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Guidelines for authors publishing in *Cell Biology*

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Authors need some information to provide that are dependent on the type of article format they want to publish in *Cell Biology*. Herein, guidelines are given to authors for next submissions to *Cell Biology* for publication following the editorial requirements.

Keywords: author guidelines, article types, quality standards, instructions, cell biology

Author guidelines

General instructions

Cell Biology proposes several formats of original primary articles, reviews, commentaries and others. We invite authors to submit manuscript regard to the types of articles accepted by *Cell Biology*. The submissions will be evaluated by the editorial team to determine whether they meet the aims and scope of *Cell Biology*. This evaluation will result in the first editorial decision. This crucial round decides whether the journal is interested to collaborate with the authors for further evaluation by external experts. Indeed, the submissions considered to be a good fit for *Cell Biology* will be further evaluated by the scientific advisors, and if required by the article type will be sent for peer reviewing before deciding the acceptance or sending back to the authors for revision. The essential information is highlighted below to allow the submission of manuscripts that meet all requirements of *Cell Biology* for evaluation and publication.

Before submitting a manuscript, authors are advised to check whether their manuscript suite the scope of *Cell Biology*. Authors are responsible of obtaining all permissions to publish any material included with the submission, such as photos, documents and datasets. All authors identified on the submission must consent to be identified as an author. Otherwise, some contributions can be acknowledged in the dedicated Acknowledgement section. Where appropriate, research should be approved by an appropriate ethical committee in accordance with the legal requirements of the study's country.

The editor may return the submission back to the author if it does not meet minimum standards of quality or if it does not fit the journal aims and scope. Before submitting, please ensure that the manuscript is structured and articulated properly in a logical manner. *Cell Biology* is for a broad readership (from students to professors in fundamental and clinical research). Thus, authors should make sure that the narrative is understandable by a broad readership in life science community.



The title and summary should be concise, structured, clear and straight to the facts. This will increase the chance for reviewers to review the manuscript. When you're satisfied that your submission meets this standard, please choose one of the following article types for your manuscript (Fig. 1), format it accordingly and follow the checklist below to prepare your submission.

Article types

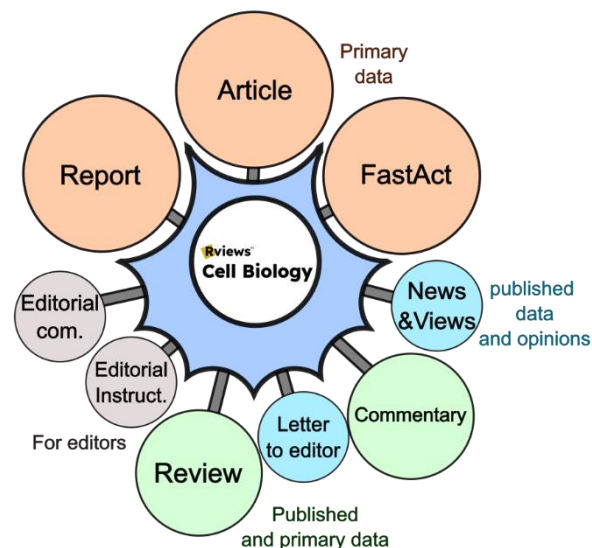


Figure 1: Article types that are accepted by Cell Biology for publication.

Most of the types of articles concern previously unpublished primary data including Article, Report and FastAct.

Article

An *article* is a peer-reviewed article that reports and discuss the primary experimental results that were not previously published elsewhere. The data should be of broad interest in life science. This type of article is suited for an article in its complete form including all necessary data. Only the scientific as well as technical relevance and quality are key. There is no limit of word count but should not be against the clarity of the claims. The manuscript should not be under consideration elsewhere at the time of submission.

Reference to personal communication is not allowed in this article but new hypotheses or model proposition can be formulated based on existing or newly published data to support the narratives.

Copy-edition and narrative improvements may be suggested to the authors. Graphical edition of the displayed figures may also be proposed to the authors if necessary to improve the understanding of the articles.

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An *article* should contain the following information and sections:

- **Title** (90 characters max), maybe the main piece of conclusion of the study



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- **Author contact information:** mailing addresses of the authors
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- **Summary** (max. 150 words): concise, structured and clear with key information on the study, the main contribution of the authors, the main conclusions and their implications for life science and the future.
- **Graphical abstract (optional):** 1200 x 1200 px structured graphics summarizing the discovery or main conclusion of the study
- **Significance highlight:** 4-6 pullet points of the main results each of about 50-60 characters including space
- **Keywords** (min. 5): important for abstracting and indexing
- **Article text** (no word limit): Structured and clear. The text length should be reasonable for readability and clarity. The text should be composed of the following sections:
 - **Introduction:** The introduction should not be too long but should have enough contextualization for the non-specialist reader to get the rational of the initial question. This section states the background information based on the literature state-of-the-art. It explains the problem, the hypothesis and the possible ways of contributing to improve our understanding of this issue. It presents all necessary information a reader may need to grasp the main question, the approaches of the authors, the rationale of these approaches and maybe announce the possible outcome of resolving the issues.
 - **Results:** Present concisely and consistently the primary and previously unpublished results and data that the authors are reporting in the article. The structure and clarity of the demonstration and narrative are critical for a good understanding of the result. The context of the result acquisition may be of interest a well as the particularly important information needed to understand the rational of the experiments is crucial in each subheading of the result section. It is also advised to include the information on the replication and reproduction of the experiments. All information that are required for the understanding of the result should be provided or referred here and clear explanations given to the reader how to access them. It should also contain a clear conclusion that reflect whether or not the initial hypothesis was confirmed or not, or at least provide clear conclusions on the initial relevant question.
 - **Discussion:** Discuss the data presented in regard to the current knowledge on the subject in the available literature. It also includes alternative models and explanations of the data presented although the authors may not defend them. It could contain conclusions and positioning of the understanding regarding what is known and unknown currently in given contexts.
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 - **Methods (no limit of word):** A clear explanation of the methodology used to generate the experimental data including notices of reproduction experiments and statistics. It is advised to include all ethical information, authorization and permission needed for animal experimentation and studies including human samples. For new codes and applications developed during the study, it is advised to deposit them in a suitable platform and include a working link, identifier and references.
 - **List of resources:** a list of all resources used in the study.
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A *report* is a peer-reviewed article that have all the characteristic of an *article* but in a more concise, short and condensed form. However, the quality and ethical standards remain similar to a regular original *article*. A report is evaluated with the same rigor and transparency as an article. Reports discuss the primary experimental results that were not previously published elsewhere. The data should be of broad interest in life science. This type of article is suited for an article in its condensed form with few necessary data. The scientific as well as technical relevance and quality are key. There is a limit of word. The manuscript should not be under consideration elsewhere at the time of submission.

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- **Author contact information**: mailing addresses of the authors
- **Corresponding author**: at least one corresponding author and its email address. Two corresponding authors is acceptable.
- **Summary** (max. 150 words): concise, structured and clear with key information on the study, the main contribution of the authors, the main conclusions and their implications for life science and the future.
- **Graphical abstract (optional)**: 1200 x 1200 px structured graphics summarizing the discovery or main conclusion of the study
- **Significance highlight**: 4-6 pullet points of the main results each of about 50-60 characters including space
- **Keywords** (min. 5): important for abstracting and indexing
- **Article text** (max. 3000 words): Structured and clear. The text length should be reasonable for readability and clarity. The text should be composed of the following sections:
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- **Methods** (not included in word count limit): A clear explanation of the methodology used to generate the experimental data including notices of reproduction experiments and statistics. It is advised to include all ethical information, authorization and permission needed for animal experimentation and studies including human samples. For new codes and applications developed during the study, it is advised to deposit them in a suitable platform and include a working link, identifier and references.
- **List of resources**: a list of all resources used in the study.
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Reference to personal communication is not allowed in *FastAct articles* but new hypotheses or model proposition can be formulated based on existing or newly published data to support the narratives.

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- **Data availability:** The authors should make a statement concerning the availability of all data used in the study that led to the presented conclusion. Standards datasets should be deposited in a relevant platform, and they include but are not limited to RNAseq, proteomics, crystal structure data. Anyway, the data should be available on an internal or external platform for eventual requests. If any part of the data are missing including those of reproduction studies, they should be declared in this section. The supplementary information can be included in PDF or XLSX formats. Supplementary videos are accepted and are published on the YouTube account of Cell Biology, Marseille, France and referenced in the article.
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A *review* is a peer-reviewed article that report an updated analysis of concepts based on published data in a field of cell biology. It intends to make the state-of-the-art in a field by proposing a thought-provoking timely article. This type of article contains mainly non-primary content that allows the community to grasp the essence of the research in a field in life science as well as forward-look the evolution and draw perspectives for the coming years.

Reference to personal communication is not allowed in this article but new hypotheses or model proposition can be formulated based on existing or newly published data to support the narratives.

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