

## **GUIDE FOR AUTHORS**

Biological Psychiatry: Cognitive Neuroscience and Neuroimaging (BP:CNNI) is an official journal of the Society of Biological Psychiatry. The Journal focuses on studies using the tools and constructs of cognitive neuroscience, including the full range of non-invasive neuroimaging and human extra-and intracranial physiological recording methodologies. It publishes both basic and clinical studies, including those that incorporate genetic data, pharmacological challenges, and computational modeling approaches. Except where explicitly stated otherwise, BP:CNNI conforms to the guidelines set forth by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE) (see Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals (December 2014): Available from http://www.ICMJE.org).

All new manuscripts must be submitted through the journal website: http://ees.elsevier.com/bpsc. Please direct questions to the Editorial Office at (214) 648-0880, or BPCNNI@utsouthwestern.edu.

ARTICLE TYPES AND CONTENT Our readership is diverse, and authors should consider that many of our readers are in specialty areas other than their own. It is important, therefore, to avoid jargon. A focused and clearly written manuscript is more likely to appeal to the readership. The brevity and clarity of the presentation will be taken into consideration by the Editors. In highly specialized areas, the introduction should be a concise primer.

Archival Reports are original research papers reporting novel results on a broad range of topics related to the pathophysiology and treatment of major neuropsychiatric disorders. Clear explication of methods and results is critical to facilitate review of papers and replicability of findings. The main text must be no more than 4000 words, and be structured with sections entitled and ordered as follows: Introduction, Methods and Materials, Results, Discussion. Abstracts should be 250 words or less, structured with sections entitled as follows: Background, Methods, Results, Conclusions. Figures, tables, and references should be included as necessary.

Priority Communications are Archival Reports that clearly document novel experimental findings of unusual and timely significance. These papers should represent a conceptual advance in the field and are not intended for publication of preliminary results. They are expected to be acceptable for publication in essentially the form submitted. Papers that require substantial revisions or do not fit the criteria will be considered as Archival Reports. See Archival Reports for structure, word length, and other requirements.

Reviews are concise (4000 words or less) and focus on current aspects of interest and research. Up to 150 references are allowed. Abstracts are unstructured and limited to 250 words. Figures and tables should summarize or illustrate important points.

Techniques and Methods articles feature new, improved, or noteworthy comments about techniques or methods relevant to basic or clinical research in, or treatment of, psychiatric disorders. Maximum length is 3000 words (main

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The *Journal* employs a submission notification policy, whereby upon receipt of every new submission, a notification will be sent to every individual named as an author on the submitted article. This email will provide details of the submission, including the full author list and the text of both the acknowledgments and disclosures sections. This policy requires valid email addresses for all coauthors to be supplied at submission; institutional email addresses are strongly preferred.

Files (cover letter, text, figures) will be uploaded separately during the submission process, and should be labeled with appropriate and descriptive file names (e.g., SmithText.doc, Fig1.eps, Table3.doc). The system will then build a single PDF of the submission from the uploaded files.

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Correspondence is directly related to methods, procedures or interpretation of data presented in work recently published in our journal and uses new analysis of data presented, the support of previously published work, and/or scientific points to be addressed based on methodological issues. It may also present a case report that clearly and unambiguously illustrates important new principles that have not yet been demonstrated in clinical trials. When warranted, a reply from author(s) of the original work is solicited. Maximum length is 1000 words (main body of text only). No abstract and no supplements are allowed. Figures and tables are not encouraged, but allowed to illustrate important points.

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Early Career Investigator Commentaries provide publishing opportunities to early career investigators (ECI), as part of a joint project between the Journal and the Education Committee of the Society of Biological Psychiatry. These are invited articles for which an ECI serves as the sole and corresponding author. Each ECI shall be 1) a current member of the Society of Biological Psychiatry, 2) no more than 10 years out from terminal degree, and 3) not hold an academic faculty rank higher than Assistant Professor. A senior investigator mentors each ECI, acts as a content reviewer, and is recognized in the Acknowledgments section. Length is restricted to 1500 words with no more than 10 references. A single summarizing figure or table may be allowed.

submission steps normally. Authors whose papers have already been peer reviewed at *Biological Psychiatry* should proceed as if submitting a revision. The manuscript should be revised in response to the peer reviewers' comments and a detailed response to reviewers file should be included as part of the submission. Any other revised files should also be replaced as necessary. The revised paper will be returned to the original reviewers at the editor's discretion. All other instructions remain applicable.

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Style Manuscripts should be double-spaced. Pages must be numbered and include the first author's name. Acronyms must be spelled out on first use in both the abstract and the text, and where used in tables or figures, in each of their legends. American spellings should be used. The location (city and state or country) of all manufacturers should be provided. Gene symbols should be italicized and differentiate by species. Human symbols should be all uppercase, whereas symbols for rodents and other species should be lowercase using only an initial capital. Protein products, regardless of species, are not italicized and use all uppercase letters. Accepted manuscripts are copyedited to conform to the AMA Manual of Style.

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- 1. Krystal JH, Carter CS, Geschwind D, Manji HK, March JS, Nestler EJ, et al. (2008): It is time to take a stand for medical research and against terrorism targeting medical scientists. *Biol Psychiatry* 63: 725-727.
- American Psychiatric Association (1994): Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 4th ed. Washington, DC: American Psychiatric Press.
- 3. Martin JH (1985): Properties of cortical neurons, the EEG, and the mechanisms of epilepsy. In: Kandel ER, Schwartz JH, editors. *Principles of Neural Science*, 2nd ed. New York: Elsevier, pp 461-471.

FIGURES AND TABLES Figures and tables should be cited in the text, numbered consecutively (i.e., 1, 2, 3) in the order of their mention, and have brief descriptions. If not included in the manuscript file, tables should be uploaded individually in an editable text format, such as DOC. Table footnotes should use superscript lowercase letters, rather than symbols.

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#### NOMENCLATURE

Psychopharmacology

Biological Psychiatry supports the Neuroscience-based Nomenclature (NbN) project (http://nbnomenclature.org/), which aims to promote the use of mechanism-based nomenclature that is pharmacologically-driven, rather than indication-based. The NbN system characterizes medications based on their pharmacological domain and mode(s) of action. Authors should use NbN's glossary or official apps in order to translate between the old and new nomenclature.

#### Genetics

Authors should use approved nomenclature for gene symbols by consulting the appropriate public databases for correct gene names and symbols. Please use symbols (e.g., *SLC6A4*, *DISC1*) as opposed to italicized full names, and avoid listing multiple names separated by a slash, such as 'Oct4/Pou5f1'. Use one name throughout and include any alias(es) upon the first reference. Approved human gene symbols are available from HUGO Gene Nomenclature Committee (HGNC) at http://www.genenames.org/. Approved mouse symbols are provided by The Jackson Laboratory at http://www.informatics.jax.org/mgihome/nomen. Authors should submit proposed gene names that are not already approved to the appropriate nomenclature committees as soon as possible. It is the authors' responsibility to ensure these are deposited and approved before publication of an article.

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COVER ART BP:CNNI generally selects cover art relevant to an article appearing in that issue. The Journal encourages the submission of scientifically and visually interesting images that do not appear in the paper, but that would be suitable for cover art, particularly those that summarize or represent the article's findings. Authors may upload images to be considered for the cover during the submission process, or email them separately to the Editorial Office. Any such images must be the property of the submitting authors. Figures that appear in the paper are automatically considered for covers.

PEER REVIEW PROCESS All submissions (with the general exception of Editorials, Commentaries, and Correspondence) will be subject to peer review. The actual selection of reviewers will be made by the editors. As a general rule, papers will be evaluated by three independent reviewers and, on occasion, an additional review for statistical adequacy may also be obtained. The comments of the reviewers are generally communicated to the authors within 30-45 days of submission.

Authors should contact the Editorial Office if the delay has been longer.

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