



Indian Journal of Biochemistry & Biophysics

Internet (Web address: <http://www.niscpr.res.in>)

Instructions to Authors

SCOPE

The *Indian Journal of Biochemistry & Biophysics (IJBB)*, in its new version, will be a peer-reviewed monthly periodical devoted to publication of original research in biochemistry, biophysics and biotechnology that contributes significantly to knowledge in enzymology, membrane biochemistry, glycobiology, immunochemistry, neurochemistry, drug targeting, delivery, drug design, structure-function relationships of biomolecules, protein and protein-DNA interactions, protein folding, mechanisms, conformational studies, computer simulation, novel DNA structure and their biological implications, plant and microbial biochemistry, surface forces, micelles and microemulsions, colloids, electrical phenomenon, *etc.* in biological systems, cell biology, molecular biology, endocrinology, reproductive biology, immunology, developmental biology, radiation biology, chronobiology, microbiology, pharmacology, toxicology including instrumentation, methodology; and biotechnological works in the area of agriculture, animal husbandry, environment, industry, microbiology, medicine: and bio-informatics. Papers on nutrition/agricultural/medical biochemistry shall be considered only if they are of general biochemical interest. Papers of routine nature based on gross superficial studies are not acceptable.

Experts with extensive research experience may contribute 'Mini reviews' in their specific subject areas, current topics in the above fields. They must dwell more on research work done during the last couple of years and authors should integrate their own work with that of others with acumen and authenticity. Mere compilation of references by a third party is discouraged. While IJBB strongly promotes innovative novel research works for publication as full length papers, it also considers research data emanating from limited objectives, and extension of ongoing experimental works as 'Notes'.

IDENTIFICATION OF MATERIAL

It is necessary that the authors get their biological material identified and mention in the paper along with the source authentication. The technical name of the species concerned should be given in full, preceded by its popular name and followed by the authors, who coined the name e.g. the scorpion *Heterometrus fulvipes* (C L Koch) Source of authentication.

SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPTS

Manuscripts may be submitted through Institute's Online Submission portal, <http://op.niscpr.res.in>. To submit a manuscript one has to register as author and proceed as per online instructions that appear on the screen. The steps are as follows: Start→Upload Submission→Enter Metadata→Upload Manuscript/Supplementary Files→Confirmation. The TIFF/JPEG files of the illustrations and pdf files of the supplementary data as well as the certificate of originality, signed by all the authors on the official letterhead,

should be uploaded separately as supplementary files. Authors should also suggest names of referees (2 Indian and 2 Foreign). IJBB does not charge any author fee.

PREPARATION OF MANUSCRIPTS

Authors are advised to read "Instructions to Authors" available on home pages of journal in our repository NOPR (<http://nopr.niscpr.res.in>) and strictly adhere to the format and practices adopted in respect of various elements of a paper.

General style: Manuscript should be presented in as concise as possible and prepared in double space. Pages should be numbered consecutively, and the matter should be arranged in the following order: title; name(s) of author(s); department(s) and institution(s); abstract; introduction (no heading for it); materials and methods; results; discussion; acknowledgement; and references. Abstract, tables, and captions for figures should be typed on separate sheets.

Title: The title should be such as to be useful in indexing and information retrieval. If a paper forms part of a series, a subtitle indicating the aspect of the work covered in the paper should be provided. A short running title should also be supplied.

Abstract: The abstract, usually not exceeding 200 words, should indicate the scope and significant content of the paper highlighting the principal findings and conclusions. It should be in such a form that abstracting periodicals could use it without modification.

Introduction: The introductory part should be brief and state precisely the aim of the study. Reviewing of the literature should not exceed what is necessary to indicate the reason for the research undertaken and the essential background.

Materials and Methods: The nomenclature, source of material and procedures should be clearly stated to enable other workers to repeat the work if necessary. New methods should be described in sufficient detail, but if the methods are clearly well recognized, a mere reference to them will do; modification(s) if any, should, however, be given. Ensure proper references for all the procedures used in the study.

Results: Only such data as are essential for understanding the discussion and main conclusions emerging from the study should be included. The data should be arranged in unified and coherent sequence so that the report develops clearly and logically. The data should be statistically analyzed, and the level of significance should be given. The same data should not be presented both in tabular and graphic forms. Only such tables and figures as are necessary should be given. Interpretation of the data should be taken up under discussion; in some cases, however, it may be desirable to combine results and discussion in a single section.

Discussion: Long, rambling discussions should be scrupulously avoided. The discussion should deal with the

interpretations of results without repeating information already presented under results. It should relate the new findings to the known and include logical deductions.

Acknowledgement: Acknowledgement should be brief and limited to financial grants/support, any specific assistance like statistical analyses, sample donation, and not for providing routine facilities, editorial assistance, etc.

References: IJBB broadly follows the system of 'Vancouver reference style guide'. References to literature should be numbered consecutively, following the same sequence in the text and the list appended at the end, and should be indicated in the text by numbers placed in superior position, e.g. Sympathomimetic drug adrenaline has been reported to cause relaxation for the gut in certain Teleost fishes.

In citing references to research papers, names and initials of authors should be followed, in order by the full title of the paper, the abbreviated title of the periodical (italicised), the volume number, the year (within circular bracket) and the first page reference, e.g. Lowry OH, Rosebrough NJ, Farr AL & Randall RJ, Protein measurement with folin-phenol reagent. *J Biol Chem*, 193 (1951) 265. For names of periodicals, the standard abbreviations listed in the International serials Catalogue, published by International Council of Scientific Unions Abstracting Board (ICSUAB), Paris, France, should be used. If the reference is to an article published without any authorship in a periodical, the title of the article takes the place of the author in the citation e.g. The content, influence and value of scientific conference papers and proceedings, *UNESCO Bull Libr*, 16 (2016) 113. In case of accepted papers, names and initials of authors, title of the paper and the name of the journal be given followed by the word "in press" within circular brackets, e.g. Ghosh AK & Saha S, Correlation and modulation of Ehrlich ascites tumor growth with tumor-plasma IgA. *Indian J Biochem Biophys*, 155 (2017) (in press).

Authors should take extreme care to avoid citing references from non-indexed journals. They should ensure citation of references from genuine journals as indexed/covered by standard agencies, such as Clarivate[™], Scopus, PubMed, NAAS (>6.00), UGC-Care, Govt. of India, etc.

Reference to a book should include, in the following order, names and initials of authors, title of the article, the title of the book (italicised), name of publishers and place of publication (within circular bracket), year and the particular page reference, e.g. Deo Madhav G, Bacterial infections, in *Tropical molecular medicine* (Oxford University Press, New Delhi) 1999, 90. If the reference is to the work of an author published in a book by a different author or edited by a different person, the fact that it is cited from the source book (italicized) should be clearly indicated, e.g. Mukherjee Biswapati & Ray Krishnangshu, Pharmacologists' approach towards understanding of non antibiotics. In: *Non antibiotics: A new class of unrecognized antimicrobics*, (Ed. by AN Chakrabarty, Joseph Molnár, SG Dastidar & Noboru Motohashi; National Institute of Science Communication, CSIR, New Delhi, India), 2017, 28.

Proceedings of the conferences and the symposia unless indexed by the above mentioned agencies should be normally avoided. If required, be treated in the same manner as books. Reference to a paper presented at a conference, the proceedings on which are not published, should include, in the following order, names and initials of authors, title of the paper (italicized), name of the conference, place where the conference was held and

date, e.g. Thathachari Y T, *Structure of collagen*, paper presented to the Symposium on solid state physics, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India, 1-3 February, 2016.

Reference to a thesis should include the name of the author, title of the thesis (italicised), university or institution to which it was submitted and the year of submission, e.g. Vijayaraman K, *Physiological responses of the freshwater prawn, Macrobrachium malcolmsonii to the heavy metals, cadmium, copper, chromium and zinc*, Ph.D. thesis, Bharathidasan University, Thiruchirappalli, 2016.

Reference to a patent should include names of patentees, country of origin (italicized) and patent number, the organization to which the patent has been assigned (within circular brackets), date of acceptance of the patent and reference to an abstracting periodical where available, e.g. Trepagnier J H, *US Pat* 2, 463, 219 (to El du Pont de Nemours & Co.) 1 March 1949; *Chem Abstr*, 43 (1949) 7258.

Even if a reference contains more than two authors, the names of all the authors should be given. Abbreviations, such as *et al.*, *idem*, and *ibid* should not be used. Unpublished papers and personal communications should be avoided.

Tables: Tables should have proper rows and columns, and typed in single line space, Times New Roman 9 font size, unbold on separate sheet of paper without text matter on the page after references. They should be numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals and should bear brief title. Column headings should be brief. Units of measurement should be abbreviated and placed below the headings. Negative results should be indicated as 'nil' and absence of a datum by a dash. Inclusion of structural formulae inside the tables should be avoided.

Illustrations: Illustrations must be numbered consecutively in Arabic numerals. Captions and legends to the figures should be self-explanatory and should be typed on a separate sheet of paper and attached at the end of the manuscript. In any case, table data should not be duplicated in illustrations.

For satisfactory reproduction the graphs and line drawings should be drawn to approximately twice the printed size. The size of letters, numbers, dots, lines, etc. should be sufficiently large to permit reduction to page size (178 mm) or the column size (85 mm) of the journal, without loss of detail. In case of photographs (hard copy), prints must be on glossy paper and must show good contrast. In case of photomicrographs, magnification should either be mentioned directly on them using a bar, or explained in the legend. If an illustration is taken from another publication, reference to the source should be given and prior permission secured. Illustrations should be referred to in the text by numbers.

Footnotes: Footnotes should be avoided as far as possible. Essential footnotes may, however, be indicated by superscripted asterisk (*).

Structural Formulae: The number of structural formulae should be restricted to the bare minimum. Wherever the purpose is adequately served by giving chemical or common names, these should be given.

Enzyme Nomenclature: For enzymes, only the trivial names recommended by the IUPAC-IUB Commission should be used. In some cases, where the enzyme is the main subject of a paper its code number and systematic name should also be stated at its first citation in the paper.

Abbreviations: Standard International practices for abbreviations should be used in the text and illustrations without full stop mark.

PROOFS AND REPRINTS

Galley proofs without illustrations are sent to authors through email for final checking. Authors should ensure that the data submitted for publication are error-free. Published articles can be accessed through NIScPR's Online Periodicals Repository (<http://nopr.niscpr.res.in/>) as well as journals homepage (op.niscpr.res.in).

Ethical Issues

IJBB values publication ethics and guidelines as defined by the Committee of Publication Ethics (COPE). For human/animal experimental model, authors should follow ethics prepared by Indian National Science Academy (INSA), New Delhi, India; Animal Welfare Division of the Ministry of Environment & Forest, Govt. of India, New Delhi; Council of International

Organization of Medical Sciences (WHO/UNESCO), NIH and PHS. In such research communications, it is mandatory for authors to mention about the approval for the particular research work obtained from the relevant/respective institutional committee on ethics.

IJBB supports the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (http://www.icmje.org/urm_main.html).

Studies involving human subjects should follow the required procedure of securing 'informed consent'.

A statement on 'conflict of interest (COI)' has to be included in the declaration at the time of submission of the manuscript.

NIScPR Policy on Plagiarism

The system of formal communication in science through publication in primary journals is based on originality and quality of information being the only criteria for publication. However, there have been tendencies to misuse the system and vitiate the process of science communication for personal benefits. One of the ills afflicting science communication is plagiarism. Attempts at plagiarism may range from verbatim, copying of extensive material of other authors, misappropriating results/data of others with minor changes in language/presentation without giving credit to original source, to publish essentially the same information more than once.

As the premier publisher in India of primary scientific journals in various disciplines of science and technology, NIScPR strongly reiterates its policy of discouraging plagiarism of all kinds. All efforts are made detect and frustrate attempts at plagiarism through editorial screening and rigorous peer review in respect of communications received for publication in NIScPR publications. Cooperation of the scientific community is sought in our efforts to frustrate all attempts at plagiarism.

It is mandatory on the part of the corresponding author to furnish the following certificate at the time of submission of the manuscript for publication:

[This is to certify that the reported work in the article entitle, "(give full title with all the authors name)" submitted for publication in the journal, the..... is an original one and has not been submitted for publication elsewhere. I/we further certify that proper citation to the previously reported work have been given and no data/table/figures have been quoted verbatim from other publications without giving due acknowledgement and without the permission of the author(s). The consent of all the authors of this article has been obtained for submitting the article to the journal, "....."]

Signatures and names of all the authors]

In case any attempt to plagiarize is brought to our attention accompanied with convincing evidence, following steps would be taken:

- (a) After consulting the respective Editorial Board Members, authors guilty of plagiarism will be debarred from publishing their papers in NIScPR journals
 - (b) Heads of the departments/institutes of the offending authors will be intimated of such incidences of plagiarism.
 - (c) Such incidents of plagiarism will be publicized through the concerned NIScPR journals in consultation with the respective Editorial Board Members.
-