

Oncogenesis

About the Journal	1	Post-Acceptance	5
Article Type Specifications	1	Costs	6
Preparation of Articles	2	Editorial Policies	8
How to Submit	5	Further Information	11

[ABOUT THE JOURNAL](#)

Aims and Scope

Oncogenesis is a peer-reviewed open access online journal that publishes full-length papers exploring mechanistic insight and molecular basis of cancer and related phenomena. It seeks to promote diverse and integrated areas of molecular biology, cell biology, oncology, and genetics. *Oncogenesis* seeks to encompass the breadth of the molecular biology of malignant change, and topics of particular interest include:

- Apoptosis
- Cancer metabolism
- Cell cycle and growth regulation
- Cellular oncogenes
- Cellular transformation and immortalization
- DNA damage and repair
- Mode of action of cancer therapeutics
- Molecular oncology
- Novel targeted therapies
- Senescence
- Tumour suppression
- Virus-induced oncogenesis

Journal Details

Editor-in-Chief: Jan Paul Medema, University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Editorial office: Springer Nature, The Macmillan Building, Crinan Street, London, N1 9XW oncogenesis@nature.com

[ARTICLE TYPE SPECIFICATIONS](#)

ARTICLE DESCRIPTION	SPECIFICATION
Article An Article is a substantial, in-depth, novel research study of interest to the readership of the journal. The structure an Article should follow is detailed below.	Unstructured abstract max. 250 words; Main body of text (excluding abstract, tables/figures, and references) not to exceed 4,500 words; Max 6 tables or figures; Max 80 references
Review Article A Review Article is an authoritative, balanced survey of recent developments in a research field. Review Articles should incorporate a) a review of previously published literature from the past 5-10 years, describing the pros and cons of these studies, b) the authors opinion on how to approach the issue/situation being discussed, c) the authors thoughts on what is necessary to move the field forward in the future. Review Articles are regularly commissioned, however pre-submission enquiries are also welcome. Please contact the editorial office	Unstructured abstract max. 250 words; Main body of text (excluding abstract, tables/figures, and references) not to exceed 6,000 words; Liberal use of tables and/or figures is encouraged; Max 100 references
Brief Communication A Brief Communication is a concise, independent report representing a significant and timely contribution to cancer biology. A Brief Communication is not intended to publish preliminary results. The results must be of exceptional interest and relevant to be considered for publication. The text should be organized with an Introduction, and the Results and Discussion sections should be combined. All Materials and Methods should be included in the figure legends. The text must be succinctly written, and figures prepared to occupy a minimum of space.	Unstructured abstract max. 200 words; Main body of text (excluding abstract, tables/figures, and references) not to exceed 2,500 words; Max 4 tables or figures; Max 50 references

<p>Correspondence Correspondence will be considered for publication, subject to editing. Correspondence must contain information critical to a certain area or must be confirmatory of data recently published in Oncogenesis. Correspondence must reference the original source, and a response to Correspondence must reference the original Correspondence in the first few paragraphs, as well as the original source. Correspondence can use an arbitrary title, but a response must cite the title of the original Correspondence: e.g. Response to [title of Correspondence].</p>	<p>No abstract required; Main body of text (tables/figures, and references) not to exceed 400 words; Max 2 tables or figures; Max 5 references</p>
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Note to Authors: Authors whose manuscripts contain Western blots and qPCR data are required to submit their original data at the time of submission of the manuscript. Such data should be uploaded with the file type 'original data file'.

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Please note that full 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
- Conflict of Interest
- References
- Figure legends
- Tables
- Figures

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Authors should provide a cover letter that includes the affiliation and contact information for the corresponding author. Authors should briefly discuss the importance of the work and explain why it is considered appropriate for the diverse readership of the journal. The cover letter should confirm 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](#) section for more details.

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- 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.

Abstract

Articles must be prepared with an unstructured abstract designed to summarise the essential features of the paper in a logical and concise sequence.

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.

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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.

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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.

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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, but should also be noted in the cover letter and on the title page. Please see the Competing Interests definition in the [Editorial Policy](#) section for detailed information.

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Journal article, in press: Tian, D., Araki, H., Stahl E., Bergelson, J. & Kreitman, M. Signature of balancing selection in Arabidopsis. *Proc. Natl Acad. Sci. USA* (in the press).

Book (edited volume): Diener, B. J. & Wilkinson, P. (eds) *Transplantation Techniques* (Harvard Univ. Press, Cambridge, 1989).

Book Chapter: Harley, N. H. & Vivian, L. in *Mechanisms of Disease* 4th edn, Vol. 2 (eds Sodeman, W. A. & Smith, A.) Ch. 3 (Saunders, Philadelphia, 1974).

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Publicly available preprint: 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).

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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.

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- 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

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 submit supplementary figures, small tables and text as a single combined PDF document. Tables longer than one page should be provided as an Excel or similar file type. Please refer to the journal's Data Policies, outlined in the Editorial Policies section of these guidelines for additional options for such files, and which provides guidance on alternatives to supplementary files for data deposition, linking, preservation, and storage. For optimal quality video files, please use H.264 encoding, the standard aspect ratio of 16:9 (4:3 is second best) and do not compress the video. Important: Supplementary information is not copyedited, so please ensure that it is clearly and succinctly presented, that the style and terminology conform to the rest of the manuscript, and that any tracked-changes or review mark-ups are removed.

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5. Film in a quiet room against a plain (white if possible) background and ensure there is nothing confidential in view
6. Avoid using background music
7. Include figures, slides, video clips of the experiment, etc. to help explain your methods and results. Please try to include a mixture of you talking to the camera and slides – it is nice for viewers to see your face at times
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9. Please do not use images, music, or insignia in your video for which you do not own the copyright or have documented permission from the copyright holder.

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Videos should be no more than 8 minutes long, maximum 30MB in size so that they can be downloaded quickly - the combined total size of all supplementary files must not exceed 150 MB. Files should be submitted as .avi, .mov, .mp3, .mp4, .wav or .wmf. Videos need to be in widescreen (landscape), ideally 16x9 but 4:3 is also acceptable with a resolution of at least 640 x 360 pixels.

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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 competing interests.

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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, along with a statement confirming that informed consent was obtained from all subjects, 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. *Oncogenesis* recommends following the [ARRIVE reporting guidelines](#) when documenting animal studies.

Clinical Trials

All clinical trials must be registered in a public registry prior to submission and the trial registry number must be included in the manuscript and provided on 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. ClinicalTrials.gov the registry sponsored by the United States National Library of Medicine
2. the [International Standard Randomized Controlled Trial Number Registry](#)
3. the [Cochrane Renal Group Registry](#)
4. the [European Clinical Trials Database](#)

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.

Informed Consent

When publishing identifiable images from human research participants, authors must include a statement attesting that they have obtained informed consent for publication of the images. If the participant is deceased, consent must be sought from the next of kin of the participant. 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 will be removed from publication.

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.

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.

Reproducibility

Oncogenesis 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.

Research Data Policy

An inherent principle of publication is that others should be able to replicate and build upon the authors' published claims. We strongly encourage that all datasets on which the conclusions of the paper rely should be available to readers. We encourage authors to ensure that their datasets are either deposited in publicly available repositories (where available and appropriate) or presented in the main manuscript or additional supporting files whenever possible. If a public repository does not exist, the information must be made available to editors and 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. Please see the journals guidelines on Research Data policy [here](#).

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](#), [Uniprot](#), [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](#).

Misconduct

Springer Nature takes seriously all allegations of potential misconduct. As a member of the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#) (COPE), *Oncogenesis* 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.

Duplicate Publication

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

Springer Nature also allows publication of meeting abstracts before the full contribution is submitted. Such abstracts should be included with the journal submission and referred to in the cover letter accompanying the manuscript. Again this policy does not extend to meeting abstracts and reports available to the media or which are otherwise publicised outside the scientific community during the submission and consideration process.

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. This can range from getting an identical paper published in multiple journals, to 'salami-slicing', where authors add small amounts of new data to a previous paper.

Plagiarism can be said to have clearly occurred when large chunks of text have been cut-and-pasted. Minor plagiarism without dishonest intent is relatively frequent, for example, when an author reuses parts of an introduction from an earlier paper. Journal editors judge any case of which they become aware (either by their own knowledge of and reading about the literature, or when alerted by referees) on its own merits. Springer Nature is a member of Similarity Check (formerly CrossCheck), a multi-publisher initiative used to screen published and submitted content for originality. *Oncogenesis* uses Similarity Check to detect instances of overlapping and similar text in submitted manuscripts. To find out more about visit the [Similarity Check](#) website.

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.

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.

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.

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.

All correction requests should be submitted 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, permissions, papers in production or publishing a supplement, please contact the [publisher's office](#).