MASENO JOURNAL

JOURNAL PUBLICATION POLICY

2021

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   - Must have made substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work;
   - Has approved the submitted version (and any substantially modified version that involves the author's contribution to the study;
   - Agrees to be personally accountable for the contributions and ready to take responsibility for any questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work including the content which the author was not personally involved and to ensure that any disputes are appropriately investigated, resolved, and documented in the literature.

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Replication

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Authors should describe statistical methods with enough detail to enable a knowledgeable reader with access to the original data to verify the results.

1. Data pre-processing steps such as transformations, re-coding, re-scaling, normalization, truncation, and handling of below detectable level readings and outliers should be fully described; any removal or modification of data values must be fully acknowledged and justified.
2. Descriptive statistics should be presented for variables that are integral to subsequent analyses and interpretation of the study findings.
3. The number of sampled units, N, upon which each reported statistic is based must be stated.
4. For continuous variables, distributions should be described using graphical displays such as scatterplots, boxplots, or histograms or by reporting measures of central tendency (e.g., mean or median) and dispersion (e.g., SD, interquartile range).
5. For continuous variables that are approximately normally distributed, mean and SD are suitable measures for center and dispersion, respectively.
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7. All measures of central tendency or dispersion that are used should be identified.
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9. Units should be supplied for all measurements.
10. Methods used for conducting statistical tests (e.g., t-test, Wilcoxon signed rank test, Wald test of regression coefficient) and for constructing confidence intervals should be clearly stated. Mention methods used in the materials and methods and then provide the individual test name in the figure legend for each experiment.
11. The testing level (alpha) and whether one-sided or two-sided testing was used should be reported for each statistical test; typically, two-sided testing is appropriate, but if one-sided testing is used its use should be justified.
12. Adjustments made to alpha levels or other procedure used to account for multiple testing (e.g., false discovery rate control) should be reported.
13. When Bayesian analyses are conducted, any assumptions made for prior distributions must be fully described.
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Authors should present results in complete and transparent fashion so that stated conclusions are backed by appropriate statistical evaluation and limitations of the study are frankly discussed.

- Point estimates of population parameters (e.g., mean, correlation coefficient, and slope) or comparative measures (e.g., mean difference, odds ratio, hazard ratio) should be accompanied by a measure of uncertainty such as a standard error or a confidence interval.
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1. **Animal studies**

For all laboratory animal experimentation described in the manuscript, the Maseno Journal require that authors state in the methods section their adherence to the **Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals**, or the equivalent. Species, strain, sex, and age of laboratory animals should be provided in the main text or Supplementary Materials.

Genetically modified animals. To avoid confounding effects of inbred strain background, littermate controls should generally be used, although exceptions may be allowed. Justification for other control animals should be included. Authors should fully describe the source of their animals and number of times backcrosses were performed

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Informed consent must be obtained from the approved authorities for studies on humans after the nature and possible consequences of the studies are explained. A statement that informed consent was obtained must also appear in the manuscript. All research on humans must have approval from the institutional Ethics Review Committee or an equivalent body. The editors reserve the right to request IERC documents associated with a particular paper. Gender and age of all subjects should be provided in the main text or Supplementary Materials.

3. Clinical trials

A Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials (**CONSORT)** Statement which includes recommendations, a checklist of items that should be included in a comprehensive report, and a participant flow diagram should be adopted. The recommended checklist should be completed and provided at the time of manuscript submission. The recommended trial flow diagram may be presented as a figure. Reports of randomized controlled trials that do not conform to the CONSORT guidelines may be returned to authors for revision prior to formal review.

Registration of clinical trials. Clinical trials should generally be registered in accordance with the criteria outlined by the **International Committee of Medical Journal Editors**, including the June 2007 update. Authors should provide the trial registration number in the Acknowledgements section and provide a link to the trial registration, to be cited as a reference.

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Putative biomarkers must be evaluated with an independent validation set/cohort. Reports of un validated biomarkers will only be considered in the context of a clear experimental, mechanistic connection to disease or other unique contribution to understanding of disease or clinical practice. A statement should be included in all biomarker papers describing how over fitting (training models on large numbers of variables measured on small numbers of subjects) and other forms of bias were avoided. We strongly recommend all papers reporting potential new biomarkers be evaluated by an independent statistician before submission.

5. Modeling studies

Computational models should be validated either experimentally or through a dataset independent of the training set. All assumptions should be clearly stated with sources provided in the references and notes section.

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All studies that make use of chemical compounds (including pharmaceutical research) must disclose the full structures of those compounds, including stereochemistry if known. If the compounds are not readily available from commercial sources, the methods used for their preparation, purification, and characterization must be disclosed in full detail. ^{1}H and ^{13}C nuclear magnetic resonance spectra should be included in supplementary materials for all synthesized organic compounds.

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