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ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters

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Scope of the Journal

ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters is interested in receiving manuscripts that discuss various aspects of medicinal chemistry. The journal will publish studies that pertain to a broad range of subject matter, including compound design and optimization, biological evaluation, drug delivery, imaging agents, drug interactome studies, and pharmacology of both small and large bioactive molecules.
Specific areas include but are not limited to:

- Identification, synthesis, and optimization of lead biologically active molecules and drugs (small molecules and biologics)
- Biological characterization of new molecular entities in the context of drug discovery towards delineating structure-activity relationship (SAR) trends
- Computational, cheminformatics, and structural studies for the identification or SAR analysis of bioactive molecules, ligands, and their targets, etc.
- Use of artificial intelligence and machine learning in drug discovery
- Novel and improved methodologies, including radiation biochemistry, with broad application to medicinal chemistry if the methods have been tested on relevant molecules. (e.g. DNA-encoded libraries, high-throughput experimentation, high-throughput parallel synthesis-compound library production, fragment-based drug discovery, covalent modulators.)
- New developments in discovery screening and bioassay technologies for biologically active molecules from both synthetic and natural (plant and other) sources.
- Chemistry patents relevant to the medicinal chemistry field
- Studies involving proximity-inducing agents including targeted protein degradation and molecular glues.

For more information, please see the journal website.

Manuscript Types

Letters. Peer-reviewed reports of original research focused on an individual finding significant to a broad medicinal chemistry field. Specific requirements include: 4500 words, 150 word abstract, 6-10 figures/tables, and ~40 references.

Notes. Brief peer-reviewed reports of original research intended for the rapid dissemination of highly notable findings where existing limitations may preclude further development at the time of publication. Specific requirements include: 2500 words, 150 word abstract, 2-4 figures/tables, and ~30 references.

Technical Notes. Peer-reviewed descriptive manuscripts outlining new or improved "toolbox" innovations encompassing a myriad of technologies (high-throughput/high-content screening, robotics, structure-based drug design, fragment-based drug design, combinatorial chemistry/parallel synthesis, protein modulation, etc.), which simultaneously facilitate and partially define modern medicinal chemistry. Specific requirements include: 4500 words, 150 word abstract, 6-10 figures/tables, and ~40 references.

Microperspectives. Concise, peer-reviewed summaries of key findings on subjects of interest to the medicinal chemistry community. Microperspectives are intended to provide current and impactful coverage of topics that are either emerging areas of interest or areas where there have been advances in the prior 12–24 months that are worth capturing but have not been included in recent reviews. Specific requirements include: 5000 words, <75 word abstract, 4-6 figures/tables, and ~40 references.

Viewpoints. General commentaries on current issues in the medicinal chemistry field, including views on new chemical patents and relevant patent laws and tutorials of immediate interest to the broad readership. Viewpoints are typically by invitation, but the EIC and/or Editors will review proposals for this manuscript type. Specific requirements include: 2000 words, ~50 word abstract, 0-2 figures/tables, 5-12 references, and only an editorial review.

Patent Highlights. A journal section dealing with recently issued medicinal chemistry patents. The coverage will feature patents and published patent applications in high-interest areas with brief commentaries on their potential impact. The Patent Highlights are written by members of the Patent Panel appointed by the Editors and are not open to submission by other authors.

ACS Researcher Resources

While this document will provide basic information on how to prepare and submit the manuscript as well as other critical information about publishing, we also encourage authors to visit ACS Researcher Resources for additional information on everything that is needed to prepare (and review) manuscripts for ACS journals and partner journals, such as

- Mastering the Art of Scientific Publication, which shares editor tips about a variety of topics including making your paper scientifically effective, preparing excellent graphics, and writing cover letters.
- Resources on how to prepare and submit a manuscript to the ACS Publications manuscript submission and peer review system, including details on selecting the applicable Journal Publishing Agreement.
- Sharing your research with the public through the ACS Publications open access program.
- ACS Reviewer Lab, a free online course covering best practices for peer review and related ethical considerations.
- ACS Author Lab, a free online course that empowers authors to prepare and submit strong manuscripts, avoiding errors that could lead to delays in the publication process.
- ACS Inclusivity Style Guide, a guide that helps researchers communicate in ways that recognize and respect diversity in all its forms.

Manuscript Preparation

Submit with Fast Format

All ACS journals and partner journals have simplified their formatting requirements in favor of a streamlined and standardized format for an initial manuscript submission. Read more about the requirements and the benefits these serves authors and reviewers here.

Manuscripts submitted for initial consideration must adhere to these standards:

- Submissions must be complete with clearly identified standard sections used to report original research, free of annotations or highlights, and include all numbered and labeled components.
- Figures, charts, tables, schemes, and equations should be embedded in the text at the point of relevance. Separate graphics can be supplied later at revision, if necessary.
- When required by a journal's structure or length limitations, manuscript templates should be used.
- References can be provided in any style, but they must be complete, including titles. For information about the required components of different reference types, please refer to the ACS Style Quick Guide.
- Supporting Information must be submitted as a separate file(s).

Document Templates and Format

The templates facilitate the peer review process by allowing authors to place artwork and tables close to the point where they are discussed within the text. Learn more about document templates here.

General information on the preparation of manuscripts may also be found in the ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication.

Acceptable Software, File Designations, and TeX/LaTeX

See the list of Acceptable Software and appropriate File Designations to be sure your file types are compatible with the submission system. Information for manuscripts generated from TeX/LaTeX is also available.

Cover Letter

A cover letter must accompany every manuscript submission. During the submission process, you may type it or paste it into the submission system, or you may attach it as a file.

The cover letter should contain clear and precise information about the submission, highlighting the significance of the work and must contain the following elements:

- Manuscript title
- Name of the corresponding author, with contact information
- Paragraph explaining why the manuscript is appropriate for *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*
- Short lay summary (1 paragraph) describing the significance of the study and its interest for a broad audience.
- Suggestions for a minimum of five possible reviewers, as well as sufficient justification for excluding potential reviewers that might have a conflict of interest.
- Note any use of a preprint server, and as appropriate, state how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission.
- Include the Journal purity statement (which should also be stated in the general experimental section of the manuscript) that “All compounds are >95% pure by HPLC analysis.”

If your manuscript is accepted for publication, *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters* may choose to modify, edit, and publish your lay summary in the *In This Issue* feature of the journal. The journal may also promote your research article through press communications.

Manuscript Text Components

Title

Titles are *limited to 120 characters, including spaces*, and should clearly and concisely reflect the emphasis and content of the manuscript and be accessible to a broad audience. Titles are of great importance for current awareness and information retrieval and should be carefully constructed for these purposes. Titles should not contain specialized abbreviations or jargon.

Author List

All those who have made substantial contributions to the work should be included. To facilitate indexing and retrieval and for unique identification of an author, first names, initials, and surnames (e.g., John R. Smith) or first initials, second names, and surnames (e.g., J. Robert Smith) should be used. Do not include professional or official titles or academic degrees. At least one author must be designated with an asterisk as the person to whom correspondence should be addressed.

Institution Address

The author affiliation(s) listed should be the institution(s) where the work was conducted. If the present address of an author differs from that at which the work was done, that address should be given in an Author Information note.

Abstract

All Letters, Notes, Microperspectives, Technical Notes, and Viewpoints must contain an abstract, which should provide a succinct, informative summation of the most important results and conclusions. Abbreviations should be used sparingly and spelled out when first used. The abstract should be written in complete sentences without the use of subheadings or specialized jargon. Refer to specific manuscript types for abstract word counts.

Keywords

Authors should provide a list of four to six keywords to be displayed below the abstract of their publication.

Manuscript Body

Letters manuscripts submitted to the journal should not contain headings separating sections of the manuscript body. Instead, the Introduction, Results, and Discussion should flow contiguously to describe the work and its outcomes.

Introduction
In this unheaded section, the purpose and significance of the research should be clearly stated and placed in the context of earlier work in the area. Historical summaries are seldom warranted. Attempts at a complete survey of the literature should not be made. If a recent article has

summarized work on the subject, that article should be cited without repeating its individual citations. In general, the introductory section should be approximately 750 words for a Letter.

Results and Discussion

This section should be continuous with the Introduction and does not receive a heading. The first paragraphs should explain the motivation for the work and how it combines the chemistry and biology disciplines. Tables and figures should be used only if they contribute significantly to the comprehension of the data. The same data should not be presented in more than one figure or in both a figure and a table. The purpose of the discussion is to interpret the results and to relate them to existing knowledge in the field. Refer to the Data Requirements for specifics on how data should be presented.

Experimental Procedures

A clear, unambiguous description of materials, methods, and equipment should be provided in a format that permits repetition of the work elsewhere. Novel experimental procedures and characterization data for key compounds should be described in sufficient detail, but where pertinent, synthetic and bioassay protocols should refer to published procedures by literature citation of the original method and any later modifications used. The Experimental section must include the purity statement “All compounds are >95% pure by HPLC.” HPLC traces should be included for representative compounds that have in vitro data and for all compounds with *in vivo* data described in the manuscript. Reasons for any exceptions/exclusions should be explained. The Experimental Procedures section can also contain subsections (with subheadings), but all procedural details be placed in Supporting Information.

Author Information

The following information should be provided in these specific subheadings:

- **Author Addresses:** current address for each author if different from the location(s) where the research was conducted.
- **Author Contributions:** *Individual* contributions of authors be listed.
- **Funding Sources**

Acknowledgments

Financial support, technical assistance, advice from colleagues, gifts, etc. should be included.

Abbreviations

If nonstandard abbreviations (see *The ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication*) are used within the manuscript, then a section should be added to identify the abbreviations. Such abbreviations should also be defined on first appearance in the manuscript text.

References

All references should be compiled together in a list at the end of the manuscript text. During the publication process, many of them will have links added to other Web resources, such as the corresponding abstracts in *Chemical Abstracts* and the full text on publisher web sites. Because of this electronic linking and because the references are not checked in detail by Editors or reviewers, it is crucial that authors verify their accuracy. Unnecessarily long lists of references should be avoided. However, authors must reference all previous publications in which portions of the present work have appeared, **including published patent applications, and issued patents**. Long references with multiple citations within one reference number should be avoided. Each reference should be listed as a separate citation, and each should be assigned a unique reference number. Letters accepted for publication should be cited as “in press”; the DOI should be given if the Letter is published online. Manuscripts that are in preparation or have been submitted, but have not yet been accepted, should be cited as unpublished results or personal communications. Additional data and peripheral discussion should be placed in the Supporting Information rather than in the references. Supplementary references may be placed in the Supporting Information. Literature references must be numbered with Arabic numerals in the order of their first citation in the text, and the corresponding numbers must be inserted at the appropriate locations in the text.

Authors should consult *The ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication* for the appropriate style to use in citations of journal papers, books, and other publications. In literature references, article titles **must** be included, and journal abbreviations should be those used in the *Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index (CASSI)*.

Supporting Information

This information is provided to the reviewers during the peer-review process (for Review Only) and is available to readers of the published work (for Publication). Supporting Information must be submitted at the same time as the manuscript. See the list of Acceptable Software by File Designation and confirm that your Supporting Information is viewable.

If the manuscript is accompanied by any supporting information files for publication, these files will be made available free of charge to readers. A brief, nonsentence description of the actual contents of each file, including the file type extension, is required. This description should be labeled Supporting Information and should appear before the Acknowledgement and Reference sections. Examples of sufficient and insufficient descriptions are as follows:

Examples of sufficient descriptions: “Supporting Information: ^{1}H NMR spectra for all compounds (PDF)” or “Additional experimental details, materials, and methods, including photographs of experimental setup (DOC)”.

Examples of insufficient descriptions: “Supporting Information: Figures S1-S3” or “Additional figures as mentioned in the text”.

When including supporting information for review only, include copies of references that are unpublished or in-press. These files are available only to editors and reviewers.

Research Data Policy

All ACS journals strongly encourage authors to make the research data underlying their articles

publicly available at the time of publication.

Research data is defined as materials and information used in the experiments that enable the validation of the conclusions drawn in the article, including primary data produced by the authors for the study being reported, secondary data reused or analyzed by the authors for the study, and any other materials necessary to reproduce or replicate the results.

The ACS Research Data Policy provides additional information on Data Availability Statements, Data Citation, and Data Repositories.

Data Requirements

Nomenclature

Nonstandard abbreviations (see *The ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication*) and acronyms should be used sparingly, and all usage should be defined at the first occurrence in the text. Whenever possible, systematic nomenclature as recommended by IUPAC and IUBMB for chemical compounds and biomolecules should be used. The available nomenclature databases (e.g., Entrez Gene) should be consulted for correct names and symbols. Enzyme names should be accompanied by their Enzyme Commission (EC) numbers (e.g., see http://www.expasy.org).

Chemical Compound Characterization

The knowledge of the purity of compounds employed in biological studies, whether they are synthesized, purchased, or received as gifts, is a crucial factor for obtaining reliable and reproducible results. For studies reported in *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, it is recommended to refer to the Compound Characterization Requirements for comprehensive guidelines. Reviewers will assess the overall thoroughness of the characterization of synthesized compounds using these guidelines.

Key Compounds

Frequently, articles will present a series of compounds with analogous structures. In such a case, complete characterization data need not be reported for all compounds. However, complete data should be provided for key compounds, which are those compounds in a manuscript that receive extra attention beyond the primary or general screening of the entire set used for structure- activity analysis. Key compounds include those that are subject to: (a) additional or follow-up studies for bioactivity in functional cellular assays, isolated tissues, or *in vivo* systems; (b) advanced absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion, and toxicology (ADMET) studies; (c) *in vivo* pharmacokinetics/pharmacodynamics studies; or (d) studies identifying off-target effects. The relevant characterization data for **key compounds** are as follows:

HRMS and Elemental Analysis

For novel key compounds (excluding biomacromolecules and other polymers), HRMS data should be reported to support the molecular formula assignment. The ionization method and mass detector type should be reported. Elemental analysis data, which are optional, can serve as an alternative. Complexed solvents, including water, should be confirmed by an additional analytical method, such as NMR analysis for organic solvents and Karl Fischer titration for water. For complete details, best practices, and examples refer to the Elemental Analysis and HRMS Requirements.

NMR Spectral Data

^{1}H NMR and ^{13}C NMR resonances should be listed for each key compound, and the solvent and

instrument frequency should be identified. For complete details, best practices, and examples on reporting NMR, please see the NMR Data Requirements.

Melting Points

It is suggested that a melting point *range* be reported for crystalline solid products as an indicator of purity. Melting points of noncrystalline amorphous compounds should not be reported.

Isomers and Isomeric Mixtures

The composition of isomeric mixtures (regioisomers, diastereomers, and enantiomers) must be reported. Enantiomeric ratio (er) or diastereomeric ratio (dr) values are preferred over enantiomeric excess (ee) or diastereomeric excess (de) values. Specific optical rotations should be reported for enantiopure compounds, enantioenriched isomer mixtures, and isolated natural products, when a sufficient sample is available. Specific rotations based on the equation [] = (100)/(*lc*) should be reported as unitless numbers as in the following example: $[]_D^{20}$ (*c* 1.9, MeOH), where the concentration *c* is in g/l00 mL and the path length *l* is in decimeters. The units of the specific rotation, (degmL)/(gdm), are implicit and are not included with the reported value.

Peptides and Biomacromolecules

Synthesized peptides should be characterized by HRMS and HPLC. For biomacromolecules, structures may be established by providing evidence about sequence and mass. Sequences may be inferred from the experimental order of amino acid, saccharide, or nucleotide coupling; from known sequences of templates in enzyme-mediated syntheses; or through standard sequencing techniques. Typically, a sequence will be accompanied by MS data that establish the molecular weight. Additional characterization and physical property data should be placed in the Supporting Information unless they are important to the main discussion. For more detailed information refer to the Peptides and Biological Macromolecules Requirements.

Purity Assessment

All scientifically established methods (e.g., HPLC, combustion analysis, absolute quantitative 1H NMR following the established Journal protocol or equivalent qHNMR methods) of establishing purity are acceptable. Documentation is required for qHNMR. If the target compounds are solvated, the quantity of solvent should be included in the compound formulas. When HPLC is the method for determination of compound purity, HPLC traces are required only for key target compounds. Documentation is required to be uploaded as Supporting Information for Publication.

All tested compounds, whether synthesized or purchased, should possess a purity of at least 95%. Tested compounds must have a purity of at least 95%. In exceptional cases, authors can request a waiver when compounds are less than 95% pure. For solids, the melting point or melting point range should be reported as an indicator of purity. Found values for carbon, hydrogen, and nitrogen (if present) should be within 0.4% of the calculated values for the proposed formula.

Include the specific analytical method used to determine purity in the general part of the experimental section together with a statement confirming 95% purity. If the purity of a particular compound is less than 95%, specify the percentage of purity at the end of the description of its synthesis in the experimental section. For qHNMR experiments, additional documentation is required. For purchased compounds, provide proof of purchase as Supporting Information for Publication.

The Cover Letter should contain the Journal purity statement (which should also be stated in the general experimental section of the manuscript) that “All compounds are >95% pure by HPLC analysis.” HPLC traces should be included for all compounds that have *in vivo* data described in the manuscript or, if no *in vivo* data, a representative number of HPLC traces of compounds described with in vitro data in the SAR tables (HPLC traces should be in the Supporting Information, SI). Alternatively, other methods of purity determination (e.g. elemental analysis) that were used need to be indicated.

Biological Results

Biological test methods must be referenced or described in sufficient detail (in the main text or preferably in the Supporting Information) to permit the experiments to be repeated by others. The methods used should be relevant to the purpose of the study. Authors should be cognizant of significant figures for their measurements when reporting biological data. A statement regarding inherent error, such as standard deviation, standard error of the mean (SEM), or the like, should be provided. The error limits themselves need not be presented in the main text but can appear in the Supporting Information. The number of experiments for a given data point (e.g., $N = 3$) should be indicated in some manner. *In vivo* biological data should be accompanied by statistical limits (statistical significance). Doses and concentrations should be expressed as molar quantities (e.g., mol/kg, nM) whenever possible. Exceptions include antibiotic concentrations for which µg/mL has traditionally been used. For further information regarding the use of biological specimens refer here.

Western Blots

Manuscripts must report the primary antibody species, the secondary antibody species, isotypes, and generated epitopes. Catalog and lot numbers for commercially obtained antibodies must be reported, as well as blotting membrane and blocking agents. Full scans or images of uncropped blots must be provided.

Other Images

Original, uncropped images must be provided, at a minimum in the Supplementary Information. Any image manipulation must be described and justified in the text.

Computational Chemistry

When computational chemistry is a major component of a study, manuscripts must fall into one or more of the following categories:

1. Practical applications of computational methods including experimental data, in particular, experimental validation of computational predictions.
2. Substantially novel methods along with evidence for utility in medicinal chemistry and drug design and significant potential for advancing the field, with methods that must be described clearly and comprehensibly.
3. Computational, statistical, or other theoretical analyses of currently available data that provide unexpected or provocative insights into topical problems and advance medicinal chemistry knowledge.

When manuscripts combine computational and experimental studies, both components must be

significant. For example, computational analyses are not automatically validated by the addition of a minor experimental component. For manuscripts reporting virtual screening results, purity data should conform to journal purity requirements for all experimentally tested active compounds, and convincing experimental data should be provided that demonstrate true biological activity of identified hits. For manuscripts describing new methods, the scope of the method must be validated convincingly.

Sufficient information should be presented to allow the method to be reproduced and tested in other laboratories. All experimental data and molecular structures used to generate and/or validate computational models must be reported in the manuscript or Supporting Information or be readily available without infringements or restrictions.

QSAR/QSPR and Proprietary Data

General Requirements

Authors should explicitly state in the manuscript the novel features of the quantitative structure–activity relationships/quantitative structure–property relationships (QSAR/QSPR) study being reported. If a new method/theory is being reported in the manuscript, it should be compared and "validated" against at least one other common method that is widely used in the field. All data and molecular structures used to carry out a QSAR/QSPR study should be reported in the manuscript or Supporting Information or must be readily available without infringements or restrictions. The use of proprietary data is generally not acceptable. Standard QSAR/QSPR studies will only be considered if the predictions are experimentally tested and if the experimental data are novel and significant. Only QSAR/QSPR analyses that provide new insights into the mechanism of activity are encouraged.

Specifically discouraged are (i) QSAR and QSPR modeling for data sets that have already been extensively modeled, (ii) model development featuring high ratios of descriptors to data points, and (iii) reports of new descriptors without clear evidence for their superiority in QSAR/QSPR modeling to existing, commonly used alternatives.

Database Deposition

Sequence Data

Authors should refer to the *Biological Data Guidelines* for information on submitting sequence data to the appropriate public repository.

Crystal and NMR Structures

Small molecular crystallographic data should be submitted upon publication to the Cambridge Structural Database. Manuscripts reporting macromolecular NMR or crystal structures must specifically state that the atomic coordinates have been deposited in the Protein Data Bank (PDB) or the Nucleic Acid Database and must list the accession code(s). These coordinates must be designated "for immediate release upon publication". Authors of manuscripts reporting X-ray crystal structures are encouraged to deposit the structure factor files in the PDB. No formal requirement exists for deposition of NMR assignments and constraints (see the Biological Magnetic Resonance Data Bank).

Electron Microscopy Data

No formal requirement exists for deposition of molecular envelope reconstruction from electron

microscopy data, but the journal encourages authors to deposit relevant information in appropriate databases. Approved databases for deposition of electron microscopy data are the Worldwide Protein Data Bank, the Protein Data Bank Japan, or the Protein Databank in Europe (PDBe).

Microarray Data

Data must be submitted to the Genome Expression Omnibus (GEO) or ArrayExpress databases, and the relevant accession numbers must be included in the published manuscript. Please reference the Microarray Gene Expression Data (MGED) open letter specifying microarray standards.

Genetically Modified Organisms and Mutants

Established repositories such as the Jackson Laboratory, the Mutant Mouse Regional Resource Center, the American Type Culture Collection, the UK Stem Cell Bank, or another public storage area should be used whenever possible. Large data sets for which an approved database has not yet been established must be housed as online Supporting Information at *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*.

Material and Data Availability

ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters understands that communication and collaboration between scientists are significantly enhanced when materials and data can be exchanged. Therefore, authors are strongly encouraged to make experimental data and protocols available to readers through deposition in a publicly used database. The hosting of such information on an author's Web site is not an acceptable substitute. Authors should endeavor to make research materials reported in their manuscript that are not otherwise reasonably obtainable available to interested academic researchers. Any restrictions as to the availability of materials or information should be stated at the time of submission.

Language and Editing Services

A well-written paper helps share your results most clearly. ACS Publications' English Editing Service is designed to help scientists communicate their research effectively. Our subject-matter expert editors will edit your manuscript for grammar, spelling, and other language errors so your ideas are presented at their best.

Preparing Graphics

The quality of illustrations in ACS journals and partner journals depends on the quality of the original files provided by the authors. Figures are not modified or enhanced by journal production staff. All graphics must be prepared and submitted in digital format.

Graphics should be inserted into the main body whenever possible. Please see Appendix 2 for additional information.

Any graphic (figure chart, scheme, or equation) that has appeared in an earlier publication should include a credit line citing the original source. Authors are responsible for obtaining written permission to re-use this material.

Figure and Illustration Services

The impact of your research is not limited to what you can express with words. Tables and figures such as graphs, photographs, illustrations, diagrams, and other visuals can play a significant role in effectively communicating your findings. Our Artwork Editing and Graphical Abstract services generate publication-ready figures and Table of Contents (TOC) graphics that conform to your chosen journal's specifications. For figures, this includes changes to file type, resolution, color space, font, scale, line weights, and layout (to improve readability and professional appearance). For TOC graphics, our illustrators can work with a rough sketch or concept or help extract the key findings of your manuscript directly for use as a visual summary of your paper.

Preparing for Submission

Manuscripts, graphics, supporting information, and required forms, as well as manuscript revisions, must all be submitted in digital format through ACS Paragon Plus, which requires an ACS ID to log in. Registering for an ACS ID is fast, free, and does not require an ACS membership. Please refer to Appendix 1 for additional information on preparing your submission

Prior Publication Policy

ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters authors are allowed to deposit an initial draft of their manuscript in a preprint service such as ChemRxiv, arXiv,or bioRxiv. A patent or a published patent application is not considered to be a prior "publication". Please note any use of a preprint server, patents, and dissertations in the cover letter, and as appropriate, state how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission. All other prior/redundant publications are forbidden. Upon publication in *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, authors are advised to add a link from the preprint to the published paper via the Digital Object Identifier (DOI). For the ACS Publications policy on theses and dissertations, click here.

Editorial Policies

Costs
ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters does not impose submission or publication fees.

Presubmission Inquiries

Presubmission inquiries can be made to the Editor-in-Chief by e-mail at: eic@medchemlett.acs.org.

Review Process

The Editors evaluate submitted manuscripts, and only those judged to fall within the scope of the journal and to be of potential interest to our readers are sent to two or more reviewers for evaluation. Reviewers can suggest that a manuscript be published, revised, or rejected. Reviewers will evaluate the originality, technical quality (including appropriateness of compound characterization and quality of experimental data), clarity of presentation, and significance to the field. The Editors evaluate the reviewers' arguments in the context of the scope of the journal and make the final decision on each manuscript.

Editorial decisions are based on many factors. Reviewers' concerns are considered very seriously. When reviewers' recommendations diverge, additional information may be requested from the

reviewers, other experts may be consulted, and/or the authors may be asked to clarify questionable sections. Reviewers may be asked to consider subsequent versions of the manuscript, especially if new data have been added to the manuscript, to evaluate whether the authors have sufficiently addressed the scientific concerns. In such cases, anonymized copies of all previous reviewer comments may be sent to the reviewers. This practice allows the reviewers to obtain a clear understanding of the expectations of the Editors. The Editors will expedite any additional rounds of reviews to ensure timely publication.

Appeal Process

All reasonable appeals of decisions will be considered; however, this appeal must first be directed to the Associate Editor who handled the original submission, not the Editor-in-Chief. This request for resubmission does not guarantee ultimate acceptance in *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*. During an appeal, the Editors may obtain additional opinions from other Editors or members of the Editorial Advisory Board before coming to a decision.

Anonymity

The ACS strongly disapproves of any attempts by authors to determine the identity of reviewers or to confront potential reviewers. The editorial policy of this journal is to neither confirm nor deny any speculation about the identities of our reviewers. The journal will not release the identity of a reviewer to the authors or to other reviewers.

Conditions of Acceptance

When a submission is accepted for publication in *ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, the authors will:

- Honor any reasonable request from Editors, reviewers, and other scientists for materials, methods, or data necessary for verification of the conclusions reported in the submission.
- Have deposited protein and nucleic acid sequences, crystallographic structures, and microarray data in approved databases and provided accession numbers for inclusion in the published manuscript as described in the deposition policies described above.
- Provide assurance that animals used in the study were cared for in accordance with institutional guidelines.
- Verify that, in human studies, consent was obtained after the consequences of the studies were explained to the experimental subjects. All research on humans must have IRB approval.
- Agree to disclose all potential sources of bias, including affiliations, funding sources, and financial or management relationships, that may constitute conflicts of interest.
- Will not release to the press or the public the accepted manuscript prior to the stated embargo date.

Policy Summary on Patent Citation

ACS Medicinal Chemistry Letters authors should cite issued patents or published patent

applications when the material in the manuscript overlaps with or is significantly related to that in the patent literature. Due to the significant differences in the review of patents vs journal articles, however, we cannot accept a reference to the patent literature in lieu of experimental protocols (chemical and biological) and characterization data for novel and key compounds. For the same reasons, we cannot publish articles whose primary purpose is to dispute patent literature, and which do not provide additional assay and/ or compound information that extends significantly beyond the patent scope of work. Authors who wish to raise concerns regarding data or statements reported in patents are advised to open a dialogue with the community by submitting Letters to Editors.

Frequent Reasons for Revisions

- Standard deviations/SEM missing. Data reported not consistent with standard deviation/standard error of measurement.
- References in incorrect format.
- Purity assessment not included.
- Uncommon abbreviations section missing or incomplete.
- Section headings for the Introduction, Results, and Discussion.
- Optical characterization missing.

Providing Potential Reviewer Names

To help the editors identify reviewers with appropriate expertise, please suggest 5 reviewers. ACS requests that you consider the gender and geographic diversity of your suggested reviewers in addition to their topical expertise. Authors are encouraged to avoid suggesting reviewers from the authors' institutions. Do not suggest reviewers who may have a real or perceived conflict of interest. Whenever possible, suggest academic email addresses rather than personal email addresses.

Manuscript Transfer

If your submission is declined for publication by this journal, the editors might deem your work to be better suited for another ACS Publications journal or partner journal and suggest that the authors consider transferring the submission. Manuscript Transfer simplifies and shortens the process of submitting to another ACS journal or partner journal, as all the coauthors, suggested reviewers, manuscript files, and responses to submission questions are copied to the new draft submission. Authors are free to accept or decline the transfer offer.

Note that each journal is editorially independent. Transferring a manuscript is not a guarantee that the manuscript will be accepted, as the final publication decision will belong to the editor of the next journal.

PRODUCTION AND PUBLICATION

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instructions when page proofs are available for review via ACS Direct Correct. Extensive or important changes on page proofs, including changes to the title or list of authors, are subject to review by the editor.

It is the responsibility of the Corresponding Author to ensure that all authors listed on the manuscript agree with the changes made on the proofs. Galley proofs should be returned within 48 hours in order to ensure timely publication of the manuscript.

Publication Date and Patent Dates

Accepted manuscripts will be published on the ACS Publications Web site as soon as page proofs are corrected and all author concerns are resolved. The first date on which the document is published on the Web is considered the publication date.

Publication of manuscripts on the Web may occur weeks in advance of the cover date of the issue of publication. Authors should take this into account when planning their patent and intellectual property activities related to a document and should ensure that all patent information is available at the time of first publication, whether ASAP or issue publication.

All articles published ahead of print receive a unique Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number, which is used to cite the manuscript before and after the paper appears in an issue. Additionally, any supplemental information submitted along with the manuscript will automatically be assigned a DOI and hosted on Figshare to promote open data discoverability and use of your research outputs.

ASAP Publication

Manuscripts will be published on the “ASAP Articles” page on the web as soon as page proofs are corrected and all author concerns are resolved. ASAP publication usually occurs within a few working days of receipt of page proof corrections, which can be several weeks in advance of the cover date of the issue.

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Appendix 1: PREPARING FOR SUBMISSION

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Appendix 2: Preparing Graphics

Resolution

Digital graphics pasted into manuscripts should have the following minimum resolutions:

- Black and white line art, 1200 dpi
- Grayscale art, 600 dpi
- Color art, 300 dpi

Size

Graphics must fit a one- or two-column format. Single-column graphics can be sized up to 240 points wide (3.33 in.) and double-column graphics must be sized between 300 and 504 points (4.167 in. and 7 in.). The maximum depth for all graphics is 660 points (9.167 in.) including the caption (allow 12 pts. For each line of caption text). Lettering should be no smaller than 4.5 points in the final published format. The text should be legible when the graphic is viewed full-size. Helvetica or Arial fonts work well for lettering. Lines should be no thinner than 0.5 point.

Color

Color may be used to enhance the clarity of complex structures, figures, spectra, and schemes,

etc., and color reproduction of graphics is provided at no additional cost to the author. Graphics intended to appear in black and white or grayscale should not be submitted in color.

Type of Graphics

Table of Contents (TOC)/Abstract Graphic

Consult the Guidelines for Table of Contents/Abstract Graphics for specifications.
Our team of subject-matter experts and graphical designers can also help generate a compelling TOC graphic to convey your key findings. Learn more about our Graphical Abstract service.

Figures

A caption giving the figure number and a brief description must be included below each figure. The caption should be understandable without reference to the text. It is preferable to place any key to symbols used in the artwork itself, not in the caption. Ensure that any symbols and abbreviations used in the text agree with those in the artwork.

Charts

Charts (groups of structures that do not show reactions) may have a brief caption describing their contents.

Tables

Each table must have a brief (one phrase or sentence) title that describes the contents. The title should be understandable without reference to the text. Details should be put in footnotes, not in the title. Tables should be used when the data cannot be presented clearly in the narrative, when many numbers must be presented, or when more meaningful inter-relationships can be conveyed by the tabular format. Tables should supplement, not duplicate, information presented in the text and figures. Tables should be simple and concise.

Schemes

Each scheme (sequences of reactions) may have a brief caption describing its contents.

Chemical Structures

Chemical structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw.

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