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Manuscript Submission Requirements Checklist

Please check the following items before finalizing your submission. For a complete description of each item, see further down the guidelines.

Cover Letter

 A complete letter to the editor should accompany the manuscript. The required items are listed below.

Title

• The title should not include words like "Novel", "New", or "First", or numerals (Part 1, 2, etc).

Authors

- All authors and their respective current/valid email addresses should be entered into the ACS Paragon Plus Environment. Names of authors should be listed in the same sequence as they appear on the manuscript title page.
- Biomacromolecules does not approve of Ph.D. students as sole corresponding authors. At least one senior scientist should be corresponding author and designated with an asterisk.

Manuscript

- The ACS manuscript <u>template</u> should be used. Manuscript text should appear in *single-column* format and be *double-spaced*.
- Manuscripts should be organized by sections and sub-sections. Arrange the sections as follows: Title, Authors, Affiliations, Abstract, Keywords, Introduction, Experimental (Materials and Methods), Results and Discussion, Conclusions, Supporting Information paragraph (if any), Acknowledgments (optional), References, Table of Contents graphic.

Figures and Tables

- Figures and Tables should preferably be embedded within the manuscript text, near their first mention. It is also acceptable, but not necessary, to include them at the end of the manuscript uploaded as "Graphic for manuscript" (acceptable software tif or pdf).
- Artwork should be provided at the size at which it will published in the journal, i.e. maximum 3.25 inches or 8.25 cm wide for one column.
- Each graphic should be clearly labeled and include a brief caption.
- Provide a Table of Contents (TOC) graphic at the end of the manuscript, either included in the manuscript file or uploaded separately as "Graphic for manuscript" (acceptable software tif or pdf). Do not upload the TOC graphic as "Cover art".
- Permissions for graphics copied or adapted from previous work should be provided upon submission (uploaded as "Other files for Editor only"). In addition, appropriate credit lines

should appear in the Figure captions.

References

- Cite references in text by unparenthesized superscript numbers. Example: ^{5-7, 9, 10}.
- The references should adhere to the format and style of *Biomacromolecules*: proper arrangement and punctuation, bold and italic font, full-page ranges. (See examples of correct reference format below)
- Use the CASSI abbreviations for journal titles (http://cassi.cas.org/search.jsp).
- Notes/comments are not accepted in the list of references.
- All author names should be listed ("et al." is not accepted).
- Bibliographic information should be up to date at the time of submission.
- Provide the DOI for work published online (ASAP) but not yet in an issue.
- References not yet available online (submitted, accepted, etc.) should be uploaded as "Supporting Information for review only".

Supporting Information, SI (if any)

- The supplementary material should be uploaded separately as "Supporting Information for publication" (pdf preferred).
- A paragraph describing the SI should be included in the manuscript and placed after the Conclusions: Supporting Information Brief description of the SI material in a non-sentence format

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 Upload any unpublished papers (accepted, submitted, in press, etc) as "Supporting Information for review only".

System Generated PDF Proof

Last, your uploaded files (Manuscript file + Graphic(s) for manuscript) will be converted into a PDF proof. This is how the manuscript will appear when sent to reviewers. The PDF proof must be viewed and validated before submission is completed.

Scope of the Journal

<u>Biomacromolecules</u> is a leading forum for the dissemination of cutting-edge research at the interface of polymer science and biology.

Submissions to *Biomacromolecules* should contain strong elements of innovation in terms of macromolecular design, synthesis and characterization, or in the application of polymer materials to biology and medicine.

Topics covered by *Biomacromolecules* include, but are not exclusively limited to, sustainable polymers, polymers based on natural and renewable resources, degradable polymers, polymer conjugates, polymeric drugs, polymers in biocatalysis, biomacromolecular assembly, biomimetic polymers, polymer-biomineral hybrids, biomimetic-polymer processing, polymer recycling,

bioactive polymer surfaces, original polymer design for biomedical applications such as immunotherapy, drug delivery, gene delivery, antimicrobial applications, diagnostic imaging and biosensing, polymers in tissue engineering and regenerative medicine, polymeric scaffolds, and hydrogels for cell culture and delivery.

For more details about the journal, visit the journal website.

Manuscript Types

Articles: Articles, long or short, should be comprehensive reports of significant results or conclusions.

Notes: Notes treat a limited subject on which the author does not intend to publish later at greater length. A Note should not exceed 1500 words.

Reviews: should include critical comparisons/discussions of the most important recent literature, include new information if appropriate, and end with an outlook of the future. *Important:* the last section should be titled "Future perspectives", or alternatively "Conclusions and Future Perspectives". Note that the majority of reviews will be solicited by members of the editorial board in accordance with editorial policy. However, the editorial office welcomes suggestions for reviews that may be suitable for the journal. If you are interested in writing a review, you can download a proposal form via the links below:

Review proposal form

Perspectives: should target an issue of contemporary importance and interest to the broader polymer science community. Perspectives should not be comprehensive reviews but present the author's view of the state-of-the-art of the field and their vision on the future of the chosen topic. The majority of Perspective articles will be solicited by members of the editorial board in accordance with editorial policy. However, the editorial office welcomes suggestions for Perspective articles that may be suitable for the journal. Please contact the editorial office before submission.

Comments: are significant and respectful remarks on work previously published in *Biomacromolecules* and are restricted to approximately one page (1000 words or equivalent including tables, figures, and text). If the Comments are concerned with the work of other authors, the Editors will generally permit these authors to reply.

ACS Publishing Center

While this document will provide basic information on how to prepare and submit the manuscript as well as other critical information about publishing, we also encourage authors to visit the <u>ACS Publishing Center</u> for additional information on everything that is needed to prepare (and review) manuscripts for ACS journals and partner journals, such as

- <u>Mastering the Art of Scientific Publication</u>, which shares editor tips about a variety of topics including making your paper scientifically effective, preparing excellent graphics, and writing cover letters.
- Resources on how to prepare and submit a manuscript to ACS Paragon Plus, ACS
 Publications' manuscript submission and peer review environment, including details on selecting the applicable <u>Journal Publishing Agreement</u>.

- Sharing your research with the public through the ACS Publications open access program.
- ACS Reviewer Lab, a free online course covering best practices for peer review and related ethical considerations.
- ACS Author Lab, a free online course that empowers authors to prepare and submit strong manuscripts, avoiding errors that could lead to delays in the publication process.
- ACS Inclusivity Style Guide, a guide that helps researchers communicate in ways that recognize and respect diversity in all its forms.

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Submit with Fast Format

All ACS journals and partner journals have simplified their formatting requirements in favor of a streamlined and standardized format for an initial manuscript submission. Read more about the requirements and the benefits these serves authors and reviewers here.

Manuscripts submitted for initial consideration must adhere to these standards:

- Submissions must be complete with clearly identified standard sections used to report original research, free of annotations or highlights, and include all numbered and labeled components.
- Figures, charts, tables, schemes, and equations should be embedded in the text at the point of relevance. Separate graphics can be supplied later at revision, if necessary.
- When required by a journal's structure or length limitations, manuscript templates should be used.
- References can be provided in any style, but they must be complete, including titles. For
 information about the required components of different reference types, please refer to
 the <u>ACS Style Quick Guide</u>.
- Supporting Information must be submitted as a separate file(s).

Document Templates and Format

The templates facilitate the peer review process by allowing authors to place artwork and tables close to the point where they are discussed within the text. Learn more about document templates here. Authors should use the ACS manuscript template when preparing the manuscript. The text of the manuscript should be double spaced and in single-column layout.

General information on the preparation of manuscripts may also be found in the <u>ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication</u>.

Acceptable Software, File Designations, and TeX/LaTeX

See the list of <u>Acceptable Software</u> and appropriate <u>File Designations</u> to be sure your file types are compatible with ACS Paragon Plus. Information for manuscripts generated from <u>TeX/LaTeX</u> is also available.

Cover Letter

A cover letter must accompany every manuscript submission. During the submission process, you

may type it or paste it into the submission system, or you may attach it as a file.

The following elements are required to be included in the letter:

- Manuscript title
- Name of the Corresponding Author
- Names(s) of all other authors
- Type of manuscript (Article, Note, Review, or Comment)
- A paragraph explaining the **significance** of the manuscript and why it is suitable for publication in *Biomacromolecules*
- Names and addresses of a minimum of three qualified and unbiased reviewers. A sentence listing each recommended reviewer's expertise(s) is also required
- A statement confirming that the manuscript, or its contents in some other form, has not been published previously by any of the authors and/or is not under consideration for publication in another journal at the time of submission
- A statement confirming that all authors have seen and approved the submission of the manuscript
- Inform the Editor if the manuscript has previously been considered by Biomacromolecules or any other ACS journal and, if so, state the manuscript number; if rejected by another ACS journal, provide also a statement granting Biomacromolecules to obtain the Editor's decision letter and reviews from that journal

Manuscript Text Components

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During manuscript submission, the submitting author must provide contact information (full name, email address, institutional affiliation, and mailing address) for all of the co-authors. Because all of the author names are automatically imported into the electronic Journal Publishing Agreement, all author names must be entered into ACS Paragon Plus. (Note that co-authors are not required to register in ACS Paragon Plus.) The author who submits the manuscript for publication accepts the responsibility of notifying all co-authors that the manuscript is being submitted. Deletion of an author after the manuscript has been submitted requires a confirming letter to the Editor-in-Chief from the author whose name is being deleted. For more information on ethical responsibilities of authors, see the Ethical Guidelines to Publication of Chemical Research.

Authors will be sent a message by e-mail acknowledging receipt of the manuscript.

The manuscript document file should include the following sections and in the listed order:

Title

Titles should clearly and concisely reflect the emphasis and content of the paper. Titles are of great importance for current awareness and information retrieval and should be carefully constructed for these purposes. Titles may not contain serial numerals (e.g. Part 1, 2, etc.) or the words "Novel", "First" or "New".

Authors and Affiliations

Bylines should include all those who have made substantial contributions to the work. To facilitate

indexing and retrieval and for unique identification of an author, use first names, initials, and surnames (e.g., John R. Smith) or first initials, second names, and surnames (e.g., J. Robert Smith). At least one senior author must be designated with an asterisk as the author to whom correspondence should be addressed. *All authors must also be entered as co-authors in the ACS Paragon Plus Environment.*

Abstract

All manuscripts (even Notes) must contain an abstract, not exceeding 150 words, which should provide a succinct, informative summation of the most important results and conclusions.

Keywords

Authors are required to include four to six keywords.

Introduction

The Introduction should clearly state the aim of the work. It should provide relevant background information of research in the field. The current knowledge and the existing problem should be discussed in order to clarify the scientific interest of the submitted work. The Introduction should preferably be no longer than 2 pages.

Experimental Section (Materials and Methods)

An Experimental Section must be included in the main text and should be placed directly after the Introduction. This section should provide a clear, unambiguous description of materials, methods, and equipment in sufficient detail to permit repetition of the work elsewhere. Repetitive descriptions of a general procedure should be avoided. Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work, including precautions for handling dangerous material or for performing hazardous procedures. This information should be in the experimental details section of the full article. In cases of animal use, approval by the local ethics committee should be stated. Less critical experimental details should be included in the Supporting Information.

NMR Data. Guidelines for reporting and stewardship of NMR Data are found here.

Results and Discussion

Results and discussion combined into a single section is often preferable but may also be in separate sections. Should be presented in a clear and concise manner.

Figures, Tables, Schemes, etc. should preferably be embedded within the manuscript text, placed close to their first mention.

Conclusions

A separate Conclusions section is required and should summarize the major conclusions and achievements of the work.

Supporting Information Paragraph

If the manuscript is accompanied by any supporting information files for publication, a brief description of each file is required. The paragraph and descriptions should be placed at the end of the manuscript before the list of references. The appropriate format is:

Supporting Information. Brief descriptions in non-sentence format listing the contents of the files supplied as Supporting Information.

Acknowledgments

This section may be used to acknowledge individuals, organizations, and financial support. Authors are asked to keep the acknowledgments brief.

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Authors are required to report ALL funding sources and grant/award numbers relevant to this manuscript. Enter all sources of funding for ALL authors relevant to this manuscript in BOTH the Open Funder Registry tool in ACS Paragon Plus and in the manuscript to meet this requirement. See http://pubs.acs.org/page/4authors/funder_options.html for complete instructions.

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References

Authors should consult *The ACS Style Guide*, 3rd ed. (2006, available from Oxford University Press, Order Department, 201 Evans Road, Cary, NC 27513; http://www.oup.com/us/acs) for the appropriate style to use in citations of journal papers, books, and other publications.

Literature citations must be numbered in one consecutive series by order of mention in the text, with the numbers presented as unparenthesized superscripts.

Long series of references to one statement should be avoided; authors are asked to list key references only.

Footnotes or commentary notes are not accepted in the list of References.

Copies of those references that are not yet available (submitted or accepted for publication in this or other journals) must be uploaded as "Supporting Information for review only".

Work published online (ASAP), but not yet in an issue, should be cited by the Digital Object Identifier (DOI) for convenient access; see example below (ref 3). In literature references, journal abbreviations should be those used by Chemical Abstracts [see *Chemical Abstracts Service Source Index (CASSI) 1907 2004 Cumulative*]. The accuracy of the references is the

responsibility of the authors. Because subscribers to the Web edition of the journal are now able to click on the "ChemPort" tag following each reference to retrieve the corresponding abstract at Chemical Abstracts Service, reference accuracy is critical.

Last, the following reference format must be used:

- 1. Sun, H.; Hong, Y.; Xi, Y.; Zou, Y.; Gao, J.; Du, J. Synthesis, Self-Assembly, and Biomedical Applications of Antimicrobial Peptide-Polymer Conjugates. *Biomacromolecules* **2018**, *19*, 1701-1720.
- 2. Hoffman, A. S. In *Biomaterials Science*, 2nd ed.; Ratner, B. D., Hoffman, A. S., Schoen, F. J., Lemon, J. E., Eds.; Elsevier Academic Press: San Diego, CA, 2004; p 107
- 3. Rosu, C.; Jang, Y.; Jiang, L.; Champion, J. Nature-Inspired and "Water-Skating" Paper and Polyester Substrates Enabled by the Molecular Structure of Poly(-stearyl-,L-glutamate) Homopolypeptide. *Biomacromolecules* **2018**, DOI: 10.1021/acs.biomac.8b01312

NOTE: references upon submission must follow Review-Ready Submission requirements, graphics included in separate section).

Table of Contents Graphic

The TOC graphic should be provided as the last page of the manuscript. See http://pubs.acs.org/paragonplus/submission/toc_abstract_graphics_guidelines.pdf for more details.

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This information is provided to the reviewers during the peer-review process (for Review Only) and is available to readers of the published work (for Publication). Supporting Information must be submitted at the same time as the manuscript. See the list of <u>Acceptable Software by File Designation</u> and confirm that your Supporting Information is <u>viewable</u>.

If the manuscript is accompanied by any supporting information files for publication, these files will be made available free of charge to readers. A brief, nonsentence description of the actual contents of each file, including the file type extension, is required. This description should be labeled Supporting Information and should appear before the Acknowledgement and Reference sections. Examples of sufficient and insufficient descriptions are as follows:

Examples of sufficient descriptions: "Supporting Information: ¹H NMR spectra for all compounds (PDF)" or "Additional experimental details, materials, and methods, including photographs of experimental setup (DOC)".

Examples of insufficient descriptions: "Supporting Information: Figures S1-S3" or "Additional figures as mentioned in the text".

When including supporting information for review only, include copies of references that are unpublished or in-press. These files are available only to editors and reviewers.

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All ACS journals strongly encourage authors to make the research data underlying their articles publicly available at the time of publication.

Research data is defined as materials and information used in the experiments that enable the validation of the conclusions drawn in the article, including primary data produced by the authors for the study being reported, secondary data reused or analyzed by the authors for the study, and any other materials necessary to reproduce or replicate the results.

The <u>ACS Research Data Policy</u> provides additional information on Data Availability Statements, Data Citation, and Data Repositories.

Data Requirements

Authors including math, display or in-text, in their manuscripts are encouraged to consult the ACS Guidelines for Presenting Mathematical Information ACS Math Style Sheet. This style sheet provides brief discussion of formatting related to the presentation of mathematical formulas, complete with examples of ACS style and layout. This document was developed to help authors anticipate how mathematical expressions will be formatted in the published version of the paper. NMR Data. Guidelines for reporting and stewardship of NMR Data are found <a href="https://example.com/here-new-mathematical-new-m

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The quality of illustrations in ACS journals and partner journals depends on the quality of the original files provided by the authors. Figures are not modified or enhanced by journal production staff. All graphics must be prepared and submitted in digital format.

Graphics should be inserted into the main body whenever possible. Please see Appendix 2 for additional information.

Any graphic (figure chart, scheme, or equation) that has appeared in an earlier publication should include a <u>credit line</u> citing the original source. Authors are responsible for <u>obtaining written</u> permission to re-use this material.

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Manuscripts, graphics, supporting information, and required forms, as well as manuscript revisions, must all be submitted in digital format through <u>ACS Paragon Plus</u>, which requires an ACS ID to log in. Registering for an ACS ID is fast, free, and does not require an ACS membership. Please refer to Appendix 1 for additional information on preparing your submission

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Biomacromolecules considers for publication only original work that has not been previously published and is not under consideration for publication elsewhere. When submitting a manuscript an author should inform the editor of any prior dissemination of the content in print or electronic format. This includes electronic posting of conference presentations, posters, and preprints on institutional repositories and other Web sites. Authors of Biomacromolecules are allowed to deposit an initial draft of their manuscript in a preprint service such as ChemRxiv, bioRxiv, arXiv, or the applicable repository for their discipline prior to submission. Please note any use of a preprint server in the cover letter and include a link to the preprint, and as appropriate, state how the manuscript has been adjusted/updated between deposition and submission. All other prior/redundant publication is forbidden. Upon publication in Biomacromolecules, authors are advised to add a link from the preprint to the published paper via the Digital Object Identifier (DOI). ChemRxiv and bioRxiv add this link for authors automatically after publication. For further details, contact the Editorial Office.

For the ACS Publications policy on theses and dissertations, click <u>here</u>.

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Authors should consult <u>The ACS Style Guide</u>, 3rd ed. (2006, available from Oxford University Press, Order Department, 201 Evans Road, Cary, NC 27513; http://www.oup.com/us/acs) for format guidance.

Registered trademarks should be capitalized whenever used. Trivial names for substances should not be capitalized; usually the chemical name or composition should be given in parentheses or in a footnote at the first occurrence of a trivial name.

Any unusual hazards inherent in the chemicals, equipment, or procedures used in an investigation should be clearly identified in a manuscript reporting the work.

Any animal experimentation must be approved by a local ethics committee. A statement confirming this should be included in the manuscript.

Authors are asked, if possible, to embed graphics in text.

Providing Potential Reviewer Names

Authors are required to suggest names and addresses of a minimum of three qualified and unbiased reviewers. A sentence listing each recommended reviewer's expertise(s) is also required. Authors are encouraged to avoid suggesting reviewers from the authors' institutions. Do not suggest reviewers who may have a <u>real or perceived conflict of interest</u>. Whenever possible, suggest academic email addresses rather than personal email addresses.

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Publication of manuscripts on the Web may occur weeks in advance of the cover date of the issue of publication. Authors should take this into account when planning their patent and intellectual property activities related to a document and should ensure that all patent information is available at the time of first publication, whether ASAP or issue publication.

All articles published ahead of print receive a unique Digital Object Identifier (DOI) number, which is used to cite the manuscript before and after the paper appears in an issue. Additionally, any supplemental information submitted along with the manuscript will automatically be assigned a DOI and hosted on Figshare to promote open data discoverability and use of your research outputs.

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The American Chemical Society follows guidance from the <u>Committee on Publication Ethics</u> (COPE) when considering any ethical concerns regarding a published article, Retractions, and Expressions of Concern.

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Additions and Corrections may be requested by the author(s) or initiated by the Editor to address important issues or correct errors and omissions of consequence that arise after publication of an article. All Additions and Corrections are subject to approval by the Editor, and should bring new and directly relevant information and corrections that fix scientific facts. Minor corrections and additions will not be published. Readers who detect errors of consequence in the work of others should contact the corresponding author of that work.

Additions and Corrections must be submitted as new manuscripts via ACS Paragon Plus by the Corresponding Author for publication in the "Addition/Correction" section of the Journal. The corresponding author should obtain approval from all coauthors prior to submitting or provide evidence that such approval has been solicited. The manuscript should include the original article title and author list, citation including DOI, and details of the correction.

Retractions

Articles may be retracted for scientific or ethical reasons and may be requested by the article author(s) or by the journal Editor(s), but are ultimately published at the discretion of the Editor. Articles that contain seriously flawed or erroneous data such that their findings and conclusions cannot be relied upon may be retracted in order to correct the scientific record. When an article is retracted, a notice of Retraction will be published containing information about the reason for the Retraction. The originally published article will remain online except in extraordinary circumstances (e.g. where deemed legally necessary, or if the availability of the published content poses public health risks).

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Appendix 1: PREPARING FOR SUBMISSION

We've developed ACS' publishing and editorial policies in consultation with the research communities that we serve, including authors and librarians. Browse our policies below to learn more.

Ethical Guidelines

ACS editors have provided <u>Ethical Guidelines</u> for persons engaged in the publication of chemical research—specifically, for editors, authors, and reviewers. Each journal also has a specific <u>policy on prior publication</u>.

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As a U.S.-based non-profit organization, the American Chemical Society (ACS) is required to comply with U.S. sanctions laws and regulations administered by the <u>U.S. Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control</u> (OFAC). While these laws and regulations permit U.S.-based publishers like ACS to engage in publishing-related activities with authors located in sanctioned regions in many cases, ACS may be prohibited under U.S. law from engaging in publishing-related activities in some cases, including, but not limited to, instances where an author or the institution with which an author is affiliated is located in a particular sanctioned region or has been designated by OFAC as a <u>Specially Designated National</u> (SDN) pursuant to certain U.S. sanctions programs. ACS reserves the right to refrain from engaging in any publishing-related activities that ACS determines in its sole discretion may be in violation of U.S. law.

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Authors must emphasize any unexpected, new, and/or significant hazards or risks associated with the reported work. This information should be in the Experimental Section of a full article and included in the main text of a letter. Statement examples can be found in the <u>Safety Statement</u> Style Sheet and additional information on communicating safety information from the ACS Guide to Scholarly Communication is freely available here.

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Appendix 2: Preparing Graphics

Resolution

Digital graphics pasted into manuscripts should have the following minimum resolutions:

- Black and white line art, 1200 dpi
- Grayscale art, 600 dpi
- Color art, 300 dpi

Size

Graphics must fit a one- or two-column format. Single-column graphics can be sized up to 240 points wide (3.33 in.) and double-column graphics must be sized between 300 and 504 points (4.167 in. and 7 in.). The maximum depth for all graphics is 660 points (9.167 in.) including the caption (allow 12 pts. For each line of caption text). Lettering should be no smaller than 4.5 points in the final published format. The text should be legible when the graphic is viewed full-size. Helvetica or Arial fonts work well for lettering. Lines should be no thinner than 0.5 point.

Color

Color may be used to enhance the clarity of complex structures, figures, spectra, and schemes, etc., and color reproduction of graphics is provided at no additional cost to the author. Graphics intended to appear in black and white or grayscale should not be submitted in color.

Type of Graphics

Table of Contents (TOC)/Abstract Graphic

Consult the Guidelines for <u>Table of Contents/Abstract Graphics</u> for specifications.

Our team of subject-matter experts and graphical designers can also help generate a compelling TOC graphic to convey your key findings. Learn more about our <u>Graphical Abstract service</u>.

Figures

A caption giving the figure number and a brief description must be included below each figure. The caption should be understandable without reference to the text. It is preferable to place any key to symbols used in the artwork itself, not in the caption. Ensure that any symbols and abbreviations used in the text agree with those in the artwork.

Charts

Charts (groups of structures that do not show reactions) may have a brief caption describing their contents.

Tables

Each table must have a brief (one phrase or sentence) title that describes the contents. The title should be understandable without reference to the text. Details should be put in footnotes, not in the title. Tables should be used when the data cannot be presented clearly in the narrative, when many numbers must be presented, or when more meaningful inter-relationships can be conveyed

by the tabular format. Tables should supplement, not duplicate, information presented in the text and figures. Tables should be simple and concise.

Schemes

Each scheme (sequences of reactions) may have a brief caption describing its contents.

Chemical Structures

Chemical structures should be produced with the use of a drawing program such as ChemDraw.

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