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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, 50 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:

Molecular Aspects (Physical, Structural and Chemical Properties of Biochemical Systems, including Sequencing Information)

Peptide and Protein Structure

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Papers submitted for publication should be addressed to the Editorial Secretary, *Biochemical Journal*, 7 Warwick Court, London WC1R 5DP.

The paragraphs below are a summarized version of information provided in the Biochemical Society's *Policy of the Journal and Instructions to Authors* [*Biochem. J.* (1981) **193**, 1-27],

which is available in booklet form from the Executive Secretary, The Biochemical Society, 7 Warwick Court, London WC1R 5DP.

General Requirements

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 **Full-length 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.

Full-length Papers and Rapid Papers

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 of the person to whom correspondence

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(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 half-tone 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.

Before preparing papers, authors should consult a current issue of the Journal to make themselves familiar with the general format, such as the use of cross-headings, lay-out of tables and citation of references. Typescripts should be in double-spaced typing throughout (including the references and legends of tables and figures) on sheets of uniform size with wide margins.

Papers on specialized subjects should be intelligible to the ordinary reader of the Journal. Sufficient information must be included to permit repetition of the experimental work.

It is helpful if the author encloses copies of relevant preceding papers, especially if these were not published in the *Biochemical Journal*. If the paper submitted refers to a paper 'in the press' in another journal the reviewers will not have access to this material and it is important that the author should include photocopies of the relevant typescript together with documentary evidence that it has been accepted for publication. Any reference to a 'personal communication' must be supported by documentary evidence from the individual quoted showing that agreement with the quotation is given.

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Separate papers in a series may not be numbered, but subtitles may be used if they are particularly necessary.

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The main body of the paper may be divided into (a) the **introduction**; (b) **Experimental**, including materials and methods; (c) **Results**; (d) **Discussion**; (e) **acknowledgements**, including details of financial support; (f) **References**. It is often an advantage to combine (b) and (c) (e.g. in papers describing techniques) or (c) and (d) with gains of conciseness and clarity. In chemical papers, the Experimental section may be placed after the Discussion. The Discussion section should not recapitulate the Results, but only discuss their implications.

Full-length Papers should not normally exceed 5500 words in length, and **Rapid Papers** must not exceed 2400 words, each inclusive of title and references. Authors must assess what proportion of a page insertions (such as tables, figures and schemes) will occupy and reduce the number of text words accordingly at the rate of 700 words per full page of the Journal.

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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.

Typescripts should be submitted in triplicate, written in English using the 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.

Reviews

Biochemical Journal Reviews will usually be solicited, although unsolicited reviews will be considered for publication: however, prospective writers of reviews should first consult the Chairman of the Editorial Board.

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The average publication time for the papers appearing in the *Biochemical Journal* in the first six months of 1982 was

25.7 weeks

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