

Editorial Policies

Peer Review

Manuscripts sent out for peer review are evaluated by at least two or three independent reviewers with expertise in the field. Authors are allowed to suggest preferred reviewers to evaluate their manuscript, and also non-preferred reviewers to be excluded if a compelling reason is sufficiently provided. However, no guarantee is given that the editors will include or exclude those suggested individuals. A reviewer may decline the invitation, especially when a potential conflict of interest with the author(s) could be present. Note that only manuscripts that are likely to meet our scope are sent for review. The Editorial office does not reveal reviewers' identities to authors to avoid any author's attempt to contact reviewers directly. Selected reviewers must keep the manuscript and adjacent materials confidential. If reviewers need help reviewing the manuscript from a colleague, confidentiality must be strictly secured. Reviewers are expected to respond promptly to requests to review, and to submit reviews within the time agreed. Reviewers' comments should be constructive, honest, and polite. The reviewers' reports (provide names if the review was assisted by colleagues) are submitted to the Associate Editor, who recommends a decision on the manuscript to the Editor-in-Chief. If inappropriate reviews are received, either the Associate Editor or Editor-in-Chief has the right to ignore and/or find a replacement for them. Authors are informed of the final decision by e-mail, with comments from reviewers and Editors. The types of decisions are as follows: Accept (may require editorial revisions), Minor Revision, Major Revision, and Reject. If the final decision is to reject, the author cannot resubmit. Throughout the process, any details about submitted manuscripts are kept confidential.

Clinical Trials

BLOOD CELL THERAPY will only consider publishing clinical trials that have been registered in a public trials registry at or before the time of the first patient's enrollment. As defined by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors ([ICMJE](#)), a clinical trial is any research project that prospectively assigns people or a group of people to an intervention, with or without concurrent comparison or control groups, to study the cause-and-effect relationship between a health-related intervention and a health outcome. Health-related interventions are those used to modify a biomedical or health-related outcome; examples include drugs, surgical procedures, devices, behavioral treatments, educational programs, dietary interventions, quality improvement interventions, and process-of-care changes. The ICMJE site also states that the purpose of clinical trial registration is to prevent selective publication and selective reporting of research outcomes, to prevent unnecessary duplication of research efforts, to help patients and the public know what trials are planned or ongoing into which they might want to enroll, and to help give ethics review boards considering approval of new studies a view of similar work and data relevant to the research they are reviewing. In this regard, secondary data analyses of primary clinical trials should not be registered as separate clinical trials, but instead should reference the trial registration number of the primary trial. In addition, authors must declare that the procedures or protocols were approved by the Ethical Committee of Human Experimentation (provide the name of

committee that reviewed the related research and approval number, if applicable), and written informed consent is obtained from all subjects in accordance with the latest version of the Helsinki Declaration. *BLOOD CELL THERAPY* encourages authors to follow Randomized Controlled Trials by adhering to the [CONSORT](http://www.consort-statement.org) statement (<http://www.consort-statement.org>) for randomized trials, [STROBE](http://strobe-statement.org) for observational studies (<http://strobe-statement.org>), and [PRISMA](http://prisma-statement.org) for systematic reviews and meta-analyses (<http://prisma-statement.org>).

Human and Other Animal Experiments

Manuscripts describing animal studies should include a statement giving assurance that the institutional or equivalent committee approved the experiments, and the animals received appropriate care from the viewpoint of animal welfare. When using animal models, the precise genotype, strain, source, number of backcrosses, sex, and age of animals must be provided. Authors are encouraged to follow the Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments (ARRIVE) guidelines (<https://www.nc3rs.org.uk/arrive-guidelines>).

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Acknowledgement

The following should be briefly described: individuals who provided substantial contributions to the research but did not qualify as authors, all organizational support (e.g. grants, fellowships, chairs; see an example below), and sources of materials (e.g. drugs, reagents, equipment).

Example: This work was supported by Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (grant number) from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science, Sports, and Technology, Japan (initial of grant holder).

Author’s contribution

Authors should carefully consider the list and order of authors before submission. The authorship contribution statement should contain a list of authors’ initials and brief explanations of contributions each made in the submitted work.

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