

Exploration of Drug Science

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Journal Policies

Aims and Scope

Exploration of Drug Science is a peer-reviewed, open access online journal, covering all this process from the first idea in the laboratory to the drug already in the market. Drug Science is a multi-vector scientific activity with a great impact on society. Thus, apart from the scientific fact, the discovery of a new drug can save many lives or restore or improve social health and well-being. The journal considers the following topics:

- ★ Therapeutics strategies
- ★ Target discovery and validation
- ★ Medicinal chemistry
- ★ Computational chemistry, cheminformatics, and bioinformatics
- ★ High-throughput synthesis and screening; related technologies
- ★ Omics
- ★ Pharmacology
- **★** Toxicology
- ★ Preclinical research
- ★ Chemical entities, biologics, biologic treatments
- ★ Orphan drugs
- ★ Vaccines
- ★ Drug repurposing
- ★ Drug resistance
- ★ Drug delivery, including nanotechnologies
- ★ Clinical phases
- ★ Industry analysis and market studies
- ★ Patents and intellectual property
- ★ Pharmacoeconomics

More information is available at Aims and Scope.



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Peer Review

The journal adopts a single-blind peer review model meaning that reviewers' identities are kept concealed from authors, but authors' identities are known to reviewers. All accepted articles (except for some Editorials released by the Editors) will have undergone a rigorous and thorough review process to evaluate their novelty, scientific content, academic integrity, etc. For more information on Peer Review, please refer to Editorial Policies.

Article Processing Charge

To attract high quality submissions and relieve the financial burden for researchers, there is currently no article processing charge or fees payable for article submission or publication.

Archive

To ensure long-term digital preservation, all published articles will be archived on the <u>Portico</u> platform. Authors are also encouraged to deposit their articles in <u>PubMed</u> <u>Central/Europe PMC</u>, and other appropriate archives. It is the authors' responsibility to ensure that any Institutional or funders requirements for archiving are met.

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Preprint Policy

The journal allows authors to post preprints of the Original Version, Accepted Manuscript, and Version of Record, on preprint servers, authors' or institutional websites, and open communications between researchers whether on community preprint servers or preprint commenting platforms. Readers should visit Sherpa Romeo to view our preprint policy. For detailed information on our preprint policy, please refer to Editorial Policies.

Cover Letter

A cover letter is required to be submitted accompanying each manuscript. We suggest authors include the following contents in a cover letter:

- ★ The title and type of the manuscript;
- ★ A brief summary of the background and content of the work, and an explanation of why it warrants publication in the journal (e.g., novelty, importance etc);
- ★ Whether the article should be considered as part of a Special Issue;
- ★ A statement that this paper has not been submitted or published elsewhere;
- ★ A statement will be required if there are other cases need to be explained, for example, if the manuscript or part of it has been posted on preprints, conference, etc. Please find more cases at <u>Duplicate Publication</u> policy.

Publication Ethics

Research Ethics

For any study involving human subjects, authors should provide a statement to state that the study is approved by an institutional ethics. Written informed consent to participate should be obtained from all participants.

For manuscripts involving privacy issues (e.g., including individuals' details in images or videos), authors must obtain the consent to publication from the participants. Authors need to provide a statement to attest that they have obtained such consent.

Any research involving animals should be approved by an animal care and use committee and conducted according to the approved protocol and acceptable research standards for animal experimentation. An ethical statement should be included at the end of the manuscript stating that the study was approved by an animal care and use committee.

For details on how to prepare such statements, please refer to the Declarations part in Structure of Manuscripts.



More specific information of Research Ethics can be found in the Editorial Policies of the journal.

Registration of Clinical Trials

The journal requires that all clinical trials should be registered in a public trials registry (WHO International Clinical Trials Registry Platform (ICTRP) or in ClinicalTrials.gov) at or before the time of first patient enrollment. The trial registration number should be listed at the end of the Abstract. Secondary data analyses of primary (parent) clinical trials should not be registered as separate clinical trials, but instead should reference the trial registration number of the primary trial. Please refer to Editorial Policies for further information.

Conflicts of Interest

Authors should provide a statement to disclose any potential or existing conflict of interest. The corresponding author must ensure that all authors have been asked to disclose any conflict of interest.

Manuscripts submitted by the editorial board members are handled separately by other editors, and the concerned editor is not involved in the decision-making or the review process.

All sources of funding should be declared, including the role of the study sponsor(s) in the study design; in the collection, analysis and interpredsion of the data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the paper for publication.

Please refer to Editorial Policies for further information.

Authorship

The journal endorses the authorship criteria defined by <u>ICMJE</u>. Individuals who fulfill the following criteria can be defined as authors.

Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpredsion of data for the work; AND

Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; AND

Final approval of the version to be published; AND

Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.

Author Contributions statement should be provided to specify the contribution of each author. The journal adopts the <u>CRediT Taxonomy</u> to describe each author's individual contributions to the work. More information is available at <u>Structure of Manuscripts</u>.



Other individuals who have participated in the generation of the research paper but do not meet the criteria for authorship should be listed in the Acknowledgments section with a brief description of their contributions. Minors who have been involved in a piece of research (for example, children using technology) are typically acknowledged as they cannot be fully accountable for all aspects of the research.

AI and AI-assisted technologies in scientific writing:

For AI-assisted work, author(s) should not list AI and AI-assisted technologies as an author or co-author, nor cite AI as an author. Applying AI, machine learning, or similar algorithmic tools to produce text for publication should be done with the permission of the editors. AI and AI-assisted technologies cannot replace the tasks of researchers, such as developing scientific insights, analyzing and interpreting data, drawing scientific graphs, or drawing scientific conclusions. Author(s) should only use AI technologies to improve the readability and language.

Author(s) are ultimately responsible and accountable for the originality, accuracy, and integrity of the article, and should disclose the use of AI and AI-assisted technology in the writing process in the Declarations section at the end of the manuscript by following the instructions below:

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This declaration does not apply to the use of basic tools for checking grammar, spelling, references etc. If there is nothing to disclose, there is no need to add a statement.

Note: A violation of this policy will be considered as scientific misconduct. The journal deals with any scientific misconduct on a case-by-case basis according to the guidance by <u>COPE</u>, <u>WAME</u> and <u>ICMJE</u>.

Please refer to Editorial Policies for further information.

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Types and Templates of Manuscripts

The journal publishes Original Article, Review, Meta-Analysis, Systematic Review, Short Communication, Case Report, Protocol, Commentary, Perspective, Editorial, and Letter to the Editor.

Read more details about manuscript types and the specific requirements of each type in the following table.

If you have an article that requires more words/tables/figures/references than the recommendation below, please contact the editors at edsjournal@explorationpub.com before submission.

Article Type	Definition	Abstract	Keywords	Main Text	Word Count (main text)	Table/Figur e Number	Reference Number	Note
Original Article Template	An Original Article shou ld report scientifically so und experiments from or iginal research, providin g novel concepts and inf ormation in certain area s. It must describe signif icant and original observ ations.	Structured abstract i neluding Aim, Meth ods, Results, and Co nelusions. ≤ 300 wo rds	3-8	Structured main text including Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results, and Discussion.	N/A	N/A	N/A	Supplementary Information is advisable.
Review Template	A review should describe an overview of recent progress in important fields of research, providing an appreciation of the significance of the work, and an outlook into potential future directions.	Unstructured abstract ≤ 300 words	3-8	Structured main text with unfixed section titles. An "Introduction" section at the beginning, several sections with unfixed titles in the middle part, and	≥3000 words	N/A	N/A	If your review is a concise s ummary of a specific releva nt research topic or field, of 3000 words or less, please submit it as a Mini-Review.

				would be preferred.				
Systemic Review Template	A systematic review should present a detailed investigation of previous research on a given topic that uses clearly defined search parameters and methods to identify, categorize, analyze, and report aggregated evidence on a specific topic.	Structured abstract including Background, Methods, Results, and Discussion. ≤ 300 words	3-8	Structured main text including Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion.	N/A	N/A	N/A	It is strongly encouraged to follow the PRISMA to improve the reporting of a systematic review and provide the PRISMA flow diagram as part of the main text or Supplementary Materials.
Meta-Analysis Template	A meta-analysis should involve a comprehensive and exhaustive review of relevant literature specific to a topic or research question, and it should employ statistical methods to quantitatively synthesize the results of pooled studies.	Structured abstract including Background, Methods, Results, and Discussion. ≤ 300 words	3-8	Structured main text including Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion.	N/A	N/A	N/A	It is strongly encouraged to follow the PRISMA to improve the reporting of a meta-analysis and provide the PRISMA flow diagram as part of the main text or Supplementary Materials.
Short Communication Template	A short communication should present groundbr eaking preliminary result s, a particular aspect of a problem, or a new findi ng that is expected to ha	Unstructured abstra ct. ≤ 200 words	3-8	N/A	\leq 2000 word s	≤6	≤30	

a "Conclusions" section at the end

	The short communication should be more straightforward and concise.						
Case Report Template	Case reports should cont ribute to the advanceme nt of drug knowledge, an d do not accept reports o n topics that have been f ully described or where other similar cases have been published. Only rar e cases are generally acc epted. Case reports shoul d describe in detail the p atient's signs, symptoms, diagnosis, course of trea tment, and outcome. Spe cial care should be taken when submitting a case report to ensure that pro per consent to publish ha s been obtained from the	Unstructured abstract. ≤ 300 words	3-8	Structured main text including Introduction, Case Report, and Discussion.	N/A	N/A	N/A
Protocol Template	patient in the paper. A protocol should provi de a detailed step-by-ste p description of a metho d. It should be proven to be robust and reproducib le. The protocol should r eport planned or ongoin g research studies.	Unstructured abstract. ≤ 300 words	3-8	Structured main text including Introduction, Materials, Procedure, and Expected results.	N/A	N/A	N/A

ve a significant impact.

Commentary Template	Commentary articles are opinions and analyses on issues of interest to readers, discussing recently published or forthcoming articles or experiments, and addressing specific issues within a subject area rather than the field as a whole.	Unstructured abstract (optional). ≤ 250 words	3-8 (optional)	N/A	≤3000 words	≤ 3	≤30	
Perspective Template	Perspective articles should highlight important ideas from recent exciting research and emerging topics of general interest, provide a focused (rather than comprehensive) overview, to propose and support new hypotheses, or to discuss the implications of newly implemented innovations, and may include raw data and personal opinions.	Unstructured abstract. ≤ 250 words	3-8	N/A	\leq 3000 words	≤3	≤30	Long Perspectives should be no more than 6000 words.
Editorial Template	Editorial articles are co mpelling opinions on top ics of broad interest and can be considered as the journal's voice, publishin g articles such as inaugu	Not required.	Not required.	N/A	≤1000 words	N/A	N/A	Only written by the Editori al Board and Guest Editors.
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	ral articles/annual summ aries/thematic introducti ons/introductions to new journals/concluding a sp ecial issue/reporting on a pressing topic, etc., and do not contain unpublish ed or original data.						
Letter to the Editor <u>Template</u>	Letter to the Editor is a s ubstantive reanalysis of an article published in o ur journal, a short report related to the content of previous issues.	Unstructured abstra ct (optional). ≤ 250 words	3-8 (optional)	N/A	≤ 1000 words	≤3	≤10

[updated on March 1, 2024]

Structure of Manuscripts

The structure varies according to the type of manuscript. Please refer to requirements in Types and Templates of Manuscripts.

Title

The title should be no more than 20 words, no more than 150 characters in total, including spaces.

The title should be specific and relevant, and provide an overall view of the paper's significance rather than detailed contents.

The title should avoid use of jargon, uncommon abbreviations, and excessive punctuation.

Author and Affiliations

Authors' forename and surname should be listed. The initials of middle names can be added.

The complete address information should be listed as the following format: Dept/Program/Center, Institution, City, State, Post Code, Country; E-mail Address.

One author should be designated as the corresponding author.



Authors are strongly encouraged to provide their ORCID if any, especially the corresponding author.

Dual first/last authorship is allowed. Authors should indicate dual authorship with a superscript "†", like "Forename Surname¹†, Forename Surname²†".

Please check authors' names carefully, as any change to authorship is not allowed after manuscript acceptance.

Check out more information about Authorship at Editorial Policies.

Abstract and Keywords

Abstract

This section usually describes the main objective(s) of the study, explains how the study was done, and the main findings.

The abstract should follow the specific requirements for word count and structure detailed in Types and Templates of Manuscripts.

Acronyms and abbreviations must be defined the first time they appear in the abstract. Abbreviations should only be used if the abbreviated term appears three or more times in the abstract (except commonly-used ones).

The abstract should not include any citation or footnote.

The registration number of clinical trials should be listed at the end of the abstract if appropriate.

Keywords

Three to eight keywords should be provided where required (see Types and Templates of Manuscripts).

Keywords should be closely related to the topic of the paper, but not too broad or specific to the field.

Non-standard abbreviations should be kept to a minimum.

Main Body

The main text may consist of distinct sections according to the category of manuscript. For instance, an Original Article should comprise: Introduction, Materials and Methods, Results and Discussion, whereas are view, the main text may comprise several sections with unfixed section titles.

Templates are provided in the <u>Types and Templates of Manuscripts</u> to guide authors.



Introduction

Good introductions explain these points clearly and cohesively:

- ★ Relevant background that puts the study into context (a brief review of key literature);
- ★ Purpose of the work and its significance.

Materials and Methods

Materials and Methods should be sufficiently detailed so that they can be understood precisely by readers and reviewers, and to enable other researchers to fully replicate the study. This section should include:

- ★ Design and setting of the study;
- ★ Characteristics of participants or description of materials;
- ★ Clear description of all processes, interventions and comparisons;
- ★ Type of statistical analysis used, including a power calculation if appropriate.

Please make sure you are aware that:

- ★ Statistical terms, abbreviations, and all symbols used should be defined clearly;
- ★ Generic drug names should generally be used;
- ★ When proprietary brands are used in research, include the brand names in parentheses;
- ★ All clinical trials must be registered in a public trials registry at or before the time of first patient enrollment and the registration number must be listed at the end of the abstract;

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★ Protocol documents for clinical trials, observational studies, and other non-laboratory investigations may be uploaded as supplementary materials. More detailed information about clinical trials, please refer to Editorial Policies.

Results

Results should be presented in a logical order to support the main conclusions of the study.

Results of statistical analysis should be included either as text or as tables or figures if

Do not repeat data already shown in figures and tables, in text sections. Authors should emphasize and summarize only the most important observations. Data on all primary and secondary outcomes identified in the section Materials and Methods should also be provided. Extra or supplementary materials and technical details can be placed in supplementary documents.

Discussion

This section should cover the key findings of the work.

Discussion should point out the potential short-comings and limitations on their interpredsions.

Future research directions may also be mentioned.

Abbreviations

In general, terms should not be abbreviated unless they are used repeatedly (at least 3 times) and the abbreviation is helpful to the reader. Using of abbreviations should meet the following requirements:

- ★ Commonly-used abbreviations, such as DNA, RNA, ATP, etc., can be used directly without definition;
- ★ Non-standard abbreviations should be defined at first use in manuscripts with their abbreviations in parentheses;
- ★ Non-standard abbreviations should be avoided in titles, abstracts and keywords;



★ Non-standard abbreviations in tables and figures should be explained in the footnote or caption accordingly. This section should list and define all non-standard abbreviations.

For example, FBS: fetal bovine serum HGF: hepatocyte growth factor.

Declarations

Acknowledgments (Optional)

Acknowledge anyone who is not an author, but contributed to the paper, including intellectual assistance, technical help (writing services), or special equipment or materials.

Author Contributions

The contributions of each author should be described. The journal adopts the <u>CRediT Taxonomy</u> to describe each author's individual contributions to the work. The corresponding author(s) is responsible for providing the contributions of all authors at submission. We expect that all authors will have reviewed, discussed, and agreed to their individual contributions ahead of this time. Contributions will be published with the final article, and they should accurately reflect contributions to the work. The roles are not intended to define what constitutes authorship.

Use initials of Forename and Surname when mentioning an author in this section. If the initials are the same, spell the different forename or surname. For example, John A. Smith: JA Smith, John A. Smith: John A. Smith: James AS.

An example of an Authors' Contribution statement using CRediT with degree of contribution:

"AB: Conceptualization, Investigation, Writing-original draft, Writing-review & editing. CDE: Conceptualization, Investigation, Writing-original draft, Writing-review & editing. FG: Validation, Writing-review & editing, Supervision. All authors read and approved the submitted version."

Contributor Role	Role Definition
Conceptualization	Ideas; formulation or evolution of overarching research goals and aims.
Data Curation	Management activities to annotate (produce metadata), scrub data and maintain research data (including software code, where it is necessary for interpreting the data itself) for initial use and later reuse.
Formal Analysis	Application of statistical, mathematical, computational, or other formal techniques to analyze or synthesize study data.
Funding Acquisition	Acquisition of the financial support for the project leading to this publication.
Investigation	Conducting a research and investigation process, specifically performing the experiments, or data/evidence collection.

Contributor Role	Role Definition
Methodology	Development or design of methodology; creation of models.
Project Administration	Management and coordination responsibility for the research activity planning and execution.
Resources	Provision of study materials, reagents, materials, patients, laboratory samples, animals, instrumentation, computing resources, or other analysis tools.
Software	Programming, software development; designing computer programs; implementation of the computer code and supporting algorithms; testing of existing code components.
Supervision	Oversight and leadership responsibility for the research activity planning and execution, including mentorship external to the core team.
Validation	Verification, whether as a part of the activity or separate, of the overall replication/reproducibility of results/experiments and other research outputs.
Visualization	Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically visualization/data presentation.
Writing – Original Draft	Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work, specifically writing the initial draft (including substantive translation).
Writing – Review & Editing	Preparation, creation and/or presentation of the published work by those from the original research group, specifically critical review, commentary or revision – including pre- or post-publication stages.

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DNA/RNA Sequence: Genbank, Genome, BankIt, Sequence Read Archive (SRA), European Nucleotide Archive (ENA), DNA DataBank of Japan (DDBJ).

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Genetic polymorphisms: dbSNP, the Database of Genomic Variants Archive (DGVa), or the Database of Genomic Structural Variation (dbVAR).

Sequencing Data/Microarray Data: NCBI Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) or ArrayExpress.

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The datasets [GENERATED/ANALYZED] for this study can be found in the [NAME OF REPOSITORY] [LINK].

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The raw data supporting the conclusions of this manuscript will be made available by the authors, without undue reservation, to any qualified researcher.

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List the first six authors, followed by et al.

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The endnote style of the journal can be downloaded at here.

The journal adopts the references outlined by U.S. National Library of Medicine. Examples are shown below. For other types, please refer to <u>U.S. National Library of Medicine</u>.

Source	Example
Standard journal article	Rose ME, Huerbin MB, Melick J, Marion DW, Palmer AM, Schiding JK, et al. Regulation of interstitial excitatory amino acid concentrations after
	cortical contusion injury. Brain Res. 2002;935:40-6.
	Halpern SD, Ubel PA, Caplan AL. Solid-organ transplantation in HIV-infected patients. N Engl J Med. 2002;347:284-7.
Organization as author	Diabetes Prevention Program Research Group. Hypertension, insulin, and proinsulin in participants with impaired glucose tolerance. Hypertension.
	2002;40:679-86.
Both personal authors and organization as author	Vallancien G, Emberton M, Harving N, van Moorselaar RJ; Alf-One Study Group. Sexual dysfunction in 1,274 European men suffering from lower
	urinary tract symptoms. J Urol. 2003;169:2257-61.
Article not in English	Ellingsen AE, Wilhelmsen I. Sykdomsangst blant medisin- og jusstudenter. Tidsskr Nor Laegeforen. 2002;122:785-7. Norwegian.
Volume with supplement	Geraud G, Spierings EL, Keywood C. Tolerability and safety of frovatriptan with short- and long-term use for treatment of migraine and in
	comparison with sumatriptan. Headache. 2002;42 Suppl 2:S93-9.
Article published electronically ahead of the print	Yu WM, Hawley TS, Hawley RG, Qu CK. Immortalization of yolk sac-derived precursor cells. Blood. 2002; [Epub ahead of print].
version	
Forthcoming	2017 Feb 9]: [11 p.]. Available from: https://arxiv.org/abs/1702.01006
Books	Murray PR, Rosenthal KS, Kobayashi GS, Pfaller MA. Medical microbiology. 4th ed. St. Louis: Mosby; 2002.

	Gilstrap LC 3rd, Cunningham FG, VanDorsten JP, editors. Operative obstetrics. 2nd ed. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002.
	Breedlove GK, Schorfheide AM. Adolescent pregnancy. 2nd ed. Wieczorek RR, editor. White Plains (NY): March of Dimes Education Services; 2001.
Chapter in a book	Meltzer PS, Kallioniemi A, Trent JM. Chromosome alterations in human solid tumors. In: Vogelstein B, Kinzler KW, editors. The genetic basis of
	human cancer. New York: McGraw-Hill; 2002. p. 93-113.
Conference paper	Christensen S, Oppacher F. An analysis of Koza's computational effort statistic for genetic programming. In: Foster JA, Lutton E, Miller J, Ryan C,
	Tettamanzi AG, editors. Genetic programming. EuroGP 2002: Proceedings of the 5th European Conference on Genetic Programming; 2002 Apr 3-
	5; Kinsdale, Ireland. Berlin: Springer; 2002. pp. 182-91.
Homepage/Web site	eatright.org [Internet]. Chicago: Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics; c2016 [cited 2016 Dec 27]. Available from: https://www.eatright.org/

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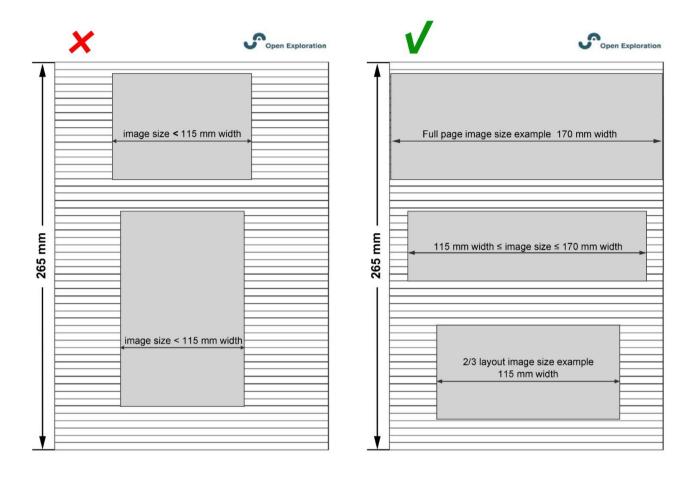


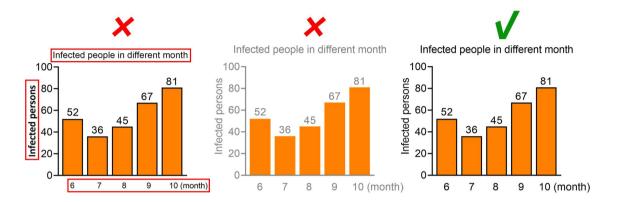
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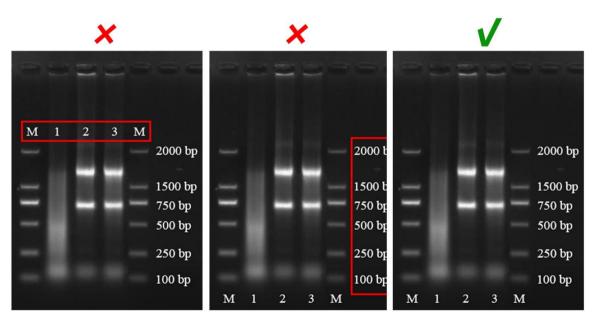


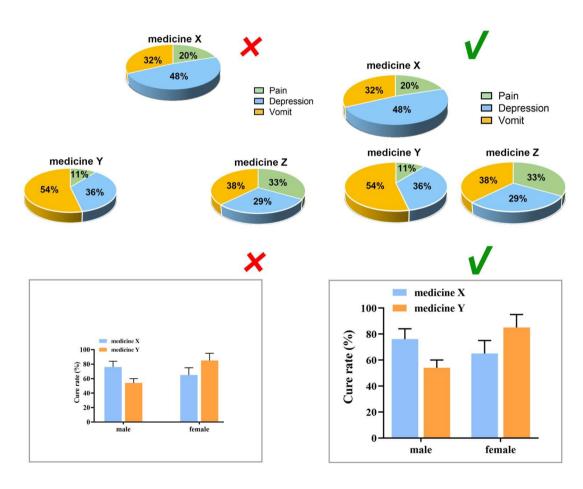


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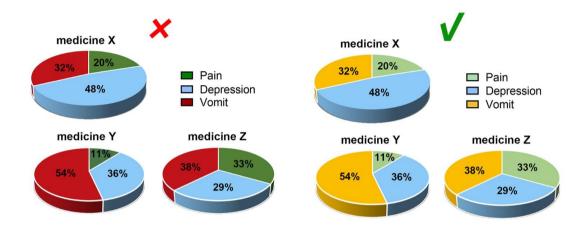
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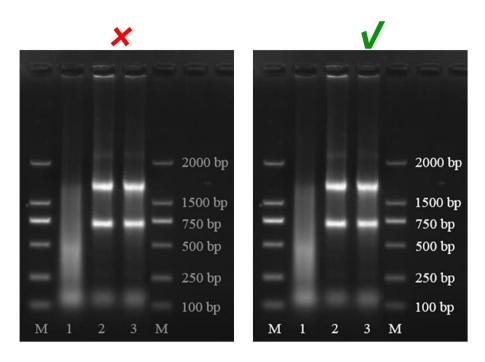
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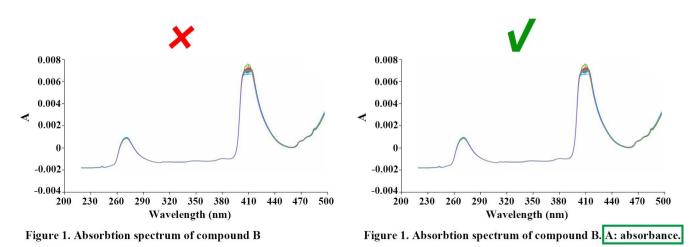
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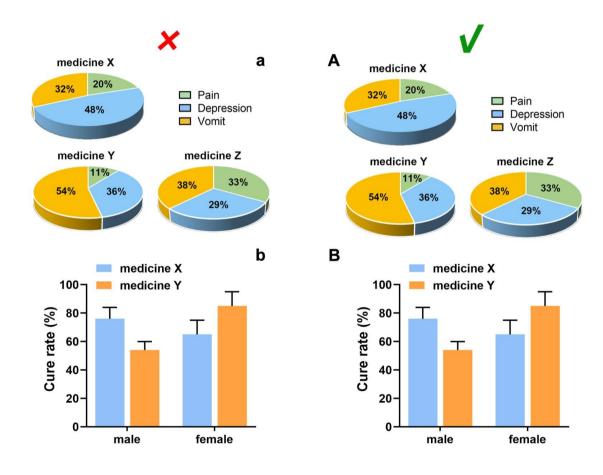
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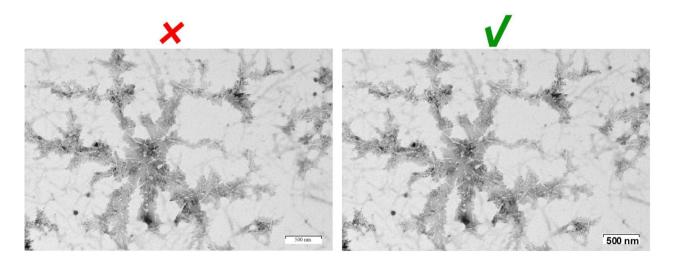
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