

INFORMATION FOR AUTHORS

Scope and Overview

Turkish Journal of Biochemistry (TJB), official journal of Turkish Biochemical Society, is issued electronically every 3 months. Research articles, reviews, short communications, technical reports, case presentations, opinions, and letters to the editor, that have not published elsewhere, on biochemistry, clinical biochemistry, molecular biology, molecular genetics, biotechnology, bioinformatics, bioengineering, and their educational disciplines are published in the journal.

The main aim of the journal is to support the research and publishing culture by ensuring that every published manuscript has an added value and thus providing international acceptance of the “readability” of the manuscripts published in the journal.

Compliance to the ethical principles on research and publishing are essential for the publication of manuscripts. Manuscripts should focus to their main aim, be clearly and concisely written, and adhere to grammar and general good writing principles. Authors should clearly declare any kind of conflict of interest related to the subject and/or any other author in both the abstract and Conflict of Interest sections. All manuscripts should be prepared in compliance with the “Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals” of International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (www.icmje.org).

Manuscripts and any other printed material published in the Turkish Journal of Biochemistry represent the opinions of authors and should not be construed to reflect the opinions of the Editorial Board and/or the Executive Committee of the Turkish Biochemical Society.

Submitting

Manuscripts are submitted electronically to the submission@turkjbiochem.com.

Copyright Transfer Agreement and approval of Ethics Committee (if required) should be sent by post or by fax to the below information.

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Editorial correspondence other than manuscript submission can be sent to editor@turkjbiochem.com.

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Editorial Board preliminary reviews the submitted manuscripts for compliance with the publishing concept and instructions of the journal, whether manuscripts are focused to their main aim, validity of the statistical method used, and adherence to ethical principles. Upon the preliminary evaluation, if required, manuscripts are sent back to the authors for revision.

If revision is not required or upon the completion of required editorial revision, manuscripts are sent to at least 2 reviewers specialized in the topic and concept of the manuscript.

Editorial Board makes sure that there is no conflict of interest while assigning the reviewers and names of the authors are not declared to the reviewers.

Authors should clearly declare any kind of conflict of interest related to the subject and/or any other author in the abstract and Conflict of Interest sections.

Members of the Scientific Advisory Board and other scientists related to the topic of the manuscript are assigned as reviewers. All reviewers' reports are sent to authors and the revisions of authors or their replies/opinions on reports are sent to the reviewers. Whether the manuscript will be published or not is decided upon the reviewers' opinions. If there is an editorial opinion for publishing the manuscript, it is included as an additional reviewer.

Publication Language

Manuscripts should be either in English or Turkish. Title, abstract and keywords are published in both languages. For the authors who are not competent in Turkish, translations of the title, abstract, and keywords will be provided by the Editorial Board. Authors who are submitting a manuscript in English and whose main language is not English should consider that their manuscript, primarily the grammar of the manuscript, should adhere to the publishing expectations in order not to be rejected by technical editors.

Types of Manuscripts

Information on the different types of manuscripts and the criteria that authors should adhere are given below:

Research articles: Consists of Turkish Title, English Title, Authors, their addresses, Turkish Abstract, Turkish Key Words, English Abstract, English Key Words, Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Ethical Considerations (if necessary), Acknowledgements, Conflict of Interest, References, Figure Legends, Figures, and Tables. Manuscript should include adequate information for reproducibility by specialists. **For research articles, main text¹ should not exceed 3,500 words and number of references should not exceed 40.**

Review articles: Highly focused review articles written by experts on the relevant subject will be published upon invitation of the Editorial Board and without evaluation of the reviewers. Submitted review articles, preferably in Turkish, in compliance with the publishing principles of TJB can be published in the issue containing related research articles upon reviewers' evaluation. A review article consists of Turkish Title, English Title, Authors, their addresses, Turkish Abstract, Turkish Key Words, English Abstract, English Key Words, Introduction, Main Sections under headings written in bold and sentence case, Subsections (if any) under headings written in italic and numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals, Conclusion, Acknowledgements, Conflict of Interest, References, Figure Legends, Figures, and Tables. **For the review articles, main text should not exceed 5,000 words. There is not a limitation for number of references.**

¹ Main text is the part of the manuscript excluding the cover page, Turkish and English abstracts, key words, ethical considerations, acknowledgements, references, tables-figures and their legends.

Short communications: These manuscripts are intended to concise and quick publishing of a new finding. Publishing of research articles under this concept is decided by the Editorial Board, providing that the authors adhere to the publishing format. The general format of this type of manuscript is similar to that of research articles except the word and reference limitations. **For the short communications, main text should not exceed 1,500 words and number of references should not exceed 20.**

Technical reports: Manuscripts on developing and application of new methodologies are published in this category. A technical report consists of Turkish Title, English Title, Authors, their addresses, Turkish Abstract, Turkish Key Words, English Abstract, English Key Words, Introduction including the main aspects of the method involved, Materials and Methods, Results, Discussion, Ethical Considerations (if necessary), Acknowledgements, Conflict of Interest, References, Figure Legends, Figures, and Tables. Data analysis should be presented in Materials and Methods. Clinical technical reports should include and discuss the clinical significance of values and their deviations. **For the technical reports, main text should not exceed 1,500 words and number of references should not exceed 10.**

Case presentations: Manuscripts documenting informative patient presentations on clinical and/or molecular pathology or original manuscripts on the diagnosis and follow-up of a group of disease (such as determination of variation or probability) are considered in this category. A case presentation consists of Turkish Title, English Title, Authors, their addresses, Turkish Abstract, Turkish Key Words, English Abstract, English Key Words, Introduction, Patients and Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, Ethical Considerations, Acknowledgements, Conflict of Interest, References, Figure Legends, Figures, and Tables. **For the case presentations, main text should not exceed 1,500 words and number of references should not exceed 10.**

Opinions: Opinions on the topics within the scope of the journal that are prepared by the experts are published in this section. An opinion consists of Turkish Title, English Title, Authors, their addresses, Turkish Abstract, Turkish Key Words, English Abstract, English Key Words, Introduction, Discussion, Conclusion, Ethical Considerations (if necessary), Acknowledgements, Conflict Of Interest, References, Figure Legends, Figures, and Tables. Editorial Board decides the eligibility of an opinion with respect to its concept and language. **For the opinions, main text should not exceed 1,000 words and number of references should not exceed 10.**

Letters to the Editor: Questions and/or comments on published articles or other related topics are welcomed in this section to establish a discussion forum. For the letters, concept and ethical compatibility are taken into consideration. Letters do not consist of an abstract. Letters can be prepared either in English or Turkish; however, the title should be provided in both languages. Authors should clearly declare any kind of conflict of interest related to the subject and/or any other author at the end of the text. **For the letters to the editor, main text should not exceed 1,000 words and number of references should not exceed 5.**

Manuscript preparation

Manuscripts should be prepared according to the above mentioned word and reference limitations and other related information. Text and tables should be prepared with MS Word application (with .doc extension) and figures and images should be sent as Tagged Image File Format (with .tiff extension) or Encapsulated Postscript (with .eps extension). All text should

be written with Arial or Times New Roman font type at 12 font size and double spaced on A4 sized paper with 1 cm right margin and 3 cm other margins. Header and/or footer should not be inserted in the text except that the pages should be numbered with Arabic numerals, starting from the cover page as 1. Number of tables and figures and the size of the tables should be acceptable.

Cover Page: Turkish and English title and type of the manuscript and full names of the authors should be given in the cover page. Their addresses at the time the research was carried out should be indicated by superscript Arabic numerals. If the current address of an author is changed, it should be indicated in Acknowledgements. Title should be written in sentence case; that is, first letter of the initial word should be written in capital letter and rest of the title should be typed with lower case letters except proper nouns and abbreviations. The first letters of authors' names and surnames should begin with capital letter and the rest should be written in lower case letters. If there is more than one author, corresponding author should be indicated. The name, surname, title, work address, telephone, fax and e-mail address of the corresponding author should be given in the title page. The e-mail address should be the most permanent one.

Turkish and English Titles: Title should reflect the content of the manuscript and should not exceed 15 words except the compelling reasons. If the title exceeds 15 words, its reason should be explained during submission.

Turkish and English Abstract: Abstract should contain the aim and main aspects of the study and should be structured under the following headings:

Aim – Hypothesis and aim of the work

Material and Methods – Design and place of the study, subjects/patients and if applicable, treatment procedures

Results – Findings of the study

Conclusion –Significance of these findings

Conflict of Interest: Authors should clearly declare any kind of conflict of interest at the end of the abstract. Authors should state any financial link related to the study (including the supports obtained for the presented study) starting from 24 months prior to the initiation of the research. If authors do not have any conflict of interest, it should be mentioned as “authors have no conflict of interest”.

Abstracts in both languages should consist of 180-250 words for research and review articles and 150-200 words for other types of manuscripts. Use of abbreviations should be avoided in the abstract.

Key words: Minimum 3, maximum 8 key words should be provided at the end of the abstracts. It is of prime importance that the keywords should be in accordance with MeSH. This keyword database may be reached through main page of Pub Med.

Main text: Should consist of introduction, materials and methods, results and discussion.

Introduction – why was the study undertaken? (Hypothesis and aim of the study should be stated)

Materials and methods – how was the study conducted? (Design and place of the study, subjects/patients, if applicable, information on the treatment procedures, statistical methods and information on the adherence to the ethical rules should be indicated.)

Results – what did the study find?

Discussion – what might it mean, why does it matter, what next?

The introduction should solely consist of the literature background that allows the appreciation of the manuscript. The unnecessary details and excessive references should be avoided. Hypothesis of the study should be stated in the introduction. Extent of the discussion should be parallel to other sections. **Main text² should not exceed 3.500 words for research articles, 5.000 words for review articles, 1.500 words for short communications, technical reports and case presentations, and 1.000 words for opinions and letters to the editor.**

Statistics: Statistical methods should be explained in detail in the Materials and Methods so that if original data is given, the results can be verified. If possible, quantitative results should be given and appropriate indicators should be used to indicate measurement error or uncertainty.

Ethical Considerations: In any kind of study involving human and/or animal subjects, authors must state in Materials and Methods that researchers have obeyed the ethical rules and written consent of the volunteers have been obtained. Furthermore, name of the ethical committee and the date and number of the permission obtained for the study should also be provided.

Acknowledgements: Financial and/or technical (running of tests, evaluation of results, etc.) supports of the study should be mentioned in this section including the project number, if applicable. If the study originates from a thesis or has been previously presented in a meeting, this should be indicated. Additionally, if the work address of an author stated in the Cover Page has changed, his/her current address should be given here.

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References: References should follow the Conflict of Interest starting on a separate page. Published manuscripts and manuscripts that have been accepted and are pending publication should be cited in the reference list. Acceptance letter of the manuscripts that are pending publication should be submitted with the manuscript. Citations of unpublished abstract books, unpublished results, manuscripts in preparation or under review, personal communications, and manufacturers’ information should only be cited in the text and should not appear in the reference list. Unpublished results should be written in text in parenthesis as “(unpublished result)”. If such a work is cited, permission from the responsible researcher should be obtained and submitted with the manuscript. Personal communications should also be listed parenthetically and should contain the first initial and last name of the contact as well as the month and year of the communication.

References should be numbered in the text by Arabic numerals **in square brackets** in the order of appearance. When more than one reference is cited consecutively, not all of the reference numbers should be written separated by comas; instead the numbers of first and the last reference cited for that section should be written with a dash in the middle (i.e.: writing as “23, 24, 25, 26” is wrong, but “23-26” is correct). **The references should not exceed 40 in research articles, 20 in short communications, 10 in technical reports, case**

² Main text is the part of the manuscript excluding the cover page, Turkish and English abstracts, key words, ethical considerations, acknowledgements, references, tables-figures and their legends.

presentations and opinions, and 5 in letters to the editor. There is no limitation for review articles. While citing a reference, the main source should be referred instead of a reference that cites the source.

The layout for references should be done according to the following examples (please adhere strictly to the punctuation format!). In manuscripts with 6 or more authors, the first 5 should be provided followed by *et al.* In manuscripts with up to five authors, all names of the authors should be provided.

Journal Article: Surnames and initial(s) of the authors, publication year in parenthesis, title of the manuscript, name of the journal, volume number, if available, issue number in parenthesis, the first and the final pages of the manuscript.

For example:

- 1) Mosbach K. (1994) Molecular imprinting. Trends Biochem Sci 19 (1):9-14.
- 2) Rothermel A, Biedermann T, Weigel W, Kurz R, Ruffer M, *et al.* (2005) Artificial design of three-dimensional retina-like tissue from dissociated cells of the mammalian retina by rotation-mediated cell aggregation. Tissue Eng. 11(11-12):1749-56.

Books: Surnames and initial(s) of the authors, publication year in parenthesis, title of the book, the first and the last pages of the part used, the publisher company, the place of the publication.

For example:

- 3) Dryer RL, Lata GF. (1989) Experimental Biochemistry, s. 83-100, Oxford University Press, New York.

Edited Books: Surnames and initial(s) of the authors, publication year in parenthesis, title of the chapter, title of the book, in parenthesis: Eds., surnames and initial(s) of the editors, the first and the last pages of the chapter, the publisher company, place of the publication.

For example:

- 4) Staines NA. (1983) Monoclonal antibodies. In Biochemical Research Techniques (Ed: Wrigglesworth JM), s.177-209, Wiley, Chichester.

Web pages: Name of the host, name of the page, URL, date last accessed in parenthesis.

For example:

- 5) TAL Technologies. Bar code symbologies.
http://www.taltech.com/resources/intro_to_bc/bcsymbol.htm (Last accessed: October 2010)

Abbreviations for journals: Journal names should be abbreviated according to the Index Medicus database (Superintendent of Documents, US Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, USA, DHEW Publication No. 95-267). Some examples for the abbreviations of journals are given below.

Acta Neurol. Scand.
Acta Physiol. Scand.
Anal. Biochem.
Arch. Biochem. Biophys.
Biochem. J.

Biochem. Pharmacol.
Biochim. Biophys. Acta
Biol. Chem. Hoppe Seyler
Br. J. Pharmacol.
Eur. J. Pharmacol.

Experientia
J. Biol. Chem.
J. Cell Biol.
J. Mol. Biol.
J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.
J. Physiol. (Lond.)

Mol. Pharmacol.
Nature
Proc. Natl Acad. Sci. USA
Proc. Soc. Exp. Biol. Med.
Science
Turk J. Bioch.

Figures: Figures should be submitted **as separate files** as Tagged Image File Format (with .tiff extension) or Encapsulated Postscript Format (with .eps extension). Resolution of the figures should be at least 600 dpi. Figures should be numbered with Arabic numerals in order of appearance in the text. The figure titles and the legends should be listed at the end of the manuscript as a separate page. Figure legends should contain enough information that can be comprehended without referring to the text. If the figure was previously published elsewhere, the reference should be given and written permission should be received from the copyright owner. Quality of the figures should be considered while forming them. Figures are printed in 1 (7.9 cm) or 2 (16.3 cm) columns. Symbols in the figures should be visible at these sizes and font size of the characters should be at least 8-10. In the graphs, names of the abscissa and the ordinate should be given together with their units. Since the journal is published electronically, colored photographs are accepted.

Tables: Tables should be submitted as separate MS Word documents, not as pictures. Tables should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals in order of appearance in the text. Each table should have a brief explanatory title on top together with the table number. Explanations should be at the bottom of the table as footnotes. Each column in the table should have a precise, explanatory heading.

Other Issues:

Abbreviations: Abbreviations should be given in parenthesis following its first appearance in the text. Authors should avoid using excessive abbreviations.

All abbreviations should be in the internationally recognized format. Authors can refer to *Biochem. J.* (1978) **169**, 1-27. Abbreviations listed below can be used without mentioning the open forms.

- ADP, CDP, GDP, IDP, UDP: adenosine, cytidine, guanosine, inosine and uridine derivatives of 5'-diphosphate; AMP, etc: derivatives of 5'-monophosphate; ATP, etc: derivatives of 5'-triphosphate.
- ATPase: adenosine triphosphatase
- ANOVA: analysis of variance
- bp: base pair
- CoA and acyl-CoA: Coenzyme A and derivatives of acyl (e.g: acetyl-coA)
- Ci: curie
- cAMP: adenosine 3',5'-cyclic monophosphate
- cGMP: guanosine 3',5'-cyclic monophosphate
- DNA: deoxyribonucleic acid
- DNase: deoxyribonuclease
- EDTA: ethylene diamine tetra-acetic acid
- EGTA: ethylene glycol bis(aminoethyl ether) tetra-acetic acid

- ELISA: enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay
- FAD, FADH₂: flavin adenine dinucleotide and its reduced form
- FMN: flavin mononucleotide
- GABA: gamma-aminobutyric acid
- GLC: gas liquid chromatography
- GSSG, GSH: glutathione, oxidized and reduced forms
- h: hour
- HEPES: N-2-hydroxyethyl piperazine-N-2-ethanesulfonic acid
- HPLC: high performance liquid chromatography
- Ig: immunoglobulin
- IR: infrared
- kb: kilobase
- kDa: kilodalton
- μm: micron
- min: minute
- MPP⁺: 1-methyl-4-phenylpyridinium
- MPTP: 1-methyl-4-phenyl-1,2,3,6-tetrahydropyridine
- NAD⁺, NADH: nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide, oxidized and reduced forms
- NADP⁺, NADPH: nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate, oxidized and reduced forms
- NAD, NADP: Can be used as such if oxidized/reduced form does not matter.
- NMDA: N-methyl-D-aspartate
- NMN: nicotinamide mononucleotide
- NMR: nuclear magnetic resonance
- PCR: polymerase chain reaction
- P_i: ortho-phosphate (inorganic)
- PP_i: pyrophosphate (inorganic)
- rpm: revolutions per minute
- RNA: ribonucleic acid
- RNase: ribonuclease
- RT: reverse transcriptase
- SD: standard deviation
- TLC: thin layer chromatography
- Tris: 2-amino-2-hydroxymethylpropane-1,3-diol
- UV: ultraviolet

Full name of an enzyme and its International Union of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology (IUBMB) Enzyme Commission number (EC number) should be given when that enzyme was first mentioned in the text. Its abbreviation can be used after that. For detailed information, authors can refer to the Enzyme Nomenclature of IUBMB (www.chem.qmul.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme).

Units: Numerical data should be reported in official SI units. Enzyme activity should be given in terms of U/L in serum or plasma and U/mg protein in tissues. Unit (U) should be given as reaction rate triggered under defined conditions. SI unit for enzyme activity is defined as katal which is the moles of substrate converted to product per second. However, it can also be defined as μmol/sec or μmol/min as long as clear and precise definitions are given. For

centrifugation, angular velocity (xg) should be given. Period should be used to show decimals.

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Ethical principles for *in vivo* research involving human and animal subjects: All manuscripts reporting studies that involve human or animal subjects must be accompanied by a letter of approval obtained from the Ethical Committee of the institution where the work is accomplished. Editorial Board reserves the right to ask similar reports for *in vitro* studies.

Preparation of the soft copy: Text should be saved as an independent MS Word file and should be titled with the name of the corresponding author (e.g: ozer.doc). Figures and tables should be saved as individual files and titled with the name of the first author followed by the number of the figure or table (e.g: ozer_table_1, ozer_figure_3). **Turkish characters should not be used in the names of the documents. Text, tables, and figures should not be saved as MS Power Point.** If the whole documentation exceeds 5 MB, the contents should be sent on a CD to the mail address of the journal provided that the above rules are obeyed.