

Note to Contributors

1. Scope of the journal. Pharmacological Reports, formerly The Polish Journal of Pharmacology, publishes papers concerning all aspects of pharmacology, dealing with the drug action at the cellular and molecular levels, and papers on relationship between molecular structure and biological activity. The language of all publications is English. Studies on plant extracts are not suitable for Pharmacological Reports. We publish only reports on compounds with well-defined chemical structure.

2. Types of publications. The journal features the publications of the following categories: regular papers, short communications or review articles.

Regular papers should present new experimental studies that constitute a significant contribution to existing knowledge. Theoretical papers which deal with new ideas and concepts based on earlier findings will also be welcome.

Short communications should present important new findings in a brief form.

Review articles should cover the most important current topics or present interpretative and critical accounts. They should not be simple compilations on subjects of general interest. Review articles are published only by invitation of the Editor-in-Chief. Authors intending to prepare a review should first contact the Editors.

3. Submission of manuscripts. Manuscript and figures should be sent by e-mail to the Editorial Office at editor@ifpan.krakow.pl (the e-mail server must be able to accept attachments up to 15 MB in size). Submission is free of charge and must be completed on line.

The submitted manuscript should be accompanied by a written statement that the manuscript has not and will not be published in whole or in part in any other journal.

Each manuscript will be given a registration number by the Editorial Office, which should be cited in correspondence and included in filenames.

All submitted papers will be evaluated by independent referees, and are subject to editorial revision. The author(s) will receive the original manuscript with the comments of the editors and referees, on the basis of which the final version should be prepared; this must comply with the Note to Contributors. The authors take full responsibility for any errors in the final manuscript.

4. Volume of the manuscript. Brevity and clarity of presentation are essential. Lengthy historical introductions and long speculative discussions are unacceptable.

There is no limit on the length of original or review articles. Short communications should not exceed 3000 words, 4 illustrations (figures and tables) and 20 references.

5. Form of the manuscript. The manuscript should be double spaced, with wide margins, on A-4 size paper. All pages, including the title page, must be numbered. No specific enhancements (underlining, capitalization, wider margins, different spacing, etc.) should be used in the body of the manuscript. If necessary, appropriate proofreading marks may be inserted as comments in the manuscript. Each new paragraph should be marked by indentation. Headings (e.g.

Methods, Results) should be centered. Approximate positions of figures and tables should be indicated in the margin.

Authors are required to submit an electronic copy of their paper by e-mail, preferentially in Rich Text Format, Microsoft Word, and TIFF, JPEG, CDR (ver. 11), Microsoft Excel, Power Point or SigmaPlot format for graphic files. Each figure should be submitted as a separate file.

6. Organization of the manuscript. Each manuscript must be accompanied by a letter of submission. If the paper involved work with animals or animal tissues, the letter should contain a statement declaring that the work was carried out according to statutory bioethical standards and was approved by a bioethical committee or an equivalent body.

Regular papers, short communications and review articles should include the following elements: title page, abstract page, report pages, references, tables, graphs, pictures and legends.

The title page should include:

- The title (not more than 120 characters, including spaces)
- Authors' name(s) including the first name(s)
- The name and full postal address of the affiliating institution (street, zip code, city and country) in which the work was performed
- The name and e-mail address of the corresponding author
- Running head (up to 60 characters, including spaces).

The abstract page should include:

- The body of the abstract (up to 250 words). The abstract should present the aims of the study, the major findings (with specific data, if possible) and the principal conclusions. In Short Communications the abstract should be no longer than 100 words.
- A list of 4-8 key words.
- A list of abbreviations arranged in alphabetical order (if more than five abbreviations are used, a list of abbreviations should be provided).

Report pages. Regular articles should be divided into:

INTRODUCTION (up to 750 words), describing briefly the background of the investigation and stating the aim of the study.

MATERIALS and METHODS. Animals and chemicals should be described in the first two paragraphs. The source of chemicals and drugs should be given unless obviously unnecessary. The basis of dosage calculation (free form or salt) should be indicated. Sex, strain and approximate weight of animals should be given (e.g. male Wistar rats; 100–230 g...) and housing and feeding conditions should be briefly described.

Dosage schedules need not be mentioned in Materials and Methods if easily visible in graphs or tables. The route of administration (*po*, *iv*, *ip*, *icv*), solvent etc. should be indicated.

Newly introduced techniques should be described in detail to allow experiments to be easily reproduced. Any modification should be specified briefly, with proper references. Techniques which have been previously described should be mentioned in brief only, with proper references, unless they were published in sources that are not easily accessible.

RESULTS and their significance should be presented clearly and concisely, preferably in the form of graphs and tables which should be self explanatory. However, if there are only a few numerical data, it may be both economical and more legible to describe them in the body text. Authors are requested to report the results only once (i.e. not to repeat them in figures or in the text if data are presented in tables).

DISCUSSION (up to 1500 words) should contain a critical review of the results of the study in the light of relevant literature. It should end with brief conclusions.

In Short Communications, Results and Discussion may be combined.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS (including financial support) are placed at the end of report pages.

REFERENCES should be arranged alphabetically, numbered consecutively and referred to in the text preferably by the number only (in square brackets). If a paper by more than two authors is quoted by author names, use the name of the first author followed by et al. and the reference number, e.g. Bunney et al. [4]. References in the list should include: the consecutive number, names and initials of authors (if there are not more than seven names all should be listed, for eight or more authors, the first seven names should be listed followed by et al.), the title of the article, the title of the journal (abbreviated according to PubMed), the year and volume of the publication, and the first and last page. In the case of a book reference, the title should be followed by additional information concerning the edition (if relevant), publishing house, place of publication (the first one, if more than one are given), and year of publication. The page number or numbers may be indicated. For a chapter in a collective volume, give the title of the chapter quoted, followed by the book title, surname(s) and initials of editors, followed by the same information as for books and by inclusive pagination. Use standard American transcription for author names, book titles, names of towns, etc. if the original reference is written in a non-Latin alphabet. The title of the paper may be translated into English, followed by a statement of the language of the original.

Examples:

1. Byrtus H, Pawłowski M, Duszyńska B, Wesołowska A, Chojnacka-Wójcik E, Bojarski AJ: Arylpiperazine derivatives of 3-propyl- β -tetralonohydantoin as new 5-HT_{1A} and 5-HT_{2A} receptor ligands. *Pol J Pharmacol*, 2002, 53, 395–401.
2. Lacko A, Włodarska I, Zymliński R, Mazur G, Wróbel T, Gisterek I: Cardiac toxicity in cancer therapy (Polish). *Pol Merkuriusz Lek*, 2002, 13, 79–85.
3. Leonard BE: The potential contribution of sigma receptors to antidepressant actions. In: *Antidepressants: New Pharmacological Strategies*. Ed. Skolnick P, Humana Press, Totowa, 1997, 159–172.
4. Strachan T, Read AP: *Human Molecular Genetics*, 2nd edn., BIOS Scientific Publishers Ltd., Oxford, 1999.

Only printed books, articles, papers accepted for publication (not merely submitted) and websites may be quoted in the references list. Private information and unpublished data may be mentioned only in the text. Avoid citing sources difficult to locate and of low status (e.g. internal bulletins, abstracts of local meetings etc.).

TABLES, ILLUSTRATIONS and GRAPHS. Tables should be numbered consecutively (Arabic numerals) in the order they appear in the text. Each table should be typed on a separate sheet (A-4 size) together with explanations, double spaced. A title should be placed above the table. The table should be constructed in such a way as to minimize blank spaces and should not exceed one page in length.

Illustrations and graphs should be referred to and numbered consecutively (Arabic numerals) in the order they appear in the text. Authors are requested to provide at submission all figures of sufficient high quality to be assessed in the peer review process, preferably in TIFF or EPS format. The minimum resolution for illustrations, graphs and annotated artwork, and for photographs and micrographs is 600 dpi. The following sizes are recommended: figure width should preferably fit into a single column (8 cm) or double column (16.5 cm) of the printed journal wherever possible; text and labeling should be typed in standard fonts using a font size of 8–10 (a sans serif typeface is preferred, e.g. Arial, Helvetica, Futura); line width should be 0.6 to 1 pt. Color prints are accepted only when absolutely necessary (e.g.: some immunohistochemical images).

The amount of lettering in graphs should be kept to a minimum; explanations should be given in captions. A list of figure captions should be typed on a separate page(s). Legends should explain the figures in sufficient detail to allow readers to understand it without reference to the text, whenever possible. Legends, captions and labels should be consistent with terminology and/or nomenclature used in the text.

7. Experimental procedures. Authors should adhere very carefully to the ethical standards. Appropriate guidelines for the acquisition and care of animals can be found in the NIH Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals (National Institutes of Health Publications No. 80–23, Revised 1978).

The Editors reserve the right to reject papers if there is doubt as to whether suitable procedures have been followed.

8. Analytical and spectral data. All new compounds described in the paper must be characterized by elemental analyses that agree with the calculated values within 0.4%. Elemental analyses should be collected in a separate table which will not be printed. Elemental analysis for each new compound should appear in the text as follows: Analysis for C₁₁H₂₅N₃O (215.2): C,H,N. The structure of all new compounds must be confirmed by modern spectroscopic techniques (e.g. NMR, mass spectra). Homogeneity of compounds should be checked using the routine chromatographic technique.

9. Nomenclature. Standard American nomenclature should be used throughout. General spelling should comply with a Merriam-Webster Dictionary. Authors should use systematic names of chemicals recommended by IUPAC or similar to those used by Chemical Abstract Service or The Merck Index. Dorlands Illustrated Medical Dictionary is authoritative for the medical nomenclature. Drug names should preferably be those recommended by WHO and only non-proprietary names are acceptable (if necessary, consult Marlers Pharmacological and Chemical Synonyms). Proprietary trade names should be used in parentheses in Methods,

and the manufacturer should be identified by name and country.

Example: Oxcarbazepine (Trileptal, Novartis Pharma, Basel, Switzerland).

10. Units and abbreviations. Standard SI units and their abbreviations should be used. However, use of legal non-SI units of length (Å), volume (l, ml, µl), time (min, h, s) and temperature (°C) is encouraged. Doses should be expressed in grams (and derivatives) or moles (and derivatives) per kilogram of body weight, concentrations in grams (or moles) per liter or milliliter, or per gram or milligram. Notations such as ml/kg, mmol/kg, or mg/ml are preferred to ml kg⁻², mmol kg⁻², or mg ml⁻¹. Doses administered intracranially (e.g. *icv*, intra-VTA) should and human doses may be calculated per subject. In addition to standard abbreviations, the names of drugs, enzymes, reagents etc. may be abbreviated, provided that the abbreviation is listed in the abbreviation list and that at the first occurrence of the abbreviation (in the abstract and

in the main body of the manuscript), it is explained. Abbreviations should not be used in the title and should not be confusing. They should be based on American English spelling and preferably consist of three capital letters. The same abbreviations must be used in the text and in the figures and tables. Use abbreviations only if space saving is substantial.

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