

# Compliance Checklists No Longer Required at Initial Manuscript Submission\*

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In our continuing effort to simplify the submission process and ease the burden on authors, effective April 1, 2020, the editors will no longer require authors to provide the appropriate checklists when submitting a new manuscript. However, authors will be required to satisfy compliance with the journal guidelines before acceptance of the reviewed, revised final manuscript. This will be achieved by the author working in concert with the manuscript integrity editor's assistance during the manuscript [revision](#) stage.

From the journal's inception, in close consultation with many experts in mass spectrometry, proteomics, and bioinformatics, MCP editors have sought to institute manuscript guidelines that foster transparency and scientific excellence based upon rigorous documentation and accessibility of experimental data for the progress and benefit of the protein biology community.

Over the years we have focused on use of checklists in connection with manuscript submission both to make the authors aware of our guidelines and to facilitate checking of manuscripts for compliance by journal staff. More recently, we recruited a manuscript integrity editor, Dr. Sadiq Zahari,

to work directly with authors during the submission and compliance process. Dr. Zahari performs the compliance checks in parallel to the scientific review, which provides the authors with an integrated assessment of the scientific merit of the manuscript as well as of the compliance to MCP guidelines. This has been very effective and successful in dealing with author and journal issues and has greatly contributed to our decrease in turnaround time.

We note that we also encourage submission of manuscripts in any format, and welcome direct transfers from the preprint server bioRxiv.

We sincerely hope that you find these changes beneficial in lowering the barrier to first submission of papers to MCP.

With kind regards,

Al Burlingame, Editor-in-Chief

Steven Carr, Deputy Editor

Anne-Claude Gingras, Deputy Editor

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\* The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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