We are available to answer your email 365 days a year, but sometimes a few quick tips are exactly what you need. The poster below includes tips from our scientific workshops and editor suggestions. We wish you much success, and happy writing!

Scientific Writing and Editing Tips

Before you start:

- Determine the main conclusions you will make from your experimental results.
- Review the author instructions for your target journal and note length restrictions.

As you write:

- Focus each paragraph on a single topic.
- Use topic sentences to organize your thoughts in each paragraph. Every paragraph should have a topic sentence, and all other information in a paragraph should support the topic sentence.
- Describe the methods for every experiment you performed.
- Take care that your discussion points are consistent with your results and conclusions.
- Avoid using passive language whenever possible (i.e., write "We found that…" rather than "It was found that…").
- Avoid repeating your results in the Discussion.
- Write the abstract so that it follows the order: Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion.

During revisions:

- Check your manuscript against your target journal's instructions for authors. Add any missing elements or sections required in the instructions. Reduce the length if necessary.
- Make sure each paragraph is focused on a single topic.
- Confirm that all abbreviations are used consistently throughout the text and defined at first use in the abstract and again in the main text (except any noted as standard abbreviations for your target journal).
- Make sure all figures and tables are cited in the main text in numerical order (for example, Figure 4 should not be cited before Figure 2).
- Provide the same location information for each supplier at the first mention of each company.
- Remove wordy and repetitive phrases. For example, "In order to…" can be replaced with just "To…" "Positive benefits…" can be just "Benefits…"

Final polish:

- Complete your word processing software's spelling and grammar check.
- Create a title page that includes all elements required by your target journal's instructions.