

# iScience Final File Requirements

If you have questions concerning these guidelines, please contact our journal office at [iscience@cell.com](mailto:iscience@cell.com).

## MAIN DOCUMENT

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### FORMAT

☐ For copyediting and typesetting purposes, the main document must be provided as a modifiable electronic file in a PC-compatible format (preferably a Word file). If your paper was created in LaTeX format, please include the following files: the main .pdf file, the .tex file, as well as all supporting files such as .bbl, .bib., .sty, .bst, etc. Please note that LaTeX submissions require conversion after acceptance, so we ask that you carefully review formulas and mathematical symbols in proofs. For more information on LaTeX submissions, please refer to this [LaTeX instructions page](#).

☐ The main document must include the following sections (in this order): title; author list and affiliations; Lead Contact footnote; email address(es) of corresponding author(s); Summary; Introduction; Results; Discussion; Limitations of Study; Acknowledgments; Author Contributions; Declaration of Interests; main figure titles and legends (please do not include main figures or schemes in the main document—additionally, include the legends as one list, not interspersed within the text); main tables and legends' STAR Methods text; supplemental video, data, and Excel table titles and legends; and References.

### AUTHORSHIP POLICY

- ☐ Please review our [Information for Authors](#) page to ensure the authorship footnoting adheres to our revised authorship policy.
- ☐ All manuscripts must indicate a [Lead Contact](#) on the title page and must adhere to the authorship policy guidelines.
- ☐ A dedicated Author Contributions section is required for all primary research papers. This section should provide information about individual author contributions to the paper and should be placed immediately after the Acknowledgments section. Please keep this section as concise as possible and use initials to indicate author identity. We are happy for you to use a traditional format such as "A.B. and C.D. conducted the experiments, E.F. designed the experiments and wrote the paper..." but would encourage you to consider using the [CRediT taxonomy](#) instead.

### TITLE PAGE

- ☐ The title should contain no more than 145 characters, including spaces.
- ☐ Author names should be spelled out in the author list, rather than set in initials (First name Surname). Please note: we will not make changes to this section after publication, so it is essential that all authors approve the spelling of their names and affiliations before you upload your final files.
- ☐ A complete affiliation, including the department(s) or subunit(s), institution name, city, state/region, postal code, and country, should be provided for each author.
- ☐ An email address should be included for each corresponding author.
- ☐ The Lead Contact should be designated with a footnote in the author list.
- ☐ The Summary should consist of a single paragraph of 150 words or fewer.

### BODY

☐ The STAR Methods section should be in the main document and should appear after the figure legends. Please report your methods with sufficient detail so readers do not need to refer to other papers to understand how procedures were performed. Please consult materials on our [STAR Methods website](#) for further details.

- ☐ The mandatory “Lead Contact” statement should provide the full name and email address for the author taking responsibility for the Lead Contact role. This should match the Lead Contact designated in the Title page.
- ☐ The first section of STAR Methods, “Resource Availability,” must include the following three subheadings: “Lead Contact,” “Materials Availability,” and “Data and Code Availability.” Each of these subheadings should be followed by a statement, as described in greater detail on our [STAR Methods website](#).
- ☐ The mandatory “Materials Availability” statement should report where any materials generated in this study are being made available. If the study did not generate new unique reagents or there are restrictions to availability, this should be mentioned in the statement.
- ☐ The mandatory “Data and Code Availability” statement should be made according to the [STAR Methods guidelines](#).
- ☐ If your study was pre-registered, please make sure you include information about where the pre-registration information can be accessed (such as clinical trial registry numbers and associated links) in the “Additional Resources” section of the STAR Methods..
- ☐ The words "new" or "novel" should not be used as priority claims or to refer to chemical compounds or structures.
- ☐ We require chemical nomenclature to conform to the standards set by IUPAC and other oversight organizations and gene nomenclature to conform to the standards set by HUGO, MGI, FlyBase, WormBase, SGI, and other oversight organizations. Please confirm that the content, capitalization, italicization, and style of the chemical and/or gene names within your paper are consistent with the rules set by one or more of these organizations.
- ☐ Equations should be created with MathType. We will also accept equations created using Microsoft Word's Equation Editor. However, MathType is preferable due to some of Equation Editor’s limitations around version compatibility and editing.
- ☐ Please include a paragraph entitled "Limitations of study" that highlights some potential caveats of the work.
- ☐ The Acknowledgments section should include all acknowledgment information for non-authors and/or list funding sources. Please ensure that all necessary grant numbers have been included in this section. (Please note: we will not make changes to this section after publication, so it is essential that this section is complete and accurate.)

## CITATIONS/REFERENCES

- ☐ **References** must be cited by superscript numbers running consecutively in the text, e.g., “Multiple reports support this observation<sup>1,2</sup>” or “This observation is supported by Smith et al.<sup>1</sup>” References should include only articles that are published or in press.
- ☐ Article references should include the author list, year, article title, journal abbreviation, volume, page range, and DOI. (For references to articles that have only published online in advance of their issue’s publication, an online publication date and a DOI number must be provided.)
- ☐ Book references should include the author list, year, title, publisher (but not a publisher location), and, where applicable, chapter title and editors.
- ☐ All supplemental figures and items (tables, datasets, videos, etc.) should be cited in the main document at least once.
- ☐ All datasets, program code, and methods used in your manuscript must be appropriately cited in the text and listed in the reference section, either in the form of the publications where they were first reported or in the form of independent persistent identifiers such as the Digital Object Identifier (DOI). When a dataset, program code, or method has a persistent identifier independent from the original study where it is first reported, we encourage you to cite both that identifier and the original study. Please see the References section in our Information for Authors, [How to Prepare and Submit Research Articles](#), for details on how references should be presented.
- ☐ A supplemental references list should be included at the end of the primary supplemental PDF for any references cited in the SI or SI legends. These references should be cited in bracketed numbers and numbered sequentially by first citation occurrence (starting with [S1]). Any references from the main text that are also cited in the SI or SI legends should be included in the supplemental references, along with the references cited exclusively in the SI, and should be numbered by their position in the sequence of supplemental citations rather than by their numbering in the main text. (Please note that the key resources table and STAR Methods text

are *not* considered part of the SI.)

## MAIN-TEXT ITEMS

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- ☐ **Main Figures** should be uploaded individually, as separate high-resolution TIFF or PDF files. All of the panels of each figure should be printed together on a single page and should be organized as they will appear in the journal.
- ☐ If you are reorganizing or renumbering any items (main or supplemental) please re-upload all new files and remove the old versions to ensure correct correspondence between items and legends.
- ☐ Please check your figures carefully to ensure that they have been prepared in accordance with the [Cell Press Data Processing Policy](#). For example, if you have digitally eliminated irrelevant or superfluous lanes from a gel or blot image, you must indicate the position of the deletion with a line or a space and explain the manipulation in the figure legend.
- ☐ Figures containing micrographs should include scale bars, and the accompanying figure legends should appropriately reference scale bar size. For any figures presenting pooled data and/or error bars, the measures should be defined in the figure legends. For example, “Data are represented as mean  $\pm$  SEM.”
- ☐ Figures are required to include a descriptive title (e.g., Figure 1. [Title]).
- ☐ Tables should be formatted as editable MS Word tables—not as images—with contents separated into individual cells forming a grid. Tables should include a descriptive title (mandatory), and the footnotes and/or legend (optional) should be concise.
- ☐ Tables should not be separated into panels, i.e., they are numbered as Table 1, Table 2, etc., not as Table 1A, Table 1B, etc. Please do not include line breaks, merged cells, colors, shading, or tabs to separate data.
- ☐ Figure, table, and scheme legends should reference any related supplemental figures or items if applicable. For example, the end of the Figure 1 legend might say, “See also Figure S1 and Table S1.”
- ☐ The Key Resources Table should be populated using our [KRT webform](#) or the [template](#) provided on our [STAR Methods website](#) using the standardized subheadings as appropriate. Customized subheadings should not be added to the Key Resources Table. References cited within the Key Resources Table must also be included in the Reference list. Please upload the completed Key Resources Table as a separate Word document within Editorial Manager.

## SUPPLEMENTAL ITEMS

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- ☐ A comprehensive PDF should contain all supplemental figures and legends, supplemental schemes and legends (note that figures and schemes can be no longer than 1 page each), and PDF-format supplemental tables. The PDF should be considered ready for publication and should be uploaded with your final files. This text will not be copyedited. (Please see the [Supplemental Guidelines](#) for more detailed information.)
- ☐ The supplemental PDF should not include the article title, author list, or affiliations (we will add a cover page with this information) or page numbers.
- ☐ Titles of all supplemental figures and items should be descriptive and reference a main item or the STAR Methods (e.g., “Table S1. [Title], Related to Figure 1” or “Figure S3. [Title], Related to STAR Methods”).
- ☐ Supplemental tables exceeding 3 pages in length should instead be provided as individual Excel files. If necessary for organization, supplemental Excel tables may include tabs. Descriptive titles, including “Related to” information (mandatory), and legends (optional) for Excel-format tables should be included in the main document, after the figure legends.
- ☐ Supplemental Videos should be uploaded as separate files in .mov, .avi, .mpg., or .mp4 format and should meet the specifications listed under “Multimedia Files” in the [Supplemental Guidelines](#). Descriptive titles, including “Related to” information (mandatory), and legends (optional) for Supplemental Videos should be included in the main document, after the STAR Methods text. (Please note that videos may not be viewable at specifications other than those described in the link above.)

## ASSOCIATED FILES AND FORMS

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- ☐ Please upload a single Word document that includes your Highlights. Highlights are 3–4 bullet points of no more than 85 characters in length, including spaces, and they summarize the core results of the paper in order to allow readers to quickly gain an understanding of the main take-home messages.
- ☐ Please download a copy of our [Declaration of Interests form](#), fill it out electronically, and upload the form as a submission item along with your final submission. We also ask that declarations stated on the form, including declarations that confirm there are no competing interests, be included in the manuscript in a section titled “Declaration of Interests” preceding the References section.
- ☐ A completed copy of our [Inclusion and Diversity form](#) must be filled out electronically and uploaded as a submission item along with your final submission. For more information, please see our [Author Guidelines](#) and [FAQ page](#).
- ☐ If you have chosen to provide pertinent information within the submitted Inclusion and Diversity form, and optionally would like to publish an inclusion and diversity statement, we also ask that any statements selected on the form be included in the manuscript in a section titled “Inclusion and Diversity” following the Declaration of Interests section. For more information, please see our [Author Guidelines](#) and [FAQ page](#).
- ☐ If generative AI and/or AI-assisted technology was used in the writing process, authors must disclose this by adding a statement at the end of their manuscript. The statement should be placed in a new section after the “Declaration of interests” section, entitled “Declaration of Generative AI and AI-assisted technologies in the writing process” (*example statement: “During the preparation of this work the author(s) used [NAME TOOL / SERVICE] in order to [REASON]. After using this tool/service, the author(s) reviewed and edited the content as needed and take(s) full responsibility for the content of the publication.”*)
- ☐ Please include a copy of permissions received for any figures reprinted or adapted from previous publications.
- ☐ Please follow these specifications to submit your Graphical Abstract: The image should be an exact square, 1200 x 1200 pixels in dimension at 300 dpi with 12–16 point Arial font. Preferred file types are TIFF, PDF, or JPG. Please refer to our [guidelines](#) for more in-depth tips for creating a Graphical Abstract.
- ☐ The name and email address of an alternate contact should be noted in the Additional Information section of the submissions system, Editorial Manager.

## OPTIONAL FEATURES

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- ☐ The Figure360 video is published alongside the corresponding figure in the article. Guidelines for creating Figure360s and examples can be found [here](#). Give the reader a fun way to digest your figure by creating a descriptive video of one of your figures to help the reader quickly and effectively grasp the major points of that figure. Upload your Figure360 video along with your finalized manuscript files.
- ☐ Methods Videos, short videos to improve the transparency of a specific piece of the methods published in a scientific research article, should be uploaded as separate files in .mov, .avi, mpg., or .mp4 format and should meet the specifications listed on our [Methods Video page](#). Descriptive titles (mandatory) and legends (optional) should be included in the main manuscript file, after the figure titles and legends. (Please note that videos may not be viewable at specifications other than those described in the link above.)
- ☐ We encourage you to publish your original, unprocessed data alongside your Cell Press paper through [Mendeley Data](#). We will link your published paper to the dataset and will also link your dataset back to the published paper. Please ensure that the data is made public so that it can be accessed by the readers. For more information, please click [here](#).