



# Instructions for authors

## Scope

ALTEX is devoted to open access publication of research on the development and promotion of alternatives to animal experiments according to the 3R concept of Russell and Burch: Replace, Reduce, and Refine.

Animal experiments are defined as all experimental procedures involving the use of animals in testing, research, and education or to obtain tissues, organs, and other animal-derived products which may cause pain or distress to animals. ALTEX further publishes manuscripts on the bioethics of the complex relationship between humans and animals. Articles published in ALTEX must express a basic concern for the dignity of living creatures and the recognition of animals as our partners.

## Evaluation procedure

ALTEX publishes original articles, short communications, reviews, as well as news and comments, meeting reports, and book reviews. Articles having no 3R relevance are rejected before entering the evaluation procedure. Two experts' reviews are obtained for full articles and short communications with 3R relevance. In case of disagreement, a third review is commissioned. The final decision rests with the editor in chief. The content of the reviews is submitted to the authors independent of whether the manuscript is accepted for publication. The current rate of acceptance of manuscripts is stated on the ALTEX homepage.

## Submission of manuscripts

Send manuscripts via e-mail to editor@altex.ch. Include a cover letter confirming that all authors concur with the submission

and that the manuscript is not under consideration elsewhere. State whether there are any copyright issues on the paper or parts of it. You may include suggestions of up to five potential expert reviewers who are not former coauthors. Include full name, affiliation, and e-mail for each potential reviewer.

To defer publication costs ALTEX will bill authors € 2,000 per full manuscript and € 1,000 per short communication submitted after October 31, 2013 if and when it is accepted for publication. These publication costs will include the costs of publishing manuscripts as Epub ahead of print and of printing figures in color where required. Include a billing address in the cover letter. Note that ALTEX is an open access publication listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals. Numerous institutions support open access publication by contributing to the publication fees. If your institution has no means to cover the publication costs, please state this in the cover letter and ALTEX may choose to waive these.

## Structure of full articles

- Title: 12 words maximum
- Authors: with full first names
- Affiliations: of all authors
- Summary: 250 words maximum
- Keywords: 3-5 words
- Disclaimers and statement on conflicts of interest: if applicable
- Introduction: include a specific statement concerning the 3R relevance of the article
- Materials and methods: When reporting experiments on animals, indicate whether the institutional and national guide for the care and use of laboratory

animals was followed. To describe animal experiments refer to the ARRIVE guidelines: <http://www.nc3rs.org.uk/ARRIVE>. Do not list animals as materials.

When reporting experiments on human subjects, indicate whether the procedures followed were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional and national) and with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975, as revised in 2008. If doubt exists whether the research was conducted in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration, explain the rationale for the approach and demonstrate that the institutional review body explicitly approved the doubtful aspects of the study.

- Results
  - Discussion
  - References: see examples below
  - Acknowledgements: to sources of funding and to contributing persons
  - Correspondence address: full address of corresponding author including phone number and e-mail
  - Table legends and figure captions
  - Tables and figures: numbered in the order of appearance in the text.
  - Supplementary files: if any
- Contributions from the humanities may diverge from this structure.

A short communication has no more than 4 printed pages of text (single spaced, 9 pt) and 1 page of figures or tables. Results and discussion may be combined. In addition, a supplementary file describing materials and methods in more detail may be posted online.



Articles must be written in English. Language should be based on the Chicago Manual of Style (<http://www.chicagomanualofstyle.org/home.html>). Use the international standard measuring system (SI). Numbers should be written in the decimal system (e.g., 1,000.25). Use a separate line for equations. Indicate trademarks (™) and registered goods (®). Explain abbreviations when using them for the first time. If several abbreviations are used, add an abbreviation index as a footnote. Technical terms should be explained for readers who are not experts in your particular field.

### Citations and references

Citations in the text should be marked with name/s of the author/s and the year of publication, e.g., (Harvey and Smith, 2008; Kimmel et al., 2010). In case of several publications by the same author/s within one year, mark them with a, b, c, etc.

Format the references at the end of the text according to the examples below. If you use Endnote, you may use the ALTEX style posted on [www.altex-edition.org](http://www.altex-edition.org) → Instructions

#### Examples

##### Journal articles

##### Four authors or fewer

Honegger, P., Lenoir, D., and Favrod, P. (1979). Growth and differentiation of aggregating fetal brain cells in a serum-

free defined medium. *Nature* 282, 305-308.

##### More than four authors

Fan, C. Y., Cowden, J., Simmons, S. O., et al. (2010). Gene expression changes in developing zebrafish as potential markers for rapid developmental neurotoxicity screening. *Neurotoxicol Teratol* 32, 91-98.

##### Book chapters

Honegger, P. and Schilter, B. (1992). Serum free aggregate cultures of foetal rat brain and liver cells: methodology and some practical applications in neurotoxicology. In G. Zbinden (ed.), *The brain and bits and pieces: In vitro techniques in neurobiology, neuropharmacology and neurotoxicology* (51-79). Zollikon, Switzerland: MTC Verlag.

##### Books

Goldberg, A. M. (ed.) (1983). *Alternative methods in toxicology, product safety evaluation*. Vol. 1. New York: Mary Ann Liebert, Inc.

##### Regulations

European Commission (2006). Regulation (EC) of No 1907/2006 of the European parliament and of the council 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency, amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93

and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC.

### Tables and figures

Upon submitting the manuscript, you may include tables and figures at the end of the manuscript document on separate sheets marked with the figure or table number. Tables must be supplied with a title and figures with a caption (i.e., title and explanation). Tables and figures must be self-explanatory without further reference to the manuscript. Refer to all tables and figures within the manuscript, e.g., (Tab. 1) or (Fig. 1).

Upon submission of the final, accepted version of the manuscript, figures must have a minimum resolution of 300 dpi and must be submitted as separate .jpg, .tif or .ppt files. Labelling in Helvetica/Arial must be large enough to remain legible even in a reduced size. The size of the ALTEX type area is 27.2 x 17.4 cm. This represents the maximum size for a figure or table.

If using another author's illustration or table, enclose a copyright transfer from that author or the relevant copyright holder and reference material accordingly.