

Experimental Design Symbols

In effort to reduce text, details on experimental design and analysis are often left off PowerPoints and posters, but you did the WORK, so why not display those efforts? In collaboration with FASEB, NIH is encouraging presenters to display visual symbols in order to increase transparency and display your hard work in an efficient manner. We recommend that the symbols below be included as part of your figure making process (for example, under a graph or table).

	<p><i>Image of a red square with a white circle and a "P" in the center.</i></p>	<p>Preliminary experiments The experiments were hypothesis-generating or exploratory and were not designed in advance to test a hypothesis in a rigorous way.</p>
	<p><i>Image of blue box with a white square and checkmark.</i></p>	<p>Confirmatory experiments The experiments were designed to test a specific hypothesis and were carefully planned in advance.</p>
	<p><i>Image of a purple box with a white dice icon.</i></p>	<p>Randomization Samples or subjects were randomized to a treatment group prior to treatment.</p>
	<p><i>Image of yellow box with a white battery icon.</i></p>	<p>Statistical power analysis (Sample Size Estimation) Mathematical or other justification is provided for how the sample size was chosen prior to the experiment.</p>
	<p><i>Image of green box with white icons for male and female</i></p>	<p>Sex of model system-Both Used to denote the sex of organism used in your experiments</p>
	<p><i>Image of green box with white icon for male</i></p>	<p>Sex of model system-Male Used to denote the sex of organism used in your experiments</p>
	<p><i>Image of green box with white icon for female</i></p>	<p>Sex of model system-Female Used to denote the sex of organism used in your experiments</p>
	<p><i>Image of blue box with white text reading "Littermate controls"</i></p>	<p>Littermate controls Littermate controls were used in experiment</p>
	<p><i>Image of orange box with white icon of petri dish and a checkmark</i></p>	<p>Authenticated reagent Experimenters validated the identity and/or purity of reagents themselves before using in experiments. See the NIH rigor criterion for more information.</p>



*Image of white box
with a black icon of
blindfolded person*

Blinded analysis

Data were collected and analyzed in a blinded manner in which the experimenter did not know the experimental conditions.



*Image of magenta
box with white icon
of cylindrical data
server*

Database deposition

Data have been added to a data sharing platform or resource center.