Revue Française d'HistoTechnologie / The *French Journal of HistoTechnology*

GUIDE FOR AUTHORS

INTRODUCTION

The *French Journal of HistoTechnology* is affiliated with the French Association of Histotechnology (Association Française d'Histotechnologie, AFH), which aims to promote, through publications, information flows and communication in all areas of histological technology, a field that is experiencing a revival. The *French Journal of HistoTechnology* specializes in publishing original, peer-reviewed research / technical articles, reviews, syntheses, editorials, and proceedings of the AFH annual congress.

We encourage the entire French-speaking community involved in the practice of histology (technicians, engineers, researchers, students, independent enthusiasts) to submit an article that presents or highlights histotechnological aspects, regardless of the field of application: microorganisms, fungi, plants, insects, fish, animals, humans, mummies, fossils, healthy or diseased tissues, cells, organoids...

The *French Journal of HistoTechnology* welcomes articles dealing with methodological developments, the principles of new approaches, comparative studies, or specific issues related to histological preparations. The technical work must be described as completely as possible and be original or useful to our readers. It is possible to submit an article based on an already published study, provided that it expands on and highlights the methodological aspects of the histological techniques applied, with appropriate illustrations.

The *French Journal of HistoTechnology* does not accept articles of a commercial or advertising nature.

Types of content

In addition to its editorial and its annual congress proceedings, the *French Journal of HistoTechnology* will publish articles, preferably written in French, containing **original research**, **technical reports**, **brief communications or short notes**, and **reviews**. The *French Journal of HistoTechnology* will not accept articles with an obvious commercial purpose.

Examples of each type of article are available in the previous issues published on the AFH website https://www.afhisto.fr/les-revues-afh

Articles

Submitted articles must not have been previously published. However, it is possible to submit an article that expands on and highlights histotechnical aspects that are generally not developed in a published study.

They must be approved by all of their authors. Each co-author must have made a significant contribution to the study, have reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript, and accept responsibility for their contribution. The corresponding author certifies compliance with these requirements, coordinates exchanges between the co-authors, and handles all communications with the journal.

There is no restriction on the length of an article. However, it is recommended to provide a concise manuscript with an appropriate number of figures and tables.

I. SUBMISSION

Submission by the corresponding author, as well as all correspondence concerning the submission of the article, including notification of the Editor's decision and requests for revisions, is sent by e-mail to the Editor-in-chief:

Anna BENCSIK
anna.bencsik@anses.fr

Anses - site de Lyon
31 Avenue Tony Garnier
69364 Lyon cedex 07, FRANCE

I. PREPARATION

Manuscripts must meet the editorial requirements as set out in the Word document that serves as a **template**, available in French for download on our website under the Journal section. In brief, they must be submitted as a Microsoft Word file using the "Times New Roman" 12 font size.

A supplementary guide in French offering writing assistance is also available from the AFH website https://www.afhisto.fr/les-revues-afh

Artificial intelligence usage charter

In the interest of scientific transparency and editorial integrity, authors are required to explicitly declare any use of generative artificial intelligence tools during the preparation of their manuscript. This statement, placed at the end of the article, must specify the nature of the tasks performed (rewording, writing assistance, language analysis, generation of images or synthetic data, etc.), the name of the tools used (for example: M365 Copilot, ChatGPT, DeepL Write, Midjourney, DALL·E, etc.), and their version or date of use where possible. Authors remain fully responsible for the content produced, in particular with regard to scientific accuracy, ethical compliance, protection of sensitive data, and respect for copyright. No automatically generated passage may be presented as human-authored work without rigorous verification.

Information required on the title page

The *French Journal of HistoTechnology* preferably publishes articles in French.

In all cases, the title, abstract and keywords must be provided in French AND in English

- **Title** In bold and capital letters, concise and informative. Avoid abbreviations as far as possible.
- **Author names and affiliations** Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are correctly spelled. The layout must follow that provided in the Word template made available online in the Journal section.
- **Corresponding author** Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, including post-publication. The corresponding author is responsible for relaying information between the journal and the co-authors. They certify, by means of a statement filed at submission, that all co-authors have made a significant contribution to the study, have reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript, and accept responsibility for their contribution. This responsibility also includes answering any future questions about methodology and materials. Provide the full postal address, including the country name, the e-mail address, and the ORCID number, if available.

- **Corresponding author statement** This statement must appear on the title page (also available in the Word template) as follows:

  The corresponding author acts as the liaison between the journal and all co-authors during the evaluation and publication phases and after publication. They certify, by means of the signed statement below, filed at submission, that all co-authors have made a significant contribution to the study, have reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript, and accept responsibility for their contribution.

  ☐ I certify that I have obtained the agreement of all co-authors of the manuscript and attest that they meet the co-authorship criteria described in the instructions for authors.

  Name of the corresponding author:

  Date:

  Signature:

- **Abstract** A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should briefly state the purpose of the research, the main results, and the principal conclusions.

- **Keywords** Immediately after the abstract. Keywords must begin with a capital letter, be presented in alphabetical order, separated by commas, and end with a full stop. Propose keywords while minimizing the use of abbreviations: only abbreviations firmly established in the field may be eligible. These keywords will be used for indexing purposes.

Nomenclature, units, abbreviations, numbering of figures and tables

Please follow the usual nomenclature applicable to style nomenclature.

Units will generally conform to the International System of Units (SI) as adopted by the 11th General Conference on Weights and Measures. The 7 base units are: meter (m), kilogram (kg), second (s), ampere (A), kelvin (K), mole (mol), and candela (cd). Note that unit abbreviations are never followed by a full stop, for example 10 g/L, 5 ppm, 2 mM. Do not use full stops in abbreviations with capital letters, for example DNA. For abbreviations of Latin terms, use full stops, for example i.v., s.c.

All other words to be abbreviated must be written out in full at their first appearance in the text and followed by the abbreviation in parentheses, like this: French Association of Histotechnology (AFH).

Drugs must be referred to by their generic or chemical name. The commercial references of the reagents (catalogue number and supplier) and of the materials (model and manufacturer) used will be clearly stated, along with the experimental conditions of the work described.

Figures are numbered in bold with Arabic numerals in order of appearance in the text: (**Figure 1).** Tables are numbered in bold with Roman numerals in order of appearance in the text: (**Table I**). The figure and table legends are listed one after the other at the end of the article.

Template

To make it easier to comply with the format and style of the *French Journal of HistoTechnology*, we invite authors to use the Word template document available in French. Built on a classic research article or technical communication outline, structured around the IMRD format - *Introduction, Materials and methods, Results, Discussion*, followed by a *Conclusion* and a *Reference list* - the manuscript can be adapted to the different editorial formats (literature review, short note, rapid communication, etc.). At the end of the text, it also includes the *Acknowledgements* and, where applicable, the *Statement on the use of artificial intelligence*, in accordance with good practices of scientific transparency.

Figures and Tables

Please provide electronic illustrations only.

Figures

- Make sure to use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork/photo.
- Preferred fonts: Arial (or Helvetica), Times New Roman (or Times), Symbol, Courier.
- Number the illustrations according to their order in the text.
- Use a logical naming convention for your illustration files.
- The images making up the figures must be supplied in the original format (.tif or .jpeg) in a folder named "images". Avoid compressed files or other formats such as PowerPoint, Paintbrush...
- Colour figures are welcome and will appear in colour in both the print and online versions at no extra cost.

Tables

Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables may be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on one or more separate pages at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place table footnotes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.

- The illustrations and the text should preferably be submitted as separate files, as e-mail attachments, and as recommended below:
- 1 file (Word, preferred font: "Times New Roman, size 12"), containing only the text and the photo captions, together with a corresponding PDF file showing the text with the placement of the figures and tables. For Word-only submissions, you may still provide figures and their captions, as well as tables, in a single file, but at the revision stage.
- 1 file, preferably in TIFF format (or JPEG), with a minimum resolution of 300 dpi, for the illustrations alone, clearly identified and named in the text (**Figure 1a**, **Figure 2**...)

Bibliographic references

Citation in the text

In the text, the number of the cited reference is given in square brackets. The reference list, numbered with Arabic numerals and ordered by appearance in the text, appears at the end of the article.

Please make sure that every reference cited in the text is also present in the reference list (and vice versa).

Unpublished results and personal communications are not recommended in the reference list or may be mentioned as such in the text. If these references are included in the reference list, they must follow the journal's standard reference style and must include a substitution of the publication date by "Unpublished results" or "Personal communication". Citing a reference as "in press" implies that the article has been accepted for publication.

The journal name must correspond to the standard abbreviations defined by the ISSN International Centre, the BIOSIS database, and CASSI. They are available, for example, in the list of journals indexed in PubMed (NCBI-National Center for Biotechnology Information database).

All reference management software (EndNote, Zotero, etc.) also contains these abbreviations.

Links in references

Increased visibility of the research and high-quality peer review are ensured by the existence of online access links to the cited sources. To enable us to create links to abstracting and indexing services, such as Scopus, CrossRef and PubMed, please make sure that the data provided in the references are correct. Please note that incorrect surnames, journal / book titles, publication year and pagination may prevent these links from being created. When copying references, be careful, as they may already contain errors. The use of the DOI is strongly encouraged. A DOI is guaranteed never to change, so you can use it as a permanent link to any electronic article.

References to websites

At a minimum, the full URL must be given, together with the date the reference was last accessed. Any other information, if known (DOI, author names, dates, reference to a source publication, etc.), must also be provided. Web references may be listed separately (for example, after the reference list) under a different heading if desired, or may be included in the reference list.

Journal standard reference style

Reference list It must follow the following style:

Articles
1. KOLOPP M: The red-haired subject. *Rev.fr.histotechnol.*, 2008, **21** (1), 29-38.

Books
1. TERNYNCK T. & AVRAMEAS S.- Immunoenzymatic techniques. 2nd ed. Inserm, Paris, 1987, 19-22.

Book chapter or conference proceedings
1. PATRICK D., MOGHTADER J., WANG H., DE HAAN K. & RIVENSON Y. Deep Learning-Enabled Virtual H&E and Fluoro-Jade B Tissue Staining for Neuronal Degeneration. In 40th Annual Symposium, Baltimore, MD, USA, 2021. https://websitev0.s3.us-west-1.amazonaws.com/path2021.pdf-https://pictorlabs.ai/publications

Website
1. I2SL - International Institute for Sustainable Laboratories : https://smartlabs.i2sl.org/ (accessed May 14, 2022)

Style files The style files (EndNote and Zotero), as well as an .ris file, are available online : HERE

Peer review

This journal uses an anonymized review process based on peer review. All contributions will initially be evaluated by the editor to determine whether they are suitable for the journal. Articles judged to be suitable are then generally sent to a minimum of two independent expert reviewers to assess the scientific quality of the article. The editor is responsible for the final decision regarding the acceptance or rejection of articles. The editor's decision is final.

The editor, the publication director, and the members of the review board are not involved in decisions concerning articles that they have authored themselves. Any such submission is subject to all of the journal's usual procedures, with external peer review being managed independently of the author concerned.

AFTER ACCEPTANCE

Proofreading

Corresponding authors will receive by e-mail a PDF file of their article in a print-ready layout (printer's proof). To ensure a fast publication process for the article, we ask authors to provide us with their proof corrections, generally within two days. This proof is used only to check the typesetting, editing, completeness, and accuracy of the text, tables, and figures. Significant changes to the article in its format as accepted for publication will not be possible.

Each article will be published in the journal of the year and will be assigned a digital identifier (the Digital Object Identifier or DOI), which will ensure permanent visibility of the article on the Internet. Every member of the association has access to the journal upon its publication in print, and an electronic version is available online to everyone on the association's website (www.afhisto.fr).

Offprints

The corresponding author will receive a PDF file of the article by e-mail, free of charge. He will also receive a paper copy of the *French Journal of HistoTechnology* with a complete issue of the volume corresponding to their year of publication.

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