Researchers use all kinds of content to inform their work. Explore how Primers and Protocols fit in to the research life cycle

PLANNING EXECUTION



Complementary titles that support researchers in the overall planning (**Primers**) and the detailed execution (**Protocols**) of a scientific endeavour



Broad in scope, containing more background information on the method

Useful for learning about a method before deciding whether to use it

Authored by a panel of independent experts who provide an unbiased overview of a method

Primers are accompanied by a **PrimeView**; an infographic - style summary of the article

Both articles contain information on:

Experimental design
Applications
Limitations
Best practices
Reporting standards
Data analysis
Reproducibility
Standardization
Set-up variations
and software

Focused in scope, more detailed and specific

Can be used immediately in research

Authored by one laboratory team or collaboration of labs, reflecting one particular approach to a method

Protocols contain step-by-step instructions, troubleshooting advice and examples of results from successful and unsuccessful experiments

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