

INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS TO BIOCHIMICA ET BIOPHYSICA ACTA

Biochimica et Biophysica Acta publishes papers reporting advances in our knowledge or understanding of any field of biochemistry or biophysics. Descriptions of new methods valuable for biochemists or biophysicists are also acceptable if their application is made obvious or a new principle is introduced. Negative results will be accepted only when they can be considered to advance our knowledge significantly. Papers providing only confirmatory evidence or extending observations firmly established in one species to another will not normally be accepted.

Two types of paper are published, specified as Regular Papers and BBA Reports. As its name implies, a Regular Paper is the usual medium of publication.

BBA Reports will be restricted to papers describing short, complete studies. They should not exceed three printed pages, including figures and tables, and should be written in a continuous style, without subdivision into Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion and Acknowledgements. They should always begin with a short summary. A BBA Report, although brief, should be a complete and final publication, and figures and tables should not be included in a later paper.

Papers should be written in English (either American or British spelling is permitted, but only one form should be used in the same paper).

Preparation of papers

Authors and their typists should consult a recent issue of the journal in order to make themselves familiar with the conventions and layout of articles, especially title pages and reference lists. In particular, typists should ensure that the beginning of each new paragraph is clearly indicated, preferably by indentation.

Three copies are required of all material submitted (including the submission letter, if it contains information of relevance to the editors).

Legible carbon copies or photocopies are adequate for the second and third copies, except for photographs of electrophoretic patterns, electron micrographs, etc., where high-quality prints must be provided in triplicate.

The entire text, including figure and table legends and reference list, should be typed with double or triple spacing on pages of uniform size, on one side of the paper, with a 5-cm margin. All pages should be numbered consecutively.

Title

A paper should be headed by a concise, informative title. Authors are reminded that titles are widely used in information-retrieval systems. The title should be followed by the names of the authors (with first or middle names in full) and by the name(s) and address(es) of the laboratory(ies) where the work was carried out. When the work has been done in more than one laboratory, the one in which each author has worked during the study should be indicated.

Summary

A paper should begin with a summary of 100–200 words for a Regular Paper and approx. 50 words for a BBA Report.

Tables

Tables and their legends should be typed with double or triple spacing.

Figures and illustrations

Legends to figures should not be typed or written on the illustrations but should be typewritten, with double or triple spacing, on separate sheets of paper. The legends should consist of a title followed by a brief description of the way the particular experiment was carried out, and any other necessary material describing the symbols or lines on the figure.