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AIMS AND SCOPE

BIOCHEMICAL PHARMACOLOGY is an international journal which publishes original research in the form of full-length papers, short communications, rapid communications, invited commentaries and meeting reports. Contributors are asked to note that the Editors will in general accept contributions in English only.

Research with intact animals, cells, subcellular components, enzymes and model systems is acceptable if it defines the mechanism of drug action. Studies concerned with antimicrobial and antiviral agents are welcomed, as well as descriptive mathematical models including those involving computer techniques. The use of drugs to elucidate physiological and behavioural mechanisms in the living organism is also acceptable.

In general, papers which record concentrations of drugs and metabolites in body fluids will not be accepted, unless they define biochemical and biophysical mechanisms. The Editors however reserve the right to publish any papers of major interest in the field. The journal publishes the following types of communication:

(1) **Full-length Papers.** These consist of a body of work presenting original findings relating to the question proposed by the investigators undertaking the research.

(2) **Short Communications.** These consist of an original body of work of narrower scope but of the same quality as the above. By definition, these papers are shorter than full-length manuscripts. The last paragraph of the communication should summarize the findings of the research.

(3) **Rapid Communications.** These promote rapid dissemination of timely and significant observations within the scope of the journal. Manuscripts must be submitted in English and will be judged as appropriate for publication as rapid communications on the basis of their immediate importance. They should be written to emphasize clearly the novel aspects of the research. These criteria will be applied strictly. In order to speed up the publication of rapid communications, authors are encouraged to use the special laysheets available from any of the Regional Editors.

(4) **Commentaries** are short commissioned review articles (3000–5000 words in length). They are designed to be editorial statements on selected topics, and should *not* be exhaustive reviews. Primarily, Commentaries are intended to stimulate thought. They can be controversial, and can either focus on areas subject to much activity, or draw attention to relatively neglected fields in which there are both the opportunity and the need for research in biochemical pharmacology. Particularly welcome will be Commentaries in which authors present their personal view on the state of the subject on which they are reporting, and give their view as to where in the near or distant future the subject may be moving. Authors are especially encouraged to take issue with popular dogmas. The Commentary series is edited by Professor C. Norman Gillis.

In order to increase the exchange of information and ideas, the Journal will also publish Comments on a Commentary, in which selected, highly qualified authorities are invited to offer their own observations on Commentary articles, which will be published in the same issue of the Journal, and thus provide some alternative thoughts on important areas of research. For further information see *Biochem Pharmacol* **31,** 2568 (1982).

While the final decision on selection of authors for either Commentaries or Comments on a Commentary will be made at the discretion of the editor, suggestions from readers will be welcome. These should be addressed to: Professor C. N. Gillis, Department of Pharmacology, Yale University School of Medicine, 333 Cedar Street, New Haven, Connecticut 06510.

(5) **Meeting Reports.** The journal is prepared to publish as preliminary communications short, factual two-page summaries of selected papers from small meetings or conferences. The meetings should be those where attendance is by invitation and all papers to be published will be refereed. Organizers who wish to have their meetings published in this way should contact the appropriate Regional Editor.

Policy concerning availability of materials

It is understood that by publishing a paper in *Biochemical Pharmacology* the authors agree to make freely available to colleagues in academic research any of the cells, nucleic acids, antibodies, etc. that were used in the research reported and that are not available from commercial suppliers.

Notes for Contributors can be found in all issues and Abbreviations in issues 1 and 7

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