

Guide for Authors

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ABOUT THE JOURNAL

Aims and Scope

Prostate Cancer and Prostatic Diseases covers all aspects of prostatic diseases, and in particular, prostate cancer, the subject of intensive basic and clinical research worldwide. The journal also reports on exciting new developments being made in diagnosis, surgery, radiotherapy, drug discovery and medical management. Prostate Cancer and Prostatic Diseases is of interest to surgeons, oncologists, clinicians and to those involved in research into diseases of the prostate.

Prostate Cancer and Prostatic Diseases publishes original research articles, reviews, topical comment and critical appraisals of scientific meetings and the latest books.

The following is a non-exhaustive list of the general topics covered by *Prostate Cancer and Prostatic Diseases*:

- Alternative therapies
- Angiogenesis
- Anti-sense oligonucleotides against growth factors
- Brachytherapy
- Conformal radiotherapy
- Cryotherapy
- · Cyclotron fast neutron treatment
- Enhancing the results of radical prostatectomy
- Epidemiology of prostate cancer and prostatic diseases
- Familial prostate cancer
- Free to total PSA
- Gene therapy for prostate cancer
- Genetic basis for prostate cancer Hormone-related disease
- How significant is PSA-detected disease?
- Intermittent antiandrogen therapy
- Mechanisms of tumour invasion in prostate cancer
- Medical and surgical therapies for male LUTS
- Medical therapy for male LUTS: the road ahead
- Natural history of prostate cancer and prostatic diseases

- Nutrition in prostate cancer and prostatic diseases
- Photodynamic therapy
- Prognostic markers
- Prostate cancer and potency and impotence
- Prostatic intra-epithelial neoplasia an important precursor of cancer
- Prostatitis: quo vadis?
- Quality of life issues
- Racial issues in prostate cancer
- Recurrence after radical prostatectomy
- Reproducibility (test-retest reliability) of investigations for prostatic diseases
- Reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction to detect circulating mRNA for PSA
- Role of differentiation therapy
- Screening for prostate cancer
- Staging of prostate cancer: beyond conventional imaging
- The magic bullet use of PSA promotor gene to target gene therapy
- Utility of ultrasensitive PSA assays

Journal Details

Editor-in-Chief: Stephen J. Freedland, MD, USA Editorial Office: pcan@us.nature.com

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Excerpta Medica/EMBASE SCIExpanded
Current Contents Index Medicus/Medline
Research Alert Science Citation Index UK Health Centre Index

Submission of manuscripts: Please visit the online submission site to submit a manuscript to the journal.

ARTICLE TYPE SPECIFICATIONS

Editorial Note: The journal covers three main areas: prostate cancer, male LUTS and prostatitis. *Prostate Cancer and Prostatic Diseases* publishes original research articles, reviews, letters to the editor and editorials. Editorials are by invitation only. The Editors and a distinguished Editorial Board ensure that submitted articles receive fast and efficient attention and are refereed to the highest possible scientific standard.

Article Description	ABSTRACT	WORD LIMIT	TABLES/FIGURES	REFERENCES	
Original Articles: These should follow the structure outlined below. The word count does not include figures or tables. Any text beyond the limit can be published as online-only supplementary material if you feel that it is necessary (see instructions below on supplementary material)	Structured abstract, max 300 words.	3,000 words max, including abstract	Maximum of 5 tables/figures.	No more than 50 references.	
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Narrative Reviews: These will need to be approved by the editors prior to submission.	Structured abstract, max 300 words	ract, max 300 4,000-4,500 words max, including a bstract.		No more than 100 references.	
Letters to the Editor: These are comments on original research papers or other technical material published in <i>Prostate Cancer and Prostatic Diseases</i> in the last six months. Original authors will have the opportunity to respond to the letter, should it be chosen for acceptance. This response will be published alongside the correspondence.	No abstract required.	Word count should not exceed 500.	Maximum of 2 tables/figures.	Maximum of 5 references.	
Perspective: These are intended to provide a forum for authors to discuss models and ideas from a personal viewpoint. They are more forward looking and/or speculative than Reviews and may take a narrower field of view. They may be opinionated but should remain balanced and are intended to stimulate discussion and consideration of new approaches to investigation and understanding of a field. These articles do not typically contain original data.	athors to discuss models and personal viewpoint. They are all looking and/or speculative and may take a narrower field by may be opinionated but in balanced and are intended iscussion and consideration of eaches to investigation and log of a field. These articles do		Maximum of 1 table/figure.	Maximum of 10 references.	
Brief Communication: These reports are concise studies of high quality and broad interest. These article types typically contain original data.	Unstructured summary, max.	Word count should not exceed 1,000.	Maximum of 1 table/figure.	Maximum of 10 references.	

^{*}Systematic reviews are highly encouraged. Non-systematic reviews are subject to editorial rejection without review, depending on the topic.

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- Use a coarse hatching pattern rather than shading for tints in graphs.
- Colour should be distinct when being used as an identifying tool.
- Spaces, not commas should be used to separate thousands.
- At first mention of a manufacturer, the town (and state if USA) and country should be provided.
- Statistical methods: For normally distributed data, mean (SD) is the preferred summary statistic. Relative risks should be expressed as odds ratios with 95% confidence interval. To compare two methods for measuring a variable the method of Bland & Altman (1986, Lancet 1, 307–310) should be used; for this, calculation of P only is not appropriate.
- Units: Use metric units (SI units) as fully as possible. Preferably give measurements of energy in kiloJoules or MegaJoules with kilocalories in parentheses (1 kcal = 4.186kJ). Use % throughout.
- Abbreviations: On first using an abbreviation place it in parentheses after the full item. Very common abbreviations such as FFA, RNA, need not be defined. Note these abbreviations: gram g; litre l; milligram mg; kilogram kg; kilojoule kJ; megajoule MJ; weight wt; seconds s; minutes min; hours h. Do not add 's' for plural units. Terms used less than four times should not be abbreviated.

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- Cover letter
- Title page (excluding acknowledgements)
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Results
- Discussion
- Materials (or Subjects) and methods
- Acknowledgements
- Conflict of Interest
- References
- Figure legends
- Tables
- Figures
- Author Contribution statement

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The uploaded covering letter must state the material is original research, has not been previously published and has not been submitted for publication elsewhere while under consideration.

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The title page should contain:

- Title of the paper brief, informative, of 150 characters or less and should not make a statement or conclusion
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- Competing Interests statement (see <u>Editorial Policy</u> section). Authors should disclose the sources of any support for the work received in the form of grants and/or equipment and drugs.

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Abstract

The abstract should not exceed 300 words. Abstracts require the headings BACKGROUND, METHODS, RESULTS, and CONCLUSIONS.

Introduction

The Introduction should assume that the reader is knowledgeable in the field and should therefore be as brief as possible but can include a short historical review where desirable.

Materials and Methods

Materials and methods must contain sufficient details, including references, so that all experimental procedures can be reproduced. Methods that have been published in detail elsewhere should not be described in detail; a reference to the original paper should be used instead.

Authors should provide the name of the manufacturer and their location for any specifically named medical equipment and instruments, and all drugs should be identified by their pharmaceutical names, and by their trade name if relevant.

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The Results section should briefly present the experimental data in text, tables or figures. Tables and figures should not be described extensively in the text.

Discussion

The Discussion should focus on the interpretation and the significance of the findings with concise objective comments that describe their relation to other work in the area. It should not repeat information in the results. The final paragraph should highlight the main conclusion(s), and provide some indication of the direction future research should take.

Acknowledgements

These should be brief, and should include sources of support including sponsorship (e.g. university, charity, commercial organisation) and sources of materials (e.g. novel drugs) not available commercially.

Author Contributions

Authors must include a statement about the contribution of each author to the manuscript (see section on Authorship). The initials of each author may be used.

This is an example for a systematic review: MAJ was responsible for designing the review protocol, writing the protocol and report, conducting the search, screening potentially eligible studies, extracting and analyzing data, interpreting results, updating reference lists and creating 'Summary of findings' tables. SBM was responsible for designing the review protocol and screening potentially eligible studies. She contributed to writing the report, extracting and analyzing data, interpreting results and creating 'Summary of findings' tables. DIH conducted the meta-regression analyses and contributed to the design of the review protocol, writing the report, arbitrating potentially eligible studies, extracting and analyzing data and interpreting results. NAL contributed to data extraction and provided feedback on the report. FRT and RAL provided feedback on the report.

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References

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Examples:

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Nguyen D, Soygur B, Peng S, Malki S, Hu G & Laird DJ. Apoptosis in the fetal testis eliminates developmentally defective germ cell clones. *Nat Cell Biol* 22, 1423-1435 (2020)

Journal article, e-pub ahead of print:

Basar, MA, Beck DB & Werner A. Deubiquitylases in developmental ubiquitin signaling and congenital diseases. *Cell Death Differ* (2020). https://doi.org/10.1038/s41418-020-00697-5

Complete book:

Atkinson K, Champlin R, Ritz J, Fibbe W, Ljungman P, Brenner MK (eds). Clinical Bone Marrow and Blood Stem Cell Transplantation. 3rd edn. (Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2004).

Chapter in book

Coccia PF. Hematopoietic cell transplantation for osteopetrosis. In: Blume KG, Forman SJ, Appelbaum FR (eds). Thomas' Hematopoietic Cell Transplantation. 3rd edn. (Blackwell Publishing Ltd, Malden, 2004) 1443–1454.

Abstract:

Syrjala KL, Abrams JR, Storer B, Heiman JR. Prospective risk factors for five-year sexuality late effects in men and women after haematopoietic cell transplantation. Abstracts of the 32nd Annual Meeting of the European Group for Blood and Marrow Transplantation. Bone Marrow Transplant 37, O107 (2006)

Website

Kassambara A. rstatix: pipe-friendly framework for basic statistical tests. 2020. https://rpkgs.datanovia.com/rstatix/.

Preprint

Babichev SA, Ries J & Lvovsky AI. Quantum scissors: teleportation of single-mode optical states by means of a nonlocal single photon. Preprint at http://arxiv.org/quant-ph/0208066 (2002).

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Summary of the editorial process

- The author submits a manuscript and it receives a tracking number.
- The editorial office performs an initial quality check on the manuscript to ensure that the paper is formatted correctly.
- An Editor is assigned to the manuscript and decides whether to send the manuscript out to review. If the decision is not to send the manuscript for review, the Editor contacts the author with the decision.
- If the Editor decides the paper is within the Journal's remit, peer reviewers are selected and assigned. This can take some time dependent on the
 responsiveness and availability of the reviewers selected.
- Reviewers are given 14 days from acceptance to submit their reports. Once the required reports are submitted the Editor will make a decision based on the comments received.

Authors are able to monitor the status of their paper throughout the peer review process

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Once a sufficient number of reviews are received, the editors then make a decision based on the reviewers' evaluations

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When submitting a revision authors are asked to upload (1) A rebuttal letter, indicating point-by-point how the comments raised by the reviewers have been addressed. If you disagree with any of the points raised, please provide adequate justification in your letter. (2) A marked-up version of the manuscript that highlights changes made in response to the reviewers' comments in order to aid the Editors and reviewers. (3) A 'clean' (non-highlighted) version of the manuscript.

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To qualify as a contributing $% \left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) +\left(1\right) =\left(1\right) +\left(1\right$

- 1. Conceived and/or designed the work that led to the submission, acquired data, and/or played an important role in interpreting the results.
- 2. Drafted or revised the manuscript.
- 3. Approved the final version.
- Agreed to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

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Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no competing financial interests

Conflict of Interest

Dr Caron's work has been funded by the NIH. He has received compensation as a member of the scientific advisory board of Acadia Pharmaceutical and owns stock in the company. He also has consulted for Lundbeck and received compensation. Dr Rothman and Dr Jensen declare no potential competing interests.

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 article.

Studies involving animals and other human subjects

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All clinical trials must be registered in a public registry prior to submission and the trial registry number must be included in the manuscript and provided on submission. The journal follows the trials registration policy of the ICMJE (www.icmje.org) and considers only trials that have been appropriately registered before submission, regardless of when the trial closed to enrolment. Acceptable registries must meet the following ICMJE requirements:

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- be managed by a not-for-profit organization

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- 1. <u>ClinicalTrials.gov</u> the registry sponsored by the United States National Library of Medicine
- 2. the International Standard Randomized Controlled Trial Number Registry

- 3. the Cochrane Renal Group Registry
- 4. the European Clinical Trials Database

Randomised Controlled Trials (RCTs) must adhere to the CONSORT statement, (CONsolidated Standards Of Reporting Trials) and submissions must be accompanied by a completed CONSORT checklist (uploaded as a related manuscript file). Further information can be found at www.consort-statement.org.

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When publishing identifiable images from human research participants, authors must include a statement attesting that they have obtained informed consent for publication of the images. If the participant is deceased, consent must be sought from the next of kin of the participant. All reasonable measures must be taken to protect patient anonymity. Black bars over the eyes are not acceptable means of anonymization. In certain cases, the journal may insist upon obtaining evidence of informed consent from authors. Images without appropriate consent will be removed from publication.

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If human cell lines are used, authors are strongly encouraged to include the following information in their manuscript:

- the source of the cell line, including when and from where it was obtained,
- whether the cell line has recently been authenticated and by what method, and
- whether the cell line has recently been tested for mycoplasma contamination.

Further information is available from the International Cell Line Authentication Committee (ICLAC). We recommend that authors check the NCBI database for misidentification and contamination of human cell lines.

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The Editor may seek advice about submitted papers not only from technical reviewers but also on any aspect of a paper that raises concerns. These may include, for example, ethical issues or issues of data or materials access. Occasionally, concerns may also relate to the implications to society of publishing a paper, including threats to security. In such circumstances, advice will usually be sought simultaneously with the technical peer-review process. As in all publishing decisions, the ultimate decision whether to publish is the responsibility of the editor.

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An inherent principle of publication is that others should be able to replicate and build upon the authors' published claims. We strongly encourage that all datasets on which the conclusions of the paper rely should be available to readers. We encourage authors to ensure that their datasets are either deposited in publicly available repositories (where available and appropriate) or presented in the main manuscript or additional supporting files whenever possible. If a public repository does not exist, the information must be made available to editors and referees at submission, and to readers promptly upon request. Any restrictions on material availability or other relevant information should be disclosed in the manuscript's Methods section and should include details of how materials and information may be obtained.

Please see the journals guidelines on Research Data policy here.

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Papers reporting protein or DNA sequences and molecular structures will not be accepted without an accession number to Genbank, Melon Dell, Dobl, Uniprot, Protein Data Bank, or other publicly available database in general use in the field that gives free access to researchers from the date of publication.

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Image Integrity and Standards

Images submitted with a manuscript for review should be minimally processed (for instance, to add arrows to a micrograph). Authors should retain their unprocessed data and metadata files, as editors may request them to aid in manuscript evaluation. If unprocessed data is unavailable, manuscript evaluation may be stalled until the issue is resolved.

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For **gels and blots**, positive and negative controls, as well as molecular size markers, should be included on each gel and blot – either in the main figure or an expanded data supplementary figure. The display of cropped gels and blots in the main paper is encouraged if it improves the clarity and conciseness of the presentation. In such cases, the cropping must be mentioned in the figure legend.

- Vertically sliced gels that juxtapose lanes that were not contiguous in the experiment must have a clear separation or a black line delineating the boundary between the gels.
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- In the Methods section, specify the type of equipment (microscopes/objective lenses, cameras, detectors, filter model and batch number) and
 acquisition software used. Although we appreciate that there is some variation between instruments, equipment settings for critical measurements
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- In either case, the author's institution or funding agency may be informed.

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