GUIDELINES TO AUTHORS





Journal of Applied Bioanalysis

Aims and scope of the Journal

The Journal of Applied Bioanalysis journal welcomes the submission of papers on all aspects of bioanalytical methodologies, sample treatment, theory and innovative instrumental developments and/or improvement. Manuscripts describing the application of routine methods or straightforward extension of these methods to new sample matrices will per definition not be considered for publication unless a certain degree of novelty is highlighted by the authors that demonstrate clear and quantifiable advantages over existing routine methodologies. Article types published include editorial, critical review, research, opinion, expert communication, rapid communication, letters-to-the-editor and application note. Manuscripts should properly present statistical treatment of the observed results. Relevant literature references should be cited applying the journals reference style. Manuscripts will be submitted to a double blind peer-review process by independent experts in the field of the manuscript's subject. Manuscripts detailing fundamental research on following but not limited too are encouraged:

- · Separation sciences and hyphenated techniques in bioanalysis
- · Sample preparation techniques and collection
- · Data processing
- · Automation and Miniaturization
- Mass spectrometric technology
- · Immunoassays and ligand-binding assays
- · Drug metabolism studies and pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
- · Life sciences ("omics"- sciences)
- · Bioanalytical guidelines and regulatory issues
- · Instrumentation developments and/or improvements

Abbreviation and ISSN

The correct abbreviation of the Journal of Applied Bioanalysis for indexing and abstracting purposes is *J. Appl. Bioanal.*

The electronic International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) for the Journal of Applied Bioanalysis is 2405-710X

Article processing charge (APC)

As with any other open access journal, the Journal of Applied Bioanalysis operates through processing and handling fee received from authors, which is utilized in meeting the maintenance charges of the respective journal (NO MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION FEES ARE BILLED!). When a manuscript is desk-rejected (prior to peer-review) or after the peer-review process, no fees have to be paid by the authors. The model is pursued in order to present free articles for readers without subscription charges. The corresponding author will receive from the editorial office from respective journal an invoice. The payment has to be received within 15 days after the date of the invoice. Author(s) are required to make the payment once the manuscript is cleared to be published online in an upcoming issue. Information on the payment will be send to corresponding author in the "acceptance for publication" notification. Late or non-paid invoices will delay the publication of accepted manuscript!

Article Type	Article Processing Charge†	
Research article, review, editorial etc.	EUR (€) 450 excl. VAT*	
Special Issue Articles	EUR (€) 350 excl. VAT*	

^{*}only when VAT is applicable, †APC year 2015.

APC Waive

- **A.** For scientists with limited financial funds (solely reserved for payment of publication fees) a (partial) waive of APC is possible when he/she can prove this limitation.
- **B.** For low/middle income countries a reduction/waive of the Article Processing Charge is possible. We use data from the gross national income (GNI) per capita for the previous year defined by the World Bank. Income classifications by GNI per capita are as follows (2013):

Low income: \$1,035 or less

Lower middle income: \$1,036 to \$4,085 Upper middle income: \$4,086 to \$12,615

High income: \$12,616 or more.

Contact the Editorial Office for more information on APC waive or download the APC

waive form (editor.jab@betasciencepress.com)

Manuscript structure

Manuscripts must be submitted in the style of the Journal of Applied Bioanalysis, figures and tables should not be embedded within the main text body but presented on a separate page. The

structure described here applies to all articles except Editorial, Letter-to-Editor, Expert Opinion and Expert Commentary articles.

Cover page

The cover page of the manuscript should include the title, all authors' names and affiliations, and full contact information for the corresponding author. If all authors are at affiliated with one department, specific departmental affiliations are not needed; if any author is affiliated with a different department or university the specific departmental and university affiliation is needed for every single author.

Abstract

The abstract should be concise describing briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. It should not be longer than 150 words.

Keywords

Four to six relevant keywords should be listed directly under the abstract on the same page. Authors should avoid general and plural terms and use no abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field are allowed (e.g. LC-MS, ELISA, mAB etc.).

Main text body

Introduction

The introduction should explain the rationale behind the current study, placing the reported research topic within the context of the current research landscape. Authors should summarize and cite previous research relevant to presented work. The introduction section should clearly pose the research question, describe the experimental design, and outline the authors' hypothesis.

Experimental section

Materials and Methods

This section should contain a clear and concise description of applied materials and methods applied to study the in the introduction described research question and topic. Materials described in this section should be chemicals, instrumentations, software, guidelines and other used. All material suppliers should be presented with their company name, country and city.

Results and discussion

This section should present the collected data and analysis and discussion of the obtained data. Results for all measures should be reported in a concise, straightforward manner, using tables or figures when appropriate. Duplication of information that is presented in tables or figures should be minimal in the text, and all results should be reported in the text, rather than figure captions. We encourage authors to include results from statistical tests to confirm data quality. Authors should discuss the findings in the context of the research question initially posed. The discussion of results should also explore the broader implications and significance of the findings, as well when appropriate specific recommendations for the direction of future research on the topic.

Conclusions

The authors should present in this section essentially the 'take-home' message of a paper. Conclusions are not allowed to be an extension of the results and discussion section or summarize to a certain extent the results. Authors can choose to list important results in form of a bulleted list. The conclusion section must not contain references to the in the manuscript cited literature.

Acknowledgements

Authors should summarize acknowledgements in a separate section at the end of the manuscript before the reference section. Listed should be here individuals who provided help during the research activities (e.g., providing language help, writing assistance or proof reading the article, etc.) and who are eligible to be a co-author of the manuscript.

References

Every citation in the text should be listed in the reference list, and vice versa. Note that online sources should be cited in the same manner as print sources (i.e., author and date in parentheses). References should be formatted in accordance with the journal style.

Journal article:

1. Koster RA, Touw DJ, Alffenaar JW. Dried blood spot analysis: facing new challenges. *J Appl Bioanal.* 1(2), 38-41 (2015).

Authored book:

2. G.R. Mettam, L.B. Adams, How to prepare an electronic version of your article, in: Introduction to the Electronic Age, B.S. Jones, R.Z. Smith (Eds.), E-Publishing Inc., New York, USA, pages. 281–304. (2009).

Online source:

3. Otis B, Parviz B. Introducing our smart contact lense project (2014). http://googleblog.blogspot.com.es/2014/01/introducing-our-smart-contact-lens.html

References, and any patents or websites, should be numerically listed in the reference section in the order that they occur in the text, using Arabic numerals placed in square brackets, e.g., [1]. PREFRABLY REFERENCES ARE INSERTED INTO THE MANUSCRIPT DRAFT APPLYING REFERENCE SOFTWARE SUCH AS ENDNOTE/REFMANAGER.

Figure Captions

Figure captions should be provided in the main text document; they should not be included in the figure files. Each caption should begin with "Fig." and then the appropriate number, following by a period (e.g., "Fig. 1."). The text of the caption begins on a separate line.

A caption should be concise and describe only what is shown in the figure itself. Results should not be summarized in figure captions. Each caption should begin with a sentence fragment that serves as a title and covers the entire content of the figure (not just selected panels). All the text following this fragment should be in complete sentences.

Figures must be numbered in the order in which they are referred to in the text. All figures must be referred to in the manuscript text, and the text needs to give a full indication of the information that is included in every figure. For example, if a figure has two panels, the text cannot refer to only one of them (but the text does not have to call out each panel separately—e.g., if Fig. 1. has panels (a) and (b), the text can refer to Fig. 1 as a whole). If a figure has asterisks to indicate significance, the caption should explain them (i.e., what was tested and what *p* value is indicated by a single asterisk, two asterisks, etc.). Unlike in a table, this explanation should be incorporated into a complete sentence.

Figures

Figures should NOT be embedded into the manuscript text instead the position of the figure can be described by inserting the figure number (i.e. **Figure 1**.). The figures have to be placed on separate pages when possible. More than one picture on one page is possible as long as they keep their clarity for reviewers.

Photographic images or photos of the experimental setup should be submitted in standard image formats, like JPEG. To avoid images appearing blurry or pixelated in print, use a minimum resolution of 300 pixels per inch. Do not submit images in TIFF format.

Tables

Tables should be editable and created using the tables function in Microsoft Word or other text editor program rather than using tabs to separate columns. There should be no empty rows or columns. Tables should NOT be embedded into the manuscript text but placed on separate pages when possible. More than one table on one page is possible as long as they keep their clarity for reviewers. The desired position of the tables into article can be described by inserting the table number (i.e. **Table 1**.) into the manuscript text.

Tables must be numbered in the order in which they are referred to in the text. All tables must be referred to in the text, and the text needs to give a full indication of the information that is included in every table.

Authors should use footnotes for explanations of abbreviations and symbols used (except symbols indicating statistical significance). For example:

^a[Specific notes that apply to a particular column, row, or cell entry are called out by letters a, b, etc.]

*p < .05, **p < .01. [If asterisks (or daggers) are used to indicate results of tests of significance, the symbols are explained here.]

Supplementary material

The journal accepts electronic supplementary material to support and enhance your scientific research. Supplementary files offer the author additional possibilities to publish supporting applications, high-resolution images and background datasets. Authors should submit the material in electronic format together with the submission of the manuscript and state a concise and descriptive caption for each supplementary material file.

Chemical structures and biochemical nomenclature

Authors should preferably construct chemical structures by the use of ISISDraw or Chemdraw software and formats.

Mandatory are:

- Indication of chiral centers in molecules and stereochemistry where necessary use wedge and hash bond for chiral centers and mark cis/trans conformations).
- -Draw small peptides (up to seven amino acids) in full; use amino acid **one-letter** abbreviations (V, P, S etc.) for large(r) peptides;
- Refer to each structure with a number (1,2., etc.) and substructures with a letter (a, b,..etc) in the manuscript draft.

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Author disclosure

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article, even for commercial purposes, as long as they credit the author(s), do not represent the author as endorsing their adaptation of the article, and do not modify the article in such a way as to damage the author's honor or reputation.

Article types

The Journal of Applied Bioanalysis publishes a diverse range of scholarly article types, descriptions of the article types are outlined below. Authors are encouraged to consult the "Manuscript draft quick formatting checklist" for information on word counts and other formatting manuscript draft requirements

Editorial, Expert Opinion and Expert Commentary Articles

Editorials are short articles that provide an insight into, or overview of issues of particular importance to the journal's audience. The intention of an Editorial article is to give an expert perspective on a topic of interest. Editorial article has a limited word count (1000-1750 words) and for a more detailed discussion Expert Opinion or Expert Commentary articles can be used. These article types should discuss a scientific issue as also possibly present potential solutions to the discussed issue.

Conference Reports

Conference reports summarize regular research and keynote presentations presented at a recent held congress or meeting. Full coverage of the conference or a specific focus on presentations that are most interesting and present new technologies.

Review article

Review articles are an articles written to sum up the current state of the research on a particular topic. Review articles should be focus on key subject and not providing a comprehensive literature overview but critically discuss scientific findings, conclusions and missing facts. Reviews should provide a balanced overview of the reviewed topic or field and not focus predominantly on the author's own research. Authors are encouraged to include their own thoughts on current views and trends but also they should have a view of future directions.

Letters to the Editor

Readers may submit Letters to the journal Editor, commenting on an article published in the journal. Letters to the Editor will be sent to the corresponding author of the published article, who will be granted four weeks (28 days) to provide a response for publication. Acceptance of Letters to the Editor for publication is always at the discretion of the Editor and Editorial Board. Letters to the Editor presenting personal accusations, possible plagiarism or other are always taken seriously by the editorial office but are never eligible to publication without prior decent research by the editorial office

Research Articles

The corresponding author of the manuscript must provide a supporting **Cover Letter** together with the submission of the manuscript. The cover letter should describe the potential relevance of the article to the journal's audience;

- Novelty of the studied subject and potential direct or future implications of the in the manuscript reported finding.

Experimental section

Only where a novel experimental procedure has been employed full details must be provided, such that a skilled scientist would be able to reproduce the results presented. Details of routine or previously reported experimental procedures should be provided via references only. Experimental procedures and/or data running to more than two Word document pages should be placed in a supplementary information file. The synthesis of all new compounds must be described in detail.

Research article types

The Journal of Applied Bioanalysis published two categories of original research articles:

Research (full paper)

Research articles should present novel work that makes a significant impact within the scope of the journal, and which represents an important advancement in knowledge or understanding. Routine or incremental work is not suitable for full research papers. Research should be reported succinctly; the inclusion of detailed background discussion is to be avoided. Supporting data or further experimental details can be submitted as Supplementary Information. Adequate mention of safety issues/precautions should be included. If requested by the Editor or reviewers, authors should be able to provide additional relevant original data underpinning their research.

Short Communication

Short communication articles are intended for to present short reports of studies that obtained promising results, improvements or developments on a specific area of research. The significance and potential implications of the reported developments must be explicit to the area of research.

Application Notes

Application Notes are advertorial articles that allow product manufacturers to present interesting (new) products or their latest innovative applications. Application Notes are not peer-reviewed and will be presented in the Journal of Applied Bioanalysis as an advertisement. Only members of the manufacturer's organization can submit Application Notes articles.

If the Application Note reports results from researchers who are not members of the manufacturer's organization, a by the researcher(s) signed letter of permission for publication must accompany the manuscript submission. Application Notes are only published at the editor's discretion.

Who can submit Application Notes?

Application Notes will only be accepted from companies providing products and services to life scientists and chemists. All authors must be members of the manufacturer's organization. Authors from Academic institutions are not eligible to submit Application Notes unless it is an result of a collaboration with a

Application Note style guide

Application Notes manuscripts have generally a word count in the range of 1000-2000 words applying following layout:

- Title
- Authors and Authors contact details
- Abstract (max. 120 words)
- Main text body, separated into following subsections:
 - Introduction
 - (Short) description of the technology underlying the product
 - Information on the format in which the product is available (such as additional reagents available, controls, interface for instruments, etc.)
 - Flexibility of application
 - Product performance (sensitivity, specificity, reproducibility, robustness)
- Conclusion
- **Display Items** (figures, tables)
- Acknowledgements (optional)
- Link to the company's website.
- References.

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Manuscript draft quick formatting checklist.

ARTICLE TYPE	WORD COUNT (excl. ABSTRACT & REFERENCES)	ABSTRACT (MAX. WORDS)	KEY WORDS (MAX.)	REFERENCES (MAX.)	FIGURES & TABLES (MAX. in total)
Editorial	1000-1750	no	4-6	25	none
Commentary	1500-3500	no	4-6	25	none
Letter-to-Editor	1500-2000	no	none	25	none
Opinion	1000-2000	no	4-6	25	none
Short Communication	2000-2500	150	4-6	25	8
Review	4000-8000	150	4-6	150	8
Perspective	4000-8000	150	4-6	150	8
Original research	4500-8500	150	4-6	150	8
Conference report	1500-3500	150	none	25	8
Application Note	1000-2000	120	none	5	4