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Bioconjugate Chemistry Guidelines for Authors

(Revised June 2015)

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Bioconjugate Chemistry (<http://pubs.acs.org/bc>) invites original contributions on all research at the interface between man-made and biological materials. The mission of the journal is to communicate advances in fields including drug delivery, bionanotechnology, and synthetic biology. *Bioconjugate Chemistry* is intended to provide a forum for presentation of research relevant to all aspects of bioconjugates, including the preparation, properties, and applications of molecular conjugates. It is the expectation of the journal that chemical, structural, and biological tools be rigorously applied.

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Manuscript Classes

Pioneering reports of sufficient contemporary importance and general interest to justify accelerated publication should be submitted as **Communications**. Communications should be brief, on the order of 2000 words or the equivalent. Comprehensive accounts of significant studies should be submitted as **Articles**. The majority of publications are in this category.

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Abstract

The abstract should briefly present the problem and experimental approach and state the major findings and conclusions. It should be self-explanatory and suitable for reproduction without rewriting. *Footnotes or undefined abbreviations may not be used in the abstract.* Generally, the abstract will be formatted as one paragraph without any subheads or other divisions.

Introduction

The introduction should state the purpose of the investigation and its relation to other work in the field. Background material should be brief and relevant to the research described. Lengthy reviews of the literature should be avoided.

Results and Discussion

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Characterization of New Compounds and Bioconjugates. ACS journals require a high standard of chemical characterization, to confirm the identity and purity of the compounds under study. Papers that explore conjugation conditions for multifunctional molecules, e.g., amino groups on proteins, should include analytical studies to identify the *sequence positions* of the residues affected. For medium-sized or larger peptides, evidence for homogeneity by separation methods of adequate resolving power and by amino acid analysis is normally required. For small organic molecules, the conventional practices of organic chemistry apply, including nuclear magnetic resonance data (for recommended practices see NMR guidelines available in the Author & Reviewer Resource Center (<http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/tools/index.html>) and elemental analyses and/or high resolution mass spectrometry of all new small molecules if practical. The numerical results for all elemental analyses should be included in Supporting Information.

Biological Data. Manuscripts generally will contain biological data such as images of cells or animal models, or other appropriate functional validations of the properties of new bioconjugates. Biological test methods must be referenced or described in sufficient detail to permit the experiments to be repeated by others. Statistical limits (statistical significance) are required for all biological data. Doses and concentrations should be expressed as molar quantities (e.g., mol/kg, nM) whenever possible.

Acknowledgments

This section should acknowledge financial support, technical assistance, advice from colleagues, gifts, etc. Sources of funding of the research should be stated. Permission should be sought from persons whose contribution to the work is acknowledged in the manuscript.

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Tabulation of experimental results is encouraged when this leads to more effective presentation. Tables should be numbered consecutively with Arabic numerals. Provide a brief title with each table and a brief heading for each column. Clearly indicate the units of measure (preferably SI). Data should be rounded to the nearest significant figure. Footnotes in tables should be given lowercase letter designations and cited in the tables as italicized superscripts (^a). Explanatory material referring to the whole table is to be included as a footnote to the title. All tables must be cited in the text.

Schemes and Charts

Chemical syntheses and some processes may be represented as schemes. These often do not have captions or legends. Charts are used to illustrate chemical structures rather than syntheses. All schemes and charts must be cited in the text.

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These should be brief but informative. The reader should not have to search through the text in order to understand the basic aspects of the figure being described. *Each figure legend should appear below its figure in the submitted manuscript.* All figures must be cited in the text.

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Figures cannot be modified or enhanced by the journal production staff. Graphics should have the following minimum resolution requirements:

Black and white line art	1200 dpi
Grayscale art	600 dpi
Color art (RGB color mode)	300 dpi

Most graphic programs provide an option for changing the resolution when you are saving the image. Best practice is to save the graphic file at the final resolution and size using the program used to create the graphic. Only graphics to be printed in color should be submitted in color (see *Color* section below for details).

Illustrations must fit a one- or two-column format on the journal page. For efficient use of journal space, single column illustrations are preferred.

	single (preferred)	double
minimum width		300 pts (10.58 cm; 4.167 in.)
maximum width	240 pts (8.45 cm; 3.33 in.)	504 pts (17.78 cm; 7 in.)
maximum depth (including caption – allow 12 pts for each line of text)	660 pts (23.28 cm; 9.167 in.)	660 pts (23.28 cm; 9.167 in.)

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(1) As drawing settings select:

chain angle	120°
bond spacing	18% of width
fixed length	14.4 pt (0.508 cm, 0.2 in.)
bold width	2.0 pt (0.071 cm, 0.0278 in.)
line width	0.6 pt (0.021 cm, 0.0084 in.)
margin width	1.6 pt (0.056 cm, 0.0222 in.)
hash spacing	2.5 pt (0.088 cm, 0.0347 in.)

(2) As text settings select:

font	Arial/Helvetica
size	10 pt

(3) Under the preferences choose:

units	points
tolerances	5 pixels

(4) Under page setup choose:

Paper	US Letter
Scale	100%

Authors using other drawing packages should, if possible, modify their program’s parameters so that they reflect the above guidelines.

Table of Contents Graphic. Authors should also submit a small structural diagram or other informative illustration for use in the Table of Contents (TOC) and abstract. This small graphic element, in conjunction with the title, should capture the reader’s attention and give a quick impression of the importance of the paper. For best presentation, this graphic should be no wider than 3.5 inches (9.0 cm) and no taller than 2 inches (5.1 cm), and it usually contains color.

Nomenclature

The complexity of typical macromolecular bioconjugates has so far defeated efforts to systematize their nomenclature. It is customary to name products by referring to starting materials; thus, antibody–drug conjugates are named according to the individual molecules involved. It is important that complicated or unwieldy names be avoided. Informative schemes, charts, or figures depicting the subject molecules, which can be referred to by number, are essential.

For the individual molecules assembled to form bioconjugates, it is the responsibility of the authors to provide correct nomenclature. All nomenclature must be consistent and unambiguous, and should conform to current American usage. Insofar as possible, authors should use systematic names such as those used by Chemical Abstracts Service, the International Union of

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