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BRITISH JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY

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Papers for consideration should be marked "Short Communication", and be submitted in duplicate to the Secretary of the Editorial Board. They must be less than 1,200 words in length and may contain one figure or one table. To reduce publication delay to a minimum (about 6 weeks), correspondence between author and editor must be avoided. Manuscripts should therefore be prepared with great care and the customary form used in the Journal strictly observed (see instructions on the inside covers of a recent issue of the Journal). Short Communications will be accepted on the understanding that if authors' proofs are not returned before the journal goes to press, the Communication will be published with the Press Editor's corrections only. Communications not accepted for publication will be returned in approximately 2 weeks.

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THE INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF UNITS (SI)

The British Journal of Pharmacology uses the symbols recommended in the SI (Système Internationale) (see Symbols, Signs and Abbreviations Recommended for British Scientific Publications (1969) (London: The Royal Society: price 35p.)). It is the policy of the Editorial Board to adopt SI units, although the use of certain non-SI units will for the time being be permitted. Full details of the changes involved will be published in a forthcoming "Instructions to Authors". The following is a list (a) of some of the commoner units with their recommended symbols, (b) of some non-SI units which may still be used, and (c) of units which will no longer be acceptable.

(a) SI units with recommended symbols

Unit Correct symbol

kilogramme kg second, millisecond s ms

mole, millimole, micromole, mol mmol μ mol nanomole, picomole nmol pmol metre, centimetre, millimetre, m cm mm

 $\begin{array}{ll} \text{micrometre} & \mu \text{m} \\ \text{Hertz} & \text{Hz} \end{array}$

(b) Some permitted non-SI units

ångström $Å(=10^{-10}m=0.1 \text{ nm})$

 gramme
 g

 minute
 min

 hour
 h

 molarity (mol/litre)
 M

calorie cal (4·184 J) (Conversion factor to be given as a footnote at first

citation or in Methods)

millimetres of mercury mmHg (1.333 mbar) (Conversion

factor to be given as a footnote at

first citation or in Methods)
millibar
mbar

poise P Ci litre 1. (

itre

1. (where there is danger of confusion between the numeral '1' and the

letter 'l', 'litre' should be written in full, and always at the end of a

sentence)

millilitre, microlitre ml μ l degree Celsius °C

(c) Units no longer acceptable

inch, foot, pound, pound per square inch, °F.

Expressions such as cycles per second (c/s) will no longer be accepted. Frequencies should be expressed in the appropriate approved symbols: thus a stimulation frequency should be given in Hz (irregular or occasional events should be given per unit time, e.g. s⁻¹, h⁻¹. When there is more than one solidus in an expression, parentheses should be used to eliminate ambiguity, e.g. (mg/kg)/day.

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- 1. Manuscripts (2 copies) should be typed in double spacing on one side of paper not larger than foolscap $(33 \times 20.5 \text{ cm})$. There should be a separate title page giving the names and addresses of the authors in alphabetical order. A short title containing not more than 40 letters should also be suggested.
- 2. A short summary of resolves the second control of typed on separate sheets of paper.
- 3. References should be collected at the end of the paper. They should include the authors' names, year of publication, title of article, title of publication (abbreviated in accordance with the fourth edition of the World List of Scientific Periodicals), volume number and first and last page numbers. References to books should, in addition, include the names of editors, the edition number, where appropriate, and the town of origin and name of publisher.
- 4. Figures should NOT BE LARGER THAN FOOLSCAP ($33 \times 20^{\circ}5$ cm) and may be in the form of original drawings, recorded tracings or high quality photographic prints made from them. Negative prints of kymograph tracings (black on white) should be provided and both ordinates and abscissae should be calibrated.
- 5. Lettering on figures should be inserted in PENCIL. Symbols which are to appear in figures or legends should be chosen from the following:
 - \times + \bullet \blacksquare \bigcirc \square \triangle \blacktriangle \triangledown \blacktriangledown \bullet \bullet
- 6. Photographs and photomicrographs should be printed on glossy paper and should be larger than the size required for reproduction.
- 7. Tables ideally should not have more than 84 characters to a line (counting spaces between columns as 4 characters) and certainly not more than 130 characters to a line, unless absolutely unavoidable.
- 8. An abstract of about 100 words suitable for inclusion in *International Abstracts* of *Biological Sciences* should be typed on a separate sheet, giving the author's name and address and the title of the paper.

General remarks. A recent issue of the journal is a good guide to style. Papers are accepted only if accompanied by a statement that they have not and will not be published in whole or in part in any other Journal.

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