



Molecular Cancer Therapeutics (MCT): Instructions for Authors



Scope

Molecular Cancer Therapeutics strives to be the top choice for publishing the best science in the discovery and preclinical development of novel therapeutic agents for oncology, preclinical studies of approved therapeutics, mechanisms of drug action, mechanism of drug resistance, biomarkers of drug response, novel models and technologies, and occasional drug toxicity mechanisms. While the journal's main focus is on small molecule and protein drugs, other molecular entities may be considered.

Molecular Cancer Therapeutics places most of its emphasis on the research topics of discovery and preclinical development of novel therapeutic agents for oncology, preclinical studies of approved therapeutics, mechanisms of drug action, mechanism of drug resistance, biomarkers of drug response, and occasional studies of drug toxicity mechanisms.

Papers are stringently reviewed, and only those that report results of novel, timely and significant research and meet high standards of scientific merit are accepted for publication. The following guidelines, which may be revised from time to time, describe what the Editors are looking for in submitted manuscripts:

- Data/experiments are substantive and support conclusions; all key experiments are designed and performed properly.
- Sufficient detail is provided to facilitate repetition of the experiments to verify data.
- Rigorous statistical evaluation is performed. Sufficient group size is used for animal studies. Appropriate replicates in cellular studies are used.
- Relevant cell lines, animal models, and assays are utilized.
- Studies must be performed according to AACR and Institutional Guidelines.
- Multiple relevant cell lines (or patient specimens) are examined/used/studied to support conclusions.
- Studies are performed using relevant concentrations of agents, conditions, schedules, and other related material. Where human data exists, the data should be used to define parameters for laboratory studies.
- Appropriate controls are employed for all experiments (especially inactive analog compounds).
- *In vivo* studies should go beyond establishment of biological effect and show modulation of the intended target (or cellular pathway) *in vivo*. Pharmacokinetic (PK)/pharmacodynamics (PD) studies are extremely useful; dose-response should be demonstrated.
- Inclusion of relevant structures of compounds mentioned or used in the work is essential and enhances the readability of the paper.
- For novel structures previously unreported, experimental details of synthesis should be included in the main body of the paper or in Supplementary Material.
- Any references or patents cited that provide the synthesis of compounds should be specific, not general, and should be easily obtained.

Categories of Publication

Research Articles

General guidelines:

- 250-word abstract
- 5,000 total words of text (exclusive of references)
- 50 references
- 6 total figures and/or tables

Specific Categories:

- **Small Molecule Therapeutics:** Discovery and preclinical development of small molecule entities
- **Large Molecule Therapeutics:** Novel large molecule therapeutics, primarily (but not exclusively) antibodies
- **Cancer Biology and Signal Transduction:** Studies in which oncology drugs are used as tools to address biological and/or mechanistic questions, and on signal transduction and mechanisms of drug resistance
- **Companion Diagnostics and Cancer Biomarkers:** Biomarkers and molecular therapeutic insights that may inform personalized medicine
- **Models & Technologies:** Novel *in vitro* and *in vivo* models, screening platforms, nanotechnology, drug delivery and, in general, any approach that has the potential to advance discovery and evaluation of anticancer drugs

Reviews

General Guidelines:

- 200-word abstract
- 5,000 total words of text, exclusive of references
- 75 references
- 3 figures and/or tables

Authors of unsolicited review articles should first submit an abstract and outline for consideration by the Deputy Editor for Reviews. All review articles, whether invited or not, will be subject to peer review.

Letters to the Editor

General Guidelines:

- 400 words of text
- 5 references, the first of which should be to the original article
- No tables or figures unless approved by the Editor

In the spirit of open scientific dialogue, the Editor-in-Chief invites the submission of correspondence that presents considered opinions in response to articles published in the journal. Letters to the Editor will be reviewed and, if found to meet the requisite publication criteria (scholarly commentary on a subject of import and interest to the broad readership; length appropriate to the content), the Letter may be sent to the author(s) of the originally published article and possibly to other interested parties for a response to be published in the same issue of the journal as the Letter. Correspondence concerning articles that have not been published in *Molecular Cancer Therapeutics* will not be considered. Letters must be in response to an article published in the journal within the past 6 months.



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