Oncogenesis

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ABOUT THE JOURNAL

Aims and Scope

Oncogenesis is a peer-reviewed open access online journal that publishes full-length papers exploring the molecular basis of cancer and related phenomena. It seeks to promote diverse and integrated areas of molecular biology, cell biology, oncology, and genetics.

Oncogenesis seeks to encompass the breadth of the molecular biology of malignant change, and topics of particular interest include:

- Apoptosis
- Cancer metabolism
- Cell cycle and growth regulation
- Cellular oncogenes
- Cellular transformation and immortalization
- DNA damage and repair
- Mode of action of cancer therapeutics
- Molecular oncology
- Novel targeted therapies
- Senescence
- Tumour suppression
- Virus-induced oncogenesis

Journal Details

Editor-in-Chief:

Jan Paul Medema University of Amsterdam, Netherlands

Editorial office:

Nature Publishing Group One New York Plaza, Suite 4500 New York, NY 10004-1562 oncogene@us.nature.com

Impact factor: 3.952 (2014 *Journal Citation Reports*, Thomson Reuters, 2015)

Abstracted/indexed in:

MEDLINE/PubMed PubMed Central Scopus

ARTICLE TYPE SPECIFICATIONS

Article Description

Original Articles (*Please see 'Preparation of Articles' below for further details*)

Manuscripts describing novel experimental findings with more than four figures and/or tables. Keep the text as brief and clear as possible, and prepare figures to occupy a minimum of space.

Word Limit

Full-length papers should not exceed a total of 4,500 words (excluding abstract, references and figure legends). Include the word count for your manuscript in your cover letter.

Reviews

Review articles are summaries of a large field of research. Submissions are typically by Editor invitation only; however, occasionally unsolicited Reviews may be considered. For any inquiries or to propose a Review topic for consideration, please contact the editorial office: oncogene@us.nature.com

Review articles should not exceed 6,000 words.

Short Communications

A short communication is a concise, independent report representing a significant and timely contribution to cancer biology. A short communication is not intended to publish preliminary results. The results must be of exceptional interest and relevant to be considered for publication.

The text should be organized with an Introduction, and the Results and Discussion sections should be combined. All Materials and Methods should be included in the figure legends. The text must be succinctly written, and figures (no more than four) prepared to occupy a minimum of space.

Short Communications should not exceed a total of 2,500 words (excluding the abstract, references and legends). Include a word count for your manuscript in your cover letter.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor will be considered for publication, subject to editing. Letters must contain information critical to a certain area or must be confirmatory of data recently published in *Oncogenesis*.

Letters must reference the original source, and a Response to a Letter must reference the Letter in the first few paragraphs, as well as the original source. Letters can use an arbitrary title, but a Response must cite the title of the Letter: e.g. Response to [title of Letter].

All Letters must contain a title page including all authors' names and affiliations and corresponding author contact information.

Letters must not exceed 400 words (not including references). There is a limit of five references. The first reference must be the citation for the original article under discussion.

Letters may contain figures or tables (up to two each) only if they show data that refute the original article's conclusions. Figures or tables showing unpublished data in support of the original article's conclusions will not be considered.

PREPARATION OF ARTICLES

Articles must contain the following elements as outlined in the table above:

- Cover letter (including a Conflict of interest statement)
- Title page (excluding acknowledgments)
- Abstract and keywords
- Introduction
- Results
- Discussion
- · Materials and methods
- Conflict of interest
- Acknowledgments
- References
- Tables
- Figures

Cover Letter: The cover letter must state that the manuscript presents original research, has not been previously published, and is not being considered for publication elsewhere. The cover letter must also contain a Conflict of interest statement (see Editorial Policy section). Note that the cover letter will be visible to the reviewers of your paper.

Title Page: The title page must include the title of the paper, the full names and affiliations of all authors, and the name, full postal address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address of the author to whom correspondence is to be sent. The title should be brief, informative, and written in 150 characters or less. It should not make a statement or conclusion about the findings of the paper. The running title (which will appear on subsequent pages should the paper be published in the journal) must consist of not more than 50 letters and spaces. It must be as brief as possible, conveying the essential message of the paper. Authors should disclose the sources of any support for the work, received in the form of grants, equipment, and/or drugs.

Abstract and keywords: The abstract must not exceed 300 words. Three to six descriptive keywords should be included to aid web searches after publication.

Introduction: The Introduction should assume that the reader is knowledgeable in the field and should therefore be as brief as possible; however, it can include a short historical review where appropriate.

Results: Results must briefly present the experimental data in text, tables, or figures. When tables and figures are used, they should not be described extensively in the text.

Discussion: The Discussion must focus on the interpretation and the significance of the findings, with concise objective comments that describe their relation to other work in the area. It should not repeat information presented in the Results. The final paragraph should highlight the main conclusions and provide some indication of the direction future research should take.

Materials and methods: Materials and methods must contain sufficient details, including references, so that all experimental procedures can be reproduced. Methods that have been published in detail elsewhere should not be described in detail; a reference to the original paper should be used instead. The Materials and methods section must be included within the main text of the manuscript and may not under any circumstances be included as supplementary information.

Authors must provide the name of the manufacturer and its location for any named medical equipment and/or instruments. All drugs must be identified by their pharmaceutical names and by their trade name, if relevant.

Conflict of interest: Authors must declare whether or not there are any competing financial interests in relation to the work described. This information must be included upon submission and will be published as part of the paper. Conflict of interest should also be noted in the cover letter. See the Conflict of interest section in <u>Editorial Policy</u> below for more information.

Acknowledgments: Acknowledgments must be brief and include sources of support such as sponsorship (e.g. grants or other financial support received from universities or other academic institutions; corporations or other commercial entities; government agencies; non-governmental organization; charities) and sources of material (e.g. novel drugs, equipment) not available commercially.

References: References must follow the Vancouver format. In the text, they should appear as numbers starting at 1 and at the end of the paper they should be listed (double-spaced) in numerical order corresponding to the order of citation in the text. All authors should be cited for papers with up to six authors; for papers with more than six authors, only the first six should be cited, followed by *et al.* Abbreviations for titles of periodicals should conform to those used in the latest edition of *Index Medicus*. The first and last page numbers for each reference should be provided. Abstracts and letters must be identified as such. Papers in press and papers already submitted for publication may be included (and indicated as such) in the reference list but no citation is required for work that is not yet submitted for publication.

Journal article, up to six authors:

1. Reiter RE, Gu Z, Watabe T, Thomas G, Szigeti K, Davis E *et al*. Prostate stem cell antigen: a cell surface marker overexpressed in prostate cancer. *Proc Natl Acad Sci* USA 1998; **95**: 1735–1740.

Journal article, e-pub ahead of print:

2. Glendenning J, Khoo V. Sweet's syndrome in prostate cancer. *Prostate Cancer Prostatic Dis* 2008; e-pub ahead of print 29 January 2008; doi:10.1038/sj.pcan.4501029.

Journal article, in press:

3. Kao PF, Chou YH, Lai CW. Diffuse FDG uptake in acute prostatitis. *Clin Nucl Med* (in press).

Complete book:

4. Burnet FM. *Immunological Surveillance*. Pergamon Press: Oxford, UK, 1970.

Chapter in book:

5. Denmeade SR, Isaacs JT. Activation of programmed (apoptotic) cell death for the treatment of prostate cancer. In: August JT, Anders MW, Murad F, Coyle JT (eds). *Advances in Pharmacology*, vol. 35. Academic Press: London, 1996, pp 281–306.

Abstract:

6. Lennon S, Strong A. Wnt signaling and cancer development: therapeutic implications. *Neoplasma* 2006; **53** (Suppl 1): 123 (abstract 456).

Letter to the Editor:

7. Braillon A. Re: is a screening interval of every 4 years for prostate cancer acceptable? [letter]. *J Natl Cancer Inst* 2008; **100**: 222–223.

Personal communications must be allocated a number and included in the list of references in the usual way. Authors must obtain permission from the individual concerned to quote his/her unpublished work.

Where a reference is next to a number (for example an equation, chemical formula, or biological acronym) instead of being put in superscript, e.g. bcl-2³, it should be written as (ref. 3). For example:

- "that does not express bcl-2 (ref. 3) and subjected it to..."
- "detectable levels of endogenous bcl-2 (ref. 3), as confirmed by western blot."
- "dominant-negative inhibitor of bcl-2 (ref. 3). In this study..."

Tables: Tables must be titled, numbered sequentially, and cited within the text. Present each table on its own page. Reference to table footnotes should be made by means of Arabic numerals. Tables should not duplicate the content of the text. They should consist of at least two columns; columns should always have headings. Ensure that the data in the tables are consistent with those cited in the relevant places in the text, totals add up correctly, and percentages have been calculated correctly. Unlike figures or images, tables may be included at the end of the text document or supplied as separate electronic files.

Figures: Figures and images must be numbered sequentially and cited in the text. Figure legends should be brief, specific, and appear on a separate manuscript page after the References section. Do not embed figures within the text. If a figure has been published before, the authors must obtain written permission to reproduce the material in both print and electronic formats from the copyright owner and submit it with the manuscript. This follows for quotes, illustrations, data, tables, and any other material taken from previously published works not in the public domain. The original source must be cited in the figure caption or table footnote. The use of threedimensional histograms is strongly discouraged when the addition of the third dimension gives no extra information. For electron micrographs, use scale markers and indicate the type of stain used. Detailed guidelines for submitting artwork can be found by downloading the Artwork Guidelines.

Supplementary Information: Supplementary information (SI) is peer-reviewed material directly relevant to the conclusion of an article that cannot be included in the article itself owing to space or format constraints. The article must be complete and self-explanatory without the SI, which is posted on the journal's website and linked to the article. SI may consist of data files, extensive tables, graphics, movies, or animations. View the Artwork Guidelines for more information on acceptable file types and sizes. Submit SI files in their final format as they are not edited, typeset, or changed—they will appear online exactly as submitted. When submitting SI files:

- Include a text summary (no more than 50 words) describing the contents of each file
- · Identify the file format submitted
- Include the text "Supplementary Information accompanies the paper on the *Oncogenesis* website (http://www.nature.com/oncsis)" at the end of the text and before the References.

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- Do not make rules thinner than 1pt (0.36mm)
- Use a coarse hatching pattern rather than shading for tints in graphs
- Color should be distinct when being used as an identifying tool
- Use spaces (not commas) to separate thousands
- Define abbreviations upon first use
- Use International System of Units (SI units) throughout
- Double space text and use a wide margin
- At first mention of a manufacturer, provide the town (and state if USA) and country

Availability of Data and Materials: An inherent principle of publication is that others must be able to replicate and build upon the authors' published claims. Therefore, a condition of publication is that authors are required to make materials, data, and associated protocols available in a publicly accessible database (as detailed below). Where one does not exist, the information must be made available to referees upon submission and to readers promptly upon request. Any restrictions on materials availability or other relevant information must be disclosed in the manuscript's Materials and methods section and should include details of how materials and information may be obtained.

Sequences, structures, and 'omics': Papers reporting protein or DNA sequences and molecular structures will not be accepted without an accession number to Genbank, EMBL, DDBI, Protein DataBank, SWISS-PROT, or other appropriate, identified, publicly available databases in general use in the field that gives free access to researchers from the date of publication.

Authors of papers describing structures of biological macromolecules must provide experimental data upon the request of editors if they are not already freely accessible in a publicly available database such as Protein DataBank, Nucleic Acids Database, or Biological Magnetic Resonance Databank. Five separate copies of these data should be provided to the editors in an appropriate format for the purposes of peer review.

Language Editing

Authors who are not native speakers of English sometimes receive negative comments from referees or editors about the language and grammar usage in their manuscripts, which can contribute to a paper being rejected. To reduce the possibility of such problems, we strongly encourage such authors to take at least one of the following steps:

 Have your manuscript reviewed for clarity by a colleague whose native language is English.

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Please note that the use of a language editing service is at the author's own expense and does not guarantee that the article will be selected for peer review or accepted.

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Please submit pre-submission inquiries via the online manuscript submission system or via e-mail to oncogene@us.nature.com.

Online Submission

We only accept manuscript submission via our <u>online manuscript submission system</u>. Before submitting a manuscript, authors are encouraged to consult both our <u>Editorial Policies</u> and the <u>Submission Instructions</u> for our online manuscript submission system. If you have not already done so, please <u>register for an account</u> with our online

manuscript system. You will be able to monitor the status of your manuscript online throughout the editorial process.

Submission of Revisions

Authors submitting a revised manuscript after review are asked to include the following:

- (1) A letter indicating point-by-point how you have addressed the comments raised by the editors and reviewers. If you disagree with any of the points raised, please provide adequate justification in your letter.
- (2) A revised version of the manuscript that includes changes based on the comments raised by the editors and reviewers.

POST-ACCEPTANCE

Oncogenesis is an open access journal: authors pay an article processing charge (APC) for their accepted articles to be open access online and freely accessible, immediately upon publication, under a Creative Commons license.

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If your manuscript is accepted for publication, we encourage you to upload the step-by-step protocols used in your manuscript to the Protocol Exchange. Protocol Exchange is an open online resource that allows researchers to share their

detailed experimental know-how. All uploaded protocols are made freely available, assigned DOIs for ease of citation and fully searchable through nature.com. Protocols can be linked to any publications in which they are used and will be linked to from your article. You can also establish a dedicated page to collect all your lab Protocols. By uploading your Protocols to

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COSTS

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Oncogenesis levies the following article processing charges (APC) for each article accepted for publication: £2,600/\$3,500/€2,800 (plus VAT or local taxes where applicable). A <u>payment form</u> will need to be completed and returned alongside the License to Publish form. Failure to promptly return these forms will result in delay of publication.

With regards to payment, usual credit terms are 30 days from receipt of invoice. Failure to pay your invoice within the stated credit term may result in restrictions on your ability to publish with Nature Publishing Group or *Oncogenesis* in the future, involvement of a third party debt collection agency, and legal proceedings.

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We offer APC waivers to authors from HINARI countries.

Discretionary APC waivers will be considered on a case-bycase basis and may be granted in cases of financial need. All applications for APC waivers should be made prior to, or at the point of, manuscript submission; requests made during the review process or after acceptance will not be considered. To request a waiver, please contact us at openaccess@nature.com.

Open access funding

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EDITORIAL POLICIES

Duplicate Publication

Papers must be original and not published or submitted for publication elsewhere. This rule also applies to non-English language publications. NPG allows and encourages prior publication on recognized community preprint servers for review by other scientists before formal submission to *Oncogenesis*. The details of the preprint server concerned and any accession numbers should be included in the cover letter accompanying manuscript submission. This policy does not extend to preprints available to the media or that are otherwise publicized outside the scientific community before or during the submission and review process.

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Clinical Trials

As defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), a clinical trial is any research project that prospectively assigns human subjects to intervention and comparison groups to study the cause-and-effect relationship between a medical intervention and a health outcome. A medical intervention is any intervention used to modify a health outcome and includes but is not limited to drugs, surgical procedures, devices, behavioural treatments, and process-of-care changes. A trial must have at least one prospectively assigned concurrent control or comparison group in order to trigger the requirement for registration. Nonrandomized trials are not exempt from the registration requirement if they meet the above criteria.

When reporting experiments on human subjects, please indicate whether the procedures were in accordance with the ethical standards of the responsible committee on human experimentation (institutional or regional) or with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975 (as revised in 1983). Include Institutional Review Board or Animal Care and Use Committee approvals.

All clinical trials must be registered in a public registry prior to submission. The journal follows the trials registration policy of

the ICMJE (www.icmje.org) and considers only trials that have been appropriately registered before submission, regardless of when the trial closed to enrolment. Acceptable registries must meet the following ICMJE requirements:

- be publicly available, searchable, and open to all prospective registrants
- have a validation mechanism for registration data
- be managed by a not-for-profit organization

Examples of registries that meet these criteria include:

- the registry sponsored by the United States National Library of Medicine, <u>www.clinicaltrials.gov</u>;
- 2) the International Standard Randomized Controlled Trial Number Registry, www.controlled-trials.com;
- the Cochrane Renal Group Registry, <u>www.cochrane-renal.org</u>;
- 4) and the European Clinical Trials Database, https://eudract.ema.europa.eu/.

The trial registry number for eligible papers will be collected during the submission process.

Randomised Controlled Trials (RCTs) must adhere to the CONSORT statement, (CONsolidated Standards Of Reporting Trials) and submissions must be accompanied by a completed CONSORT checklist (uploaded as a related manuscript file). Further information can be found at www.consort-statement.org.

Nature Publishing Group endorses the toolkits and guidelines produced by the Committee on Publication Ethics, http://publicationethics.org/.

Conflict of Interest

In the interests of transparency and to help readers form their own judgments of potential bias, authors must declare whether or not there are any competing financial interests in relation to the work described. This information must be included in their cover letter and on the title page of their manuscript. In cases where the authors declare a competing financial interest, a statement to that effect is published as part of the article. If no such conflict exists, the statement will simply read that the authors have nothing to disclose.

For the purposes of this statement, competing interests are defined as those of a financial nature that, through their potential influence on behaviour or content, or from perception of such potential influences, could undermine the objectivity, integrity or perceived value of a publication. They can include any of the following:

- Funding: Research support (including salaries, equipment, supplies, reimbursement for attending symposia, and other expenses) by organizations that may gain or lose financially through this publication. The role of the funding body in the design of the study, collection and analysis of data and decision to publish should be stated.
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- organization that may gain or lose financially through this publication.
- Personal financial interests: Stocks or shares in companies that may gain or lose financially through publication; consultation fees or other forms of remuneration from organizations that may gain or lose financially; patents or patent applications whose value may be affected by publication.

It is difficult to specify a threshold at which a financial interest becomes significant, but note that many US universities require faculty members to disclose interests exceeding \$10,000 or 5% equity in a company. Any such figure is arbitrary, so we offer as one possible practical alternative guideline: "Declare all interests that could embarrass you were they to become publicly known after your work was published." We do not consider diversified mutual funds or investment trusts to constitute a competing financial interest.

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Following the Conflict of Interest heading, there must be a listing for each author, detailing the professional services relevant to the submission. Neither the precise amount received from each entity nor the aggregate income from these sources needs to be provided. Professional services include any activities for which the individual is, has been, or will be compensated with cash, royalties, fees, stock or stock options in exchange for work performed, advice or counsel provided, or for other services related to the author's professional knowledge and skills. This would include, but not necessarily be limited to, the identification of organizations from which the author received contracts or in which he or she holds an equity stake if professional services were provided in conjunction with the transaction.

Examples of declarations are:

- Conflict of interest.

 The authors declare no conflict of interest.
- Conflict of interest.

Dr Caron's work has been funded by the NIH. He has received compensation as a member of the scientific advisory board of Acadia Pharmaceutical and owns stock in the company. He also has consulted for Lundbeck and received compensation. Dr Rothman and Dr Jensen declare no potential conflict of interest.

Communication with the Media

Material submitted must not be discussed with the media. We reserve the right to halt the consideration or publication of a paper if this condition is broken. If a paper is particularly newsworthy, the press release will be sent to our list of journalists in advance of publication with an embargo that forbids any coverage of the manuscript, or the findings of the manuscript, until the time and date clearly stated. Authors whose papers are scheduled for publication may also arrange their own publicity (for instance through their institution's press offices), but they must strictly adhere to our press embargo and are advised to coordinate their own publicity with our press office.

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Authors are welcome to post pre-submission versions or the original submitted version of the manuscript on a personal blog, a collaborative wiki or a recognized preprint server (such as <u>ArXiv</u>) at any time (but not subsequent pre-accept versions that evolve due to the editorial process).

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Each author must have contributed sufficiently to the intellectual content of the submission. The corresponding author should list all authors and their contributions to the work. Any changes to the author list after submission, such as a change in the order of the authors, or the deletion or addition of authors, must be approved by a signed letter from every author. The corresponding author must confirm that he or she

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Images submitted with a manuscript for review should be minimally processed (for instance, to add arrows to a micrograph). Authors should retain their unprocessed data and metadata files, as editors may request them to aid in manuscript evaluation. If unprocessed data is unavailable, manuscript evaluation may be stalled until the issue is resolved.

A certain degree of image processing is acceptable for publication, but the final image must correctly represent the original data and conform to community standards. The guidelines below will aid in accurate data presentation at the image processing level:

- Authors should list all image acquisition tools and image processing software packages used. Authors should document key image-gathering settings and processing manipulations in the Methods section.
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For **gels and blots**, positive and negative controls, as well as molecular size markers, should be included on each gel and blot – either in the main figure or an expanded data supplementary figure. The display of cropped gels and blots in the main paper is encouraged if it improves the clarity and conciseness of the presentation. In such cases, the cropping must be mentioned in the figure legend.

- Vertically sliced gels that juxtapose lanes that were not contiguous in the experiment must have a clear separation or a black line delineating the boundary between the gels.
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- Cropped blots in the body of the paper should retain at least six band widths above and below the band.
- High-contrast gels and blots are discouraged, as overexposure may mask additional bands. Authors should strive for exposures with gray backgrounds. Immunoblots should be surrounded by a black line to indicate the borders of the blot, if the background is faint.

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Microscopy adjustments should be applied to the entire image. Threshold manipulation, expansion or contraction of signal ranges and the altering of high signals should be avoided. If 'pseudo-coloring' and nonlinear adjustment (for example 'gamma changes') are used, this must be disclosed. Adjustments of individual color channels are sometimes necessary on 'merged' images, but this should be noted in the figure legend. We encourage inclusion of the following with the final revised version of the manuscript for publication:

- In the Methods section, specify the type of equipment (microscopes/objective lenses, cameras, detectors, filter model and batch number) and acquisition software used. Although we appreciate that there is some variation between instruments, equipment settings for critical measurements should also be listed.
- The display lookup table (LUT) and the quantitative map between the LUT and the bitmap should be provided, especially when rainbow pseudo-color is used. It should be stated if the LUT is linear and covers the full range of the data.
- Processing software should be named and manipulations indicated (such as type of deconvolution, threedimensional reconstructions, surface and volume rendering, 'gamma changes', filtering, thresholding and projection).
- Authors should state the measured resolution at which an image was acquired and any downstream processing or averaging that enhances the resolution of the image.

Human and Other Animal Experiments

For primary research manuscripts reporting experiments on live vertebrates and/or higher invertebrates, the corresponding author must confirm that all experiments were performed in accordance with relevant guidelines and regulations. The manuscript must include in the Supplementary Information (methods) section (or, if brief, within of the article at an appropriate place), a statement identifying the institutional and/or licensing committee approving the experiments, including any relevant details regarding animal welfare, patient anonymity, drug side effects and informed consent. Sex and other characteristics of animals that may influence results must be described. Details of housing and husbandry must be included where they are likely to influence experimental results. *Oncogenesis* recommends following the ARRIVE reporting guidelines when documenting animal studies.

For experiments involving human subjects, authors must identify the committee approving the experiments, and include with their submission a statement confirming that informed consent was obtained from all subjects.

Biosecurity Policy

The Editor may seek advice about submitted papers not only from technical reviewers but also on any aspect of a paper that raises concerns. These may include, for example, ethical issues or issues of data or materials access. Occasionally, concerns may also relate to the implications to society of publishing a paper, including threats to security. In such circumstances, advice will usually be sought simultaneously with the technical peer-review process. As in all publishing decisions, the ultimate decision whether to publish is the responsibility of the editor of the journal concerned.

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Manuscripts sent out for peer review are evaluated by at least one independent reviewer (often two or more). Authors are welcome to suggest independent reviewers to evaluate their manuscript, as well as request individuals or laboratories. All recommendations are considered, but it is at the Editor's discretion their choice of reviewers. To expedite the review process, only papers that seem most likely to meet editorial criteria are sent for external review. Papers judged by the editors to be of insufficient general interest or otherwise inappropriate are rejected promptly without external review. The editors then make a decision based on the reviewers' evaluations:

- Accept, with or without editorial revisions.
- Revise, with the author addressing concerns raised by the reviewers before a final decision is reached.
- **Reject**, but indicate to the authors that further work might justify a resubmission.
- Reject outright, typically on grounds of specialist interest, lack of novelty, insufficient conceptual advance or major technical and/or interpretational problems.

As of March 2015, *Oncogenesis* requires authors of papers that are sent for external review to include in their manuscripts relevant details about several elements of experimental and analytical design. This initiative aims to improve the transparency of reporting and the reproducibility of published results, focusing on elements of methodological information that are frequently poorly reported. Authors being asked to resubmit a manuscript will be asked to confirm that these elements are included by filling out a checklist that will be made available to the editor and reviewers.

Anonymity and Confidentiality

All details about submitted manuscripts are kept confidential and no comments are issued to outside parties or organizations about manuscripts under consideration or if they are rejected. Editors are restricted to making public comments on a published article's content and their evaluation.

We do not release reviewers' identities to authors, except when reviewers specifically ask to be identified.

We ask reviewers not to identify themselves to authors without the editor's knowledge. If they wish to reveal their identities while the manuscript is under consideration, this should be done via the editor; if this is not practicable, we ask authors to inform the editor as soon as possible after the reviewer has revealed their identity. We deplore any attempt by authors to confront reviewers or try to determine their identities. Our own policy is to neither confirm nor deny any speculation about reviewers' identities, and we encourage reviewers to adopt a similar policy.

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- **Erratum**. Notification of *an important error made by the journal* that affects the publication record or the scientific integrity of the paper, or the reputation of the authors, or of the journal.
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Decisions about corrections are made by the Editor (sometimes with peer-reviewers' advice) and this sometimes involves author consultation. Requests to make corrections that do not affect the paper in a significant way or impair the reader's understanding of the contribution (a spelling mistake or grammatical error, for example) are not considered.

In cases where co-authors disagree about a correction, the editors will take advice from independent peer-reviewers and impose the appropriate correction, noting the dissenting author(s) in the text of the published version.

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