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The Biochemical Journal places emphasis on the prompt publication of both full-length papers (on average about 6 months after receipt) and rapid papers (on average within 12 weeks after receipt) on all aspects of Biochemistry. Papers are accepted from non-members and members of the Biochemical Society. The Biochemical Journal makes no manuscript handling charges, no page charges and no charges for plates. Reprints are available at modest cost at about the same time as publication, and, if an author is a member of the Biochemical Society, 25 reprints are provided free of charge.

Alternate issues of the journal are devoted to Molecular Aspects and Cellular Aspects. For the convenience of readers, papers within each issue are assigned to sections on the Contents pages. Authors should indicate whether their papers are Molecular or Cellular and designate the section in Contents in which they would like their paper to appear. Section headings, for both Molecular Aspects and Cellular Aspects, are reviewed from time to time; the present headings are as follows:

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The paragraphs below are a summarized version of information provided in the Biochemical Society's Policy of the Journal and Instructions to

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The following types of submission are considered by the Editorial Board.

- 1. Full-length Papers (normally eight printed pages maximum).
- 2. Rapid Papers (four printed pages maximum).
- 3. Letters (normally one printed page maximum).
- 4. Reviews (usually solicited).

Publication delays can be minimized if authors prepare their papers in the form described below and write in a concise style. In the Board's view, most Fulllength Papers should not normally exceed eight printed pages, including figures and tables. Longer papers may be acceptable if their content justifies their length. Indeed, the Board's desire to restrict the length of papers should not lead authors to split their work into two or more shorter papers. For example, a single paper consisting justifiably of ten printed pages will normally be considered more favourably than two papers each of six pages dealing with the same material. Authors should remember that short papers are generally published with the least delay.

All papers that can be accommodated in four pages of the Journal will be treated as Rapid Papers. They receive priority reviewing and it is aimed for their publication to be within 12 weeks of receipt. In order to achieve this schedule, proofs of accepted Rapid Papers are not normally supplied to authors. However, authors are given details of any editing of Rapid Papers at the same time that the typescripts are sent to the printer, with a request that any essential amendments be sent to the Editorial Secretary as soon as possible. The scientific editorial staff in the Editorial Office check the proofs to ensure that they tally exactly with the edited typescripts and make any necessary alterations indicated by the authors.

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Three copies of the typescript should be sent to the Editorial Secretary. The Biochemical Journal, 7 Warwick Court, London WC1R 5DP, U.K. The typescript should bear the name and address Authors Biochem, J. (1981) 193, 1–271, of the person to whom correspondence

(including proofs) should be sent. An additional copy of the synopsis should be enclosed to facilitate selection of reviewers by the Chairman. The top copy should be accompanied by the original artwork (see the Appendix to Policy of the Journal and Instructions to Authors for advice on the preparation of figures). Photocopies of line drawings are acceptable for the other two copies but glossy prints (not photocopies) of all the halftone figures must be provided. Two copies will be sent simultaneously to two reviewers. The third copy will be held in the Editorial Office to be used in case of loss or if an additional reviewer is required.

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'B.J. Letters' are intended to provide an opportunity to discuss, criticize or expand particular points made in published work, or to present a new hypothesis. They should not be comments on general aspects of the biochemical world, nor should they be used as an alternative to a rapid paper. If a letter is polemical in nature, a reply may be solicited from other interested parties before its publication.

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spellings and abbreviations that are approved by the Journal. No synopsis is required. Normally B.J. Letters should not exceed 700 words in length, which is approximately the equivalent of one printed page. One Scheme, Table or a Figure may be included if this is essential. The preparation of these is likely to increase publication time. Letters should be addressed to the Editorial Secretary, The Biochemical Journal, 7 Warwick Court, London WC1R 5DP. To minimize delay in publication, proofs of accepted Letters are not supplied to authors. However, authors are given details of any editing of their. Letters at the same time that the typescripts are sent to the printer, with a request that any essential amendments be sent to the Editorial Secretary as soon as possible. The scientific staff in the Editorial Office check the proofs to ensure that they tally exactly with the edited typescripts and make any necessary alterations indicated by the authors. Contributions that are not being published will be returned to the authors with minimal delay.

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