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Diagrams, tables, and, occasionally, illustrations may be included if necessary to bring out new concepts and important relationships, or when access by the reader to original sources would be unusually difficult.

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On first mention of an unfamiliar drug in the text of the article, it is desirable to give the official or generic (nonproprietary) name by which the drug is known in the U.S.A. or the country of origin of the manuscript. This may be followed by parentheses in which may appear official or generic names of the drug in other countries, selected familiar trade names, and the chemical name. (A diagram of the chemical structure shown in a figure often will be preferable to the spelled-out chemical name.) Example for a manuscript from the U.K.: "Thiopentone sodium, B.P. (Thiopental sodium, U.S.P.; Pentothal sodium.)" Thereafter, the author may use whichever nonproprietary name is thought most suitable without giving synonyms. Similar considerations apply to non-standard abbreviations and acronyms. Standard abbreviations may be found in the CBE Style Manual or in J. Biol. Chem. 262: 1–11, 1987.

Arabic numerals are used for all definite weights, measurements, percentages, and degrees of temperature. All weights, volumes, doses, etc., are to be given in metric units. Whenever possible, doses should be related to unit weight, surface area, or other standard. The concentrations of solutions may be indicated as normal, molar, or %. If percentages are used, a notation should be included to indicate whether percent is based on weight (w/w), % by volume (v/v), or a given weight of solute in 100 ml of solution (w/v) is intended. It is generally desirable to express quantities in units that give the closest approximation to unity, e.g., 0.5 mg and 1.5 g rather than 0.0005 g and 1500 mg. Abbreviations should conform to internationally accepted usage, viz., kg, g, mg, μg, l, ml, μl, cm, mm, μm, Å, cm², cm³, etc. For per cent the symbol % should be used.

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Examples of references to books and chapters as well as to journal articles.


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