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Two types of paper are accepted by the editors as follows:

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Papers submitted should be written concisely. Special attention is directed to Policy of the Journal and Instructions to Authors, Biochem. J. (1969), 112, 1 (obtainable from the Executive Secretary, price £2.6d. post free). Strict observance of these requirements will shorten the interval between the receipt of a paper and its publication. Typescripts that are not concise or do not conform to the conventions of the Biochemical Journal will be returned to the authors for revision. If a paper that has been returned to an author for revision is not resubmitted within one month, it will, on resubmission, be deemed to be a new paper and the date of receipt altered accordingly. A revised paper containing a significant amount of new material will also be redated.

Submission of a paper to the Editorial Board implies that it reports unpublished work, that it is not under consideration for publication elsewhere, and that if accepted for the Biochemical Journal it will not be published elsewhere in the same form, either in English or in any other language, without the consent of the Editorial Board. Requests for reproduction of material should be addressed to the Editorial Secretary.

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The second copy of the synopsis requested above is required solely to assist in the selection of suitable editors or referees, or both.

The numbering of parts in a series is not permitted. Titles and subtitles may, however, be used.

It would help the editors if the author, when submitting a paper, would enclose reprints of relevant preceding papers, especially if they are not published in the Biochemical Journal.

Form of papers submitted for publication. Before preparing papers authors should consult a current issue of the Journal to make themselves familiar with the general format, such as the use of crossheadings, lay-out of tables and citation of references. The need for revision of badly prepared typescripts or diagrams will delay publication. Papers should be in double-spaced typing throughout (including references and legends of tables and figures) on sheets of uniform size with wide margins. The top copy should be submitted.

Papers on specialized subjects should be presented so that they are intelligible to the ordinary reader of the Journal. Sufficient information must be included to permit repetition of the experimental work.

Papers of biochemical interest are often divided into the following sections: (a) the synopsis, not more than 3–4% of the length of the paper; it may be divided into numbered sections; (b) the introduction, containing the reasons for doing the work; (c) Experimental, including materials and methods; (d) Results: these should be given concisely; the use of both tables and figures to present the same results is rarely permitted; (e) Discussion; (f) the acknowledgements;
(g) References. Authors are urged to consider carefully whether the material in their individual papers needs to be fully subdivided in the manner of sections (e), (d) and (e). In many cases two of these sections can be combined and thus save space and gain conciseness and clarity. In papers dealing predominantly with techniques, the Experimental and Results sections should be amalgamated; other papers of a more general nature are often simplified by the combination of Results and Discussion, and in chemical papers the Experimental section may be placed at the end. When a separate Discussion is used it should not recapitulate the results but only discuss their significance and relationship to the object of the work and their relation to the work of other people.

(2) Short Communications. Typescripts should be submitted in duplicate, written in English, and conform strictly to the form of the Journal as far as spelling and abbreviations are concerned. Such communications must not exceed 1200 works of text, but in addition may include either one table, typed on a separate sheet, or one figure, drawn according to the rules of the Journal. If no figure or table is included the text may be expanded to 1400 words. Communications should be addressed to the Editorial Secretary, The Biochemical Journal, 7 Warwick Court, London W.C.1. Papers should be complete in themselves: (1) the methods used in experimental work must be adequately described or sufficient references given to allow repetition of the work; (2) sufficient indication of the results of experimental work must be included to justify the claims made. Theoretical contributions will be considered equally with papers dealing with experimental work. The editors' and referees' decisions will be final; contributions that are not being published will be returned to the authors with the minimum delay.

Preparation of Papers


Abbreviations. New abbreviations should be coined only for unwieldy names, and should not be used at all unless those names occur frequently (more than about ten times). All abbreviations for names of compounds except those listed below must be defined together in a footnote. In the title and synopsis, abbreviations should be avoided. Abbreviations for units (e.g. min., cm., g.) should be used throughout. Chemical symbols as abbreviations for elements, groups or compounds are used only in the Experimental section, and in legends to tables and figures, unless their use elsewhere is justified by special circumstances. The abbreviation for the plural of a unit is the same as that for the singular, unless confusion is likely to arise. Thus 'centimetres' is 'cm., not 'cms.'

Accepted abbreviations that may be used without definition:

- ADP, CDP, 5'-Pyrophosphates of adenosine, GDP, IDP, cytidine, guanosine, inosine,
- UDP uridine
- AMP etc. Adenosine 5'-phosphate etc.
- ATP etc. Adenosine 5'-triphosphate etc.
- CM-cellulose Carboxymethylcellulose
- CoA and Coenzyme A and its acyl derivatives
- acyl-CoA
- DEAE-cellulose Diethylaminoethylcellulose
- DNA Deoxyribonucleic acid
- DNP- 2,4-Dinitrophenyl-
- EDTA Ethylenediaminetetra-acetate
- FAD Flavin–adenine dinucleotide
- FMN Flavin mononucleotide
- GSH, GSSG Glutathione, reduced and oxidized
- NAD Nicotinamide–adenine dinucleotide
- NADP Nicotinamide–adenine dinucleotide
- phosphate
- NMN Nicotinamide mononucleotide
- P1, P1' Orthophosphate, pyrophosphate
- RNA Ribonucleic acid
- tris 2-Amino-2-hydroxymethylpropane-1,3-diol

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