

## MANUSCRIPT CHECKLIST

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- Title no longer than 90 characters (including spaces)
- First paragraph referenced and no longer than 300 words
- No subheadings in main text
- Methods for print no longer than 300 words
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- No more than 30 references

#### Articles

- Title no longer than 75 characters (including spaces)
- First paragraph unreferenced and no longer than 150 words
- No more than 6 main subheadings of up to 40 characters (including spaces)
- Methods for print no longer than 300 words
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- No more than 50 references

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- Abbreviations and symbols defined on first use
- Italic font used for variables, genes and non-English languages; bold font for vectors
- Equations and special characters in Word in 'normal text' or Symbol font (Word Equation Editor avoided where possible)
- Authored in Compatibility Mode if using Word 2007 (i.e., as a Word 97-2003 document; saved as .doc format, NOT .docx)
- Brief title provided for each figure, table and box
- Figure legends no more than 100 words each
- Author contribution statement included (a statement of responsibility that specifies the contribution of every author; see [http://www.nature.com/authors/editorial\\_policies/authorship.html](http://www.nature.com/authors/editorial_policies/authorship.html))
- Declaration of any competing interests included in manuscript (<http://www.nature.com/nature/authors/policy/competing.html>)
- Database accession numbers included for sequences determined in this paper
- Structure data in Nature standard tables

### For TeX users

Word or rtf formats are preferred, unless there is very extensive use of special characters or equations. Such formats enable on-screen subediting and the preparation of a 'pre-proof', when the editing can be checked before formal proofs are prepared. We have found that this minimizes the chance of errors being inadvertently introduced.

- Word conversion not practicable

### Artwork

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- Preferred file formats for line (or vector) artwork and graphs are unflattened eps, postscript, pdf and Illustrator (ai) files
- Preferred file formats for photographic images are TIFF and Photoshop (minimum resolution 300 dpi). If you have created images with separate components on different layers, please send us the Photoshop file (.psd) with the layers intact
- For a full list of acceptable electronic formats, see <http://www.nature.com/nature/authors/submissions/final>

#### When preparing and sending figures

- Text in an editable format and in sans serif font (Helvetica, Arial)
- Text and lines clearly visible when figure is sized for page: type size 6-8 point; lines preferably 0.5 point (0.18 mm)
- Colour images in CMYK (not RGB) mode; ensure you are happy with the conversion from RGB to CMYK before submission
- Suggestions for cover artwork submitted if desired
- Completed colour costs form submitted with manuscript ([http://www.nature.com/nature/authors/submissions/final/colfigs\\_Jan2009.pdf](http://www.nature.com/nature/authors/submissions/final/colfigs_Jan2009.pdf))
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- Supplementary Information referred to in main text (print version) of paper
- Summary diagram/figure included as part of the Supplementary Information (optional)
- Separate text file ('SI Guide') provided with a brief description (file format and content) of each item
- We recommend that all Supplementary Information is supplied as a single PDF file, where possible.

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