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General

- Authors must submit three copies of the original manuscript typed in double line space. Revised manuscripts should be submitted as printed copy and on disk. A guide to submitting an article on disk will be sent when requesting a revision or on notification of an acceptance. Authors should not submit the original paper on disk.
- The names of the authors, with initials or one fore-name, should be followed by the name of the institution where the work was carried out. An indication of the position held by each author should be given in an accompanying letter to the Editors, and manuscripts should bear the name of one author to whom correspondence should be addressed. If available, a fax number and an e-mail address should be supplied.
- Authors should include the names and addresses of four experts whom the authors consider suitable to peer review their work.
- The number of authors should be kept to a minimum and should include only those who have made a contribution to the research: justification should be made for more than five authors. Acknowledgments should be limited to workers whose courtesy or assistance has extended beyond their paid work, and to supporting organisations.
- Authors should provide up to four keywords phrases for the index.

- All measurements must be in SI units apart from blood pressure measurements, which should be in mmHg, and drugs in metric units.
- Abbreviations should be used rarely and should be preceded by the words in full before the first appearance.
- In the statistical analysis of data 95% confidence intervals should be used where appropriate.
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- Papers should report original research of relevance to the understanding and practice of molecular pathology. They should be written in the standard form: abstract; introduction; methods; and discussion.
- The journal uses a structured form of abstract in the interests of clarity. This should be short (no more than 250 words) and include four headings: *Aims*—the main purpose of the study; *Methods*—what was done, and with what material; *Results*—the most important results illustrated by numerical data but not p values; and *Conclusions*—the implications and relevance of the results.

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- Leaders and Editorials are published by editorial invitation.

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- Single case reports of outstanding interest or clinical relevance, short technical notes, and brief investigative studies are welcomed and usually published in the form of a Short Technical report.
- Length must not exceed 1500 words, including an unstructured abstract of less than 150 words, up to two figures or tables (or one of each) and up to 10 references. If more illustrations are required the text must be reduced accordingly.

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Tables should be presented separately in double line spacing without ruled lines; when presented on disk they should be in a separate file from the text.

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Cover illustration: Visualisation of immunoglobulin genes by fluorescence in situ hybridisation in phytohaemagglutinin stimulated lymphocytes. Triple labelling of metaphase chromosomes with DAPI (blue), a painting library for chromosome 22 (red) and a plasmid *C_λ* probe (green). (See: Carvalho *et al.* *In situ visualisation of immunoglobulin genes in normal and malignant lymphoid cells.* *J Clin Pathol: Mol Pathol* 1995;48:M158-64.)

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