

MANUSCRIPT CHECKLIST

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Article type . LETTER

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Text

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

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- No more than 6 main subheadings of up to 40 characters (including spaces)
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All manuscripts

- 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
- Signed competing interests statement submitted with manuscript (<http://www.nature.com/nature/authors/policy/form.html>)
- Database accession numbers included for sequences determined in this paper
- Structure data in Nature standard tables
- List of key genes/proteins appearing in the manuscript (up to 15)

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

Contact our subeditors at authors@nature.com for further help and advice on preparing text for publication.

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- Colour images in CMYK (not RGB) mode; because subtle colour changes happen during the conversion, you should ensure you are happy with the conversion from RGB to CMYK before submission of final artwork
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