

How to get published in Nature Publishing Group Journals



www.nature.com

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Editor

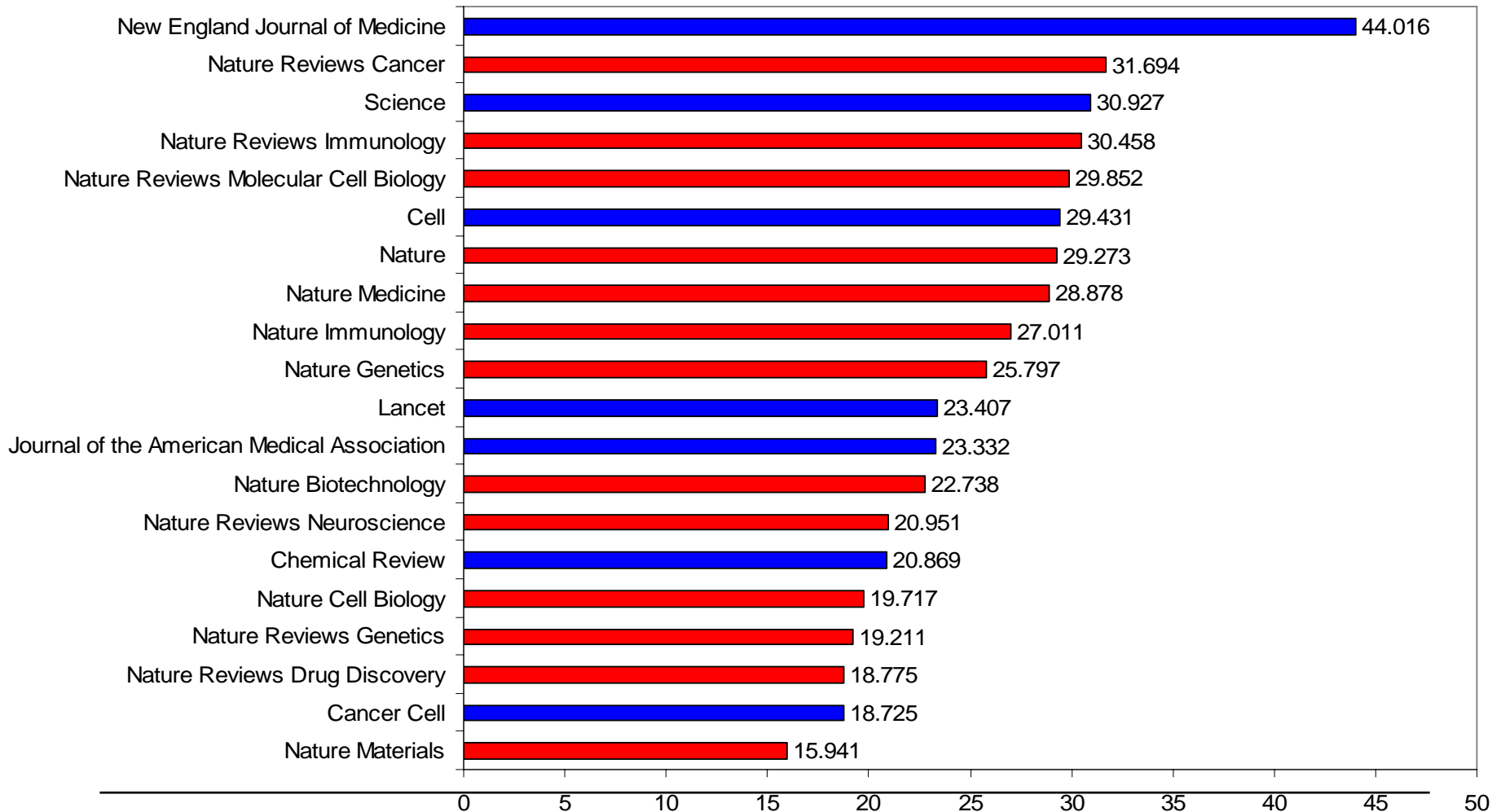
NPG Nature Asia-Pacific

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Structure of talk

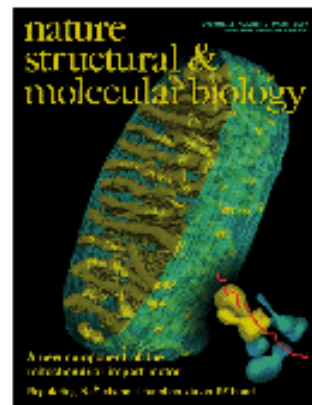
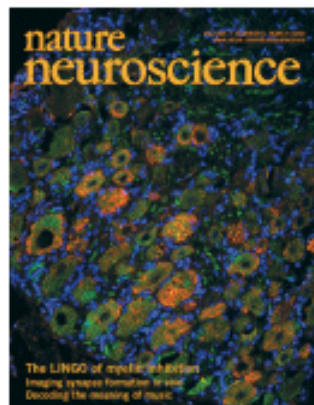
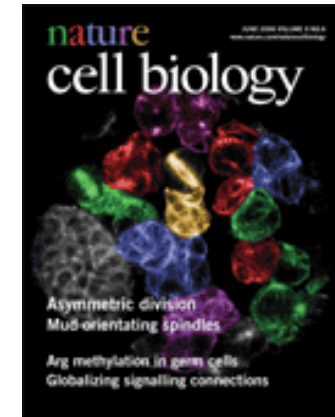
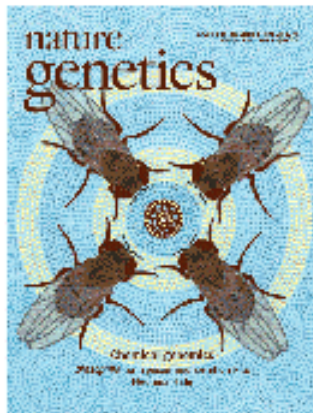
1. Introduction to Nature Publishing Group (NPG)
2. NPG Nature Asia-Pacific
3. How to get published in Nature journals
4. How to get published in other NPG journals
5. Questions and Answers

NPG Impact factors 2005



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Nature monthly research journals



Nature Reviews journals

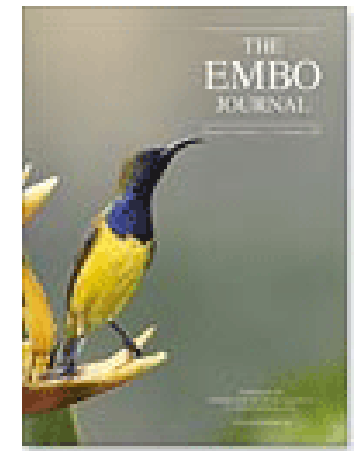


Nature Clinical Practice journals



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Nature Publishing Group academic journals



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Nature Publishing Group online



NPG Nature Asia-Pacific

- Long history of Nature commitment to the region
- Growth in Nature Japan office
- January 2006: formation of NPG Nature Asia-Pacific:

nature asia-pacific 

- Launch of two *Nature* journals with editorial staff in the region:
 - *Nature Nanotechnology*
 - *Nature Photonics*
- Custom-publishing service
- Production of high quality journals in partnership

Journal partnerships in the Asia-Pacific



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Journal partnerships in the Asia-Pacific

- 2nd journal partnership in the Asia-Pacific to be launched in January 2007

Immunology and Cell Biology

- Australasian Society for Immunology journal
- One of the highest impact journals based in Australia
- Well-respected and enthusiastic editor

Nature China website

Highlighting the best of China's science

Outline

- Nature Publishing Group proposes to create an online publication highlighting the best research papers from mainland China and Hong Kong
 - *Nature* editors will scan the literature (not only *Nature* journals) to identify the top quality papers covering all areas of science
 - Editors will write concise summaries of approximately 300 words length each explaining the broad scientific and/or medical importance of these articles. We anticipate producing 30-50 summaries per month.
 - These summaries, including translations into Chinese, will be freely available and housed on www.nature.com with links to the source articles
 - A weekly email alert service to alert users to new content

A-IMBN RESEARCH NEWS Homepage

- **Highlights:** titles, institution name, first paragraph
- **E-mail Alert registration**
- **News & Event links to A-IMBN website**
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Last Updated April 2006

HIGHLIGHTS



The Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research
Australia

Unmasking malaria
Malaria kills more than a million people each year and researchers are struggling to understand how the causal agent Plasmodium falciparum manages to outwit the immune system and persistently resist the body's efforts to rid itself of the parasite...



Kyoto University
Japan

A knockout mouse to probe Reye's syndrome
Japanese researchers have developed a transgenic mouse to investigate Reye's syndrome a rare, severe disorder of fatty acid metabolism that typically occurs in children and teenagers...



Seoul National University
Korea

New clue to cause of neurodegenerative diseases
New research suggests that proteins involved in regulating skeletal elements in cells may play a role in neurodegenerative conditions, such as Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease and ALS...



Kyoto University
Japan

Molecular metronomes revealed using real-time imaging
A Japanese research team recently achieved real-time imaging of a cellular oscillator and observed how cells are entrained to the oscillator's rhythm. Cellular oscillators regulate the rhythmic activity of a variety of body systems, such as heartbeat, peristalsis, brainwaves, and the master body clock in the brain. They also keep time during the exquisitely orchestrated sequence of events that transforms a zygote into an embryo...



Shanghai Institutes for Biological Sciences
Chinese Academy of Sciences
China

Connection revealed between external



University of Queensland
Australia

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NEWS & EVENTS

- ▶ **CALL FOR GRANT APPLICATION (HUMAN FRONTIER SCIENCE PROGRAM)**
HUMAN FRONTIER SCIENCE PROGRAM
- ▶ **Opening Ceremony of The electronic International Molecular Biology Laboratory**
The electronic International Molecular Biology Laboratory (eIMBL) will be officially launched at 9:00 a.m., 17 November 2005 at Auditorium of International Vaccine Institute at Seoul

Highlight page

- 400-500 word highlight
- Generic image
- Potential for job adverts, banner ads, and additional sponsorship

A-IBMN HIGHLIGHTS

http://testserver.natureasia.com/a-ibmn/highlights/Unmasking_malaria_Carina_D

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HIGHLIGHTS

Unmasking malaria

Malaria kills more than a million people each year and researchers are struggling to understand how the causal agent *Plasmodium falciparum* manages to outwit the immune system and persistently resist the body's efforts to rid itself of the parasite. It evades destruction by continuously changing the version of a protein on the surface of infected cells. Researchers have now discovered this amazing feat of disguise comes down to a single genetic element, providing new insight into the parasite's clever tricks.



© Getty

The protein on the surface, known as PfEMP1, is encoded by a family of var genes, of which the parasite has nearly 60 different types. It is like a collection of 60 different masks for this parasitic master of disguise. No sooner has the immune system learnt to recognize one type and start manufacturing proteins against it, the parasite switches to another 'disguise', constantly dodging the immune system.

Amazingly, the parasite is able to tightly control its gene expression so that only one of the var genes is turned on, while the rest are all kept silent and effectively 'hidden' from the immune system.

A team led by researchers at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research (WEHI) in Melbourne have shown that a single genetic element, called the promoter -- which lies in front of every gene and is the 'engine' that drives gene expression -- is the

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How to get published in Nature journals

Read and follow the
Guide to Authors!

Common Policies at Nature journals

- Authorship
- Deposition of data
- Sharing of materials
- Copyright
- Manuscript transfer service
- Competing financial interests
- Plagiarism
- Image integrity
- Biosecurity



Immunology. All of it.







Nature Immunology is a multidisciplinary journal

Covers a wide range of subject areas in immunology, from immune receptor signaling to microbial immunopathology

Human immunology welcome

nature
immunology

What are NI editors looking for?

-  Novelty
-  Interest to the general immunologist
-  Sizeable step forward
-  Impact in the field
-  Provide new directions for research
-  Provide fundamental insights into the workings of the immune system

Elements of a “strong contender”

- npg Clear presentation of an interesting question
- npg Intro creates interest – why should reader care?
- npg Strong, well-controlled data
- npg Rules out some alternative explanations
- npg Speculation doesn’t “stretch the data”
- npg Discussion puts paper in perspective
- npg Data is significant step forward with broader implications

Reasons for rejection

- npg Lack of mechanistic insight
- npg Catalog of data
- npg Data do not support conclusions
- npg Raises many interesting possibilities, but doesn't begin to distinguish between them
- npg New, but not a large enough step in field
- npg Lacking in significant novelty
- npg Only of interest to specialists in a subfield
- npg Experiments all performed in cell lines
- npg No broad conclusions

Nature Medicine editorial structure

Editor

(Juan Carlos Lopez)

6 manuscript editors

New York, London, San Francisco

- **Cardiovascular**
- **Infectious disease, immune system**
- **Cancer**
- **Metabolic disease**
- **Neuroscience**
- **And others**

What are we looking for?

- npg Important question, new concepts
- npg Therapeutic advances, even in the absence of conceptual advance
- npg Technically convincing
- npg Direct relevance to human disease
- npg Mechanistic and molecular insight
 - Mechanisms involved in disease processes
 - Relevant animal models
 - Human clinical samples or data from patients
 - New therapeutic agents or strategies
 - Mechanism of action *in vivo*

How does “translational research” fit in?

Definitions:

- “The process of applying ideas, insights and discoveries generated through basic scientific inquiry to the treatment or prevention of human disease” (NIH)
- Taking ideas from clinical research back into experimental settings

We are eager to publish translational research

- Research involving humans is difficult
- High standards should be maintained

September 2004 editorial (10:879)

Probably not right for NM

- npg Create new disease model, but have not yet used it to learn something new about the biology of the disease
- npg Experiments all done in cell lines, *ex vivo*
- npg Compound works great, but mechanism is unclear
- npg Gene or protein profiling
 - Provocative changes, but functional importance *in vivo* is unclear
 - For diagnostics, need prospective study, blinded samples
- npg Mutation identification
 - Effect of mutation on protein function or expression not clear
 - Provides limited new insight into disease process

January 2004 editorial (10:1)

What happens to submitted papers?

- npg ~280 papers received per month
- npg Each paper read in detail by one editor, discussed by all
- npg ~75-85% returned without review in 1-2 weeks
- npg ~15-25% are sent for review, 2-4 referees
- npg Decision for reviewed papers takes 4-6 weeks
- npg ~ 5% of submitted papers are published
 - Most reviewed more than once
 - Most are substantially revised

Nature Genetics Team

5 genetics editors

Senior editorial assistant

Senior copy editor

Production editor

Scientific illustrator (News and Views)

Production team

Proofreader

Web editor

Scope



Common/complex diseases
Gene networks

Cancer

Human disease genetics

Pharmacological genomics

Epigenetics

Developmental genetics

Functional genomics

Stem cell genetics

Genetic technology

Genome evolution

Get priority for your paper

Story

Is this a comprehensive and integrated set of experiments addressing a coherent and important question? *Nature Genetics* referees are rarely keen on work they can describe as preliminary, incremental or descriptive.

Abstract

How the experimental methods led to the conclusion

This is a qualitative conceptual advance over which work?

Why previous experiments have not addressed this point.

State of the art

For a geneticist, access to several datasets and robust statistical procedures.

For functional studies (molecular biology or biochemistry), first, is the basic genetics sound?

If you work with cells, do your results hold up *in vivo*?

Get priority for your paper (2)

Consult

Talk with an editor about current criteria, these evolve and are reviewed regularly by the editorial team, but may not yet have found their way into a recent editorial.

Referees

Recommended for particular expertise

Excluded for reasons of competition, recent collaboration or bias

Expediting

We can ensure fast review if given name and date of competing author or journal but we will not publish any work before it meets our standards.

Peer review

Referees

~850 in database

Many review >10 times per year and for >5 journals

Quick

Reply yes or no in 24h, return review in 7-10 days

Fair

Declare conflicts of interest whether actual or perceived

Suggest experiments that have high probability of success

Thorough

Examine the assumptions, basic data and analysis as well as conclusions

Calibrated

Have reviewed before and show they know the journal

Problem areas



Biological insight is usually the issue

Clinical report on one individual

Gene identification in model organism out of context

Pure bioinformatics

Disease model

Current version of technique

Descriptive global expression profiling

Human gene identification with sensitive/general phenotype

Oncogene/tumor suppressor gene identification in cell culture

Methylation correlation

Add value to your paper

Are your results transferrable to other disciplines?
eg. medicine, anthropology, bioinformatics, bioethics.

Sharing research materials

NCBI, GEO, ArrayExpress, BIND, HapMap etc.

MIAME - gene expression by microarray

aCGH - genome copy number changes

Genotypes - quality of data, use to others, clinical data can
be separated

Submit large datasets **before** review but control access

To get published in Nature journals, papers need






 Broad interest

 Novelty

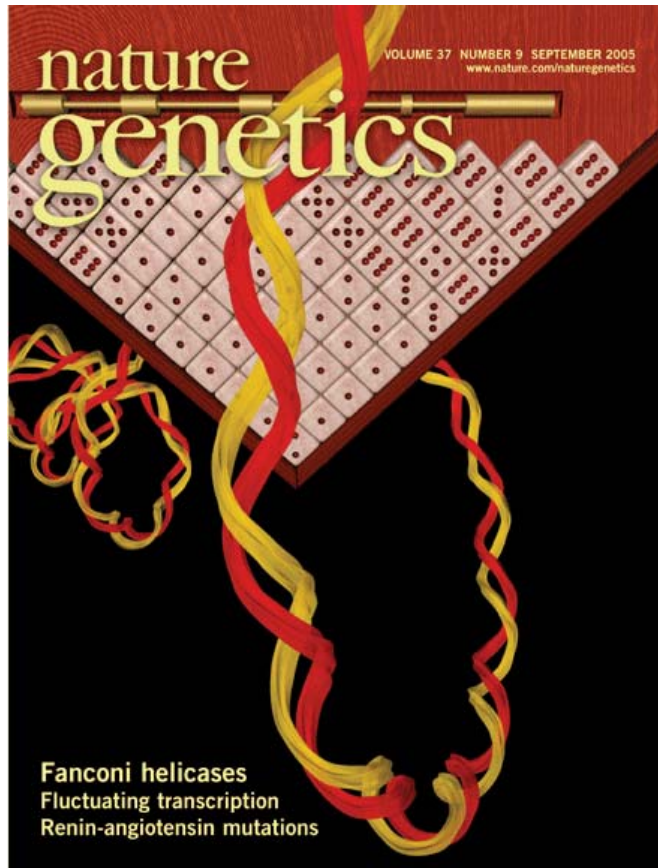
 Unquestionable insight

 Impact in field

MS Transfer Service

-  Eliminates need for author to re-input a manuscript, if they choose to submit their manuscript to another NPG journal
-  Authors provided with a link in their decision letter
-  Authors can choose any of the NPG journals
-  If the manuscript had been reviewed at the first Nature journal, and the author chooses to send the manuscript to another Nature journal, the reviews are automatically forwarded to the next Nature journal - this can save time in the evaluation of the manuscript at the second journal.
-  Authors can transfer their manuscript to any other NPG journal without submitting any new files – it is all automatic!

Easy one-step transfer



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What to look for in a journal

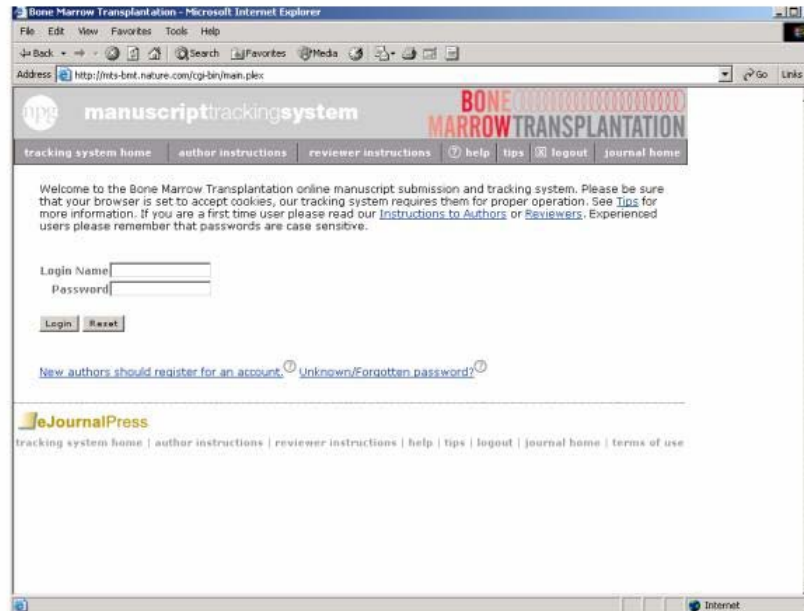
- Is your paper within the scope of the journal?
- Does the journal reach an audience appropriate for your research?
- What is the quality of other papers published?
- How easy is electronic submission?
- Will your paper be published on line?
- How quickly will your paper appear online?

Before you submit you should...

- Read the Instructions to Authors
- Ensure that all authors agree to the submission
- Confirm that your paper is not under consideration by another journal
- Remember that once accepted your paper must not be published elsewhere in the same or similar format without consent of the publishers

How to Prepare & Submit your Paper

- The majority of journals now have electronic submission – the benefits are:



How to Prepare & Submit your Paper

Before submitting your paper ensure you have available :

- All authors names, postal and e-mail addresses
- The complete manuscript with Tables and Figures
- A cover letter mentioning additional information that may be helpful for the Editor

What are Journal Editors looking for?

- Novel findings
- Clarity of data and conclusions
- Of interest to the international community
- Good standard of English
- Brevity
- Compliance with ethical standards and approval by Institutional Review Board if appropriate
- Disclosure of any possible conflicts of interests by all authors
- References complete and up-to-date

Questions and Answers
