**Aims and Scope**

*Nutrition & Diabetes* is a peer-reviewed, open access online journal publishing clinical, metabolic, genetic and epidemiological studies that describe methodologies, mechanisms, and associations in relation to diabetes and nutrition related diseases. The journal will also publish papers concerned with the benefits of nutrition and lifestyle interventions and therapeutic trials in diabetes or related diseases for both clinical disease management and health promotion. Contributions of broad biological interest and impact are especially encouraged. Topics of particular interest within the journal’s scope include those listed below:

**Basic science**
- molecular biology of adipose tissue, muscle and liver
- molecular basis of macronutrient metabolism and inflammation
- genetics - tissue gene expression; genotypes, SNPs and phenotypic variability
- epigenetics

**Experimental medicine**
- food intake regulation
- fat, carbohydrate and energy metabolism
- body composition with focus on the assessment of individual fat depots and ectopic fat
- animal models of overweight and nutrition-related diseases

**Metabolic Syndrome**
- aetiological factors
- ethnic differences
- relationship with disease outcomes
- novel therapies

**Dietary interventions**
- reduction of cardiovascular disease risk factors
- reduction in overweight and its metabolic sequelae
- randomised controlled trials of dietary/lifestyle interventions in diabetes
- randomised, controlled trials of major dietary intervention studies e.g. fruit and vegetable/whole grains, Mediterranean diet studies on health risks
- use of functional food in prevention and treatment of NCDs
- personalized nutrition

**Epidemiology**
- prospective cohort studies of links between nutrition and lifestyle on NCDs
- population studies of associations between nutritional factors and NCDs, with particular emphasis on regional/international variations
- longitudinal studies addressing critical life periods and their long-term effect on NCDs

**Journal Details**

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Image Integrity and Standards

Images submitted with a manuscript for review should be minimally processed (for instance, to add arrows to a micrograph). Authors should retain their unprocessed data and metadata files, as editors may request them to aid in manuscript evaluation. If unprocessed data is unavailable, manuscript evaluation may be stalled until the issue is resolved.

A certain degree of image processing is acceptable for publication, but the final image must correctly represent the original data and conform to community standards. The guidelines below will aid in accurate data presentation at the image processing level:

- Authors should list all image acquisition tools and image processing software packages used. Authors should document key image-gathering settings and processing manipulations in the Methods section.
- Images gathered at different times or from different locations should not be combined into a single image, unless it is stated that the resultant image is a product of time-averaged data or a time-lapse sequence. If juxtaposing images is essential, the borders should be clearly demarcated in the figure and described in the legend.
- Touch-up tools, such as cloning and healing tools in Photoshop, or any feature that deliberately obscures manipulations, is to be avoided.
- Processing (such as changing brightness and contrast) is appropriate only when it is applied equally across the entire image and is applied equally to controls. Contrast should not be adjusted so that data disappear. Excessive manipulations, such as processing to emphasize one region in the image at the expense of others (for example, through the use of a biased choice of threshold settings), is inappropriate, as is emphasizing experimental data relative to the control.

For gels and blots, positive and negative controls, as well as molecular size markers, should be included on each gel and blot – either in the main figure or an expanded data supplementary figure. The display of cropped gels and blots in the main paper is encouraged if it improves the clarity and conciseness of the presentation. In such cases, the cropping must be mentioned in the figure legend.

- Vertically sliced gels that juxtapose lanes that were not contiguous in the experiment must have a clear separation or a black line delineating the boundary between the gels.
- Cropped gels in the paper must retain important bands.
- Cropped blots in the body of the paper should retain at least six band widths above and below the band.
- High-contrast gels and blots are discouraged, as overexposure may mask additional bands. Authors should strive for exposures with gray backgrounds. Immunoblots should be surrounded by a black line to indicate the borders of the blot, if the background is faint.
- For quantitative comparisons, appropriate reagents, controls and imaging methods with linear signal ranges should be used.

Microscopy adjustments should be applied to the entire image. Threshold manipulation, expansion or contraction of signal ranges and the altering of high signals should be avoided. If ‘pseudo-
 colouring’ and nonlinear adjustment (for example ‘gamma changes’) are used, this must be disclosed. Adjustments of individual colour channels are sometimes necessary on ‘merged’ images, but this should be noted in the figure legend. We encourage inclusion of the following with the final revised version of the manuscript for publication:

- In the Methods section, specify the type of equipment (microscopes/objective lenses, cameras, detectors, filter model and batch number) and acquisition software used. Although we appreciate that there is some variation between instruments, equipment settings for critical measurements should also be listed.
- The display lookup table (LUT) and the quantitative map between the LUT and the bitmap should be provided, especially when rainbow pseudo-colour is used. It should be stated if the LUT is linear and covers the full range of the data.
- Processing software should be named and manipulations indicated (such as type of deconvolution, three-dimensional reconstructions, surface and volume rendering, ‘gamma changes’, filtering, thresholding and projection).
- Authors should state the measured resolution at which an image was acquired and any downstream processing or averaging that enhances the resolution of the image.

Availability of Data and Materials

An inherent principle of publication is that others should be able to replicate and build upon the authors’ published claims. Therefore, a condition of publication is that authors are required to make materials, data, and associated protocols available in a publicly accessible database. Where one does not exist, the information must be made available to referees at submission and to readers promptly upon request. Any restrictions on material availability or other relevant information must be disclosed in the manuscript’s Methods section and should include details of how materials and information may be obtained.

Sequences, Structures and “Omics”

Papers reporting protein or DNA sequences and molecular structures will not be accepted without an accession number to Genbank/EMBL/DDBJ, SWISS-PROT, ProteinDataBank, or other publicly available database in general use in the field that gives free access to researchers from the date of publication.

Authors of papers describing structures of biological macromolecules must provide experimental data upon the request of Editor if they are not already freely accessible in a publicly available database such as ProteinDataBank, Biological Magnetic Resonance Database, or Nucleic Acid Database.

Human and Other Animal Experiments

For primary research manuscripts reporting experiments on live vertebrates and/or higher invertebrates, the corresponding author must confirm that all experiments were performed in accordance with relevant guidelines and regulations. All manuscripts reporting animal research must be written up in accordance with the ARRIVE (Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments) guidelines – see http://www.nc3rs.org/ARRIVE.

The manuscript must include in the Supplementary Information (methods) section (or, if brief, within of the print/online article at an appropriate place), a statement identifying the institutional and/or licensing committee approving the experiments, including any relevant details regarding animal welfare, patient anonymity, drug side effects and informed consent. For experiments involving human subjects, authors must identify the committee approving the experiments, and include with their submission a statement confirming that informed consent was obtained from all subjects.

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The Editor may seek advice about submitted papers not only from technical reviewers but also on any aspect of a paper that raises concerns. These may include, for example, ethical issues or issues of data or materials access. Occasionally, concerns may also relate to the implications to society of publishing a paper, including threats to security. In such circumstances, advice will usually be sought simultaneously with the technical peer-review process. As in all publishing decisions, the ultimate decision whether to publish is the responsibility of the editor of the journal concerned.

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- Accept, with or without editorial revisions.
- Revise, with the author addressing concerns raised by the reviewers before a final decision is reached.
- Reject, but indicate to the authors that further work might justify a resubmission.
- Reject outright, typically on grounds of specialist interest, lack of novelty, insufficient conceptual advance or major technical and/or interpretational problems.

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All details about submitted manuscripts are kept confidential and no comments are issued to outside parties or organizations about manuscripts under consideration or if they are rejected. Editors are restricted to making public comments on a published article’s content and their evaluation.

We do not release reviewers’ identities to authors, except when reviewers specifically ask to be identified.

We ask reviewers not to identify themselves to authors without the editor’s knowledge. If they wish to reveal their identities while the manuscript is under consideration, this should be done via the editor; if this is not practicable, we ask authors to inform the editor as soon as possible after the reviewer has revealed their identity. We deplore any attempt by authors to confront reviewers or try to determine their identities. Our own policy is to neither confirm nor
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Decisions about corrections are made by the Editor (sometimes with peer-reviewers’ advice) and this sometimes involves author consultation. Requests to make corrections that do not affect the paper in a significant way or impair the reader’s understanding of the contribution (a spelling mistake or grammatical error, for example) are not considered.

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