

Checklist for Initial Submissions of Research Articles

Complete details can be found in the [Instructions for Authors](#)

The submission may be either a **single PDF** file containing all text and figures or multiple files: a manuscript file in Word, WordPerfect, RTF, LaTeX or text format and each figure in a separate TIFF (300 dpi) or EPS file.

- Preferred and excluded reviewers and editors may be specified on the submission form.
- A cover letter is optional.

Title Page Includes:

- Title (50 words maximum)
- Abbreviated title (50 characters maximum)
- Names and affiliations of each author
- Corresponding author's name and email address
- Financial interests or conflicts of interest (if applicable)

Figures, Tables, Extended Data, and Multimedia:

- Each illustration is numbered (separate numbering for figures, tables, and multimedia)
- Each illustration, table, and multimedia have a title, legend and is mentioned in the manuscript

Optional Formatting

- Sections appear in the following order: Title Page, Abstract, Significance Statement, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, References, Figure/Table/Extended Data Legends
- All pages double spaced and numbered
- No broken URLs in text
- No Footnotes or Appendices are present
- Extended data (if provided) are cited within the body of the text or figure/table legend they support. Label as Figure 1-1, Table 1-1, etc. (i.e. Extended Data table supporting Figure 5 labeled as Figure 5-1).