Cover letter template for journal submission

# General advice

* No longer than one page for the main text
* Do not rehash the abstract of the paper
* Convey excitement to inspire the editor, but don’t overhype. In terms of style, consider sincerity, simplicity and humility. Let the science speak for itself.
* Proofread your letter by checking the spelling, grammar, and syntax. A well-written letter indicates that you take your submission seriously and that you are an author who pays attention to detail.

Dear Editor,

We would be grateful for your consideration of our research manuscript entitled “TITLE” for publication in *JOURNAL TITLE*.

# Paragraph 1: Brief introduction to the research

Although it is widely recognised that…

* What was previously known in this field?

There is an urgent need for… There has been a notable lack of published research on…

* What motivated our interest in the topic and wish to conduct this research/submit this paper?

Here, we present previously unreported findings…

* What did we find? (Conclusions of the paper in simple language)

# Paragraph 2: Novel contribution of this work

These findings provide a novel contribution to the literature by…

* What is the conceptual advance, timeliness, and novelty? What sets apart this scientific contribution? The advance over previous work must be clear, as the editor might not be familiar with the field/method used.

Our results are likely to generate significant interest/impact in...

* What is the significance of the work, and where does the article lead us?

These findings advance this field of research by…

* How does the content move the field forward?

Our manuscript is targeted to readers of the journal with an interest in…

* Will this research be of interest to a broad readership? Are the implications far-reaching?

# Final remarks

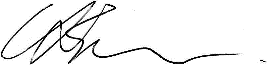
We confirm that this manuscript has not been published, nor is under consideration, by another journal. A version of the manuscript is available as a preprint at \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. All authors are listed on the manuscript and have substantially contributed to the manuscript. All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with its submission. The authors report no conflicts of interest.

We suggest the following reviewers:

* Recommended reviewers (including their field of expertise) as it can be quite helpful to the editor (three minimum).
* If you wish to exclude any reviewers, don't provide a long list (three maximum)

Please feel free to contact me if any other information is needed.

Best wishes

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**Christopher Brown**

# Reference

http://crosstalk.cell.com/blog/submitting-your-manuscript-write-the-right-cover-letter