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BRITISH JOURNAL OF PHARMACOLOGY

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, nanomole, picomole	mol mmol μ mol nmol pmol
metre, centimetre, millimetre, micrometre	m cm mm μ m
Hertz	Hz

(b) Some permitted non-SI units

ångström	Å (= 10^{-10} m = 0.1 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
curie	Ci
litre	l. (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.

Instructions to Authors

1. **Manuscripts** (2 copies) should be typed in double spacing on one side of paper not larger than foolscap (33×20.5 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 results and conclusions** (arranged in numbered paragraphs), **tables and legends to figures** should be 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 (33×20.5 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:

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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.

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Two page proofs will be supplied, one of which may be retained by the authors. The other should be corrected immediately and returned to the Press Editor. Corrections should be kept to a minimum.

Twenty-five reprints will be supplied to the authors free of charge. Additional reprints can be purchased. A reprint order form, which should be returned promptly, will be sent out with the proofs. No reprints of abstracts are supplied.

Page

189 J. H. BURN'S EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY

Systematic Pharmacology

- 192 ANDREWS, W. H. H. and ORBACH, J. A study of compounds which initiate and block nerve impulses in the perfused rabbit liver. (SP3, DM2)

Autopharmacology

- 205 HOLMES, J. C. and SCHNEIDER, F. H. Pentobarbitone inhibition of catecholamine secretion. (AP1, AP3)
- 214 ENERO, MARÍA A. and LANGER, S. Z. Influence of reserpine-induced depletion of noradrenaline on the negative feed-back mechanism for transmitter release during nerve stimulation. (AP1, PK3, DM2)
- 226 PALMER, M. A., PIPER, PRISCILLA J. and VANE, J. R. Release of rabbit aorta contracting substance (RCS) and prostaglandins induced by chemical or mechanical stimulation of guinea-pig lungs. (AP2, PK3)

Pharmacokinetics

- 243 ENGLERT, L. F., HO, B. T. and TAYLOR, DOROTHY. The effects of (-)- Δ^9 -tetrahydrocannabinol on reserpine-induced hypothermia in rats. (PK1, SP2)
- 253 ČIHÁK, A. and VAPTZAROVA, K. Decreased synthesis of DNA in regenerating rat liver after the administration of reserpine. (PK2, DM1)
- 258 KUCHII, M., MIYAHARA, J. T. and SHIBATA, S. [3 H]-adenine nucleotide and [3 H]-noradrenaline release evoked by electrical field stimulation, perivascular nerve stimulation and nicotine from the taenia of the guinea-pig caecum. (PK 3)
- 267 O'DONNELL, STELLA R. and SAAR, NILI. A histochemical study of extraneuronal accumulation of noradrenaline in the guinea-pig trachea. (PK3, DM2)
- 279 CAMPBELL, I. C. and TODRICK, A. On the pharmacology and biochemistry of the amine-uptake mechanism in human blood platelets. (PK3, DM1)

Drug Mechanisms

- 288 FERGUSON, D. R. and TWITE, B. R. Inhibition by diuretics of cyclic 3', 5'-AMP-dependent protein kinase from toad bladder epithelium. (DM1)
- 293 BECK, FRANCES J., LEVY, L. and WHITEHOUSE, M. W. The local graft versus host reaction in the rat as a tool for drug mechanism studies. (DM1)

Psychopharmacology

- 303 FILE, SANDRA E. Effects of chlorpromazine on exploration and habituation in the rat. (PP)
- 311 AL-HACHIM, G. M. and AL-BAKER, A. Effects of chlordane on conditioned avoidance response, brain seizure threshold and open-field performance of prenatally-treated mice. (PP)
- 317 GLICK, S. D. and GREENSTEIN, S. Possible modulating influence of frontal cortex on nigro-striatal function. (PP, SP2)
- 322 CROW, T. J. and GROVE-WHITE, I. G. An analysis of the learning deficit following hyoscine administration to man. (PP, SP2)
- 328 BERGNER, P.-E. E., BERNIKER, K., COOPER, T. B., GRADIJAN, J. R. and SIMPSON, G. M. Lithium kinetics in man: effect of variation in dosage pattern. (PP, CT, PK1)

Toxicology

- 340 DATYNER, M. E. and GAGE, P. W. Presynaptic and postsynaptic effects of the venom of the Australian tiger snake at the neuromuscular junction. (TX)

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

- 355 CLARK, D. G. and TINSTON, D. J. Correlation of the cardiac sensitizing potential of halogenated hydrocarbons with their physicochemical properties. (SP1, TX)
- 358 STJÄRNE, L. Frequency dependence of dual negative feedback control of secretion of sympathetic neurotransmitter in guinea-pig vas deferens. (AP1, AP2)
- 361 FANTOZZI, R., MANNAIONI, P. F. and MORONI, F. The inhibition of histamine uptake and metabolism by burimamide in the guinea-pig atrium and in mouse neoplastic mast cells, *in vitro*. (AP2)
- 364 EYRE, P. and WELLS, P. W. Histamine H_2 -receptors modulate systemic anaphylaxis: a dual cardiovascular action of histamine in calves. (AP2, DM2)
- 368 GOADBY, P. and PHILLIPS, ELIZABETH A. Some effects of burimamide on the isolated perfused pulmonary circulation of the guinea-pig. (AP2, DM2)
- 370 MAXWELL, G. M. The effects of a new α - and β -adrenoceptor antagonist (AH158) upon the general and coronary haemodynamics of intact dogs. (DM2, SP1)
- 373 LAWRENCE, D. K. and PERTWEE, R. G. Brain levels of Δ^9 -tetrahydrocannabinol and its metabolites in mice tolerant to the hypothermic effect of Δ^9 -tetrahydrocannabinol. (DM2)

For an explanation of the classification, see p. iii.