

INSTRUCTIONS FOR AUTHORS

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1. ABOUT THE JOURNAL

The Chinese Clinical Oncology (Print ISSN 2304-3865; Online ISSN 2304-3873; Chin Clin Oncol; CCO) publishes articles that describe new findings in the field of oncology, provides current and practical information on diagnosis, prevention and clinical investigations of cancer. Specific areas of interest include, but not limited to, multimodality therapy, markers, imaging, tumor biology, pathology, chemoprevention, and technical advances related to cancer. The aim of the Journal is to provide a forum for the dissemination of original research articles as well as review articles in all areas related to cancer. It is an international, peer-reviewed journal with a focus on cutting-edge findings in this rapidly changing field, while providing practical up-to-date information on diagnosis, prevention, and treatment of cancer. To that end, Chin Clin Oncol is dedicated to translating the latest research developments into best multimodality practice. The journal features a distinguished editorial board, which brings together a team of highly experienced specialists in cancer treatment and research. The diverse experience of the board members allows our editorial panel to lend their expertise to a broad spectrum of cancer subjects. The entire submission and review process are managed through OJS system, an electronic system, which provides an efficient way and ensures a rapid turnaround of papers submitted for publication. The Official Publication of Society for Translational Cancer Research (STCR); Endorsed by Chinese Society of Clinical Oncology (CSCO).

2. MANUSCRIPT CATEGORIES

Review Articles

A Review Article is a timely, in-depth focus of an issue. Review articles are generally solicited by the editors, but unsolicited materials may be considered. Proposals for reviews should be submitted with an outline for initial consideration. Both solicited and unsolicited review articles will undergo peer review prior to acceptance. Review articles must be no longer than 6000 words excluding title page, abstract, text, tables, figures, figure legends, and references. Abstracts are limited to 300 words.

Original Article

Originality and clinical impact are essential for acceptance of Original Articles. Structured abstract is limited to 300 words. The abstract should contain the following subheadings: Background, Methods, Results and Conclusions. Descriptions of the following points are critically evaluated. Original article should entail a section describing the contribution each author made to the manuscript. See section “**Authors’ Contribution**” for details. Meta-analysis will be categorized into this type.

Research Highlights

Research Highlights are brief reports of important research findings that have been recently published in the field of clinical oncology. Manuscripts containing pertinent and interesting observations concerning clinical oncology research and reports on new observations or studies that do not warrant publication as a full research article will be considered for Research Highlights. These submissions will undergo full peer review. They are usually solicited by editors. The text is limited to 1500 words. Abstracts are limited to 300 words.

Perspectives

Word limit: 3000 words maximum including abstract but excluding references, tables and figures.

Abstract: Unstructured. 300 words maximum.

References: no maximum.

Description: Perspectives can be more personal, forward-looking or speculative, compared with reviews of a scientific topic. A paper presenting controversial positions or papers of the same topic advocate opposite sides will be published as Perspectives. Most of Perspectives will be solicited by the editors; however, we also welcome timely, unsolicited Perspectives. Proposals for perspectives may be submitted; however, in this case authors should send an outline of the proposed article prior to submission.

Art of Operative Techniques

“Art of Operative Techniques” is a featured section that publishes illustrated articles. These articles must include four subheadings – Abstract, Introduction, Operative Techniques and Comments. The abstract is limited to 300 words. The body of the article should include 10-15 medical drawings or photos, accompanied by detailed legends, describing the operative procedures in a step-by-step format. Expert opinions regarding possible pitfalls and the comparison of the described procedure with other methods are encouraged. It is important to submit (1) the outline of your manuscript and (2) the attached graphics by the submission date. Illustrations in color are encouraged and the finalized graphics submitted will be printed at no cost to the authors. If required, our medical illustrator may be made available, however, there will be additional costs associated with the use of this service.

Masters of Surgical Oncology

“Masters of Surgical Oncology” is a featured section that publishes narrated videos provided by renowned surgeons. This section is designed to be presented as a detailed “how to” multimedia manual for operative procedures. The submitted videos of each article must have a maximal limit

of one hour in duration and it must be accompanied with descriptive text. The text should include four subheadings –Abstract, Introduction, Operative Techniques and Comments. The abstract is limited to 300 words. The main section on Operative Techniques should include detailed descriptions of the procedures in a step-by-step format. Expert opinions regarding possible pitfalls and the comparison of the described procedure with other methods are encouraged. The corresponding author must confirm in the Copyright Transfer Agreement, that he/she has received a signed release form from each patient recorded on the submitted video. Ideally, patients should not be identifiable in these videos. Prior to publication and distribution, the CCO reserves the right to edit the submitted video, including the insertion of a voice-over. If required, additional video editing by the authors (which may delay publication) may also be requested.

Safeguards and Pitfalls

“Safeguards and Pitfalls” is a featured section, which will include brief reports that highlights technical mistakes or possible complications in the performance of surgical procedures. These reports should detail the mechanism of their occurrence, followed by recommendations of the appropriate management. Strategies to avoid these complications should also be included. Excluding references, tables and figures, the text is limited to 2500 words. Abstract is limited to 300 words. Photos, drawings and videos are encouraged.

Technical Notes

Technical notes should present a novel or improved technique, investigation or procedure. The article must describe a demonstrable advance on what is currently available. The text is limited to 2500 words including abstract, but excluding references, tables and figures. Photos, drawings and videos are encouraged.

Your Views

Letters-to-the-Editor related to papers previously published in CCO. Letters must be submitted within two months of the online publication date of the article discussed in order to be considered. The authors of the original publication will be given the opportunity to respond in the same issue of CCO. Letters and responses must not exceed 500 words in length, must be limited to three authors and five references, and should not have tables or figures.

Commentaries

Word Limit: 1500 words maximum excluding references, tables and figures.

Abstract: Not required.

References: 20 maximum, including the article discussed.

Figures/tables: 2 maximum.

Description: Commentary, upon Editor’s invitation, discusses a paper or report or event within the past few months or so, or in the near future. It should set the problems addressed by the paper/report/event in the wider context of the field. Proposals for Commentary may be submitted; however, in this case authors should only send an outline of the proposed paper for initial consideration.

Editorials

Word Limit: 2,500 words maximum excluding references, tables and figures.

Abstract: Not required.

References: 25 maximum.

Figures/tables: 2 maximum.

Description: Editorial is written by recognized leader(s) in the field. It is generally solicited by the (Deputy) Editor(s)-in-Chief.

Case Reports

Only cases of exceptional interest and novelty are considered. The text is limited to 1500 words. The abstract is limited to 300 words.

3. STRUCTURE OF THE MANUSCRIPT

The length of manuscripts must adhere to the specifications under the section Manuscript Categories.

Manuscripts should be presented in the following order: (i) title page, (ii) abstract and key words, (iii) text, (iv) acknowledgments, (v) disclosure, (vi) references, (vii) supplementary material, (viii) figure legends, (ix) tables (each table complete with title and footnotes) and (x) figures. Footnotes to the text are not allowed and any such material should be incorporated into the text as parenthetical matter.

Title Page

The title page should contain (i) the title of the manuscript. Authors should include all information in the title that will make electronic retrieval of the article both sensitive and specific. (ii) the full names of the authors and (iii) the addresses of the institutions at which the work was carried out together with (iv) the full postal and email address, plus facsimile and telephone numbers, of the corresponding author. The present address of any author, if different from that where the work was carried out, should be supplied in a footnote. In keeping with the latest guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, each author’s contribution to the paper is to be quantified. The title should be short, informative and contain the major key words so that readers and in particular online users will discover the article easily in online search. Do not use abbreviations in the title. A short running title (less than 40

characters) should also be provided.

Abstract and Keywords

The length of abstracts must adhere to the word count specifications under the section Manuscript Categories. The abstract should include the following subheadings: Background, Methods, Results and Conclusions. It must be factual and comprehensive. The use of abbreviations and acronyms should be limited and general statements (e.g. “the significance of the results is discussed”) should be avoided. Three to five key words should be supplied below the abstract, in alphabetical order, and should be taken from those recommended by the US National Library of Medicine’s Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) browser list at: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/meshhome.html>.

Text

Authors must use the following subheadings to divide the sections of their Original Article manuscript: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgment, Disclosure, References, and when relevant, Supplementary Material. However, review, perspective, opinion and commentary articles do not require these specifically outlined sections, and they can be written in several sections with their own headings, as suitable.

Acknowledgements

This should include sources of support, including federal and industry support. All authors who have contributed to the manuscript must be acknowledged. Medical writers, proofreaders and editors should not be listed as authors, but acknowledged at the beginning or end of the text.

Disclosure

At the time of submission, each author must disclose and describe any involvement, financial or otherwise, that might potentially pose a conflict of interest. Disclosure must be included in the text of the manuscript.

References

The Vancouver system of referencing should be used. In the text, references should be cited using superscript Arabic numerals in the order in which they appear. If cited in tables or figure legends, number according to the first identification of the table or figure in the text. In the reference list, cite the names of all authors when there are three or fewer; when four or more, list the first three followed by et al. Do not use *ibid.* or *op cit.* Reference to unpublished data and personal communications should not appear in the list but should be cited in the text only (e.g. Smith A, 2000, unpublished data). All citations mentioned in the text, tables or figures must be listed in the reference

list. Names of journals should be abbreviated in the style used in Pubmed. Authors are responsible for the accuracy of the references.

Tables

Tables should be self-contained and complement (but not duplicate) information contained in the text. Number tables consecutively in the text in Arabic numerals. Type tables on a separate page with the legend above. Legends should be concise but comprehensive - the table, legend and footnotes must be understandable without reference to the text. Vertical lines should not be used to separate columns. Column headings should be brief, with units of measurement in parentheses; all abbreviations must be defined in footnotes. Footnote symbols: †, ‡, §, ¶, should be used (in that order) and *, **, *** should be reserved for p-values. Statistical measures such as SD or SEM should be identified in the headings. If tables have been reproduced from another source, a letter from the copyright holder (usually the Publisher), stating authorization to reproduce the material, must be attached to the covering letter.

Figures

All illustrations (line drawings and photographs) are classified as figures. Figures should be cited in consecutive order in the text. Magnifications should be indicated using a scale bar on the illustration. If figures have been reproduced from another source, a letter from the copyright holder (usually the Publisher), stating authorization to reproduce the material, must be attached to the covering letter.

- Size: Figures should be sized to fit within the column (82 mm), intermediate (118 mm) or the full text width (173 mm).
- Resolution: Figures must be supplied as high resolution saved as .eps or .tif. Halftone figures 300 dpi (dots per inch), Color figures 300 dpi saved as CMYK, figures containing text 400 dpi, Line figures 1000 dpi.
- Color figures: Files should be set up as CMYK (cyan, magenta, yellow, black) and not as RGB (red, green, blue) so that colors as they appear on screen will be a closer representation of how they will print in the CCO. - Line figures: Must be sharp, black and white graphs or diagrams, drawn professionally or with a computer graphics package.
- Text sizing in figures: Lettering must be included and should be sized to be no larger than the journal text or 8 point (Should be readable after reduction - avoid large type or thick lines). Line width between 0.5 and 1 point.
- Figure legends: Type figure legends on a separate page. Legends should be concise but comprehensive - the figure and its legend must be understandable without

reference to the text. Include definitions of any symbols used and define/explain all abbreviations and units of measurement.

Videos

CCO will accept digital files in mp4, flash video (flv.), MPEG(MPEG video file), DVD video format, mov., avi., and mwm. formats or video on CD/DVD. Contributors are asked to be succinct, and the Editor-in-chief reserves the rights to require shorter video duration if necessary. Video files can be submitted with a manuscript online: <http://cco.amegroups.com/pages/view/submit-multimedia-files>.

Duration: Video files should be limited to 20 minutes.

Quality: Please set the video aspect ratio as 4:3 or 16:9 (widescreen). The original video should be of high quality. The resolution is no less than 1280*720, the frame rate no less than 24 frames per second and the bit rate no lower than 5Mbps.

Text in video: All the text notes, explanations or descriptions, etc. in the video must be in English. And the logo or watermark of hospital should not be stick on the screen. Plus, the information of patients should be erased from the video.

Video legends: Legends for the video files should be provided. The video files should be numbered consecutively in the order of reference in the text.

Equations

Equations should be numbered sequentially with Arabic numerals; these should be ranged right in parentheses. All variables should appear in italics. Use the simplest possible form for all mathematical symbols.

4. DISCLOSURE

At the time of submission, the submitting author must include a disclosure statement in the body of the manuscript. The statement should include whether the authors have published or submitted the manuscript elsewhere. The statement will also describe all of the authors "relationships with companies that may have a financial interest in the information contained in the manuscript. This information should be provided under the heading titled" Disclosure, "which should appear after the" Acknowledgement "section and before the References" section. The absence of any interest to disclose must also be stated. In addition, any financial interests must be detailed in the Financial Disclosure form, which will be provided to the corresponding author upon acceptance for distribution to each author.

5. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Authors must state that the protocol for the research

project has been approved by a suitably constituted Ethics Committee of the institution within which the work was undertaken and that it conforms to the provisions of in accordance with the Helsinki Declaration as revised in 2013, available at: <http://www.wma.net/en/30publications/10policies/b3/%20index.html>. The journal retains the right to reject any manuscript on the basis of unethical conduct of either human or animal studies. All investigations on human subjects must include a statement that the subject gave informed consent. Patient anonymity should be preserved. Photographs need to be cropped sufficiently to prevent human subjects being recognized (or an eye bar should be used).

◆ For studies in the following categories:

Randomized controlled trials or other intervention research: This category includes any study that carries out medical intervention(s) on patients or healthy individuals.

Case-control study: A case-control study is designed to retrospectively analyze the exposure to the risk factor of interest in subjects with known outcomes (with or without disease; dead or alive; or, with or without other pre-determined endpoints).

Prospective cohort study: In a prospective cohort study, patients with known exposure to a risk factor are followed and then the outcomes (with or without disease; or, dead or alive) were identified.

Cross-sectional studies: Cross-sectional studies are performed to investigate the occurrence of a specific disease or the status quo of a clinical condition.

Basic or translational medical research using human specimens:

- Authors must state whether their studies had been approved by an institutional review board (IRB) (if yes, please provide the number of approval document). For a multi-center study, IRB approval must be obtained from each center.
- The authors must state whether all the subjects had signed the informed consent forms. For subjects under 18 years of age or those with limited capacity for civil conduct, the authors must state whether their caregivers had signed the informed consent forms.
- Also, the authors should state whether the study outcomes will affect the future management of the patients.

◆ For other categories:

Retrospective and ambispective cohort studies: In these studies, the patients' exposure to risk factor(s) were retrospectively identified, followed by the retrospective follow-up of the patients to determine the relationship between the future or current endpoints (with or without

disease; or, dead or alive) and the exposure.

- For studies in this category, authors must state whether their study had been approved by an institutional review board (IRB) (if yes, please provide the number of approval document). For a multi-center study, IRB approval must be obtained from each center.
- Also, the authors should state whether the study outcomes will affect the future management of the patients.
- The authors must state whether all the subjects had signed the informed consent forms before enrollment. For subjects under 18 years of age or those with limited capacity for civil conduct, the authors must state whether their caregivers had signed the informed consent forms. For deceased patients or those who had lost capacity for civil conduct, the informed consent forms could be signed by their family members or caregivers. For studies on patient data retrieved from hospital medical record system or social insurance systems, an informed consent form is not required; however, the authors still need to declare whether the patient's personal data have been secured.

Systematic review and meta-analysis, review, opinion, hypothesis, and editorial

- No statement on medical ethics is required.

Case report and visualized surgery:

- No statement on medical ethics is required. However, in cases of involving new and controversial treatments, approval from IRC might be required.
- Informed consent must be obtained from the subjects or their caregivers.

Diagnostic accuracy tests: These studies are performed to evaluate the efficiency of a specific index test in disease diagnosis.

- For studies in this category, authors must state whether their study had been approved by an institutional review board (IRB) (if yes, please provide the number of approval document). For a multi-center study, IRB approval must be obtained from each center.
- Also, the authors should state whether the study outcomes will affect the future management of the patients.
- If the study has a prospective design: the authors must state whether all the subjects had signed the informed consent forms before enrollment. For subjects under 18 years of age or those with limited capacity for civil conduct, the authors must state whether their caregivers had signed the informed consent forms. However, for retrospective studies based on a hospital medical record

system, no informed consent is required.

Nested case-control study: In a nested case-control study, the patients were followed up after the biological samples are obtained from the subjects, and then a subset of patients are chosen for the analysis.

If the study has a prospective design:

- Authors must state whether their study had been approved by an institutional review board (IRB) (if yes, please provide the number of approval document). For a multi-center study, IRB approval must be obtained from each center.
- Also, the authors should state whether the study outcomes will affect the future management of the patients.
- The authors must state whether all the subjects have signed the informed consent forms before they enter the study, no matter whether they enter the final analysis. For subjects under 18 years of age or those with limited capacity for civil conduct, the authors must state whether their caregivers had signed the informed consent forms.

If the study is based on a previously available specimen bank, the authors must:

- State whether the specimen bank had been approved by the IRB upon its establishment;
- State whether all the subjects had signed the informed consent forms during the establishment of the bank (attached with the numbers of approval documents).

Post hoc analysis: In a post hoc analysis, the authors re-examines the currently available data from different perspectives.

- The authors need to state whether the previous studies had been approved by the local medical ethics committee(s)
- Also, it is important to state whether all the subjects had signed the informed consent forms in the previous studies.

For more information on statement of ethics, please feel free to consult our editorial staff.

6. INFORMED CONSENT

Identifying information, including names, initials, or hospital numbers, should not be published in written descriptions, photographs, or pedigrees unless the information is essential for scientific purposes and the patient (or parent or guardian) gives written informed consent for publication. Informed consent is required for **Case report, original/research articles and visualized surgery**. The statement should be included in the footnote. It may be possible to publish without explicit consent if the

report is important to public health (or is in some other way important); consent would be unusually burdensome to obtain; and a reasonable individual would be unlikely to object to publication (all three conditions must be met)

7. CLINICAL TRIALS REGISTRY

We require, as a condition of consideration for publication, registration in a public trials registry. Trials must register at or before the onset of patient enrollment. This policy applies to any clinical trial starting enrollment after January 1, 2006. For trials that began enrollment before this date, we require registration by April 1, 2006, before considering the trial for publication. We define a clinical trial as any research project that prospectively assigns human subjects to intervention or comparison groups to study the cause-and-effect relationship between a medical intervention and a health outcome. Studies designed for other purposes, such as to study pharmacokinetics or major toxicity (e.g., phase 1 trials) are exempt.

We do not advocate one particular registry, but registration must be with a registry that meets the following minimum criteria: (1) accessible to the public at no charge; (2) searchable by standard, electronic (Internet-based) methods; (3) open to all prospective registrants free of charge or at minimal cost; (4) validates registered information; (5) identifies trials with a unique number; and (6) includes information on the investigator(s), research question or hypothesis, methodology, intervention and comparisons, eligibility criteria, primary and secondary outcomes measured, date of registration, anticipated or actual start date, anticipated or actual date of last follow-up, target number of subjects, status (anticipated, ongoing or closed) and funding source(s).

Registries that currently meet these criteria include:

- (1) The registry sponsored by the United States National Library of Medicine (www.clinicaltrials.gov);
- (2) The International Standard Randomized Controlled Trial Number Registry (<http://www.controlled-trials.com>);
- (3) The Australian Clinical Trials Registry (<http://www.actr.org.au>);
- (4) The Chinese Clinical Trials Register (<http://www.chictr.org>);
- (5) The Clinical Trials Registry - India (<http://www.ctri.in>).

8. RANDOMIZED CONTROLLED TRIALS

Reporting of randomized controlled trials should follow the guidelines of The CONSORT Statement: <http://www.consort-statement.org>

9. COPYRIGHT

All rights of the submitted article is to be transferred and

assigned to AME Publishing Company, for sole right to print, publish, distribute and sell in all languages and media internationally. The transfer of copyright is deemed in effect if and when the submitted article is accepted for publication. If the submitted article contains any material already protected by prior copyright, the corresponding author will deliver to the AME Publishing Company written permission from the copyright holder, for the reproduction of the material in this article.

Permission from AME Publishing Company (permissions@amegroups.com) is required if one would like to reuse any materials published and copyrighted. Royalty fee is exempted in case of the authors asking permission to reuse the materials (figure, tables) for non-commercial purposes.

10. STYLE OF THE MANUSCRIPT

Manuscripts must follow the style of the Vancouver agreement detailed in the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors "revised" Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals: Writing and Editing for Biomedical Publication, as presented at: <http://www.ICMJE.org/>.

Author name

Each author's given name should be followed by his/her surname. Capitalize each letter of the surname. A hyphen could be used in surname according to the rule in the Author's region. Capitalize the first letter of those words/syllables that they hope to be abbreviated in their given name, otherwise, DO NOT capitalize the first letter and use a hyphen to connect it with its anterior word.

Spelling

The CCO uses US spelling and authors should therefore follow the latest edition of the Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary.

Units

All measurements must be given in SI or SI-derived units. For more information about SI units, please go to the Bureau International des Poids et Mesures (BIPM) website at: <http://www.bipm.fr>

Abbreviations

Must be used sparingly - only where they ease the reader's task by reducing repetition of long, technical terms. Initially use the word in full, followed by the abbreviation in parentheses. Thereafter use the abbreviation only.

Trade names

Drugs should be referred to by their generic names. If

proprietary drugs have been used in the study, refer to these by their generic name, mentioning the proprietary name, and the name and location of the manufacturer, in parentheses.

11. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Supporting Information is provided by the authors to support the content of an article but they are not integral to that article. They do not appear in the print version of the article. Supporting Information must be submitted together with the article for review; they should not be added at a later stage. They can be in the form of tables, figures, appendices and even video footage. Reference to Supporting Information in the main body of the article is allowed. However, it should be noted that excessive reference to a piece of Supporting Information may indicate that it would be better suited as a proper reference or fully included figure/table. The materials will be published as they are supplied and will not be checked or typeset in any way. All Supporting Information files should come with a legend, listed at the end of the main article. Each figure and table file should not be larger than 5MB, although video files may be larger.

12. POLICIES ON CONFLICT INTEREST

Our journal complies with the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors' uniform requirements on Conflict of Interest statement.

Conflict of Interest exists when an author (or the author's institution), reviewer, or editor has financial or personal relationships with other persons or organizations that inappropriately influence (bias) his or her actions. The existence of such relationships does not necessarily represent true conflict of interest. The potential for conflict of interest can exist whether or not an individual believes that the relationship affects their judgment. Financial relationships (such as employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patents) are the most easily identifiable conflicts of interest and the most likely to undermine the credibility of the journal, the authors, and of science itself (<http://www.icmje.org/index.html>).

Participants

All participants in the peer-review and publication process—not only authors but also peer reviewers, editors, and editorial board members of journals—must consider their conflicts of interest when fulfilling their roles in the process of article review and publication and must disclose all relationships that could be viewed as potential conflicts of interest.

a. Authors

When authors submit a manuscript of any type or format they are responsible for disclosing all financial and personal relationships that might bias or be seen to bias their work.

Authors' Contribution

This section is only required for original article, systematic review and meta-analysis article. It describes the contribution each author made to the manuscript. Authorship credit should be based on 1) substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data; 2) drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and 3) final approval of the version to be published. Authors should meet conditions 1, 2, and 3. Please note that acquisition of funding, collection of data, language editing or general supervision of the research group alone does not constitute authorship.

Example:

M.M.M. designed the overall study with contributions from S.F. S.F. designed and carried out experiments, collected and analyzed data, and cowrote the paper. Y.S. designed and carried out experiments and collected and analyzed data with S.F. and M.M.M. S.B. carried out experiments, adapted the rapid TALEN assembly protocol, and analyzed data with Y.S. M.S.W. and M.M.M. designed the vector for the repair experiment. M.S.W. constructed the repair vector. S.F. and Y.S. carried out the repair experiment. S.F., Y.S., M.S.W., and M.M.M. discussed and edited the paper. M.M.M. supervised this study, designed and performed experiments, analyzed data, and wrote the paper. (Cited from: Fanucchi S, Shibayama Y, Burd S, et al. Chromosomal contact permits transcription between coregulated genes. *Cell* 2013;155:606-20.) wrote the paper. (Cited from: Fanucchi S, Shibayama Y, Burd S, et al. Chromosomal contact permits transcription between coregulated genes. *Cell* 2013;155:606-20.)

b. Peer Reviewers

Reviewers should be asked at the time they are asked to critique a manuscript if they have conflicts of interest that could complicate their review. Reviewers must disclose to editors any conflicts of interest that could bias their opinions of the manuscript, and should recuse themselves from reviewing specific manuscripts if the potential for bias exists. Reviewers must not use knowledge of the work they're reviewing before its publication to further their own interests.

c. Editors and Journal Staff

Editors who make final decisions about manuscripts

should recuse themselves from editorial decisions if they have conflicts of interest or relationships that pose potential conflicts related to articles under consideration. Other editorial staff members who participate in editorial decisions must provide editors with a current description of their financial interests or other conflicts (as they might relate to editorial judgments) and recuse themselves from any decisions in which a conflict of interest exists. Editorial staff must not use information gained through working with manuscripts for private gain. Editors should publish regular disclosure statements about potential conflicts of interests related to the commitments of journal staff. Guest editors should follow these same procedures.

Reporting Conflicts of Interest

Articles should be published with statements or supporting documents, declaring:

- Authors' conflicts of interest; and
- Sources of support for the work, including sponsor names along with explanations of the role of those sources if any in study design; collection, analysis, and interpretation of data; writing of the report; the decision to submit the report for publication; or a statement declaring that the supporting source had no such involvement; and
- Whether the authors had access to the study data, with an explanation of the nature and extent of access, including whether access is on-going.

To support the above statements, editors may request that authors of a study sponsored by a funder with a proprietary or financial interest in the outcome sign a statement, such as "I had full access to all of the data in this study and I take complete responsibility for the integrity of the data and the accuracy of the data analysis."

13. SUBMISSION OF MANUSCRIPTS

General Requirements

All articles submitted to the CCO must comply with these instructions. Failure to do so will result in return of the manuscript and possible delay in publication.

Submissions must be double-spaced.

All margins should be at least 30 mm.

All pages should be numbered consecutively in the top right-hand corner, beginning with the title page.

Do not use Enter at the end of lines within a paragraph.

Turn the hyphenation option off; include only those hyphens that are essential to the meaning.

Specify any special characters used to represent non-keyboard characters.

Take care not to use l (ell) for 1 (one), O (capital o) for 0 (zero) or ß (German esszett) for (Greek beta).

Use a tab, not spaces, to separate data points in tables. If

you use a table editor function, ensure that each data point is contained within a unique cell (i.e. do not use carriage returns within cells). Each figure should be supplied as a separate file, with the figure number incorporated in the file name. For submission, low-resolution figures saved as .jpg or .bmp files should be uploaded, for ease of transmission during the review process. Upon acceptance of the article, high-resolution figures (at least 300 dpi) saved as .eps or .tif files should be uploaded. Digital images supplied only as low-resolution files cannot be used for publication.

Cover Letter

Papers are accepted for publication in CCO based on the understanding that the content has not been published or submitted for publication elsewhere except as a brief abstract in the proceedings of a scientific meeting or symposium. This must be stated in the covering letter. The covering letter must also contain an acknowledgment that all authors have contributed significantly, and that all authors are in agreement with the content of the manuscript. In keeping with the latest guidelines of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors, each author's contribution to the paper is to be quantified.

14. REVIEW PROCESS

The reviewers evaluations and Associate Editor's comments are compiled by the Editor-in-Chief for disposition and transmission to the authors. A decision is usually made within four weeks of submission of the manuscript.

The Editor-in-Chief will advise authors whether a manuscript is accepted, should be revised or is rejected. Minor revisions are expected to be returned within two weeks of the decision; major revisions within four weeks. Manuscripts not revised within these time periods are subject to withdrawal from consideration for publication unless the authors can provide proof of extenuating circumstances.

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For more information, please contact:

Daoyuan Wang

Editorial Coordinator

Chinese Clinical Oncology

E-mail: editor@thecco.net