

Accessibility Statement

We're committed to easy access for everyone

Researchassistant.nature.com is committed to making our website as accessible as possible to everyone, including those with visual, hearing, cognitive and motor disabilities. We're constantly working towards improving the accessibility of our website to ensure we provide equal access to all of our users.

Nature Research Assistant is currently in beta. This means the tool is still under active development and evolving based on user feedback. While we strive to provide a smooth experience, some features may not yet function as intended, and full compliance with WCAG accessibility standards has not yet been achieved. Please see the 'currently inaccessible' section for more details.

We are currently conducting remote accessibility testing with disabled users, including users of assistive technologies testing to collect further feedback to make Nature Research Assistant as accessible as possible. If there is anything that we can do better, or if you have any suggestions then we encourage you to reach out and provide us feedback by contacting us at researchassistant@nature.com.

As part of our commitment to accessibility, we are working to ensure that our website is compatible with:

- Recent versions of popular screen readers
- Operating system screen magnifiers
- Speech recognition software
- Operating system speech packages

We always make sure that our website follows accessibility best practices by following the principles of universal design. This ensures the site is flexible and

adaptable to different users' needs or preferences and is accessible through a variety of different technologies, including mobile devices or assistive technologies.

During the development phase we endeavour to follow WebAIM's [Principles of Accessible Design](#), and also try to help improve the accessibility of our website for users with disabilities by:

- Retaining the ability to adjust the font size
- Maintaining colour/contrast ratios for text
- Providing keyboard accessible navigation
- Providing skip to content links at the top of the page
- Exposing information to the accessibility API through the use of [ARIA attributes](#)

We also monitor the accessibility of Researchassistant.nature.com through the internally maintained tool [Pa11y](#).

Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.2

Wherever possible, the Researchassistant.nature.com site will adhere to level AA of the [Web Content Accessibility Guidelines \(WCAG 2.2\)](#). These guidelines outline four main principles that state that sites should be:

- **Perceivable** - Information and user interface components must be presentable to users in ways they can perceive
- **Operable** - User interface components and navigation must be operable
- **Understandable** - Information and the operation of user interface must be understandable
- **Robust** - Content must be robust enough that it can be interpreted reliably by a wide variety of user agents, including assistive technologies

Currently Inaccessible

As Nature Research Assistant is currently in beta, we are aware that some features and functionality are not yet fully accessible. For example, the PDF viewer is not currently compatible with screen readers such as VoiceOver, and the use of header and footer elements is inconsistent.

We are actively conducting research with users with disabilities to better understand which aspects of the tool are accessible and which are not. This section will be updated soon to reflect our findings and ongoing improvements.

Optimising your set-up for your needs

The [AbilityNet](#) website provides guidance to make your computer more accessible, enabling computer users to make the most of the internet whatever their ability or disability. It offers help with seeing the screen, using your keyboard and mouse, hearing sounds, and with reading and spelling.

Contacting us

If you would like to request accessibility-related assistance, report any accessibility problems, or request any information in accessible alternative formats, please use the [accessibility queries form](#) or contact us via email at researchassistant@nature.com.

To help us assist you with any issues you have, it is recommended that you read the WAI's [Contacting Organisations about Inaccessible Websites](#), and provide the information advised in your request.