

Preparing your manuscript: the microscopy checklist

Figures

- Image insets are properly identified in low-magnification or large-field-of-view images
- Scale bar and dimensions clearly visible in all images
- Coloured images (I): grayscale single-colour and merged-coloured channel if possible
- Coloured images (II): use colourblind-safe colours
- Multipanel figures: logical layout, facilitate top-bottom or left-right reading
- Image annotations when needed
- Figure legend (I): include sample description, labelling, annotations, colours, etc.
- Figure legend (II): explain any image manipulations

Imaging methods

- Microscope manufacturer and imaging modality
- Light source
- Objective lens
- Excitation/emission optics (filters, mirrors, bandpass detection, etc.)
- Detector (type, exposure/dwell time, gain, offset, binning)
- Other parameters specific to the imaging modality (e.g. pinhole size)
- Z-stack imaging parameters
- Live-cell imaging parameters

Image analysis methods

- Background subtraction
- Denoising
- Deconvolution
- Intensity threshold
- Segmentation
- Image quantification plugins/software
- Include references for all open source software and plugins
- Share your code as supplementary material or in public data repositories

Acknowledgments

- Core facilities, core personnel and funding number of core equipment, if it applies