edanz

http://www.edanzediting.com/mexico2014

Insights into Publication Success

Daniel McGowan, PhD
Science Director
Edanz Group Ltd

Entre pares
Tercer Seminario
León, Guanajuato
Mexico

22 September 2014

edanz

A little about me...

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND
NEW ZEALAND
Te Whare Wānanga o Tāmaki Makaurau

Babraham Institute

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

MRC Medical Research Council

nature publishing group npg

edanz

SOCIETY FOR NEUROSCIENCE

edanz

Be an effective communicator

- ✓ Write effectively
- ✓ Choose the best journal to reach your target audience
- ✓ Logically present your research in your manuscript
- ✓ Convey the significance of your work to journal editors
- ✓ Properly revise your manuscript after peer review

edanz

Section 1

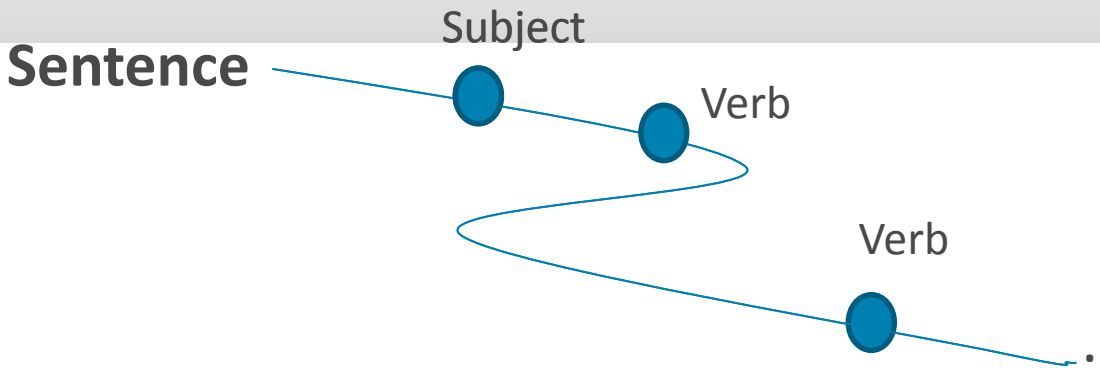
Effective writing

Reader expectations

- Information is easier to understand when placed where most readers expect to find it
- Good writers are aware of these expectations
- Readability

1. Verb placement

- Readers expect verbs to closely follow subjects



Active voice

Sentences written in the active voice are:

- *simple*
- *direct*
- *clear*
- *easy to read*

Passive

The mechanisms regulating tumor growth were investigated.

Active

We investigated the mechanisms regulating tumor growth.

Active voice is preferred

ACS Style Guide	"Use the ***active voice*** when it is less wordy and more direct than the passive". (3rd ed., pg. 42)
APA Style	"Use the ***active voice*** rather than the passive voice…". www.apastyle.org/learn/faqs/effective-verb-use.aspx
Chicago Style Guide	"As a matter of style, passive voice is typically, but not always, inferior to ***active voice***". (15th ed., pg. 177)
AMA Manual of Style	"In general, authors should use the ***active voice***…". (10th ed., pg. 320)

Stress position

Which sentence suggests that you *will* get a raise?

1. You deserve a raise, but the budget is tight.
2. The budget is tight, but you deserve a raise.

Readers focus at the end of the sentence to determine what is important.

http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/flow/

Stress position

The stress position also introduces the topic of the next sentence

The budget is tight, but you deserve a raise. Your salary will increase at the beginning of next year.

Stress position

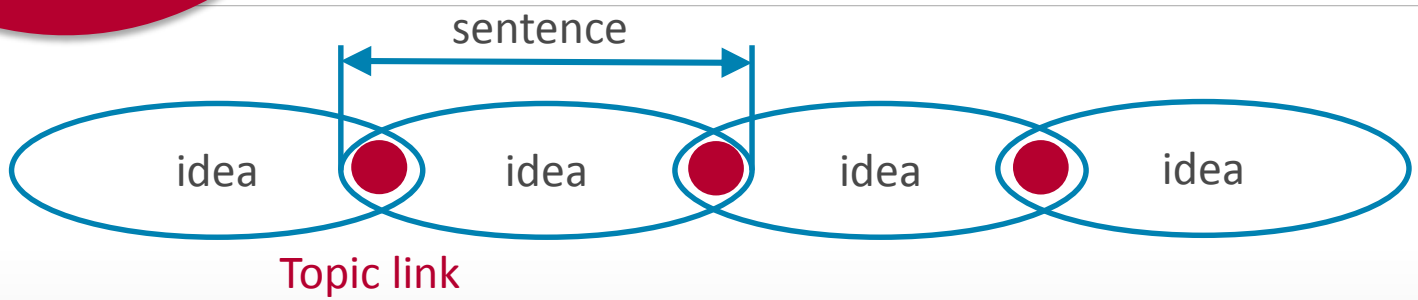
Topic position

The topic position introduces the idea of the current sentence

edanz

http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/flow/

Topic position



The patient went to the hospital to see a ***gastroenterologist***. ***The doctor*** then performed a series of ***diagnostic tests***. ***The results*** showed the patient suffered from a ***bacterial infection***. ***Antibiotics*** were prescribed to treat the infection before the patient developed an ***ulcer***.

Effective writing

Linking your ideas in your manuscript

Marine biofouling is the accumulation of marine species onto submerged surfaces within the ocean. It imposes significant cost to [illegible]dustries and as a result has been the subject of a considerable number of preventative strategies. Until recently all of these have involved toxic coatings containing heavy metals such as copper and tin. More recently, environmental considerations such as bioaccumulation have led to the ban on [illegible]. This has resulted in a demand for non-toxic alternatives.

Topic sentence

Stress sentence

Current non-toxic antifouling strategies are driven by interfacial architecture and fall into two main behavioral categories, foul-[illegible]aces and attachment-inhibiting (AI) surfaces. FR…

Topic sentence

edanz

Wu et al. Biointerfaces. 2013; 8: 5.

Simple is best

- Simple language ***is*** best
- Makes ***your*** science more relevant
- Minimizes confusion – maximizes understanding
- Science is complex
- Use simple language to help more people understand your work

Simple words

Avoid ✗	Preferred ✓
Additional	More
Adequate	Enough
Apparent	Clear
Attempt	Try
Demonstrate	Show
Endeavor	Try
Exceedingly	Very

Section 2

Journal selection

Journal selection

Factors to consider when choosing a journal

Aims & scope

Readership

Open access

Impact factor

Varies by field

Which factor is most important to you?

edanz

Journal selection

Choosing a target journal

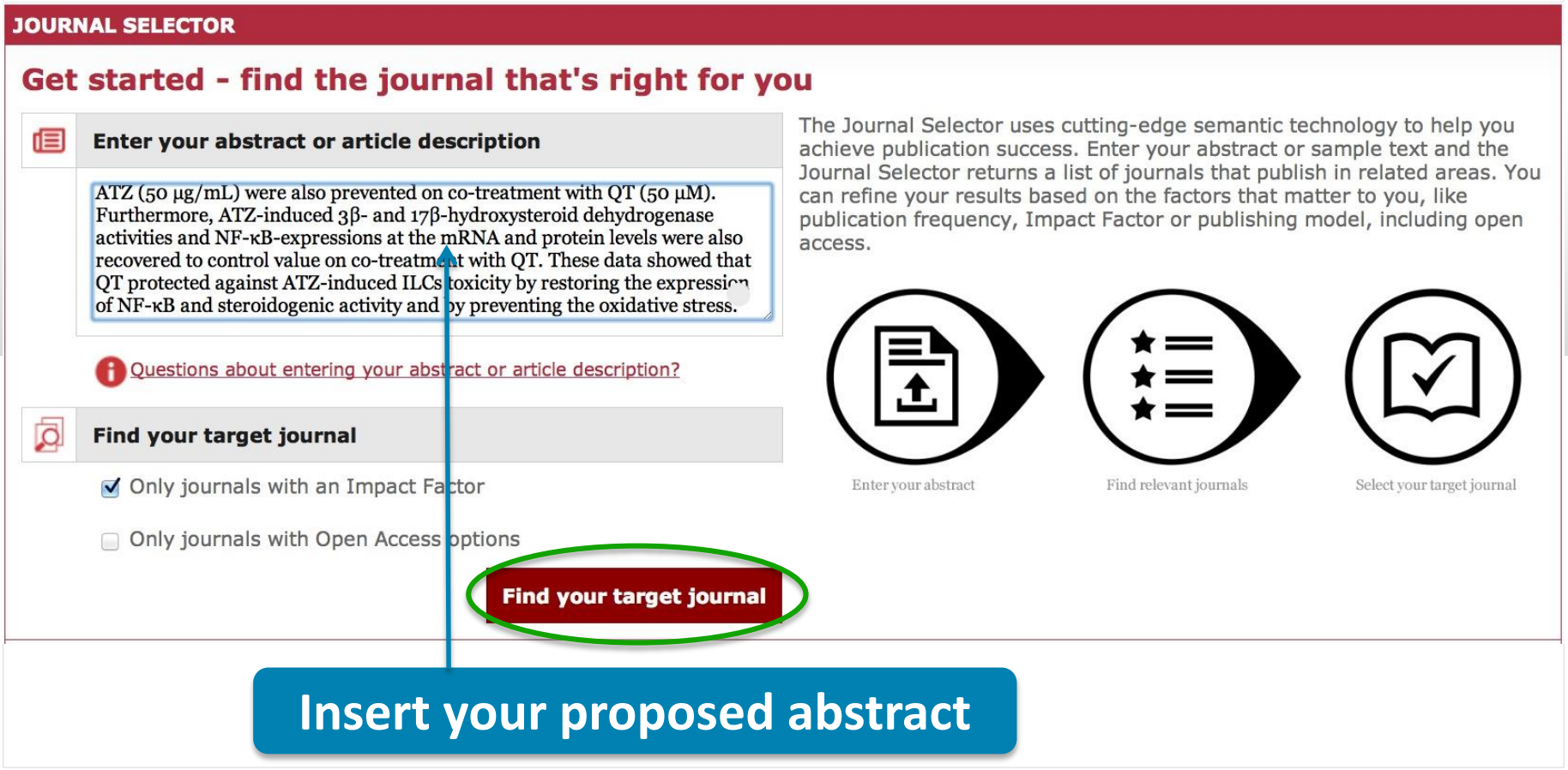
Journal selection ***must*** be based on an honest evaluation of ***your*** findings

edanz

Journal selection

Journal Selector –

www.edanzediting.com/journal_selector



Insert your proposed abstract

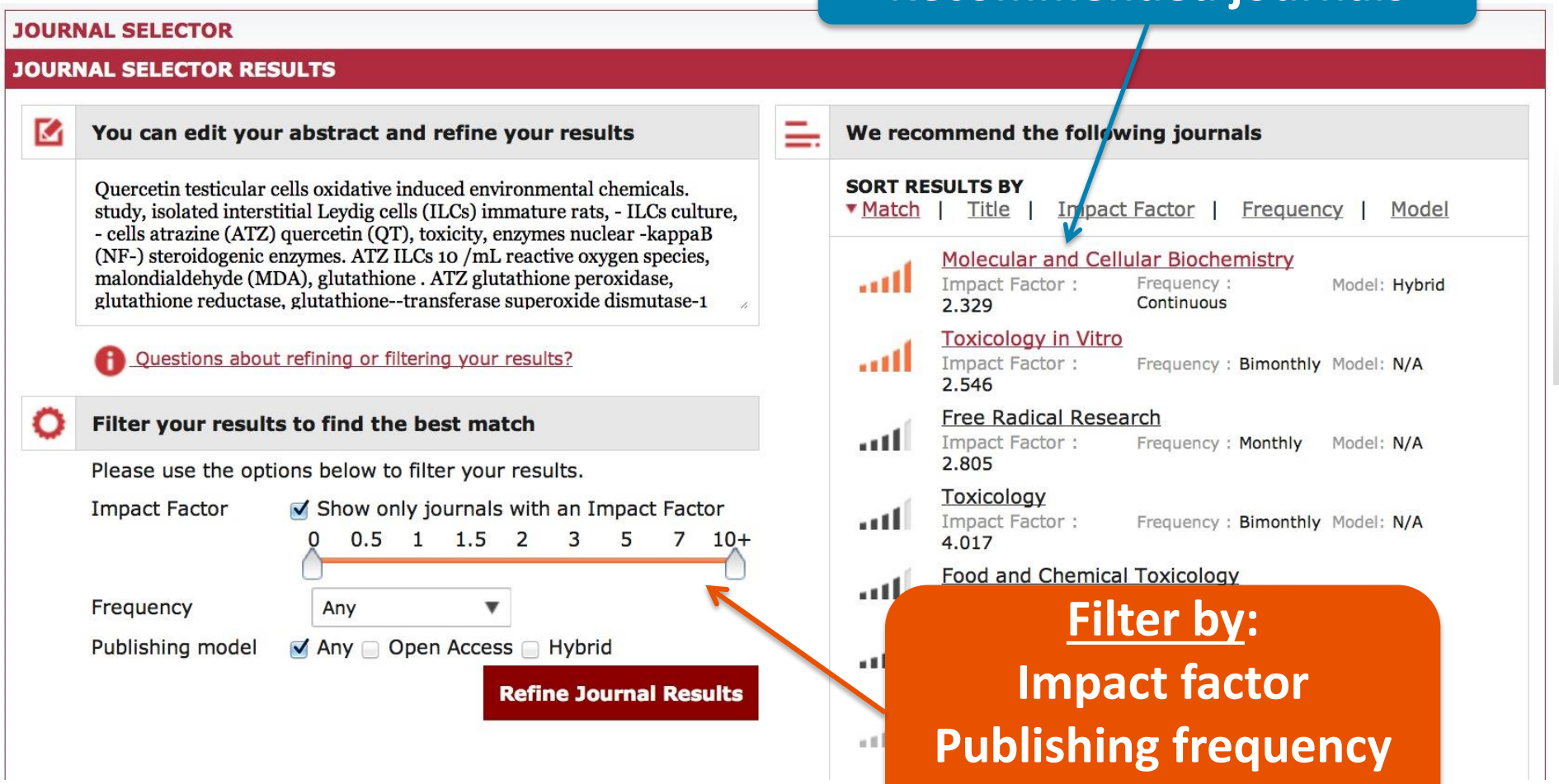
edanz

Journal selection

Journal Selector –

www.edanzediting.com/journal_selector

Recommended journals



Filter by:
Impact factor
Publishing frequency
Open access

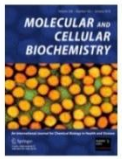
edanz

Journal selection

Journal Selector –

www.edanzediting.com/journal_selector

Semantic matching terms



Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry

Aims & Scope :

Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry: An International Journal for Chemical Biology in Health and Disease publishes original, full-length research papers and short communications in all areas of the biochemical sciences, the emphasis being on those papers which present novel findings relevant to the biochemical basis of cellular function and disease processes, as well as the mechanics of action of hormones and chemical agents. Investigations directed towards molecular biology and gene ncouraged. Membrane response, secretory areas of great interest s related to biochemical ll. Studies examining he molecular and al and pathological

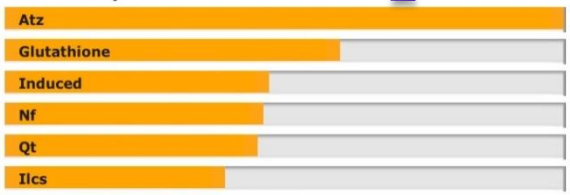
search, the journal publishes state of the art reviews. Specific subjects that are covered by Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry are: cellular metabolism, cellular pathophysiology, enzymology, ion transport, lipid biochemistry, membrane biochemistry, molecular biology, nuclear structure and function, and protein chemistry.

Hide full aims and scope

Impact Fa

Frequency: Continuous

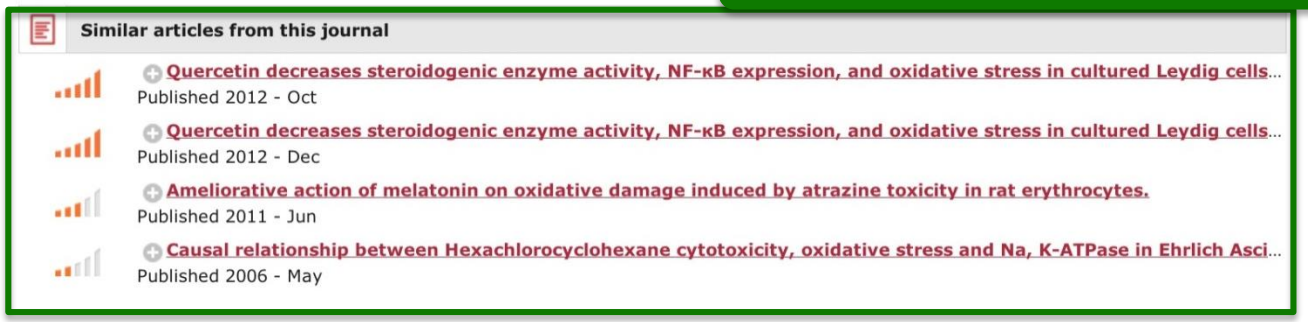
Match Analysis :



What does match analysis mean?

Journals IF, Aims & Scope, and Frequency

Similar published articles



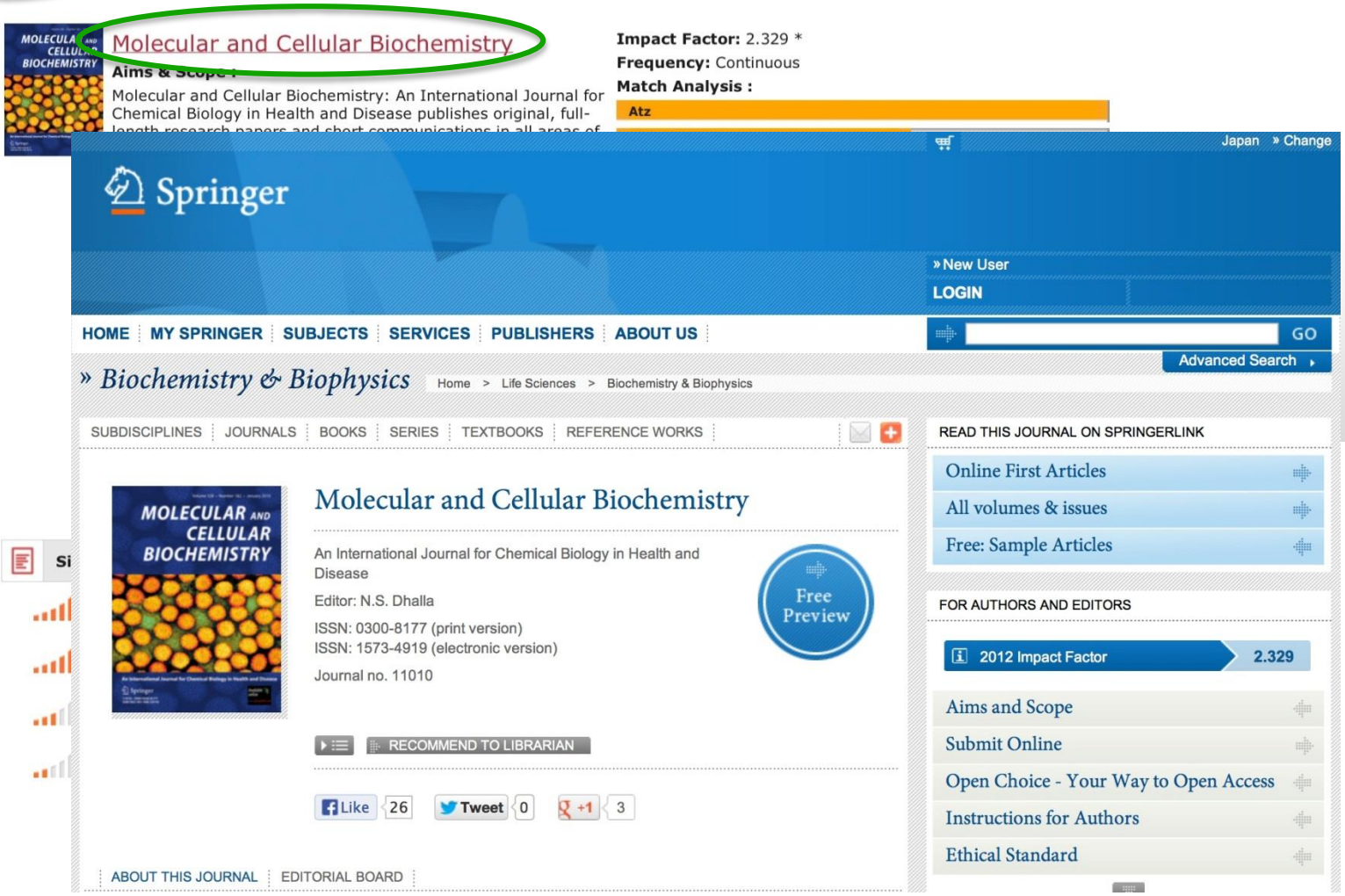
Have they published similar articles *recently*?

Have you *cited* some of these articles?

edanz

Journal selection

Visit journal websites



edanz

Journal selection

Tips to identify the most suitable journal

Identify the interests of the *journal editor*

- **Editorials**
- **Review articles**
- **Special issues**

edanz

Journal selection

Tips to identify the most suitable journal

Journal editor's interests

Journal A	Journal B	Journal C
• Editorials • Review articles • Special issues	• Editorials • Review articles • Special issues	• Editorials • Review articles • Special issues

Manuscript

edanz

Journal selection

Tips to identify the most suitable journal

Identify the interests of the *journal editor*

- Editorials
- Review articles
- Special issues

Identify the interests of the *readers*

- Most viewed
- Most cited

edanz

Journal selection

Tips to identify the most suitable journal

Reader's interests

Journal A	Journal B	Journal C
• Most viewed • Most cited	• Most viewed • Most cited	• Most viewed • Most cited

Manuscript

edanz

Section 3

Manuscript structure

Manuscript structure

Use your figures to structure your manuscript

Where to start?

- Your *findings* are why you want to publish your work
- Form the basis of your manuscript
- First step, is to logically organize your findings

Figure 1

Table 1

Figure 2

?

Figure 3

Logical presentation

Is anything missing?

Additional analyses?

edanz

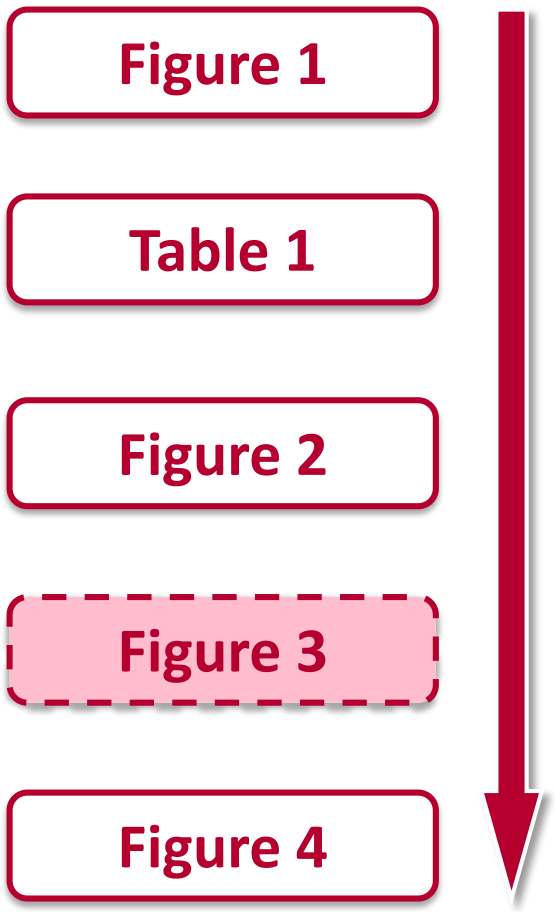
Springer

Manuscript structure

Use your figures to structure your manuscript

Where to start?

- Your *findings* are why you want to publish your work
- Form the basis of your manuscript
- First step, is to logically organize your findings



Manuscript structure

Prepare an outline

I. **Introduction**
   - A. General background
   - B. Related studies
   - C. Problems in the field
   - D. Aims

II. **Methods**
   - A. Subjects/Samples/Materials
   - B. General methods
   - C. Specific methods
   - D. Statistical analyses

III. **Results**
   - A. Key points about Figure 1
   - B. Key points about Table 1
   - C. Key points about Figure 2
   - D. Key points about Figure 3
   - E. Key points about Figure 4

IV. **Discussion**
   - A. Major conclusion
   - B. Key findings that support conclusion
   - C. Relevance to published studies
   - D. Unexpected/negative findings
   - E. Limitations
   - F. Implications
   - G. Future directions

Introduction

What background information you will introduce

Manuscript structure

Prepare an outline

I. **Introduction**
   - A. General background
   - B. Related studies
   - C. Problems in the field
   - D. Aims

II. **Methods**
   - A. Subjects/Samples/Materials
   - B. General methods
   - C. Specific methods
   - D. Statistical analyses

III. **Results**
   - A. Key points about Figure 1
   - B. Key points about Table 1
   - C. Key points about Figure 2
   - D. Key points about Figure 3
   - E. Key points about Figure 4

IV. **Discussion**
   - A. Major conclusion
   - B. Key findings that support conclusion
   - C. Relevance to published studies
   - D. Unexpected/negative findings
   - E. Limitations
   - F. Implications
   - G. Future directions

Introduction

What background information you will introduce

Methods

What analyses you will describe

Manuscript structure

Prepare an outline

I. **Introduction**
   - A. General background
   - B. Related studies
   - C. Problems in the field
   - D. Aims

II. **Methods**
   - A. Subjects/Samples/Materials
   - B. General methods
   - C. Specific methods
   - D. Statistical analyses

III. **Results**
   - A. Key points about Figure 1
   - B. Key points about Table 1
   - C. Key points about Figure 2
   - D. Key points about Figure 3
   - E. Key points about Figure 4

IV. **Discussion**
   - A. Major conclusion
   - B. Key findings that support conclusion
   - C. Relevance to published studies
   - D. Unexpected/negative findings
   - E. Limitations
   - F. Implications
   - G. Future directions

Introduction

What background information you will introduce

Methods

What analyses you will describe

Results

What findings you will present

Manuscript structure

Prepare an outline

I. **Introduction**
   - A. General background
   - B. Related studies
   - C. Problems in the field
   - D. Aims

II. **Methods**
   - A. Subjects/Samples/Materials
   - B. General methods
   - C. Specific methods
   - D. Statistical analyses

III. **Results**
   - A. Key points about Figure 1
   - B. Key points about Table 1
   - C. Key points about Figure 2
   - D. Key points about Figure 3
   - E. Key points about Figure 4

IV. **Discussion**
   - A. Major conclusion
   - B. Key findings that support conclusion
   - C. Relevance to published studies
   - D. Unexpected/negative findings
   - E. Limitations
   - F. Implications
   - G. Future directions

Introduction

What background information you will introduce

Methods

What analyses you will describe

Results

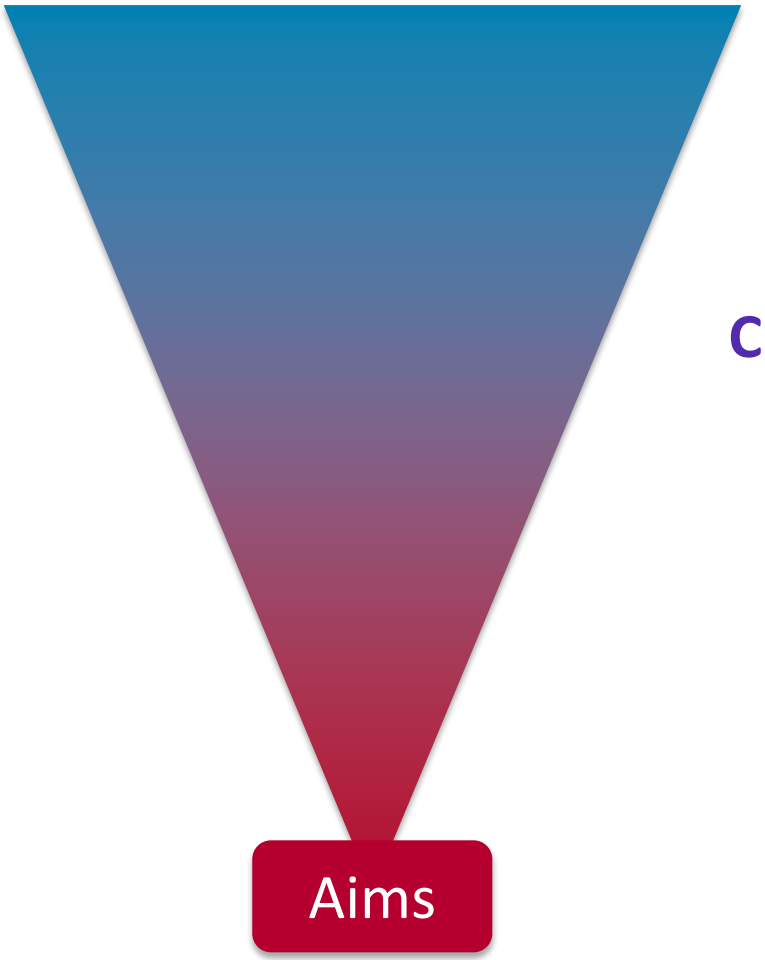
What findings you will present

Discussion

What interpretations, limitations, and implications you will discuss

Manuscript structure

Introduction



General introduction

Current state of the field

Problem in the field

Specific aims

Manuscript structure

Introduction – flow of information

General introduction

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer mortality for men and women. Despite smoking prevention and cessation programs and advances in early detection, the 5-year survival rate for lung cancer is only 16% with current therapies. Although lung cancer incidence rates have recently declined in the United States, more lung cancer is now diagnosed [illegible] rs than in current smokers. Thus, even if all of the national anti-smoking campaign goals are met, lung cancer will remain a major public health problem for decades. New ways to treat or prevent lung cancer are therefore needed.

Specific introduction

One potential therapeutic target for lung cancer is the Wnt signaling pathway. The canonical Wnt signaling pathway in mammals consists of a family of secreted lipid-modified Wnt protein ligands that bind to a family of 7-pass transmembrane Frizzled (Fzd) receptors, as reviewed. In brief, in the absence of ligand, glycogen synthase kinase-3 (GSK3), in complex with axin and adenomatous polyposis coli (APC), constitutively phosphorylates β-catenin, the primary Wnt signaling effector, targeting it for ubiquitination and proteasomal destruction. Ligand binding engages a pathway involving Dishevelled (Dvl) that inhibits GSK3, allowing β-catenin to accumulate in a hypophosphorylated form. This stabilized form of β-catenin can translocate to the nucleus, where it activates target gene transcription by complexing with T cell factor (TCF) and lymphoid enhancer-binding factor (LEF). In addition to key mediators of embryonic development, these target genes include critical growth-regulators such as *myc* and *cyclin D1*.

Aberrant Wnt signaling due to mutations in *β-catenin* or *APC* drives deregulated growth in both familial and non-hereditary colorectal cancers. However, non-small cell lung cancers (NSCLC), the most co[illegible] mutations. Rather, aberrant Wnt activity in lung cancer is linked to increased expression of upstream Wnt signaling effectors such as Dvl or decreased expression of Wnt antagonists such as Wnt-inhibitory factor 1 (Wif-1).

Effective pharmacological inhibitors of the Wnt pathway have only recently become available. Screens for small-molecule antagonists of the Wnt pathway found two enzymes to be key mediators of Wnt signaling. These are poly-ADP-ribose polymerase (PARP) enzymes, tankyrase (TNKS) 1 and TNKS2, which attach poly-ADP-ribose (PAR) onto substrate proteins. Their roles in regulating telomerase function and mitotic spindle formation are known, but their role in PARsylating axin so as to maintain the optimal level for canonical Wnt signaling has only recently been recognized. The compounds identified in these screens, XAV939, IWR-1 exo, and IWR-1 endo, act by specifically inhibiting the PARP activity of TNKS1 and TNKS2. IWR-exo is a stereoisomer of IWR-1 endo with ~14-fold lower EC_{50}. PARP inhibition is a tractable pharmacological target *in vivo*, as antagonists of other PARP homologs exert antineoplastic responses in breast and ovarian cancer, as reviewed.

Objectives

This study explored the hypothesis that inhibition of TNKS by pharmacological or genetic means would inhibit lung cancer growth *in vitro* and *in vivo* in clinically-relevant transgenic mouse models of lung cancer that were previously developed, as reviewed.

edanz

Busch et al. BMC Cancer. 2012; 13: 211.

Manuscript structure

Writing the Introduction

Beginning should demonstrate relevance/interest

Interest

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer mortality for men and women. Despite smoking prevention and cessation programs and advances in early detection, the 5-year survival rate for lung cancer is only 16% with current therapies. Although lung cancer incidence rates have recently declined in the United States, more lung cancer is now diagnosed when considered together in former- and never-smokers than in current smokers. Thus, even if all of the national anti-smoking campaign goals are met, lung cancer will remain a major public health problem for decades. New ways to treat or prevent lung cancer are therefore needed.

Important problem in the field

edanz

Busch et al. BMC Cancer. 2012; 13: 211.

Manuscript structure

Writing the Introduction

Your ***aims*** should directly address this problem

New ways to treat or prevent lung cancer are therefore needed.

This study explored the hypothesis that inhibition of TNKS by pharmacological or genetic means would inhibit lung cancer growth *in vitro* and *in vivo*…

edanz

Busch et al. BMC Cancer. 2012; 13: 211.

Manuscript structure

Methods/Experimental

Experimental Design

What was used	**Samples or participants** **Materials**
How it was done	**General methods** **Specific techniques** **(discuss controls)**
How it was analyzed	**Data analysis** **Quantification methods** **Statistical tests**

Manuscript structure

Results

Logical presentation — Key points relating to each display item

Subsections — Each subsection corresponds to *one* figure

Factual description — What you found, *not* what it means

Manuscript structure

Display items

Present large amount of data *quickly* and *efficiently*

Usually the *first* thing readers will look at

Figures, graphs & tables

Keep it *simple*: use separate panels if necessary

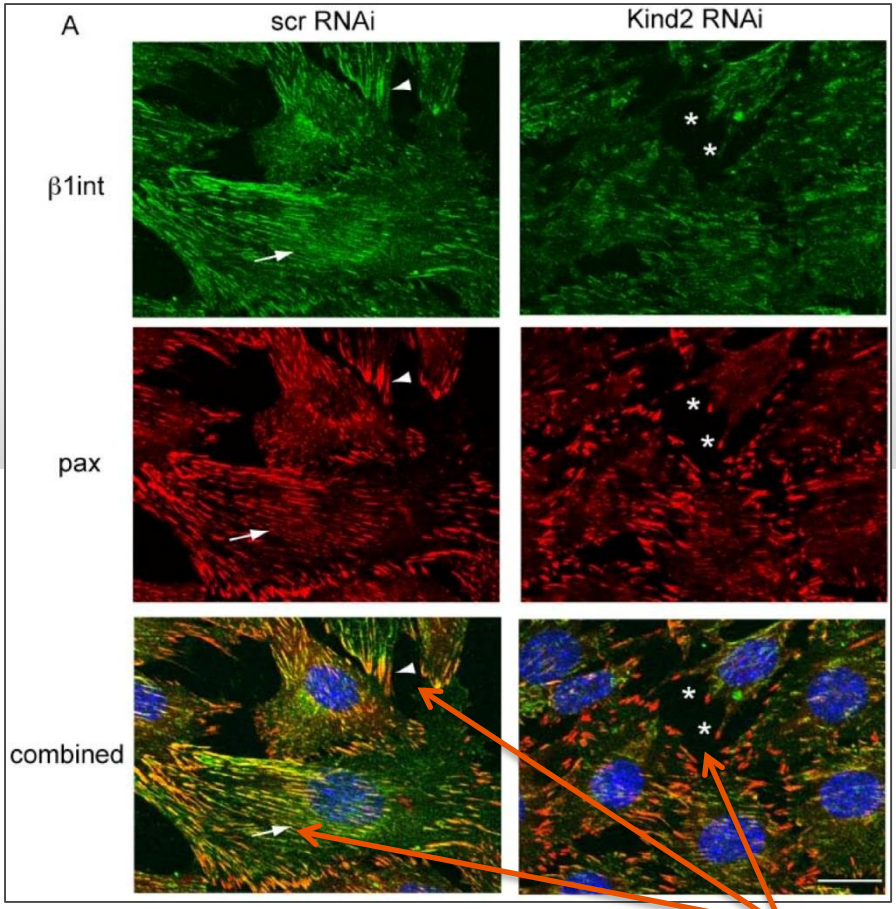
Must be able to *stand alone*: clear labels and figure legends

edanz

Manuscript structure

Figures

Clear figure legend



Kindlin-2 knockdown and focal adhesion localization. Confocal immunofluorescent microscopy with anti-β1 integrin and anti-paxillin on C2C12 cells transfected with RNAi and then changed to differentiation media for 2 days. Control cells show linear staining consistent with localization to costameres (arrows), as well as punctate focal contact staining (arrowheads). Focal contact proteins in the kindlin-2 RNAi cells fail to form linear structures and instead are concentrated in unusual appearing puncta (*). (Scale bar = 20 μM).

Title of the experiment

Brief methodology

Key findings

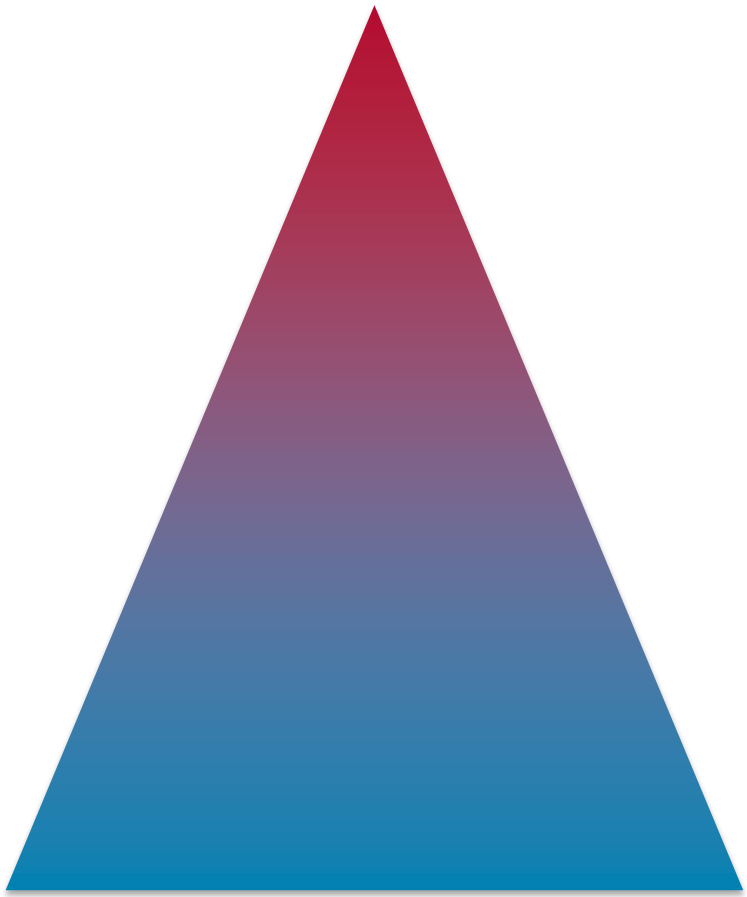
Clear indicators

edanz

Dowling et al. (2008) BMC Cell Biol 9:36.

Manuscript structure

Discussion



Summary of findings

Relevance of findings

Implications for the field

edanz

Manuscript structure

Discussion – flow of information

Summary

Key findings

GPER is an E_2 binding, G-protein coupled membrane receptor that was reported to be overexpressed in breast endometrial, ovarian and thyroid cancers. The results presented here extend these observations to show that different types of lung cancers including adenocarcinomas, squamous cell carcinoma and large cell carcinomas express higher GPER than normal lung tissue. Here, we demonstrate for the first time that GPER is overexpressed in lung tumors and lung adenocarcinoma cell lines relative to normal lung and immortalized normal lung cell lines, although the expression of GPER transcript in HPL1D cells is higher than HBECs.

Relevance

Previous studies

GPER has been postulated to be involved in E_2-activation of EGFR. Filardo's group showed a link between GPER expression and tumor progression and increased tumor size in breast cancer patients. Recently, GPER overexpression was reported to be independent of ERα expression in breast cancer patient samples, indicating the importance of GPER in ERα negative tumors. GPER and EGFR expression were correlated in endometrial adenocarcinoma. Further, overexpression of GPER in advanced stage endometrial adenocarcinoma correlated with poor survival. Other studies also suggest increased GPER in breast, ovarian and endometrial cancers correlates with disease severity and reduced survival. These results are in agreement with studies demonstrating association of GPER overexpression in other cancers, although the scoring patterns and correlation of expression levels to disease state may vary among these studies.

Unexpected results

A limitation of our study is that the average GPER staining scores among different lung cancer grades (I (10 cases), II (30 cases), III (16 cases)) were not significantly different. One other limitation of the current study is that we cannot conclude at this time whether GPER overexpression is cause or consequence of cancer. It is also possible that overexpression of GPER in lung cancers may reflect a defense mechanism to counteract excessive proliferation. Indeed, a recent report by Krakstad *et al.* showed that loss of GPER in ERα-positive endometrial cancers is associated with poor prognosis. Another study showed that the GPER agonist G-1 inhibited E_2-induced uterine epithelial cell proliferation in mice by repressing MAPK activation, indicating that GPER effects are tissue specific. Because our studies were performed on commercial TMAs, the results cannot be extrapolated to correlate GPER expression levels to disease outcomes. Clearly, this is a next logical step in light of the novel findings.

Limitations

We observed no differences in GPER expression between adenocarcinoma cell lines or tumors from male and female patients, similar to the previous findings of no difference in ERα or ERβ expression in NSCLC cells and tumors based on gender. In Western blots, rather than rely on one GPER antibody in our study, we used 3 different commercial antibodies to determine the correlation between mRNA and protein levels. It is indeed evident from our Western blot data that GPER appears to have different MW forms, likely due to glycosylation, dimerization, and interaction with other membrane proteins, and levels in the lung adenocarcinoma cell lines. More trivial explanations for the different staining patterns of GPER in Western blots may be due to differential purity/affinity of the three GPER antibodies as well as their capacity to bind to secondary antibodies. It will be important to determine the nature of these forms by proteomic analysis and gene sequencing to evaluate their biological significance.

Conclusions

Major conclusion

Mechanism-based studies showed that GPER transactivates EGFR in breast cancer cells as well as in thyroid, endometrial and ovarian cancer cell lines. Inhibitors of EGFR tyrosine kinase (gefitinib) and ER (fulvestrant, ICI 182,780) were reported to synergize their anti-proliferative effects in NSCLC . Given the importance of EGFR signaling as a therapeutic target in lung cancer, further examination of the effect of EGF, heregulin, and amphiregulin on GPER expression and function in lung cancer may provide new insights into resistance to EGFR inhibitors and or how estrogens stimulate lung cancer.

Implications

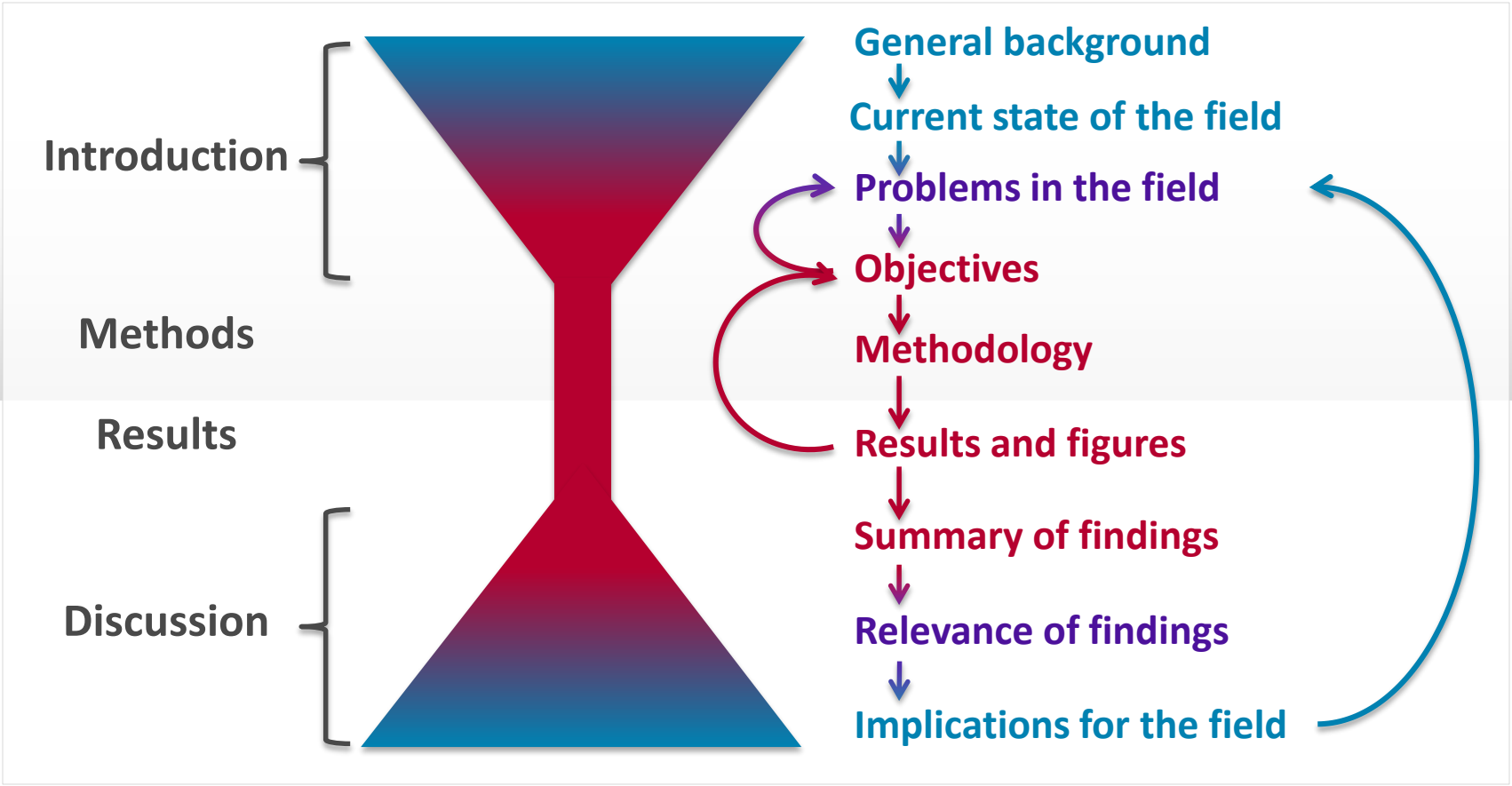
In conclusion, the data presented in this manuscript demonstrate that GPER expression is higher in lung tumors compared to normal lung tissue. While it is not yet clear that elevated GPER expression is a cause of or consequence from lung cancer progression. Functional analysis of the effect of GPER expression will facilitate further delineation of the role of GPER in lung cancer.

edanz

Rao Jala et al. *BMC Cancer* 2012;12:624.

Manuscript structure

Linking your ideas

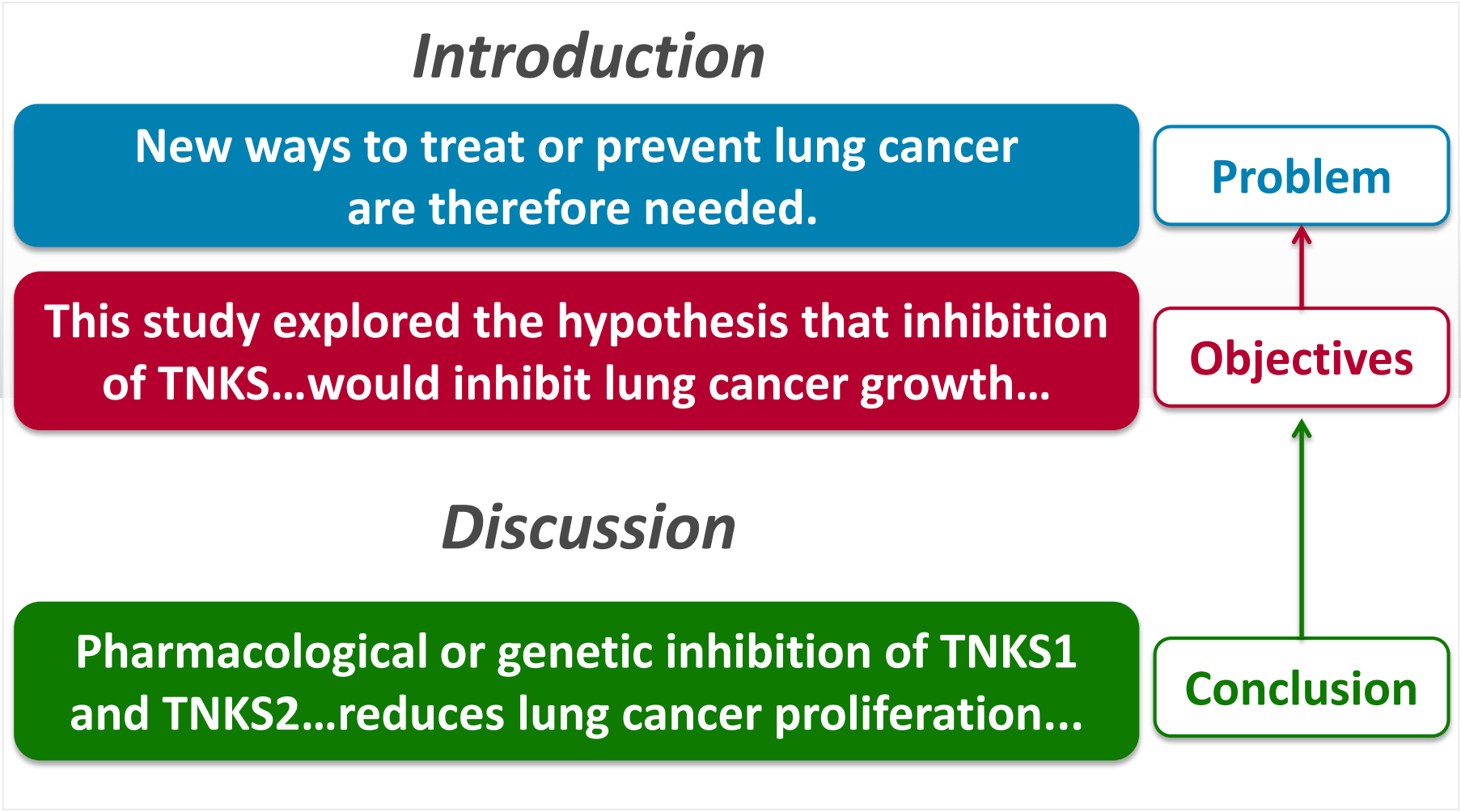


Logically link your ideas throughout your manuscript

edanz

Manuscript structure

Linking your ideas



edanz

Busch et al. *BMC Cancer*. 2012;13:211.

Section 4

Titles and abstracts

Titles and abstracts

Effective titles

Important points

- ✓ Summarize key finding
- ✓ Contains keywords
- ✓ Less than 20 words

Avoid

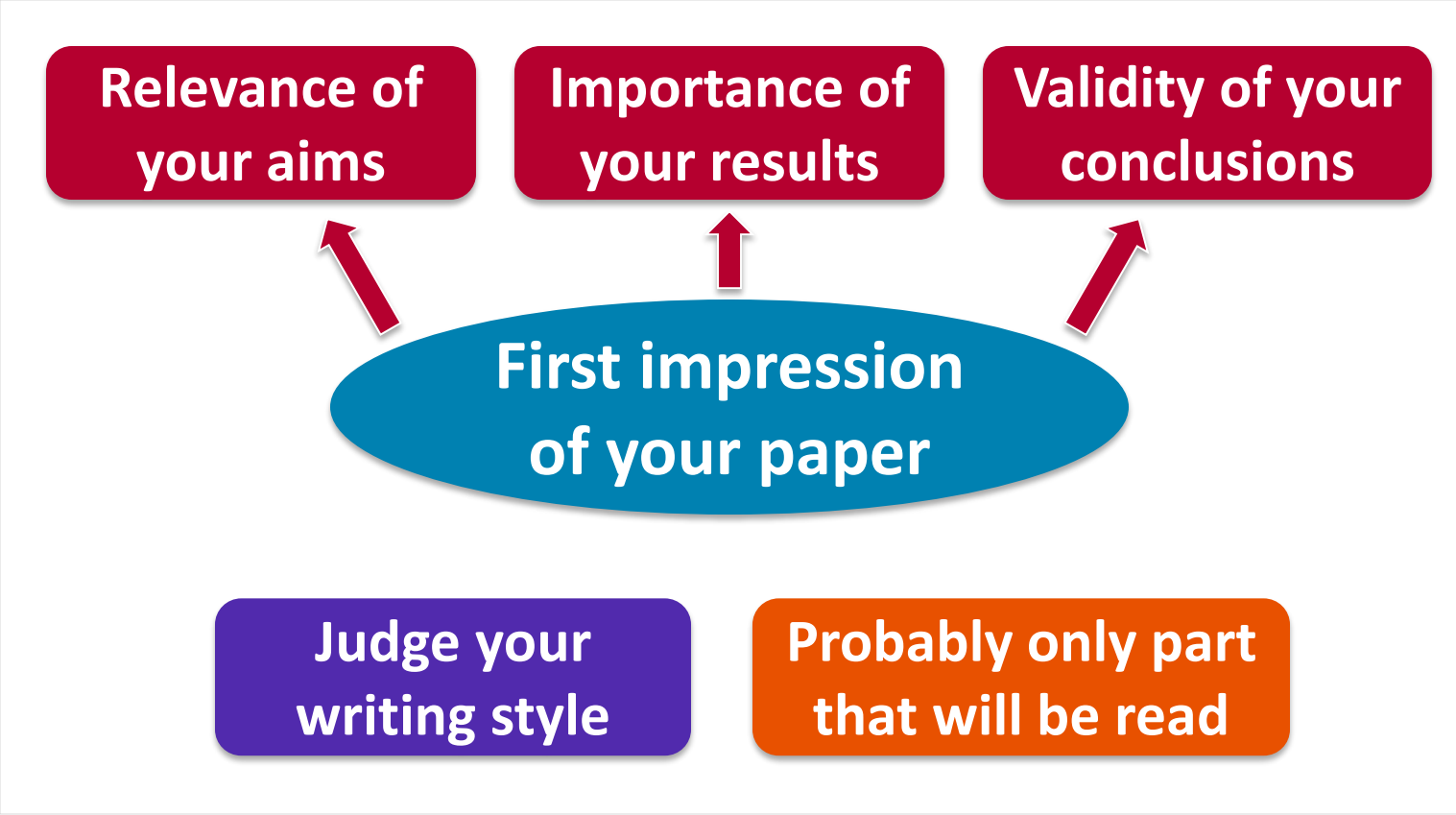
- X Questions
- X Abbreviations
- X “New” or “novel”

Your title should be a concise summary of your most important finding

edanz

Titles and abstracts

Abstract



Titles and abstracts

Sections of an abstract

Concise summary of your research

Background	→	**Why the study was done**
Aims	→	**Your hypothesis**
Methods	→	**Techniques**
Results	→	**Most important findings**
Conclusion	→	**Conclusion/implications**

Titles and abstracts

Unstructured abstract

Our understanding of the mechanisms by which ducts and lobules develop is derived from model organisms and three-dimensional (3D) cell culture models wherein mammalian epithelial cells undergo morphogenesis to form multicellular spheres with a hollow central lumen. However, the mechanophysical properties associated with epithelial morphogenesis are poorly understood. We performed multidimensional live-cell imaging analysis to track the morphogenetic process starting from a single cell to the development of a multicellular, spherical structure composed of polarized epithelial cells surrounding a hollow lumen. We report that in addition to actively maintaining apicobasal polarity, the structures underwent rotational motions at rates of 15–20 μm/h and the structures rotated 360° every 4 h during the early phase of morphogenesis. Rotational motion was independent of the cell cycle, but was blocked by loss of the epithelial polarity proteins Scribble or Pard3, or by inhibition of dynein-based microtubule motors. Interestingly, none of the structures derived from human cancer underwent rotational motion. We found a direct relationship between rotational motion and assembly of endogenous basement membrane matrix around the 3D structures, and that structures that failed to rotate were defective in weaving exogenous laminin matrix. Dissolution of basement membrane around mature, nonrotating acini restored rotational movement and the ability to assemble exogenous laminin. Thus, coordinated rotational movement is a unique mechanophysical process observed during normal 3D morphogenesis that regulates laminin matrix assembly and is lost in cancer-derived epithelial cells.

edanz

Wang et al. PNAS. 2013; 110: 163–168.

Titles and abstracts

Unstructured abstract

Background

Our understanding of the mechanisms by which ducts and lobules develop is derived from model organisms and three-dimensional (3D) cell culture models wherein mammalian epithelial cells undergo morphogenesis to form multicellular spheres with a hollow central lumen. However, the mechanophysical properties associated with epithelial morphogenesis are poorly understood.

Methods

We performed multidimensional live-cell imaging analysis to track the morphogenetic process starting from a single cell to the development of a multicellular, spherical structure composed of polarized epithelial cells surrounding a hollow lumen.

Results

We report that in addition to actively maintaining apicobasal polarity, the structures underwent rotational motions at rates of 15–20 μm/h and the structures rotated 360° every 4 h during the early phase of morphogenesis. Rotational motion was independent of the cell cycle, but was blocked by loss of the epithelial polarity proteins Scribble or Pard3, or by inhibition of dynein-based microtubule motors. Interestingly, none of the structures derived from human cancer underwent rotational motion. We found a direct relationship between rotational motion and assembly of endogenous basement membrane matrix around the 3D structures, and that structures that failed to rotate were defective in weaving exogenous laminin matrix. Dissolution of basement membrane around mature, nonrotating acini restored rotational movement and the ability to assemble exogenous laminin.

Conclusion

Thus, coordinated rotational movement is a unique mechanophysical process observed during normal 3D morphogenesis that regulates laminin matrix assembly and is lost in cancer-derived epithelial cells.

edanz

Wang et al. PNAS. 2013; 110: 163–168.

Titles and abstracts

Link ideas in your abstract

Our understanding of the mechanisms by which ducts and lobules develop is derived from model organisms and three-dimensional (3D) cell culture models wherein mammalian epithelial cells undergo morphogenesis to form multicellular spheres with a hollow central lumen. However, the mechanophysical properties associated with epithelial morphogenesis are poorly understood.

Background

However, the mechanophysical properties associated with epithelial morphogenesis are poorly undersood.

Problem

Thus, coordinated rotational movement is a unique mechanophysical process…

Answer

Thus, coordinated rotational movement is a unique mechanophysical process observed during normal 3D morphogenesis that regulates laminin matrix assembly and is lost in cancer-derived epithelial cells.

Conclusion

edanz

Wang et al. PNAS 2013; 110:163–168.

Journal editors are busy!

edanz

Section 5

Cover letters

Cover letters

Significance
Relevance

→ Is your work important?

Cover letters are the first impression for the journal editor

Interesting to their readers?

Level of English

edanz

Cover letters

A good cover letter

Dear Dr Graeber, → **Editor's name**

Please find enclosed our manuscript entitled "Amyloid-like inclusions in the brains of Huntington's disease patients", by McGowan et al., which we would like to submit for publication as a Research Paper in *Neurogenetics*.

Manuscript title

Publication type

Recent immunohistochemical studies have revealed the presence of neuronal inclusions containing an N-terminal portion of the mutant huntingtin protein and ubiquitin in the brain tissues of Huntington's disease (HD) patients; however, the role of these inclusions in the disease process has remained unclear. One suspected disease-causing mechanism in Huntington's disease and other polyglutamine disorders is the potential for the mutant protein to undergo a conformational change to a more stable anti-parallel β-sheet structure…

Give the background to the research

To confirm if the immunohistochemically observed huntingtin- and ubiquitin-containing inclusions display amyloid features, we performed Congo red staining and both polarizing and confocal microscopy on post-mortem human brain tissues obtained from five HD patients, two AD patients, and two normal controls. Congo red staining revealed a small number of amyloid-like inclusions showing green birefringence by polarized microscopy, in a variety of cortical regions.... ….detected inclusions observed in parallel sections, suggesting that only a relatively small proportion of inclusions in HD adopt an amyloid-like structure.

What was done and what was found

We believe our findings will be of particular interest to the readership of *Neurogenetics,* which includes researchers and clinicians studying the genetic and molecular mechanisms underlying neurodegenerative diseases. Therefore, we feel that your journal provides the most suitable platform for the dissemination of our work to the research community.

Interest to journal's readers

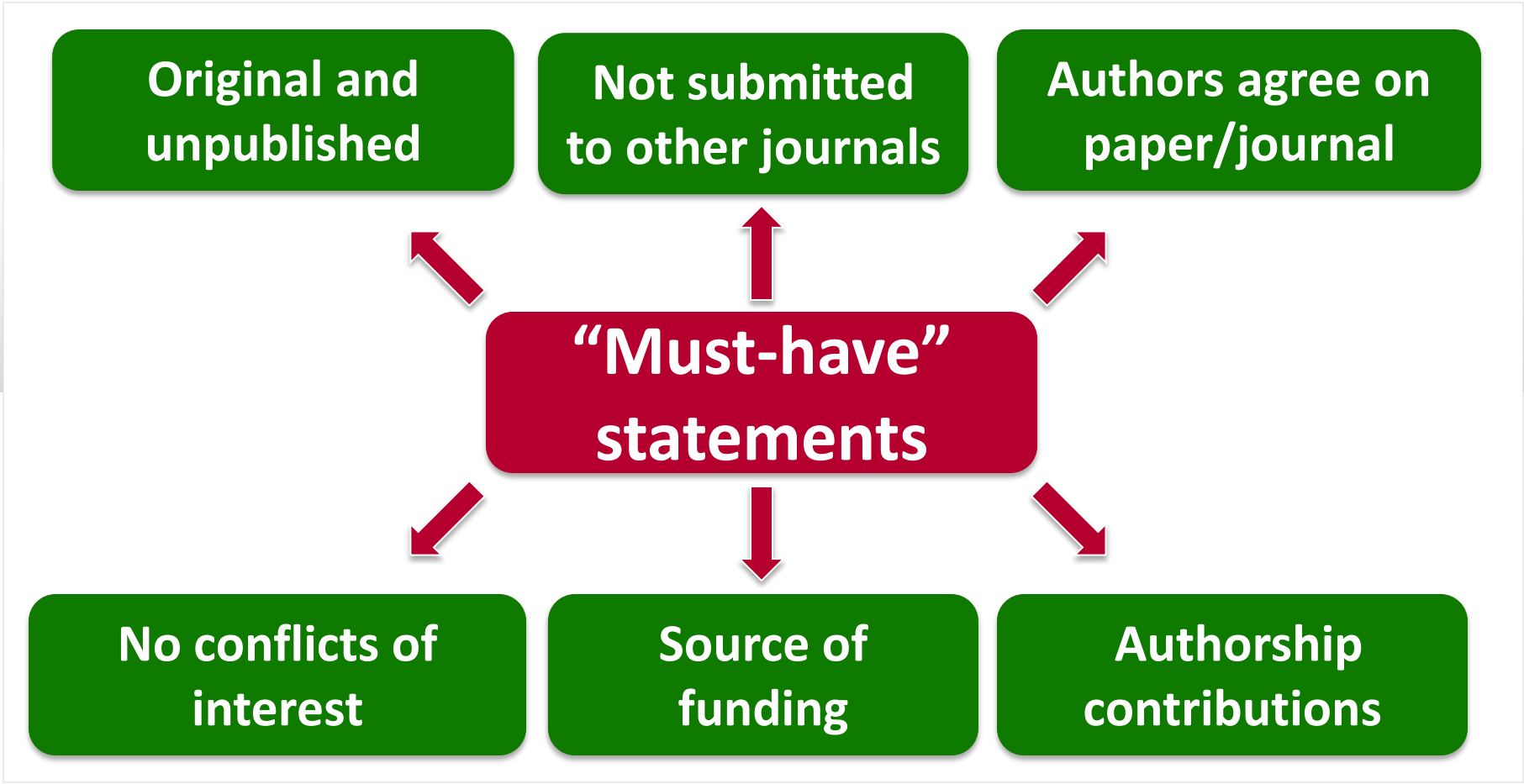
We would also like to suggest the following reviewers for our manuscript… → **Recommend reviewers**

edanz

"Must-have" statements

Cover letters

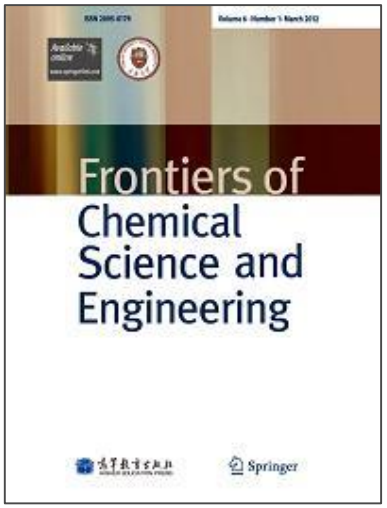
Disclaimers about publication ethics



edanz

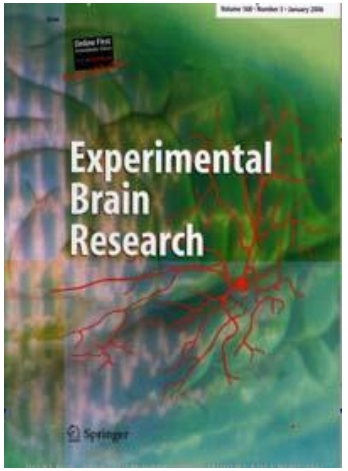
Cover letters

Recommending reviewers



"When submitting a paper authors are requested to suggest 5 potential referees, supplying the full name, address, e-mail and research field in each case.

"When submitting your paper, you must provide the names, affiliations, and valid e-mail addresses of five (5) reviewers. If you do not do so, your paper will be returned, unreviewed."



edanz

Cover letters

Recommending reviewers

Where to find them? → From your reading/references, networking at conferences

How senior? → Aim for mid-level researchers

Who to avoid? → Collaborators (past 5 years), researchers from same institution

International list:

1 or 2 from Asia, 1 or 2 from Europe, and 1 or 2 from the Americas

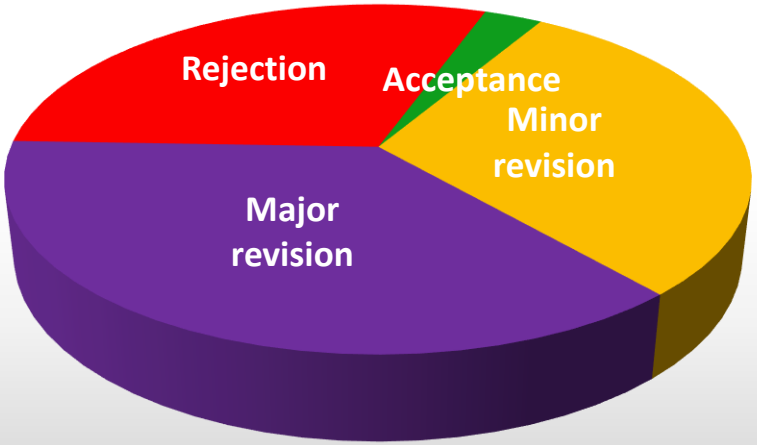
edanz

Section 6

Peer Review

Peer review

Peer review improves your manuscript

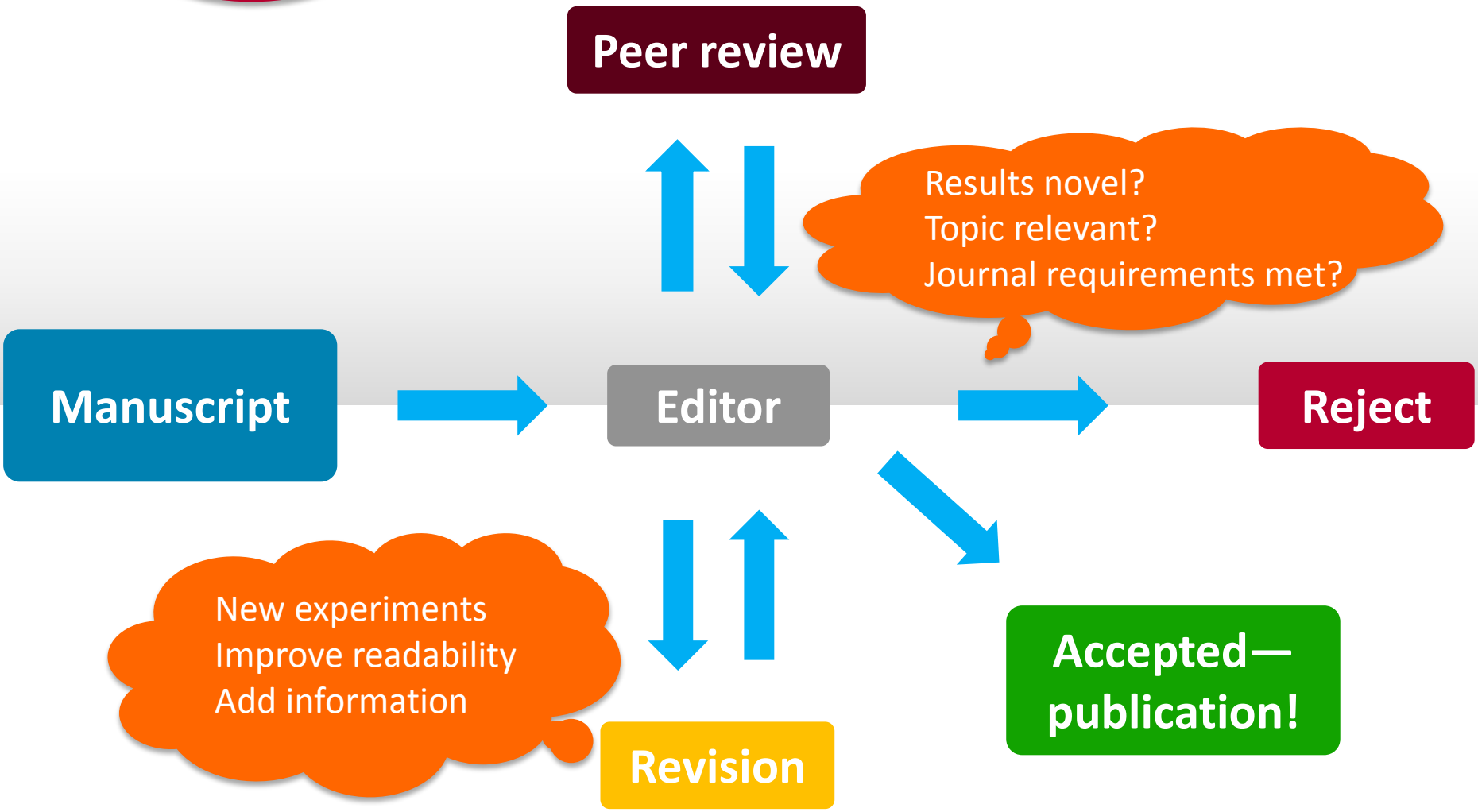


- Few papers are accepted without revision
- Rejection and revision are integral
- Peer review should be a positive process

edanz

Peer review

Submission process and time frames



edanz

Peer review

What reviewers are looking for

The science

- ✓ Relevant hypothesis
- ✓ Good experimental design
- ✓ Appropriate methodology
- ✓ Good data analysis
- ✓ Valid conclusions

The ma

Discussion

ormatting

- ✓ High readability

edanz

Peer review

Revision

Respond to *every* reviewer comment

Response letter

Easy to see changes

- Refer to line and page numbers
- Use a different color font
- Highlight the text

edanz

Peer review

Writing a response letter

Marc Lippman, MD
Editor-in-Chief
Breast Cancer Research and Treatmer

3 September 2013

Address editor personally

Dear Dr Lippman,

Manuscript ID number

Re: Resubmission of manuscript reference No. WJS-07-5739

Thank reviewers

Please find attached a revised version of our manuscript originally entitled "Evaluation of the Glasgow prognostic score in patients undergoing curative resection for breast cancer liver metastases," which we would like to resubmit for consideration for publication in the *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment.*

The reviewer's comments were highly insightful and enabled us to greatly improve the quality of our manuscript. In the following pages are our point-by-point responses to each of the comments.

Revisions in the manuscript are shown as underlined text. In accordance with the first comment, the title has been revised and the entire manuscript has undergone substantial English editing.

We hope that the revisions in the manuscript and our accompanying responses will be sufficient to make our manuscript suitable for publication in the *Breast Cancer Research and Treatment*.

Highlight major changes

edanz

Peer review

Agreeing with reviewers

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Response: We agree with the reviewer's assessment of the analysis. Our tailored function, in its current form, makes it difficult to tell that this measurement constitutes a significant improvement over previously reported values. We describe our new analysis using a Gaussian fitting function in our revised Results section (Page 6, Lines 12–18).

Peer review

Agreeing with reviewers

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Agreement

Response: We agree with the reviewer's assessment of the analysis. Our tailored function, in its current form, makes it difficult to tell that this measurement constitutes a significant improvement over previously reported values. We describe our new analysis using a Gaussian fitting function in our revised Results section (Page 6, Lines 12–18).

Peer review

Agreeing with reviewers

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Agreement

Response: We agree with the reviewer's assessment of the analysis. Our tailored function, in its current form, makes it difficult to tell that this measurement constitutes a significant improvement over previously reported values. We describe our new analysis using a Gaussian fitting function in our revised Results section (Page 6, Lines 12–18).

Revisions

Peer review

Agreeing with reviewers

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Agreement

Response: We agree with the reviewer's assessment of the analysis. Our tailored function, in its current form, makes it difficult to tell that this measurement constitutes a significant improvement over previously reported values. We describe our new analysis using a Gaussian fitting function in our revised Results section (Page 6, Lines 12–18).

Revisions

Location

edanz

Peer review

Disagreeing with reviewers

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Response: Although a simple Gaussian fit would facilitate comparison with the results of other studies, our tailored function allows for the analysis of the data in terms of the Smith model [Smith et al., 1998]. We have now explained the use of this function and the Smith model in our revised Discussion section (Page 12, Lines 2–6).

Peer review

Disagreeing with reviewers

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Response: Although a simple Gaussian fit would facilitate comparison with the results of other studies, our tailored function allows for the analysis of the data in terms of the Smith model [Smith et al., 1998]. We have now explained the use of this function and the Smith model in our revised Discussion section (Page 12, Lines 2–6).

Evidence

Peer review

Disagreeing with reviewers

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Response: Although a simple Gaussian fit would facilitate comparison with the results of other studies, our tailored function allows for the analysis of the data in terms of the Smith model [Smith et al., 1998]. We have now explained the use of this function and the Smith model in the Discussion section (Page 12, Lines 2–6).

Evidence

Revisions

edanz

Peer review

Disagreeing with reviewers

Reviewer Comment: *In your analysis of the data you have chosen to use a somewhat obscure fitting function (regression). In my opinion, a simple Gaussian function would have sufficed. Moreover, the results would be more instructive and easier to compare to previous results.*

Response: Although a simple Gaussian fit would facilitate comparison with the results of other studies, our tailored function allows for the analysis of the data in terms of the Smith model [Smith et al., 1998]. We have now explained the use of this function and the Smith model in the Discussion section (Page 12, Lines 2–6).

Evidence

Revisions

Location

edanz

Peer review

"Unfair" reviewer comments

***Reviewer comment**: Currently, the authors' conclusion that this gene is involved in heart development is not completely validated by their in vitro analyses. They should do additional in vivo experiments using a genetic mouse model to show that heart development is regulated by this gene.*

Reasons why reviewers might make these comments

- **Current results are not appropriate for the impact factor of the journal**
- **Reviewer is being "unfair"**

Peer review

If rejected, what should you do?

Option 1: New submission to the *same* journal

- Fully revise manuscript
- Prepare point-by-point responses
- Include the original manuscript ID number

Option 2: New submission to a *different* journal

- Revise manuscript
- Reformat according to the author guidelines

edanz

If accepted, what's next?

Your goal is not only to be published, but also to be widely read/cited

- **Promote your work on social networks**
  - Twitter, LinkedIn, Research Gate
- **Respond to post-publication comments**
- **Present your work at conferences**
  - Promote your publication
  - Allows you to discuss your work personally with your peers
  - Get feedback about your work and future directions

edanz

Be an effective communicator

- ✓ Write effectively
- ✓ Choose the best journal to reach your target audience
- ✓ Logically present your research in your manuscript
- ✓ Convey the significance of your work to journal editors
- ✓ Properly revise your manuscript after peer review

edanz

Any questions?

Thank you!

Daniel McGowan: dmcgowan@edanzgroup.com

edanzediting.com/mexico2014
Download and further reading

@EdanzEditing
Follow us on Twitter

facebook.com/EdanzEditing
Like us on Facebook

edanz

Springer