Getting the most from journal articles

ChemCafé 30/11/15

Becky Kaner – Teaching Fellow
About me

- 2006 – 2010: MChem (Warwick)
- 2010 – 2014: PhD (Warwick)
  - Making purple stuff with Prof. Peter Scott
- 2014 – Now: ‘PostDoc’ (Warwick)
  - Teaching Fellow
  - Early Career Fellow
  - Research Officer
  - Inorganic tutorials
Finding your article

- **Search engines**
  - University Library
  - Web of Science
  - Google Scholar
  - SciFinder

- **Journal Archives**
  - Chemical Societies
  - Science Direct

- **Academics’ websites**

- **Open Access Journals**
  - Anyone can access
  - Get from journal website

- **Subscription Journals**
  - University pays for access
  - Get through the Library website
Types of article (and journal)

- Original research article
- Review article
- Communication
- Perspective or book review
- Case study
- Comments or retractions

- Depends on the journal
The impact factor

Chemical Science
For findings of exceptional significance from across the chemical sciences

Impact Factor: 9.211*
Publishing frequency: 12 per year
Indexed in Science Citation Index

All articles free to read, free to publish** from 2015.
**Article processing charges waived for articles published in 2015 and 2016

Scope
Chemical Science publishes original research articles of exceptional significance from across the chemical sciences. The journal helps to define the important areas by publishing the most significant cutting edge research. Articles must appeal to the general chemical science community or be of exceptional interest to specialist researchers. Main research areas include (but are not limited to):
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The impact factor (IF) of an academic journal is a measure reflecting the average number of citations to recent articles published in that journal. Sort of “How good the work being written about is”
Parts of an article

- Title
- Authors
- Affiliations
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Results (with figures)
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- Acknowledgements
- Author contributions
- Materials and methods
- References
- Author summary
Parts of an article
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- **Title** – often hard to understand...
- **Author(s)** – are they a ‘big name’?
- **Abstract** – summary of what you will read
- **Introduction** – mini literature review
- **Experimental** – what they did
- **Results** – what they did means
- **Discussion/conclusion** – why it’s important
- **References** – where they got their info.
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Membrane-active host defense peptides – Challenges and perspectives for the development of novel anticancer drugs

Sabrina Rindi, Dagmar Zywiciel, Karl Fohrer*

Institute of Biophysics and Nanotechnology, Austrian Academy of Sciences, 1010 Vienna, Austria

ARTICLE INFO

Chemistry and Physics of Lipids

Article Info

Although much progress has been achieved in the development of cancer therapies in recent decades, prostate cancer is still the most common fatal disease in men and is the second leading cause of cancer death worldwide. The treatment of prostate cancer by current therapeutics is not yet satisfactory. The efficacy of current therapies is limited due to the development of drug resistance. In contrast, peptides provide promising tools for the treatment of cancer, as they are naturally occurring molecules with well-defined biological activities. Peptides can be used as drugs, as they can be designed to target specific proteins, and they are easily modified and can be made resistant to drug resistance. Moreover, peptides are also used as diagnostic tools, as they can be used to detect disease-specific proteins.

5. Introduction

Cancer is a leading cause of death worldwide, responsible for one in eight adult deaths (WHO, 2018). It is estimated that in 2018, more than 18 million people were newly diagnosed with cancer worldwide. In Europe, almost one in eight of the population in 2020, more than 12.3 million people were newly diagnosed with cancer. The disease is a major public health problem, and the survival rate of cancer patients has increased in recent years due to improved diagnosis and treatment. Cancer survival rates have improved over the past few decades, and patients are now living longer than ever before. However, cancer remains a significant threat to public health and is a major cause of death worldwide.

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improvement will strongly increase with estimated death rate of up to 15% a decade lower in the year 2021. Although in recent decades much progress has been achieved in respect of therapies like surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, or hormone ablative therapy, the cure rate is still not higher than 50% in many cases. Therefore, the attention on the development of new therapeutic agents is continuously growing within the scientific community. While considerable resistance is paid to receptors of growth factors and protein involved in cell-cell signaling pathways, little effort has been devoted to targeting cancer cell-cell interactions. Thus, this would suggest a promising strategy for the development of new anticancer drugs.
Reading your article

- Leave enough time to read – the writing will be dense
- Make notes
- Look up definitions as you go
- Note questions that arise
- Sorry to be obvious!!
Steal your articles references!

- EVERYBODY DOES THIS
- A good way to find the ‘big’ or ‘first’ articles in the field
- Avoids plagiarism...
- More articles to read
  = more sources of information
  = more understanding
  = better referencing in your own work
Referencing

- Always reference journal articles properly
- Royal Society of Chemistry way – Name(s), Journal Title, year, volume, page
- Try to avoid directly quoting the paper or use “quotation marks”
- Learn how to use Endnote or Mendeley – Will save you a world of pain!

EndNote

Mendeley
Articles from other disciplines

- Different disciplines have different styles
- *e.g.* Biology papers
  - ALL THE ACRONYMS!
- Will take longer to read and understand
- Apply all the same rules
Top Tips

- Leave enough time to read an article
- Use *good* journals
- Don’t rely on just one article
- Start with the abstract
- Steal your article’s references
Thanks for listening!

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