Veterinary Research

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Veterinary Research publishes high quality and novelty papers focussing on Animal Infection. The fields of study are bacteriology, parasitology, virology, immunology, prion diseases and epidemiology. Food animals, companion animals, equines, wild animals (if the infections are of zoonotic interest and/or in relation with domestic animals), laboratory animals and animal models of human infections are considered. Studies on zoonotic and emerging infections are highly appreciated. The journal publishes original and review articles on:

- New knowledge on pathogens (viruses, bacteria, protozoa, helminths, fungi and prions) and on host-pathogen interactions. Papers elucidating molecular mechanisms of interactions between hosts and microbes are highly appreciated.
• **Immunity to pathogenic micro-organisms**: systemic and mucosal immunology of infected organisms. This encompasses fundamental studies on immune system of animals. The development and evaluation of new vaccines against pathogens will be considered.

• **Epidemiology related to infections.** Papers dealing with spread and/or transmission dynamics of infectious diseases will be favoured. Studies using mathematical modelling and developing or applying new epidemiological methods will be welcome if based on a biological application. Papers must be of general interest and have a general applicability. **Descriptive epidemiological studies**, meta-analyses and studies providing information of geographically limited interest will not be considered.

Specific aspects of treatment of diseases, pathological and clinical studies (including case reports), diagnosis tests and technical reports do not fall within the scope of the journal. Studies that are preliminary, of weak originality as well as negative results are not appropriate to the journal. Merely descriptive and correlative studies are not a priority. Papers must make an original and significant contribution to the field. Studies that are technically sound but do not make a significant advance in the knowledge of animal infections will not be accepted.

**Review articles are highly appreciated.** They should focus either on a pathogen or on analyses of the mechanisms of host-microbe interactions including epidemiological studies. The articles should present comprehensive, critical summaries of current knowledge in the field and should not be limited to a discussion of the author's work. Thematic issues composed of solicited review articles are also published.

2. Types of papers

Manuscripts should be written preferably in English (American or English usage is accepted, but not a mixture of these). Authors whose native language is not English are strongly advised to have their manuscripts checked by someone proficient in the English language.

**Original papers** should report the results of original research. The material should not have been previously published or submitted for publication elsewhere. Papers should be completely documented both by references to the literature and description of the experimental procedures employed. The article should be divided into 4 sections: 1. Introduction, 2. Materials and methods, 3. Results, 4. Discussion (2 separate sections for the Results and Discussion).

**Review articles** should cover subjects falling within the Aims and scope of the journal.

**Short report articles** are intended for brief reports of findings. They should be divided into the following sections: 1. Introduction methods and results, 2. Discussion. They should be approximately 8 typewritten pages in total, including an abstract (no more than 100 words), illustrations (no more than 4 figures and tables) and keywords.
3. Submission of manuscripts

Veterinary Research accepts only online submission. Please use the Author's checklist to be sure your manuscript fits the Instructions to authors.

The manuscript must be accompanied with a cover letter containing the following items:

1. The e-mail address of all authors.
2. The objectives and originality of the work as well as the main results. In addition, you must justify that your study has a general interest and, more specifically for epidemiological studies, that the information is not limited to the country in which the work has been performed.

4. Peer review process

Before being sent to reviewers, manuscripts are pre-screened by the editorial office to check the main basic criteria that make the paper potentially suitable for Veterinary Research: accordance with the Aims and scope of the journal, nature of the study, originality of the results, quantity and quality of data, general conclusions, presentation of the work including the quality of the English language. If the paper does not fulfil these criteria, it may be rejected at this stage without review. Manuscripts that pass the pre-screening stage are normally sent to a minimum of two experts chosen by the Editors-in-chief. The identity of peer reviewers is kept confidential.

Only papers of high quality and novelty and of general significance are published. Manuscripts that, in the reviewers' opinions, require major revisions may be rejected, in particular if they are poorly written (style or language). If minor revisions are recommended by the reviewers, authors are expected to make the appropriate revisions within one month. For manuscripts requiring major revisions, the revised version must be sent to the Editorial Office within 2 months (4 months if additional data are needed). Revised manuscripts may be reviewed a second time. Revised manuscripts that are received after the deadline will not be considered.

5. Style guide

5.1. General presentation

The manuscript should be typed double-spaced (Times New Roman 12 pts) with margins of at least 3.5 cm at the top, bottom and sides, and sent in only one single RTF or Word file (use Veterinary Research template). Lines and pages should be numbered. Section headings should be numbered following the international numbering system (1., 1.1., 1.1.1., etc.).

Original articles should not exceed 30 double-spaced typed pages including figures, tables and references. The manuscript should be presented as follows: title page, abstract and keywords, introduction, materials and methods, results, discussion, acknowledgments, references.

Review articles should not exceed 50 pages.
Tables and figures, with their captions, should not appear in the text, but be placed in separate files outside of the manuscript.

5.2. Title page

The title page should include the following: the title of the article, which should be concise but explicit, the surname and forenames (in full) of each author, the department and institution where the study was carried out, e-mail address of the corresponding author (this author being identified by an asterisk), a short title (running head) of no more than 45 characters, including spaces.

5.3. Abstract and keywords

The abstract (less than 250 words) should be in a form suitable for abstracting services. It should contain no paragraphs, footnotes, references, cross-references to figures and tables or undefined abbreviations.

Up to five keywords should be supplied, to assist the reader and facilitate information retrieval. Keywords may be taken from the title, abstract or text. The plural form and uppercase letters should be avoided.

5.4. References

In the reference list, the references should appear in alphabetical order, preceded by an Arabic numeral enclosed in square brackets. The authors' names are listed in alphabetical order and in chronological order for each author. The references are cited in the text by the corresponding number enclosed in square brackets.

All entries in the reference list must correspond to references in the text and vice versa. The titles of journals should be abbreviated according to the rules of the Biosciences Information Service (Biosis) or those of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). Words for which no abbreviation is given should be written in full.

A style file that conforms to Veterinary Research is available for EndNote.

– Works listed in References

The reference list must include articles published in print or online-only journals (as well as in press articles), books and book chapters. Examples are given below of the layout and punctuation to be used in the references.

Article (all authors must be mentioned)

Article published in Veterinary Research

In order to take advantage of the electronic version, articles now have a unique article number: Vet. Res. (2010) 41:02 which refers to article 02 from volume 41. Each volume corresponds to a calendar year.

Article in press


Book


Chapter in a book


– Works cited in the text

Proceedings of meetings, abstracts, articles submitted for publication, unpublished data, personal communications, theses, letters, electronic material and websites should not appear in the reference list but should be cited in the text as footnotes as follows. However these reports must not appear in the Materials and methods section of an original article.

Proceedings


Thesis


Electronic material

Websites


5.5. Illustrations (tables and figures)

Illustrations should be numbered in Arabic numerals for figures and Roman numerals for tables, and should be referred to in the text by their number: Figure 1, Table I. Lettering (symbols, numbers, etc.) should not differ from figure to figure and should be of sufficient size to remain legible after reduction. Title and legends should be written above the corresponding table or figure.

Figures should be original (i.e. not already reproduced). Photographs should be presented in the form of plates to be reproduced without reduction (maximum size 12.5 × 19 cm). The figure captions should be explicit so that the illustrations are comprehensible without reference to the text. Colour figures appear in black and white in the paper version but are in colour in the electronic version.

Figures and tables published elsewhere cannot be accepted without the prior consent of the publisher and the author(s).

5.6. Electronic-only material

If the material submitted by the authors is not essential to the content of the article or only of supplementary interest to the reader, it can be included as electronic-only material, i.e. accessible only electronically.

Electronic-only material may include but is not restricted to the following: tables; Appendices; Programmes; Images; Videos.

They should be registered as ‘Supplementary data’ when submitting the manuscript. The file name should be the following: [article]_olm.[extension]. Please give a brief description of the data in the cover letter.

File format should be viewable using free or widely available tools. Suitable formats are Word file, SWF, MOV, AVI, MPEG.

You should refer to this material in the manuscript, e.g. “Supplementary data Figure S1” or “Supplementary data Table S1”.

For more information on the submission of this material (file requirements, etc.), please contact the Editorial Office.
6. Open Access

Articles published in Veterinary Research will be in Open Access.

OA is defined as: free, immediate, permanent and full-text online access, for any user, to peer reviewed research. Authors retain copyright and grant anyone the right to copy, distribute or display the work provided that it is correctly cited.

The economic basis of OA is that authors are charged a fee to have their work published instead of the readers to access articles. Thus, for articles published in 2011, author fees will be only 500 euros.

7. Ethical policy

All studies involving animals must have been performed in compliance with guidelines outlined in the International Guiding Principles for Biomedical Research Involving Animals as issued by the Council for the International Organizations of Medical Sciences. Papers may be rejected on ethical grounds if standards of care or procedures performed on animals are not met.

8. The galley proofs and reprints

Proofs will be sent by electronic mail to the corresponding author indicated on the title page. They should be carefully corrected and returned to the publisher within 48 hours of reception. If this period is exceeded, the galleys will be proofed only by the editorial staff and printed without the authors' corrections.

The PDF file of the article will be provided free of charge to the corresponding author.

Note that the aim of proofreading is to correct errors that may have occurred during the production process. Only essential corrections are accepted (grammar or spelling mistakes for example). Any substantial modification of the text altering the content of the accepted version of the paper will re-open the revision process.

9. Copyright

As soon as the article has been published, the author is considered to have transferred his rights to the publisher. Requests for reproduction should be sent to the publisher.