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Updated August 2018



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Presubmission Inquiries

If you wish to submit a Research Report to *JNeurosci* and would first like to have an editor review whether your work may be suitable for *JNeurosci*, you have the option to submit a presubmission inquiry via our submission system. Please click the button below to proceed to the screen where you can submit your Presubmission Inquiry. Be sure to include a cover letter addressed to "the Editors," information on all authors, an abstract, and a significance statement.

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Types of Articles

Research Articles

JNeurosci publishes research reports which are restricted to 650 word Introductions and 1500 word

Discussions. Presubmission inquiries are not required, but if the authors would like to check with the editors if an article is within the scope of those currently being reviewed at the Journal, they may do so through the submission website.

Journal Clubs

Journal Clubs are scholarly reviews of papers recently published in *JNeurosci*. Only graduate students and post-docs may be authors on Journal Club articles.

Letters to the Editor

JNeurosci does not publish letters to the editor in the print edition. Responses to articles may be submitted online via a link on the article's web page. Responses will also be visible via the Letters to the Editor link on JNeurosci's home page.

Invited Articles

JNeurosci publishes four types of invited articles, which appear in the Features section at the front of each issue. TechSights provide overviews of technical developments in neuroscience, including where we are with the technology and where we want to go. Dual Perspectives are pairs of short, expert mini reviews that provide opposite and/or complementary hypotheses related to an important question in neuroscience. Viewpoints are topical reviews, generally 3,000-5,000 words in length, that cover a current topic of interest in neuroscience. Progressions explores scientific journeys that have commenced with papers published in *The Journal of Neuroscience*.

This Week in the Journal

This Week in the Journal highlights articles from different sections of the current issue and is written by the Features Editor. Guided by reviewers' comments, the editors select important articles covering the full range of topics in neuroscience.

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Policies

In submitting a manuscript to *JNeurosci*, all authors must agree to abide by all relevant Society for Neuroscience policies, including its Guidelines for Responsible Conduct Regarding Scientific Communication. Manuscripts with multiple authors are reviewed with the explicit understanding that all authors have seen and approve of the submitted version and agree to abide by the Society's policies.

JNeurosci recognizes its responsibility to ensure that questions of scientific misconduct or dishonesty in research are adequately pursued. Should scientific misconduct or dishonesty be suspected or alleged, JNeurosci follows the recommended procedures outlined by COPE when dealing with allegations of misconduct.

Policy on Ethics

It is expected that authors submitting papers to *JNeurosci* will have conducted their work in strict accordance with the Society's Policy on Ethics. SfN follows the recommended procedures outlined by COPE when dealing with allegations of misconduct.

Policies on the Use of Animals and Humans in Neuroscience Research

All animal experimentation reported in *JNeurosci* must have been conducted in accordance with the Society's Policies on the Use of Animals and Humans in Neuroscience Research.

Policy on Prepublication

JNeurosci generally does not consider manuscripts that have been previously published.

Posting to a preprint server such as bioRxiv, Authorea, Open Science Framework, etc. is not considered prior publication. Authors who have posted to bioRxiv and Authorea have the option to transfer their files directly for consideration by *JNeurosci*. Posting a manuscript to a preprint server while under consideration for *JNeurosci* is allowed up until the point of acceptance. Abstracts, theses, posters, or manuscripts that have been posted on the Internet for the purpose of receiving commentary from the community are not considered prior publication. Online posting is typically done at a prepublication repository that has been designed for the purpose, but posting on an institutional web site or other Internet location is acceptable.

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JNeurosci subscribes to the policies of *The Journal of Biological Chemistry* on protein & nucleic acid sequences and genomic & proteomic data, which it modifies as follows.

Protein and nucleic acid sequences: Newly determined nucleotide or protein sequences must be deposited in GenBank (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genbank/), EMBL (http://www.ebi.ac.uk), or the DNA Databank of Japan (http://www.ddbj.nig.ac.jp). Accession numbers must be reported in the manuscript and data must be available upon acceptance and publication of the manuscript. No data are to be withdrawn following publication.

Genomic and proteomic data: Authors of papers that include functional genomics data such as microarray, ChIP seq, RNA-seq, or other high-throughput data are required to deposit the data in a MIAME-compliant database such as GEO (http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/geo), ArrayExpress (http://www.ebi.ac.uk /arrayexpress) or CYBEX (http://cibex.nig.ac.jp/data/index.html) and to provide accession numbers. Data must be publicly accessible upon acceptance and publication of the manuscript. No data are to be withdrawn following publication.

Authors of papers that include proteomics data should comply with the guidelines developed by Molecular and Cellular Proteomics (http://www.mcponline.org/site/misc/CheckList.pdf).

Policy on Computer Code and Software

Computational models: We recommend that new computational neuroscience computer code be deposited in a suitable repository such as GitHub, ModelDB, BioModels, CellML, or Visiome. Studies using custom code central to the conclusions should include a statement in the Materials and Methods section, under the heading "Code Accessibility", indicating whether and how the code can be accessed, including any accession numbers or restrictions, and be cited in the references. Code should be available upon acceptance and publication of the manuscript.

Software: If new software or a new algorithm is used for data analysis, authors are encouraged to deposit it in an appropriate public repository. A statement should be included in the Materials and Methods section, under the heading "Software Accessibility", indicating whether and how the software or algorithm can be accessed, including any accession numbers or restrictions.

Policy on Image Manipulation

JNeurosci subscribes to the policy of *The Journal of Cell Biology* on image manipulation, which it modifies as follows.

Original data: The editors reserve the right to request any original data from authors at any stage in the submission, review, or publication process, including after publication. Failure to provide requested information may result in publication delays or revocation of acceptance.

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 the figure (e.g., using dividing lines) and in the text of the figure legend.
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- Adjustments to images or recordings are acceptable if they are applied uniformly to all portions of the image or recording, and as long as they do not obscure, eliminate, or misrepresent information present in the original, including the background. Adjustments involving filtering or scaling (e.g., brightness, contrast, or color balance) must be applied to every pixel in the image or applied uniformly to an entire recording. Non-linear adjustments (e.g., changes to gamma settings) or deleting portions of a recording (e.g. leak subtraction or stimulus artifacts) must be disclosed in the figure legend.
- The minimum resolution for images is 300 dpi.
- At the time of acceptance, authors will be required to submit uncropped images of complete gels
 for comparison to the prepared figures. If original data cannot be produced, the acceptance of the
 manuscript may be revoked.

Scale bars: All illustrations documenting results must include a bar to indicate the scale.

Molecular weights and fragment sizes: The migration of protein molecular weight size markers or nucleic acid size markers must be indicated and labeled appropriately (e.g., 'kD', 'nt', 'bp') on all figure panels showing gel electrophoresis.

Policy on Reporting Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis

Starting March 2017. Every manuscript must include an Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis section as a subsection of the Materials and Methods that describes the experimental design and the statistical tests used in the study. Note that a good time to consult a statistician is when planning the study and planning the experimental design. This new section replaces the traditional Statistical analysis section at the end of the Material and Methods section.

Full details of the experimental design of each individual experiment, including the within- and betweensubjects factors and a full description of critical variables required for independent replication (e.g. number of animals of each sex, number of brain slices or cells evaluated per animal, number of litters for developmental studies, etc. and justification of sample size used) should be reported in the Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis section. It is critical to control for multiple comparisons and to note in the text how this has been achieved

Authors should identify the precise statistical tests used in the Experimental Design and Statistical Analysis

section. In addition, planned comparisons, details of controls and power analyses to determine sample sizes, if applicable should be reported. Describe any statistical software used to perform analyses. For highly complex and heterogeneous statistical analyses, rather than providing a list, this section can refer to where details can be found (e.g. "Statistical design for Experiment 1 can be found in the Results describing Figure 2").

Complete results of the statistical analyses, including degrees of freedom and any estimates of effects size, should be reported in full in the Results section. Report exact p values rather than ranges (e.g. p = 0.026 rather than p < 0.05). There are many types of analyses that can be reported, but examples include F values (F(1, 72) = 14.5, p = 0.003, ANOVA), t values (t(10) = 2.98, p = 0.043, paired t-test), coefficient of determination (R²), and Bayes factors.

The Journal of Neuroscience encourages authors to report all data in addition to traditional line and bar graphs, using histograms, scatter plots or other means to represent the variability and complexity of the data

If the raw data are freely available please state this and how to find them. In addition, if you have preregistered your study, please state that in the Experimental Design.

The following resources offer helpful guidelines on how to report statistical results:

- Hesson-McInnis, American Psychological Association. (2010) Publication manual of the American Psychological Association (6th ed.). Washington, DC. http://my.ilstu.edu/~mshesso/apa_stats.htm
- Curran-Everett & Benos Guidelines for reporting statistics in journals published by the American Physiological Society. Physiological Genomics (2004) 18(3): 249-251 http://physiolgenomics.physiology.org/content/18/3/249
- Sarter M, Fritschy JM. Reporting statistical methods and statistical results in EJN. Eur J Neurosci. 2008 Dec;28(12):2363-2364

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Authors should, when possible, honor requests for access to any form of published data for appropriate scientific use. The editors reserve the right to request any original data from authors at any stage in the review or publication process, including after publication. Failure to provide requested information may result in publication delays or revocation of acceptance.

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Dr. Marina R. Picciotto

Department of Psychiatry

Yale University School of Medicine

Email: JN_EIC@sfn.org

Features Editor

Teresa Esch, PhD

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Contact Information

Society for Neuroscience Central Office

The Journal of Neuroscience Society for Neuroscience 1121 14th Street, NW, Suite 1010 Washington, DC 20005 USA

Email: jn@sfn.org Phone: 202-962-4000

Editor-in-Chief

Dr. Marina R. Picciotto
Department of Psychiatry
Yale University School of Medicine
34 Park Street
New Haven, CT 06519 USA

Email: JN_EIC@sfn.org

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