School of Medical Sciences Honours Manuscript - Instructions to Authors

(Adapted from the Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals, the British Journal of Pharmacology, the Journal of Anatomy, the Journal of Pathology and the Journal of Physiology)


Title Page
Title: The title should contain no more than 150 characters (including spaces) and clearly indicate the subject matter of the paper.
Authors: The author's name in full and the name and addresses of the department(s) and institution(s) to which the work should be attributed.
Running Title: A running title containing no more than 50 characters (including spaces) is required.
Key Words: Three to Five key words should be provided.
Word Count: The word count excluding abstract, statement of contribution, acknowledgments, references and figure legends should be listed.
Abbreviations: list all abbreviations used

Abstract
An abstract of up to 250 words should follow the title page. The abstract should provide the background for the study, experimental approach, major findings and conclusions. It should be understandable without reference to the rest of the paper. References may not be cited.

Statement of Contribution
The statement of contribution should specifically identify the components of research undertaken by the student. To do this, indicate which aspects of the research results included in the thesis were done in collaboration with, or undertaken by, other members of the research group or by external collaborators. Examples of this may include (but not limited to); some surgeries being undertaken by more experienced lab colleagues, tissue cultures being maintained or processed by lab assistants, survey response or patient databases generated or analysed in whole or partly by others, a subsection of the same experimental data obtained by lab colleagues, nucleotide sequences or gene mutations being outsourced to an external company. Seek advice from your supervisor or mentor if you are unsure about this.

Acknowledgements
The author should acknowledge those who have provided funds, reagents, technical guidance and/or training and scientific advice.

Introduction
The introduction should give a clear account of the background for the study, and the research objective or hypothesis tested should be stated. The introduction should be understandable to a non-specialist.
**Methods**

The methods must be described in sufficient detail to allow the experiments to be interpreted and repeated by an experienced investigator. Give references to established methods, provide references and brief descriptions for methods that have been published but are not well known; describe new or substantially modified methods. Identify the apparatus, drugs and chemicals used, give the manufacturer’s name and address in parentheses after each item. Describe the statistical methods used and define all statistical terms, abbreviations, and symbols. Specify the computer software used. Where appropriate, describe your selection of the subjects (patients or laboratory animals, including controls), identify the age, sex, strain, number used and other important characteristics of the subjects.

**Results**

Present your results in logical sequence in the text, tables, graphs and illustrations. The description of the experimental results should be succinct, but in sufficient detail to allow the experiments to be analysed and interpreted by the reader. Where group data is presented, the averaged or median results with some measure of variability (standard deviations, confidence intervals, standard errors of the means), along with the number of observations, and statistical significance, should be given as appropriate. The rationale for performing the experiments may be briefly mentioned in the Results section, but conclusions or interpretation of results should not be presented. Do not repeat in the text all the data that is presented in the tables or graphs. Headed paragraphs maybe used to aid in the presentation of the results.

Work which is integral to the manuscript but that was performed by another member of the supervisor's and/or co-supervisor's research group can be included in results and discussed, but is to be clearly disclosed in the Statement of Contribution and Methods or Results as appropriate.

**Discussion**

In the discussion explore possible mechanisms or explanations for the findings of your study, compare and contrast your results with those from other relevant studies, state the limitations of the study, and explore the implications of the findings for future research. Do not repeat in detail data or other material given in the Introduction or the Results sections. The main conclusions should be conveyed in the final paragraph.

**References**

In the text, references to other work should take the form: (Bolton and Kitamura, 1983) or ‘Bolton and Kitamura (1983) showed that…’ When a paper written by two authors is cited, both names are given; for three or more authors only the first name is given, followed by ‘et al.’ References to unpublished observations or personal communications should be mentioned in the text only, and not included in the list of references. Direct reference to original research sources should be used whenever possible.

The reference list at the end of the manuscript must be arranged alphabetically according to the surname of the first author. When the names of first authors are identical, the alphabetical order of the surnames of subsequent authors takes precedence over the year of publication. The authors’ names are followed by the year of publication in brackets. If more than one paper by the same authors in one year is cited, a, b, c, etc. are placed after the year of publication, both in the text and in the list of references. All authors should be quoted for papers with up to seven authors; for papers with more than seven authors, the first six should be quoted followed by et al.
The format for references to papers and books, and to chapters in books, is as follows:


For those articles published on online ahead of print, that have not been assigned full publication details the DOI (digital object identifier) should be used. See example below:


An endnote file will be available to download from Moodle, but the ultimate responsibility for adhering to prescribed format rests with the student.

The format to reports, thesis and other works should take the form as found in recent issues of the British Journal of Pharmacology, the Journal of Anatomy, the Journal of Pathology and/or the Journal of Physiology.

**Tables**

Each table should be given on a separate page integrated at an appropriate position within the text. Tables are numbered consecutively according to the order in which they have been first cited in the text. Tables should be numbered with Arabic numerals and the number should be followed by a brief descriptive title at the head of the table. Tables should be self-explanatory, with necessary descriptions provided in footnotes underneath the table. Give each column a short or abbreviated heading.

**Figures and Legends**

Figures should be numbered consecutively according to the order in which they have been first cited in the text. Figure legends can appear below the figure and/or on a separate page. Each figure should be given a title and a legend that explains the figures in sufficient detail that, whenever possible, they can be understood without reference to the text. All symbols and abbreviations should be explained within the legend. If a figure has been published, acknowledge the original source.

**Supplementary Data**

Material needed for an in depth evaluation of the work, but which does not fit well in manuscript format, should be included as Supplementary Data. These data should only be included if they provide material that further supports or substantiates the results presented or summarized in the main manuscript, but would not be able to readily fit in the main text. They should be summarized and referred to in the main text, and should not be essential for the understanding of the manuscript nor for the major conclusions. Supplementary data should be as brief as possible, and/or submitted as a separate pdf in electronic format only.
Abbreviations, Units and Symbols

Use only standard abbreviations; the full term for which an abbreviation stands should precede its first use in the text. SI units and symbols should be used for physicochemical quantities. Gene names and loci should be in italics, and proteins should be in roman. Virus nomenclature (and acronyms) should follow the guidelines of the International Committee on the Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV). Chemical nomenclature should follow the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC) definitive rules for nomenclature. Pharmacological units should follow the guidelines given in the British Journal of Pharmacology.

Formatting and Technical Instructions

Text should be times roman, 12 point font, with 1.5 line-spacing throughout the manuscript. Margins should be 3 cm on the left-hand side, 2 cm on the right-hand, 2 cm at the top and 2 cm at the bottom. The manuscript should be no more than 5000 words excluding; the abstract, acknowledgements and references, tables, figures, legends, and supplementary data.