Checklist for initial submissions



Your manuscript will be subject to a quality check before it can be presented to an Editorial Board Member (EBM) for assessment. This is to ensure that all of the information required by the EBM and peer-reviewers is available.

Please review the checklist before submitting, as manuscripts that do not comply may be returned for changes before they are assigned to an EBM. Additionally, please ensure that all author information entered both in your manuscript and on our system is accurate.

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| Cover letter | .doc, .docx, .pdf | Will be seen by the EBM but not the peer-reviewers | | |
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| For experiments involving <u>live vertebrates and/or higher invertebrates</u> , the Methods section must include a statement that both: (i) identifies the institutional and/or licensing committee that approved the experiments, including any relevant details; and (ii) confirms that all experiments were performed in accordance with relevant named guidelines and regulations | |

| For experiments involving human subjects (or tissue samples) the Methods section must include a statement that: (i) identifies the institutional and/or licensing committee that approved the experiments, including any relevant details; (ii) confirms that all experiments were performed in accordance with relevant named guidelines and regulations; and (iii) confirms that informed consent was obtained from all participants and/or their legal guardians | | |
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| Please note that: (i) study participant names (and other personally identifiable information) must be removed from all text/figures/tables/images; (ii) the use of coloured bars/shapes or blurring to obscure the eyes/facial region of study participants is not an acceptable means of anonymisation. For manuscripts that include information or images that could lead to identification of a study participant, the Methods section must include a statement that confirms informed consent was obtained to publish the information/image(s) in an online openaccess publication. | | |
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