

## Revision of the Enzyme Report

The *Biochemical Journal* is pleased to communicate the following announcement by O. Hoffmann-Ostenhof, Chairman of the IUPAC-IUB Joint Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature:

'The Joint IUPAC-IUB Commission on Biochemical Nomenclature (CBN) decided in 1968 to include Enzyme Nomenclature within its field of work. After carefully considering the document *Enzyme Nomenclature: Recommendations (1964) of the International Union of Biochemistry on the Nomenclature and Classification of Enzymes, together with their Units and the Symbols of Enzyme Kinetics*, CBN decided, at its 1969 meeting, that the time was appropriate for a revision and an extension of this report. It has therefore set up a Committee which has been asked to work towards a revision of *Enzyme Nomenclature*, including the addition of newly-described enzymes, by 1971. The convener of the Committee is Professor E. C. Webb, Department of Biochemistry, The University of Queensland, St Lucia, Brisbane, 4067 Australia. It would be helpful to the Committee if all biochemists who have suggestions to make in this field, either of enzymes which are omitted from the existing report or who wish to draw attention to errors in the existing report or of improvements in the existing names, would send them directly to Professor E. C. Webb as soon as possible and preferably before March 31st, 1970.'

# The Biochemical Journal

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# THE BIOCHEMICAL JOURNAL

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It is the policy of the *Biochemical Journal* to publish papers in English in all fields of biochemistry, provided that they make a sufficient contribution to biochemical knowledge. Papers may include new results obtained experimentally, descriptions of new experimental methods of biochemical importance, or new interpretations of existing results. All work presented should have as its aim the development of biochemical concepts rather than the mere recording of facts. Preliminary or inconclusive experiments should not generally be described.

Two types of paper are accepted by the editors as follows:

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Papers submitted should be written concisely. Special attention is directed to *Policy of the Journal and Instructions to Authors, Biochem. J.* (1969), **112**, 1 (obtainable from the Executive Secretary, price 2s. 6d. post free). Strict observance of these requirements will shorten the interval between the receipt of a paper and its publication. Typescripts that are not concise or do not conform to the conventions of the *Biochemical Journal* will be returned to the authors for revision. If a paper that has been returned to an author for revision is not resubmitted within one month, it will, on resubmission, be deemed to be a new paper and the date of receipt altered accordingly. A revised paper containing a significant amount of new material will also be redated.

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The second copy of the synopsis requested above is required solely to assist in the selection of suitable editors or referees, or both.

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It would help the editors if the author, when submitting a paper, would enclose reprints of relevant preceding papers, especially if they are not published in the *Biochemical Journal*.

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Papers of biochemical interest are often divided into the following sections: (a) the **synopsis**, not more than 3–4% of the length of the paper; it may be divided into numbered sections; (b) the **introduction**, containing the reasons for doing the work; (c) **Experimental**, including materials and methods; (d) **Results**: these should be given concisely; the use of both tables and figures to present the same results is rarely permitted; (e) **Discussion**; (f) the acknowledgements;

(g) References. Authors are urged to consider carefully whether the material in their individual papers needs to be fully subdivided in the manner of sections (c), (d) and (e). In many cases two of these sections can be combined and thus save space and gain conciseness and clarity. In papers dealing predominantly with techniques, the Experimental and Results sections should be amalgamated; other papers of a more general nature are often simplified by the combination of Results and Discussion, and in chemical papers the Experimental section may be placed at the end. When a separate Discussion is used it should not recapitulate the results but only discuss their significance and relationship to the object of the work and their relation to the work of other people.

(2) Short Communications. Typescripts should be submitted *in duplicate*, written in English, and conform strictly to the form of the Journal as far as spelling and abbreviations are concerned. Such communications must not exceed 1200 words of text, but in addition may include either one table, typed on a separate sheet, or one figure, drawn according to the rules of the Journal. If no figure or table is included the text may be expanded to 1400 words. Communications should be addressed to the Editorial Secretary, The Biochemical Journal, 7 Warwick Court, London W.C.1. Papers should be complete in themselves: (1) the methods used in experimental work must be adequately described or sufficient references given to allow repetition of the work; (2) sufficient indication of the results of experimental work must be included to justify the claims made. Theoretical contributions will be considered equally with papers dealing with experimental work. The editors' and referees' decisions will be final; contributions that are not being published will be returned to the authors with the minimum delay.

#### *Preparation of Papers*

The *Biochemical Journal* uses as a standard for spelling the *Concise Oxford Dictionary of Current English* (Oxford: Clarendon Press). For the technique of writing authors may find it helpful also to consult *The Complete Plain Words*, by Sir Ernest Gowers (London: H.M.S.O. and Penguin Books).

**Abbreviations.** New abbreviations should be coined only for unwieldy names, and should not be used at all unless those names occur frequently (more than about ten times). All abbreviations for names of compounds except those listed below must be defined together in a footnote. In the title and synopsis, abbreviations should be avoided. Abbreviations for units (e.g. min., cm., g.) should be used throughout. Chemical symbols as abbreviations for

elements, groups or compounds are used only in the Experimental section, and in legends to tables and figures, unless their use elsewhere is justified by special circumstances. The abbreviation for the plural of a unit is the same as that for the singular, unless confusion is likely to arise. Thus 'centimetres' is 'cm.', not 'cms.'

*Accepted abbreviations that may be used without definition:*

ADP, CDP, GDP, IDP, UDP	5'-Pyrophosphates of adenosine, cytidine, guanosine, inosine, uridine
AMP etc.	Adenosine 5'-phosphate etc.
ATP etc.	Adenosine 5'-triphosphate etc.
CM-cellulose	Carboxymethylcellulose
CoA and acyl-CoA	Coenzyme A and its acyl derivatives
DEAE- cellulose	Diethylaminoethylcellulose
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DNP-	2,4-Dinitrophenyl-
EDTA	Ethylenediaminetetra-acetate
FAD	Flavin-adenine dinucleotide
FMN	Flavin mononucleotide
GSH, GSSG	Glutathione, reduced and oxidized
NAD	Nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide
NADP	Nicotinamide-adenine dinucleotide phosphate
NMN	Nicotinamide mononucleotide
P <sub>i</sub> , PP <sub>i</sub>	Orthophosphate, pyrophosphate
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
tris	2-Amino-2-hydroxymethylpropane-1,3-diol

**Illustrations.** These constitute an expensive item in publication and may increase the time taken in printing. Their number should be kept to a minimum. Illustrations should be on separate sheets and packed flat; they should bear the author's name, the title of the paper and the figure number on the back. Their approximate position should be indicated in the margin of the typescript.

**Tables.** Tables should have legends which make their general meaning comprehensible without reference to the text. Footnotes should be kept to a minimum. Conditions specific to the particular experiment should be stated. Reference to the text for general experimental methods is permissible provided that there is no ambiguity. The units in which the results are expressed, e.g. g./100ml., should be given at the top of each column, and not repeated on each line of the table.

Tables should be typed on separate sheets and their approximate position in the text indicated. Words or numerals should be repeated on successive lines: 'ditto' or '.,' is not to be used.