

## **Submission checklist**

**Please note:** The following points are requirements you MUST meet before your manuscript can be considered by the journal. This will assist in ensuring that your article is handled as quickly and efficiently as possible. Please read the journal's Guidelines for authors and reviewers for more detailed guidelines on any of the areas below.

### **Manuscript formatting, and Bench>Press requirements**

1. Is this a commissioned article? If yes, please ensure you are submitting the paper from the Bench>Press queue: **Commissions - papers to be submitted** and NOT as an original submission.

2. Article types and word count. Please check the journal's requirements with regards to articles types and word count. Your manuscript may be returned to you if you submit a type of article not accepted by the journal, or if it exceeds the recommended word count.

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- ethics approval (placed in the Methods section).
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### Journal guidelines

11. Competing interest statement. We ask that all authors declare all relevant competing interests in the Competing Interests field on Bench>Press, **you must also** include this statement at the end of the manuscript file. Please also include a statement if you wish to declare no competing interests. **Your manuscript may be returned** to you if a competing interest statement is not included in your manuscript file. For further information on what should be declared please view the BMJ declaration and corresponding editorial (BMJ 1998;317:291–2) for guidance.

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13. Patient consent. Please ensure you obtain written consent from the patient (or where appropriate from his/her relatives or guardian) if there is any chance that a patient (whether living, dead, or a child) may be identified from a case report, illustration, or paper. For further guidance, the patient consent statement (PDF) can be downloaded from the General Information box in your Author Area on Bench>Press.

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