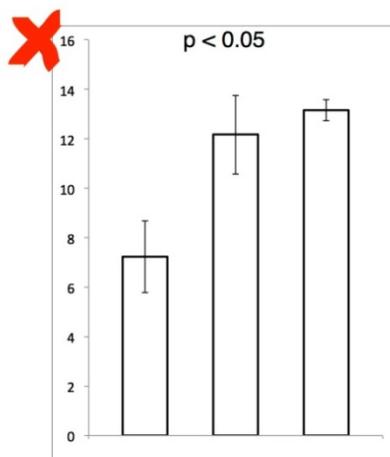
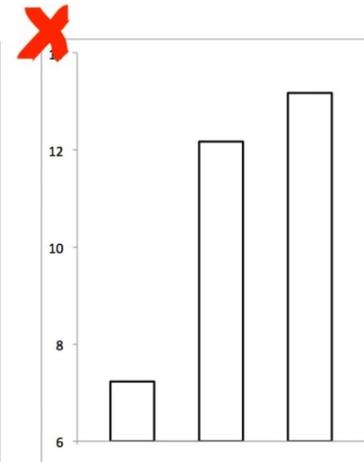
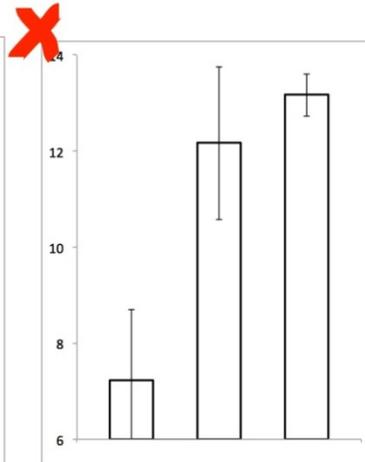
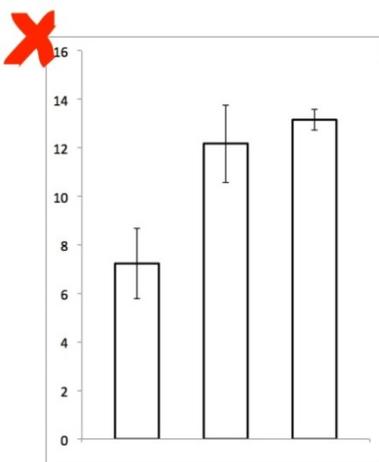
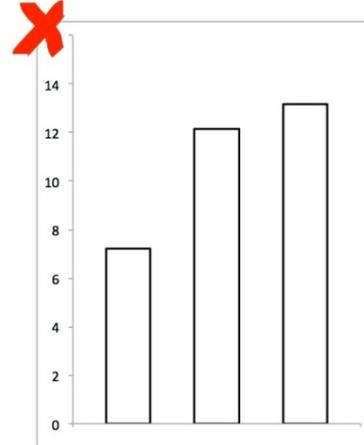
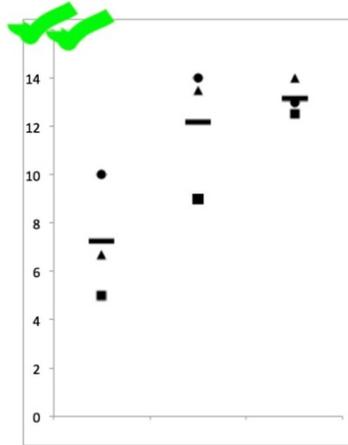
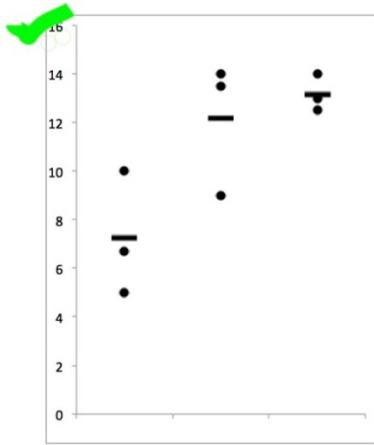
7. All microscopy MUST INCLUDE an appropriate **scale bar**. All digital images (gels, microscopy, etc.) MUST have a resolution of at least **300 dpi**.



# Do's & Don'ts

## 2. Graphs

Show independent data points, rather than using bar graphs. Show means of replicates as a single point, not each replicate. Don't show error bars or p-values when  $N < 10$ . If error bars are shown, describe them in the legend. Start axes from zero (except for log axes). Use different symbols for sets of independent biological repeated experiments.



### In the LEGEND:

Indicate N; define size bars  
If they are shown, describe error bars: SEM/SD/CI/other. Where  $N < 10$ , plot data points, no need include error bars. If p is shown, indicate test.

### In the SUPPLEMENT:

Authors' contribution  
Panel authorship

**KEEP ORIGINAL RECORDS/IMAGES FOR minimum 10 YEARS**