

## INSTRUCTIONS TO AUTHORS

### **AIMS AND SCOPE**

The Iranian Biomedical Journal (IBJ) takes pride in its leadership comprised of a wide range of disciplines in the field of biomedicine. IBJ is proud to offer a receptive medium for rapid, peer-reviewed publication for original articles (full length and short communications), as well as expert scientific reviews. It strives to maintain a dynamic growth of the quality of its publications, and therefore, welcomes submissions in the following fields:

1. Molecular Microbiology
2. Molecular Genetics & Genomics
3. Molecular Immunology & Vaccines
4. Cancer Biology
5. Pharmaceutical Biotechnology
6. Medical Biotechnology
7. Enzymology and Protein Chemistry
8. Tissue Engineering and Cell Biology
9. And related fields

### **MANUSCRIPT PREPARATION**

Manuscripts should be prepared in accordance with the “*Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submission to Biomedical Journals*” proclaimed by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.

**Language.** Manuscripts should be in English (either British or American spelling). The past tense should be used throughout in describing the results, and the present tense in referring to previously established and generally accepted results. Authors who are unsure of correct English usage should have their manuscript checked by those proficient in the language; manuscripts that are deficient in this respect may be returned to the author for revision before scientific review.

**Typesetting.** Manuscripts must be typewritten in Times New Roman with a font size of 12 points, double-spaced (including References, Tables and Figure legends) with 2.5 cm margins from each side. All pages should be numbered consecutively at the bottom starting with the title page.

**Length.** The maximum length for short communications, full length papers, and reviews (including tables, figures and references) should not exceed 3000, 6000, and 9000 words, respectively. Any repetition of information in the text and illustrations and excessively list of references must be avoided.

### **GENERAL ARRANGEMENT OF PAPERS**

**Title.** Titles must be concise and informative. The title should be followed by the authors' full (first, middle and last) names and their affiliations (identified by use of Arabic numbers (1, 2, 3, etc.) in superscript format next to the authors' names.

**Running Title.** The text should include a running title of no more than 50 characters including spaces.

**Footnotes.** The name and full postal address, telephone, fax and E-mail number of corresponding author should be provided in a footnote.

**Abbreviations.** The Journal publishes a standard list of abbreviations at the beginning of every issue. These standard abbreviations do not need to be spelled out within paper. However, non-standard and undefined abbreviations used five or more times should be listed in the footnote. Abbreviations should be defined where first mentioned in the text. Do not use abbreviations in the title, but they can be used in the Figures and Tables with their description in the figure legend or table footnote.

**Abstract.** Abstract should follow the title (excluding the authors' names) on the second page. Abstracts must be written in a structured (Background, Methods, Results and Conclusion) format, at a maximum of 150 or 250 words for short communications and full papers, respectively. Inclusion of references must be avoided in the abstracts.

**Keywords.** Three to five keywords for indexing should be included at the foot of the abstract chosen from the Medical Subject Headings (MeSH).

**Introduction.** This should contain a description of the problem under investigation and a brief survey of the existing literature on the subject.

**Materials and Methods.** Sufficient details must be provided to allow for the reproduction of the work. Complete and accurate names of materials, including chemical and organisms, should be specified followed by the suppliers' information (in parenthesis). System International (SI) units and symbols must be used.

**Results.** This section should concisely describe the rationale of the investigation and its outcomes. Data should not be replicated in the text, tables or figure.

**Discussion.** This section should relate the results to the previous pertinent reports report and provide potential interpretations.

**Acknowledgments.** Grant support should be included in this section. It may also include the expression of gratitude towards contributors, not included in the authors' list.

**Conflict of Interest.** This section should declare authors' conflict of interest.<sup>1</sup>

**References.** References should be numbered sequentially in the order of their citation in the text. The list of references should follow the order of their citation and should appear at the end of the manuscript. In order to use Endnote software, please apply refer Thomson Reuters reference output style for World Journal of Gastroenterology: <http://endnote.com/downloads/style/world-journal-gastroenterology>

1. Fu C, Dong W, Wang Z, Li H, Qin Q, Li B. The expression of miR-21 and miR-375 predict prognosis of esophageal cancer. *Biochemical and biophysical research communications* 2014; **446**(4): 1197-1203.
2. Ma J, Liu S, Wang Y. MicroRNA-21 and multiple myeloma: small molecule and big function. *Medical oncology (Northwood, London, England)* 2014; **31**(8): 94.
3. Wang Y, Gao X, Wei F, Zhang X, Yu J, Zhao H, Sun Q, Yan F, Yan C, Li H, Ren X. Diagnostic and prognostic value of circulating miR-21 for cancer: a systematic review and meta-analysis. *Gene* 2014; **533**(1): 389-397.

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<sup>1</sup>"When an investigator, author, editor, or reviewer has a financial/personal interest or belief that could affect his/her objectivity, or inappropriately influence his/her actions, a potential conflict of interest exists. Such relationships are also known as dual commitments, competing interests, or competing loyalties. The most obvious conflicts of interest are financial relationships such as: 1)Direct: employment, stock ownership, grants, patents and/or 2) Indirect: honoraria, consultancies to sponsoring organizations, mutual fund ownership, paid expert testimony". (<http://www.elsevier.com/?a=163717>)

**Tables and Figures.** Tables and Figures should be numbered (1, 2, 3, etc.) as they appear in the text. Figures should preferably be the size intended for publication and should not exceed 9 × 12 cm. In case of short communications the maximum number of tables and figures is one of each or two of one.

**Page charges.** There is no page charge for publication in the *Iranian Biomedical Journal*.

### **REVIEW PROCESS.**

When a manuscript is submitted to the Journal, it is given a number for future communication with the corresponding author. All manuscripts are read by the editors and three qualified external reviewers to ensure both accuracy and relevance. Reviewers are asked to be objective in their evaluations and to judge primarily the novelty and soundness of the information presented. Authors are encouraged to suggest three to five appropriate reviewers for their manuscript, although the actual selection of referees will be made by the Editor. Authors also can indicate specific individuals whom they would like to have excluded as reviewers. In the review of any manuscript, the identity of the reviewers and authors and also information contained in manuscript are considered confidential. Online tracking of the review process is possible through corresponding author's private page in the IBJ website.

**Conflict of Interest.** External peer reviewers should disclose to editor any potential conflicts of interest that could bias their opinions of the manuscript, and they should offer to disqualify themselves from reviewing specific manuscripts if they believe a conflict may exist. Also, reviewers should not use knowledge of the work, before its publication, to further their own interests. Editor and staff who make final decisions about manuscripts should have no personal financial involvement in any of the issues they might judge.

**Revision.** Papers may be returned to authors for modification of the scientific content and/or for shortening and language corrections. Revised version and a letter listing point-for-point response to the reviewers must be submitted to the Editor and must be accompanied by a copy of the original version. Suggestions by the Editor about resubmission do not imply that a revised version will necessarily be accepted. If a paper that is returned to the authors for modification is not resubmitted within the assigned time, it will be regarded as having been withdrawn and any revised version received subsequently will be treated as a new submission. Authors who re-submit a paper that has previously been rejected must provide the original manuscript and a letter explaining in detail how the paper has been modified.

**Proofs.** Proofs will be sent to the corresponding author to be checked for only typographical errors and other essential but minor changes. Major alterations to the text cannot be accepted at this stage. Proofs must be returned to the Editor within 3 days of receipt.

**Authorship.** An author is one who made a substantial contribution to the "overall design and execution of the experiments"; therefore, IBJ considers all authors responsible for the entire paper. Individuals who provided assistance, e.g., supplied strains or reagents or critiqued the paper, need not be listed as authors but may be recognized in the Acknowledgement section.

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## **SUBMISSION PROCEDURE**

Collect and send the following items via e-mail ([ibj@pasteur.ac.ir](mailto:ibj@pasteur.ac.ir) or [iranianbiomedicalj@yahoo.com](mailto:iranianbiomedicalj@yahoo.com)) or online submission.

1. A cover letter, directed to the editor-in-chief, describing the novelty and significance of the submitted manuscript
2. Completed forms of “Submission” and “Copyright”
3. A list of a minimum of 3 potential reviewers with complete contact information
4. The complete manuscript including figures and tables