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# Scope of the Journal

<u>Bioconjugate Chemistry</u> invites original contributions on all research at the interface between synthetic and biological materials. The mission of the journal is to communicate advances in a wide range of fields including drug delivery, bionanotechnology, and synthetic biology. Bioconjugate Chemistry is intended to provide a forum for presentation of rigorous research relevant to all aspects of bioconjugates, including the preparation, properties, and applications of molecular conjugates.

For more information, please visit "About the Journal".

# **Manuscript Types**

*Bioconjugate Chemistry* publishes original Communications, Articles, and Reviews. The editors welcome the submission of manuscripts in the following categories:

**Communications.** Pioneering reports of with impact and general interest to justify accelerated publication. Communications should be brief, 2000-3000 words or the equivalent, without key data relegated to the supporting information.

**Articles.** Comprehensive accounts of significant studies should be submitted as Articles. The majority of publications are in this category, where very often the research story can be told more effectively.

Articles are normally 3500-5000 words and up to 7 figures.

**Reviews.** There are two types of Reviews: Reviews and Topical Reviews. Topical Reviews are intended to introduce the readership to new topics and challenges through the personal viewpoint of the authors.

These articles can describe new strategies in bioconjugation, or describe the role of synthetic/biological constructs in topics such as immunology, cancer therapeutics, and tissue engineering. Topical Reviews provide concise (2000-3000 word) overviews of both fundamental topics and translational issues, with a target audience of advanced graduate students, post-docs, and faculty looking to extend their research in new directions. Reviews provide a forum for more in-depth coverage of an area, and likewise should be accessible to the broad audience of *Bioconjugate Chemistry*. These reviews will typically be 4000- 6000 words in length. The use of effective figures is strongly encouraged for both Topical Reviews and Reviews.

**Comments**. Comments are commissioned by the editors and are generally short and concise assessments of the literature (1000-2000 words).

Our goal at *Bioconjugate Chemistry* is to make the submission and review process as quick and painless as possible. More details are available in the following sections.

# **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 <u>ACS</u> <u>Researcher Resources</u> for additional information on everything that is needed to prepare (and review) manuscripts for ACS journals and partner journals, such as

- <u>Mastering the Art of Scientific Publication</u>, 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 ACS Paragon Plus, ACS
   Publications' manuscript submission and peer review environment, including details on
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- 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).

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# Acceptable Software, File Designations, and TeX/LaTeX

See the list of <u>Acceptable Software</u> and appropriate <u>File Designations</u> to be sure your file types are compatible with ACS Paragon Plus. Information for manuscripts generated from <u>TeX/LaTeX</u> is

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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.

We strongly encourage that the cover letter specifically state the innovation of the submitted manuscript. It should provide the postal address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of the corresponding author of the manuscript. All editorial correspondence concerning receipt, status, review, revision, and publication of a manuscript will be directed to the corresponding author, who is responsible for communicating the manuscript status to all coauthors of the paper and for obtaining the coauthors' assent to any substantial changes of content or interpretation made during revision.

### **Manuscript Text Components**

Articles should be assembled in the order Title (including full title, byline, and associated footnotes), Abstract, Introduction, Results and Discussion, Experimental Procedures (Materials and Methods), Acknowledgments, Supporting Information description, Abbreviations, References, and Footnotes, and a Table of Contents graphic (TOC). For Communications, the need for brevity precludes subdivisions within the text for introduction, experimental procedures, results, and discussion; experimental procedures should be placed in Supporting Information, incorporated into the text or figure captions, or included as footnotes in Communications. Authors must also submit a small structural diagram or other informative illustration that represents or summarizes the topic for use in the Table of Contents (TOC) and abstract.

*Title Page.* A brief, accurate, and informative title will aid in the classification and indexing of the paper. Do not use trade names of drugs or abbreviations. List full names and institutional affiliations of all authors, and if differentiation is necessary, indicate the affiliations of the authors by the superscript symbols †, ‡, §, etc. The author to whom correspondence should be addressed is indicated by an asterisk. The corresponding author's address should include a street address, or post office box number if no street address is available, and an e-mail address. The corresponding author's current telephone and fax numbers should also be included. It is implicit in listing a person as an author that this individual has agreed to appear as an author of the manuscript.

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Tables and figures should be designed to make it easy for the reader to understand the experimental data. The same data should not be presented in more than one figure or in both a figure and a table in the manuscript. In some cases it is appropriate to validate the significance of processed data (e.g., a graph), by including the underlying raw data (e.g., a gel or biodistribution) as Supporting Information.

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**Acknowledgment.** This section should acknowledge financial support, technical assistance, advice from colleagues, gifts, etc. Sources of funding of the research should be stated. Permission should be sought from persons whose contribution to the work is acknowledged in the manuscript.

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369–384, Chapter 23, Academic Press, New York.

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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: <sup>1</sup>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.

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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 <u>ACS Research Data Policy</u> provides additional information on Data Availability Statements, Data Citation, and Data Repositories.

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**Abbrevations**. Standard abbreviations should be used throughout the manuscript. Note that abbreviations are used in ACS journals without periods. The preferred forms for some of the more

commonly used abbreviations are mp, bp, °C, K, kDa (for kilodalton), min, h, mL, L, g, mg, g, cm, mm, m, nm, mol, mol, mol, ppm, HPLC, TLC, GC, NMR, LC-MS, and UV.

For lengthy technical names used more than five times in the manuscript, it is appropriate to employ abbreviations. Such nonstandard abbreviations should be collected and defined in a single Abbreviations paragraph at the end of the text. Excessive use of abbreviations makes a manuscript difficult to read; failure to collect the definitions of all abbreviations into a single paragraph is a disservice to the reader.

**Safety**. Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work. Precautions for handling dangerous materials or for performing hazardous procedures must be stated or referenced. This information should be in the experimental details section of the full article or communication.

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**Biological Data**. Manuscripts generally will contain biological data such as images of cells or animal models, or other appropriate functional validations of the properties of new bioconjugates. Biological test methods must be referenced or described in sufficient detail to permit the experiments to be repeated by others. Statistical limits (statistical significance) are required for all biological data. Doses and concentrations should be expressed as molar quantities (e.g., mol/kg, nM) whenever possible.

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Any graphic (figure chart, scheme, or equation) that has appeared in an earlier publication should

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# **Open Access Compliance**

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manuscript during the submission process. These statements include but are not limited to analysis of citation diversity and acknowledgment of indigenous land on which research was conducted. Statements expressing political beliefs are not permitted and may be removed by the journal office. All statements are subject to final review by the Editor.

- Citation Diversity Statement: The citation diversity statement should appear in the Acknowledgements section of the manuscript. ACS recommends including the following: (1) the importance of citation diversity, (2) the proportion of citations by gender and race/ethnicity for the first and last authors, (3) the method used to determine those proportions and its limitations, and (4) steps taken to by the authors to improve citation diversity in the article. We recognize that one limitation of the current methods is that it cannot account for intersex, non-binary, and transgender people, or Indigenous and mixed-race authors. (Adapted from <a href="BMES/Springer Guidelines">BMES/Springer Guidelines</a>)
- Land acknowledgment: The land acknowledgment statement should appear in the
  Acknowledgements section of the manuscript. The statement should link to the institutions'
  formal land acknowledgments on which the research took place, if possible. Further guidance
  for creating these statements can be found here: <a href="https://nativegov.org/news/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/">https://nativegov.org/news/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/</a>.

# **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 <u>Graphical Abstract service</u>.

#### **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.

#### **Cover Art**

Bioconjugate Chemistry authors are encouraged to submit images to be considered for use on the journal's front cover or <u>Supplementary Covers</u> at the time of the submission of their revised manuscript. If your article is accepted for publication, your suggestion may also be selected for use on one of the journal's covers. If your art is selected for front cover, ACS will send you information about how to request one complimentary 18" by 24" printed poster featuring your work. Images chosen for the front cover will be published at no cost to the author.

Cover image submissions should be scientifically and visually exciting. Colorful images without text or structures are preferred. The cover image should not resemble a graphical abstract or data figure, but rather should be an artistic and scientifically accurate representation of the manuscript. For examples of cover art designs, please refer to recent issues.

Image files should be submitted as TIF, JPG, PNG, or EPS files (not PDF or PPT) with a resolution of at least 300 dpi for pixel-based images. Images should be 8.19 inches (20.8 cm) wide

x 7.48 inches (19.0 cm) high, and submission of "layered" artwork is encouraged. Authors should submit the cover image, along with a short, clear legend (less than 50 words) explaining the image, as supplementary files to ACS Paragon Plus with their revised manuscript.

If you wish to be considered only for the front cover, and not a paid supplementary cover, please respond NO accordingly to the Supplementary Cover Art question in ACS Paragon Plus. For more information on the Supplementary Covers program, please <u>see this webpage</u>. All art submitted for consideration for a supplementary cover will also be considered for a front cover.

## **Web Enhanced Objects (WEO)**

The Web editions of ACS journals allow readers to view multimedia attachments such as animations and movies that complement understanding of the research being reported.

WEOs should be uploaded in ACS Paragon Plus with 'Web Enhanced Object' selected as the file designation. Consult the list of <u>compatible WEO formats</u>.