

Last updated: July 02, 2024 [View the latest guidelines online](#)

Scope of the Journal

Chemical & Biomedical Imaging (CBMI) is a peer-reviewed open access journal devoted to the publication of cutting-edge research papers on all aspects of chemical and biomedical imaging. This interdisciplinary field sits at the intersection of chemistry, physics, biology, materials, engineering, and medicine. The journal aims to bring together researchers from across these disciplines to address cutting-edge challenges of fundamental research and applications.

Chemical & Biomedical Imaging welcomes papers that:

- showcase innovations in molecular and biomedical imaging
- push the limits of chemical, spatial and temporal resolution at single molecule, single particle, or single cell level
- demonstrate advances in developing new chemical probes and methodologies for biomedical applications

More information can be found [here](#).

Manuscript Types

Article

Articles in *CBMI* should report a significant advance in a subfield of chemical and biomedical imaging, being characterized by the editor and referees as an advance representing the top 10% of articles published annually in that field. Articles must be of high scientific quality, originality, significance, and conceptual novelty.

The recommended length of an Article is limited to 8,000 words including the abstract, main text, tables, and legends, excluding references and Supporting Information (SI). Rarely, a longer submission may be justified. If so, a convincing justification for the extra length must be made by the authors in their cover letter. The Editor will normally require condensation of longer manuscripts but will consider the justification details provided by the authors. Abstracts to Articles are typically limited to 300 words and should summarize the significant results and conclusions. Articles should include 5–7 lowercase keywords and a graphical Table of Contents entry.

Letter

A Letter is a brief disclosure of a significant new imaging concept or application and will be considered on an accelerated schedule. A Letter must convey the scientific findings concisely in a brief abstract, main text, and graphical elements as determined by word count limited to 4,000 words including the abstract, main text, tables, and legends, excluding references. Letter can and include up to 5 figures and 50 references; no section headings are used. Letter should include a graphical Table of Contents entry.

Technical Note

A Technical Note is a short description of a novel apparatus or technique. Authors must show ingenuity in describing the advantages of the new apparatus or technique over those already available. Technical Notes are approximately 3,000 to 5,000 words in length including the abstract, main text, tables, and legends, excluding references.

Review

Reviews are topical, forward looking, and of general interest to the readership. The length of Reviews is flexible (typically 6,000-12,000 words including the abstract, main text, tables, and legends, excluding references). A good review critically evaluates existing work of multiple groups in a field or across disciplines, provides a logical organization, and makes the material more easily accessible to those not expert in the area through clear text and figures. Reviews should lay out the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Reviews should contain an abstract and appropriate references. The use of graphics to illustrate key concepts is strongly encouraged. Reviews include a graphical Table of Contents entry. Reviews also include ~8–10 keywords and a vocabulary section in which 5–7 terms extracted from the text are defined in one or two sentences.

Authors interested in submitting a Review are strongly encouraged to contact the Editor prior to manuscript preparation and submission, to seek conditional approval of the proposed topic. Authors interested in contributing a Review should email the Editor at eic@cbmi.acs.org, providing a single document that includes the following information for consideration:

1. Proposed Review or Perspective title
2. Corresponding author names, affiliations, and websites
3. A short (~400 word) description of the focused topic
4. A list of 5-10 lead references that will form the foundation of the manuscript
5. A list of recent review articles published on this topic, written by the submitting authors or others, and an explanation of how the proposed review will differ in focus and advance the literature on the subject.

Perspective

Perspectives point out the authors' vision of the character and importance of a new direction in chemical and biomedical imaging, analyze research reports that provide the foundation for the new direction, and discuss the nature of the opportunities perceived. They can also be articles in which authors synthesize research results with ideas and needs for additional work, as indicated by the results. Perspectives are neither reports of original research nor review with the traditional objective of summarizing progress in a field. They are aimed at specialists and experts in the field. The content should reflect the sophistication of the author's understanding of the topic. Perspectives are not intended to be accounts or analyses of an individual's personal research. The manuscript must be balanced, fair, and accurate in its treatment of the contemporary literature. Perspectives may not exceed 5,000 words including the abstract (<300 words), main text, and graphical elements, up to 50 references that demonstrate the full range of activities in the field. A Table of Contents graphic is required for this type of manuscript.

Viewpoint

Viewpoints examine critically a question of current interest and draw new generalizations or new perspectives from the evidence. These brief non-peer reviewed opinions include theoretical implications, mechanistic interpretation, significance of data, or definitive experiments and should not be laudatory or for establishing priority. Viewpoints should be limited to 3,000 words in length excluding references and have no abstract included, up to 5 figures and 50 references. The author should be an expert in the field.

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 the [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 ACS Paragon Plus, ACS Publications' manuscript submission and peer review environment, 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

CBMI does not require the use of any document templates. 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 ACS Paragon Plus. 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.

Recommended information includes the following:

- title
- name of the corresponding author
- name(s) of any other coauthor(s)
- the type of manuscript submitted
- a paragraph explaining why the article appeals to the broad audience *CBMI* serves, clearly indicating what key advance(s) are described in the work relative to the state-of-the-art
- a description of any Supporting Information and/or Review-Only Material
- a statement confirming the manuscript has not been previously published by any of the authors and/or is not under consideration for publication in another journal at the time of submission
- note any use of a preprint server, and as appropriate, state how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission

Manuscript Text Components

Title

Titles should clearly and concisely reflect the emphasis and content of the manuscript. Titles are of great importance for current awareness and information retrieval and should be carefully constructed for these purposes. Titles of manuscripts may not contain the words “New” or “Novel” nor any part number or series number without permission from the Editor. Claims of precedence should not be made in a title, so use of “First” in titles for this purpose is prohibited. Additionally, “Superb”, “Excellent”, “Exceptional”, “Outstanding” or other similar descriptive words, are strongly discouraged. Acronyms and abbreviations are not permitted in manuscript titles, unless they are broadly familiar to readers in all disciplines of chemistry. Titles should not be phrased as a question.

Author List

Bylines should include all those who have made substantial contributions to the work. To facilitate indexing and retrieval and for unique identification of an author, use first names, initials, and surnames or first initials (e.g., Jody R. Smith), second names, and last names (e.g., J. Riley Smith). Do not use only initials with surnames (e.g., J. R. Smith). Deceased persons who meet the criteria for inclusion as coauthors should be included, with an Author Information note indicating

the date of death. Do not include professional or official titles or academic degrees. At least one, or optionally more than one but fewer than four authors must be designated with an asterisk as the author(s) to whom reader correspondence regarding the published manuscript may be addressed.

The full names and e-mail addresses of all co-authors must be provided on the Authors & Institutes page upon submission of the manuscript in ACS Paragon Plus. Use of ORCID identifiers is encouraged.

Addition or deletion of an author or authors after submission of the manuscript requires justification from the corresponding author and is subject to approval by the Editor.

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.

Many Funders and Institutions require that institutional affiliations are identified for all authors listed in the work being submitted. ACS facilitates this requirement by collecting institution information during manuscript submission under Step 2: Authors and Affiliations in ACS Paragon Plus.

Abstract

All Article, Letter, Review, Perspective, and Technical Note must be accompanied by an abstract, including an Abstract (TOC) graphic, which should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results, and major conclusions. Abstracts of manuscripts may not contain the words “superb”, “excellent”, “exceptional”, “outstanding”, or other similar descriptive words unless rigorously supported by a thorough comparison with the state-of-the-art in the manuscript. Like manuscript titles, the words “New”, “First”, or “Novel” are also generally disallowed in the abstract. The abstract should not generally exceed 300 words. Pasting the abstract in the text box on the Web submission page does not replace the need for including an abstract in the manuscript document.

Keywords

All Article, Letter, Review, Perspective, and Technical Note must be accompanied by 5–10 keywords. These keywords will appear in the PDF version of the article and will also be used as a search term in the HTML version of the article.

Introduction

Clearly state the purpose and significance of the research and put it into the context of earlier work in the area, aiming for brevity.

Results and Discussion

Explain the motivation for the work and how it involves chemistry. Present results concisely. The discussion should interpret the results and relate them to existing knowledge in the field, and explain the significant advance made by these results. To conserve space, please submit supplemental information in a separate file for online Supporting Information (note, all content submitted is subject to review).

Methods

Provide a clear, unambiguous description of materials, methods, and equipment in sufficient detail to permit repetition of the research. Describe novel experimental procedures in detail but published procedures may be referred to by literature citation of both the original and any published modifications. Articles reporting data from experiments on live animals must include a statement identifying the approving committee and certifying that such experiments were performed in accordance with all national or local guidelines and regulations. Results from experiments involving humans or tissue samples must additionally include a statement that informed consent was obtained from the subject or from the next of kin. Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work. This information should be in the experimental details section. For experimental papers, a statement must be included emphasizing either:

- “no unexpected or unusually high safety hazards were encountered” OR
- explaining any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work and how they were mitigated.

Methods section is optional if authors wish to include the methods information in the Supporting Information.

Acknowledgment

Include financial support, technical assistance, advice from colleagues, gifts, etc. Be precise and thorough when acknowledging funders, and include grant numbers where appropriate.

Author Information Notes

The e-mail address(es) of the corresponding author or authors must be provided as a Corresponding Author note. Present addresses for individual authors that differ from the address(es) at which the work was done should be given in a Present Address(es) note.

Statements about author contributions to the work or equal contributions of work should be included as a separate statement.

References and Footnotes

All the references and footnotes must be placed together in a list at the end of the manuscript text. In the Web edition, many of them will have links to other Web resources, such as the corresponding abstracts in *Chemical Abstracts* and the full text from other American Chemical Society journals. Because of this electronic linking, and to aid scientific research, *it is crucial that authors verify the accuracy of all references.*

Unnecessarily long lists of references should be avoided, and excessive self-citation is not permitted. However, authors must reference all previous publications in which portions of the present work have appeared. Each literature reference should be assigned one number and placed in the text as a superscript Arabic numeral. Footnotes to the text should be combined with references and numbered in ordinal sequence. Long footnotes should be avoided in Articles and are not permitted in Communications; additional data and peripheral discussion should be placed in the Supporting Information rather than in footnotes.

Bibliographic references to classified documents and reports or references to unpublished materials that are not generally available to the scientific public should not be used. Authors must obtain written permission from any person whose work is cited as a personal communication, unpublished work, or work in press. Copies of letters of permission and documentation should be appended to the cover letter file. If the manuscript is accepted but the necessary permissions have

not been received, the Editor will ask the author to remove the reference(s) and dependent text.

List submitted articles as “in press” only if they have been formally accepted for publication. Otherwise, use “unpublished work” with the name of the place where the work was done and the date. For work published online (ASAP, in press), the DOI should be furnished in addition to the author name(s), article title, journal name, and year. DOI is an accepted form of citation before and after the article appears in an issue.

Example of a journal reference:

Yue, Q.; Liu, W.; Zhu, X. n-Type Molecular Photovoltaic Materials: Design Strategies and Device Applications. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, *142*, 11613–11628.

Example of an in-press journal reference:

Ham, J. S.; Park, B.; Son, M.; Roque, J. B.; Jurczyk, J.; Yeung, C. S.; Baik, M.-H.; Sarpong, R. C–H/C–C Functionalization Approach to N-Fused Heterocycles from Saturated Azacycles. *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2020**, DOI: 10.1021/jacs.0c04278.

Example of a reference to a book with no editors:

Desiraju, G. R.; Vittal, J. J.; Ramanan, A. *Crystal Engineering: A Textbook*. World Scientific Publishing Co Pte Ltd: Singapore, 2011.

Example of a reference to a book with editors:

Byrn, S. R.; Stowell, J. G. Impurities in Drug Substances and Drug Products. In *Validation of Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients*; Berry, I.R., Harpaz, D., Eds.; CRC Press: Boca Raton, 2001; pp 271–292.

Authors should consult the [ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication](#) for the appropriate style to use in citations of journal articles, 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: ¹H 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.

Chemical & Biomedical Imaging applies ACS Research Data Policy Level 1, meaning the journal encourages all authors to publicly share all the data underlying the results reported in the paper, preferably via archiving in an appropriate public repository. Authors are also encouraged to provide a [Data Availability Statement](#) describing the public availability of the data supporting the article’s conclusions. Publicly available data sets should be [cited appropriately](#).

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

Chemical & Biomedical Imaging does not have specific data requirements. Some resources are available in the [ACS Researcher Resources](#), such as the [ACS Math Style Sheet](#) and [NMR Guidelines](#).

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

Submission of a manuscript to *CBMI* is contingent upon the agreement by all the authors that the reported work has not received prior publication and that no portion of this or any other closely related work is under consideration for publication.

CBMI authors may deposit an initial draft of their manuscript in a preprint service such as [ChemRxiv](#), [bioRxiv](#), [arXiv](#), or the applicable repository for their discipline before the manuscript is accepted for publication in *CBMI*. Authors may revise the preprint version of their manuscript up until a final acceptance decision has been issued. Please note any use of a preprint server in the cover letter and include a link to the preprint, and as appropriate, state how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission. All other prior/redundant publication is forbidden. Upon publication in *CBMI*, authors should add a link from the preprint to the published article via the Digital Object Identifier (DOI). Some preprint servers, including ChemRxiv and bioRxiv, add this link for authors automatically after publication. For further details, contact the Editorial Office. For the ACS Publications policy on theses and dissertations, click [here](#).

Editorial Policies

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CBMI is a fully open access journal, with all content published under an open access license. There is therefore no subscription charges and no charge to access, read, and download articles published in the journal. Authors of accepted manuscripts will need to pay an Article Publishing Charge (APC) to publish their research in *CBMI*. The default license for authors will be CC BY-NC-ND, with the option to upgrade to CC BY. Country discounts apply for authors based in countries with lower-income economies, [detailed here](#). Authors from institutions with ACS Read + Publish Agreements are eligible to have their APC covered through these agreements. [Information can be found here](#). Pricing details [can be found here](#). For assistance with open access, please contact support@services.acs.org.

Review Process Summary

Editors evaluate all submissions, and they consult with Editorial Advisory Board members in some

cases. Some submissions are rejected shortly after submission, for example, those that fall outside the scope of the journal or are not deemed of sufficient interest to the broad readership. For manuscripts considered further, additional peer reviewers and the Editorial Advisory Board members are consulted to evaluate the originality, quality, clarity, and import. Editors review all feedback and make final decisions. Reviewers may be asked to consider subsequent versions of manuscripts, particularly where new data or information is included, and in those cases, blind copies of reviewers' comments may be sent to all reviewers to encourage a consensus recommendation and allow Editors to respond to authors with valuable and timely feedback.

The Editors strongly disapprove of any attempts by authors to determine the identity of reviewers or to confront potential reviewers. The editorial policy of this journal is neither to confirm nor to deny any speculation about the identities of our reviewers. Authors whose manuscripts are published in *CBMI* are expected to review manuscripts submitted by other researchers from time to time. More information about peer review at ACS Publications can be found here: (https://researcher-resources.acs.org/publish/peer_reviews).

Revised Manuscripts

When a revision is requested after peer review, the authors must return the revised manuscript promptly. Requests for extensions should be sent to the Assigned Editor for consideration. After the allotted time, a revised manuscript will be handled as a new submission and will be given a new receipt date.

If a manuscript has been declined by *CBMI* and the author wishes to submit a revised version, the author is required to first gain consent from the Associate Editor who handled the initial submission. If the Associate Editor's consent to resubmit is received (which does not guarantee ultimate acceptance), the cover letter must explicitly state that permission was obtained from the Associate Editor and must describe the changes that have been made in the manuscript and include justification for reconsideration. The manuscript will be assigned to the same Associate Editor who handled the initial submission.

Presubmission Inquiries

If an author is unsure of the fit of their manuscript in *CBMI*, the editorial board is willing to examine manuscripts prior to formal submission via inquiry to the editorial office via email (eic@cbmi.acs.org).

Self-Citations

The use of excessive self-citations, as assessed by the referees and editor(s), is not permitted.

Nomenclature

Registered trademark names should be capitalized whenever used. Trade and trivial names should not be capitalized. It is not necessary to use the trademark, registered trademark, or service mark symbol to ensure legal protection for the trademark.

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Please suggest at least 4 reviewers who could evaluate the work. 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 by ACS Paragon Plus to the new draft submission. Authors are free to accept or decline the transfer offer.

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PRODUCTION AND PUBLICATION

Proofs via ACS Direct Correct

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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, all author concerns are resolved, and payment has been received. ASAP publication usually occurs within a few working days of receipt of page proof corrections (provided payment has been resolved), which can be several weeks in advance of the cover date of the issue.

Post-Publication Policies

The American Chemical Society follows guidance from the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#) (COPE) when considering any ethical concerns regarding a published article, Retractions, and Expressions of Concern.

Additions and Corrections

Additions and Corrections may be requested by the author(s) or initiated by the Editor to address important issues or correct errors and omissions of consequence that arise after publication of an article. All Additions and Corrections are subject to approval by the Editor, and should bring new and directly relevant information and corrections that fix scientific facts. Minor corrections and additions will not be published. Readers who detect errors of consequence in the work of others should contact the corresponding author of that work.

Additions and Corrections must be submitted as new manuscripts via ACS Paragon Plus by the Corresponding Author for publication in the “Addition/Correction” section of the Journal. The corresponding author should obtain approval from all coauthors prior to submitting or provide evidence that such approval has been solicited. The manuscript should include the original article title and author list, citation including DOI, and details of the correction.

Retractions

Articles may be retracted for scientific or ethical reasons and may be requested by the article author(s) or by the journal Editor(s), but are ultimately published at the discretion of the Editor. Articles that contain seriously flawed or erroneous data such that their findings and conclusions cannot be relied upon may be retracted in order to correct the scientific record. When an article is retracted, a notice of Retraction will be published containing information about the reason for the Retraction. The originally published article will remain online except in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. where deemed legally necessary, or if the availability of the published content poses public health risks).

Expressions of Concern

Expressions of Concern may be issued at the discretion of the Editor if:

- there is inconclusive evidence of research or publication misconduct by the authors;
- there is evidence that the findings are unreliable but the authors' institution will not investigate the case;
- an investigation into alleged misconduct related to the publication either has not been, or would not be, fair and impartial or conclusive;

- an investigation is underway but a judgment will not be available for a considerable time.

Upon completion of any related investigation, and when a final determination is made about the outcome of the article, the Expression of Concern may be replaced with a Retraction notice or Correction.

Appendix 1: PREPARING FOR SUBMISSION

We've developed ACS' publishing and editorial policies in consultation with the research communities that we serve, including authors and librarians. Browse our policies below to learn more.

Ethical Guidelines

ACS editors have provided [Ethical Guidelines](#) for persons engaged in the publication of chemical research—specifically, for editors, authors, and reviewers. Each journal also has a specific [policy on prior publication](#).

OFAC Compliance

As a U.S.-based non-profit organization, the American Chemical Society (ACS) is required to comply with U.S. sanctions laws and regulations administered by the [U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control](#) (OFAC). While these laws and regulations permit U.S.-based publishers like ACS to engage in publishing-related activities with authors located in sanctioned regions in many cases, ACS may be prohibited under U.S. law from engaging in publishing-related activities in some cases, including, but not limited to, instances where an author or the institution with which an author is affiliated is located in a particular sanctioned region or has been designated by OFAC as a [Specially Designated National](#) (SDN) pursuant to certain U.S. sanctions programs. ACS reserves the right to refrain from engaging in any publishing-related activities that ACS determines in its sole discretion may be in violation of U.S. law.

Safety Considerations

Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work. This information should be in the Experimental Section of a full article and included in the main text of a letter. Statement examples can be found in the [Safety Statement Style Sheet](#) and additional information on communicating safety information from the *ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication* [is freely available here](#).

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A statement describing any financial conflicts of interest or lack thereof is published in each ACS journal and partner journal article.

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If the manuscript is accepted and no conflict of interest has been declared, the following statement will be published in the final article: "The authors declare no competing financial interest."

Plagiarism

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Authors are required to obtain the consent of all their coauthors prior to submitting a manuscript. The submitting author accepts the responsibility of notifying all coauthors that the manuscript is being submitted.

During manuscript submission, the submitting author must provide contact information (full name, email address, institutional affiliation, and mailing address) for all of the coauthors. Because all of the author names are automatically imported into the electronic [Journal Publishing Agreement](#), the names must be entered into ACS Paragon Plus. (Note that coauthors are not required to register in ACS Paragon Plus.) Author affiliation should reflect where the work was completed, even if the author has since left that institution. Authors may include a note with a current address if their institution has changed since the work was completed.

To expedite the processing of your manuscript, please format your author and affiliation information according to the guidelines in this link:

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Criteria for authorship can be found in Part B of the [Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research](#). Artificial intelligence (AI) tools do not qualify for authorship. The use of AI tools for text or image generation should be disclosed in the manuscript within the Acknowledgment section with a description of when and how the tools were used. For more substantial use cases or descriptions of AI tool use, authors should provide full details within the Methods or other appropriate section of the manuscript.

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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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