

Editorial

The shifting sands of serials bibliography: titles using the term 'peptide'

Abstract: A commentary on the confusing nomenclature and bibliography of serial publications which use the term 'peptide' in their titles is given, with guidance on citation. Copyright © 2006 European Peptide Society and John Wiley & Sons, Ltd.

Keywords: peptide science; serial publications and titles

Our title *Journal of Peptide Science* was not chosen lightly, and we always intended to stick to it. When it was created, it was unique, and had the dual merits of brevity and obvious meaning. It still has those merits, and we shall certainly not mess about with it, although its uniqueness is not so clear now that the phrase 'peptide science' has been picked up by others.

Careful drafting has not characterised the composition of all peptide journal titles, however. This has generated confusion, which has been compounded by changes in titles driven by marketing forces. Two such changes have taken place since the present year began, prompting this polemic.

If I am confused, others may be more so, and I therefore give below my analysis of the principal series titles in the field, with their histories, and guidance on citations where appropriate.

Journals

Biomedical peptides proteins and nucleic acids.

ISSN 1353-8616 02.

Volumes **1** and **2** (1994–1997) only.

Cite as *Biomedical Peptides Proteins and Nucleic Acids*.

Biopolymers (Peptide Science)

ISSN (for the parent Journal *Biopolymers*) 0006–3525

The whole of *Biopolymers* **40** (1996) was subtitled 'Peptide Science'; and from that point there has been an annual 'Peptide Science' volume (currently of six issues pa), the volume numbers being **43** (1997), **47** (1998), **51** (1999), **55** (2000), **60** (2001), **66** (2002), **71** (2003), **76** (2004), **80** (2005), **84** (2006). Only the parent Journal *Biopolymers* volume numbers are used; note that they do not fall into a perfectly regular pattern. Anything more exquisitely confusing would have been hard to devise. This section of *Biopolymers* is now the Official Journal of the American Peptide Society. It is increasingly being cited simply as *Peptide Science*, but in this Journal it should be cited as

below, partly to distinguish it unambiguously from ourselves – who were on the scene with our chosen, very similar name first – and partly to avoid mix-ups with the *Proc. Japanese Peptide Symp.* series (see below).

Cite as *Biopolymers (Peptide Sci.)*.

Current Protein and Peptide Science.

ISSN 1389-2037.

Volume **1** (2000)–. Currently one volume of six issues pa.

Cite as *Current Protein and Peptide Sci.*

International Journal of Protein Research.

ISSN 0020-7551

Volumes **1** (1969)–**3** (1971) only. Continued as *International Journal of Peptide and Protein Research* without interruption of volume numbers.

Cite as *Int. J. Protein Res.*

International Journal of Peptide and Protein Research.

ISSN 0367-8377

Volumes **4** (1972)–**48** (1996) only. Continued from *International Journal of Protein Research* without interruption of volume numbers, but with two volumes pa for most of its lifetime under this title. Absorbed *Peptide Research* in 1997 and continued as *Journal of Peptide and Protein Research*, without interruption of volume numbers of the latter.

Cite as *Int. J. Peptide and Protein Res.*

International Journal of Peptide Research and Therapeutics.

ISSN 1573-3149

Volume **12** (2006)–. Four issues pa are planned. Continued from *Letters in Peptide Science* without interruption of volume numbers. The publisher's promotional material seems to encourage the use of *IJPRT* for quick citations, but this is unhelpfully obscure, at least until the title becomes familiar.

Cite as *Int. J. of Peptide Res. and Therapeutics.*

Journal of Peptide Research.

ISSN 1397-002X

Volumes **49** (1997)–**66** (2005) only. Formed by amalgamation in 1997 of *Peptide Research* and *International Journal of Peptide and Protein Research*, volume numbers being continued from the latter without interruption. Two volumes pa, usually of four issues. Terminated under this title and continued without interruption of volume numbers as *Chemical Biology and Drug Design* [ISSN 1747-0277, from volume **67** (2006)].

Cite as *J. Peptide Res.***Journal of Peptide Science.**

ISSN 1075-2617

Volume **1** (1995)–. Initially six issues pa, now monthly. This Journal: The Official Journal of the European Peptide Society.

Cite as *J Peptide Sci.***Letters in Peptide Science.**

ISSN 0929-5666.

Volumes **1** (1994–1995)–**11**(2005) only. Rather irregular, usually six issues pa, sometimes two issues in one. Terminated under this title and continued without interruption of volume numbers as *International Journal of Peptide Research and Therapeutics* from March 2006.

Cite as *Letters in Peptide Sci.***Neuropeptides.**

ISSN 0143-4179.

Volume **1** (1981)–. Somewhat irregular; volume **39** had six issues dated between February and December 2005.

Cite as *Neuropeptides.***Peptide Research.**

ISSN 1040-5704.

Volumes **1** (1988)–**9** (1996) only. Absorbed in 1997 by *International Journal of Peptide and Protein Research*, which continued as *Journal of Peptide Research*.

Cite as *Peptide Res.***Peptides.**

ISSN 0196-9781

Volume **1** (1980)–.

One volume pa, monthly.

Cite as *Peptides.***Protein and Peptide Letters.**

ISSN 0929-8665

Volume **1** (1994)–. One volume pa, the number of issues variable [volume **13** (2006), eight issues expected].

Cite as *Protein and Peptide Letters.***Regulatory Peptides.**

ISSN 0167-0115

Volume **1** (1980)–. Somewhat irregular, rising in frequency from one volume pa to volumes **124–132**, each of three issues, in 2005.

Cite as *Regulatory Peptides.***Review serials****Amino Acids Peptides and Proteins.**

ISSN 1361-5904 02

Volume **1** (1969)–annual. Volumes **17–23** (1987–1993) had the shorter title 'Amino Acids and Peptides', but the longer original title was resumed with volume **24** (1994). Because of the change in title there have been two ISSNs prior to the one shown above, which is the current number. Part of the Royal Society of Chemistry *Specialist Periodical Reports* series.

Cite as *Amino Acids Peptides and Proteins* or *Amino Acids and Peptides*, as appropriate.**The Chemistry and Biochemistry of Amino Acids Peptides and Proteins.**

ISSN; none found.

Volumes **1–7** (1971–1983) only.Cite as *Chem. and Biochem. Amino Acids Peptides and Proteins***The Peptides. Analysis, Synthesis, Biology.**

ISSN; none found.

Volumes **1–9** (1979–1987) only.Cite as *The Peptides.***Peptide Society Symposium Proceedings**

The titles of the book-form Proceedings of the Symposia of the principal Peptide Societies have been variable, similar, and sometimes long-winded and even vacuous. It is recommended that all citations should be in the plain and sufficient form, e.g. *Proc 10th American Peptide Symp.*, 1987 (ed Marshall GR, Leiden 1988), p.99. Some of the recent Society Symposia are, as a further bibliographic headache, deemed 'International Peptide Symposia'. Thus, the 17th American Peptide Symposium (2001) was also the 2nd International Peptide Symposium. Such complications are merely cosmetic, marketing and diplomatic in origin; they should be ignored in citations. The Japanese Symposium series adopted the title *Peptide Science* from 1998, ISSN 1344-7661. This is unfortunate because that exact title is being used in some citations of *Biopolymers (Peptide Science)*, and it is recommended that the form, e.g. *Proc 37th Japanese Peptide Symp.*, 2000 (ed. Shiori T, Osaka 2001), p. 99, should be used for the Japanese Symposium series also.

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