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11:40 AM

Manuscript Submission and Peer Review Process

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Today's Agenda

Introduction
B/ Explain types of medical articles
B/ Explain source of publications
Writing obstacles
Publication time line
Where to publish
Useful tips and hints
Anatomy of a manuscript
Manuscript Preparation Process

Famous Quotes ?

**Why do we want to publish our
manuscript?**

Famous Quotes

"Publish or perish."

**Why do we want to publish our
manuscript?**

Goals for Original Research Article

- Clearly describe your work and findings
- Share scientific knowledge
- Improve patient care
- Change treatment behavior, only if it justify

REAL Goals for Original Research Article

REAL Goals for Original Research Article

- Justify your academic existence

REAL Goals for Original Research Article

- Justify your academic existence
- Get some research grant (re) funded

REAL Goals for Original Research Article

Justify your academic existence
Get some research grant (re) funded
Get promoted

REAL Goals for Original Research Article

Justify your academic existence
Get some research grant (re) funded
Get promoted
Enrich your curriculum vitae (CV)

REAL Goals for Original Research Article

Justify your academic existence
Get some research grant (re) funded
Get promoted
Enrich your curriculum vitae (CV)
Impress your friends (and enemies)

Types of Medical Research Publications

Review articles
Original research articles
Cohort, Case control, Clinical trial, Case series / report
Short communication
Editorials
Letters to editor
Book or software reviews

Medical Research Publication Media

Print journals

Electronic (E-) journals

Websites

Writing Obstacles

<u>TO START</u>	<u>TO COMPLETE</u>
Not Easy	Different versions/edit
Perfectionist	Different analysis
Procrastination	Different authors
	Lack of
	Knowledge

Writing Obstacles

Writing Obstacles

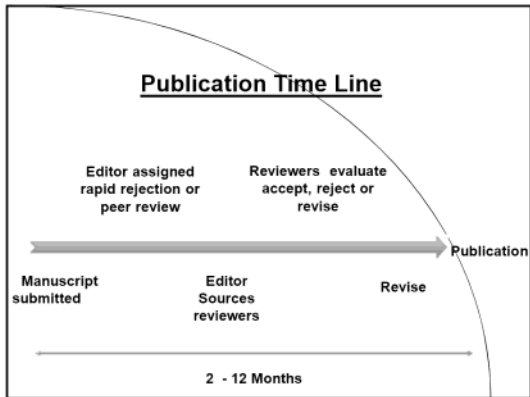
Time Management

Famous Quotes

“Publish or perish.”

“If I’d had more time, I would have written you a shorter letter.”

“The best writing comes from rewriting.”



Evaluating Resume of an Academic Person

- * Number of papers
- * Rate of publication
- * Quality of journals
- * Position in list of authors
- * Focus

CV

Specialized Databases

- * Medical Sciences
- * PubMed/Medline
- * Embase
- * All Sciences
- * Web of Sciences
- * Scopus

**Specialized Databases
(Subjects Specified Databases)**

- * Biological Abstracts
- * International Pharmaceutical Abstract
- * PsychInfo
- * CINAHL
- * Chemical Abstracts
- * Agricola

Medline

- * By US National Library of Medicine
- * Bibliographic Data of +5500 Journal
- * Over 20,000,000 citations of both clinical/preclinical studies
- * Complementary database known as PreMEDLINE includes citations and abstracts for studies that have been published recently but not yet indexed

** Subject Coverage: All Specialties of Medicine*
** About 60% of References contain Abstracts*

PubMed

- * By US National Library of Medicine
- * Bibliographic Data of +6500 Journal
- * Over 20,000,000 citations of both clinical/preclinical studies
- * Complementary database known as PreMEDLINE includes citations and abstracts for studies that have been published recently but not yet indexed

** Subject Coverage: All Specialties of Medicine*
** About 60% of References contain Abstracts*

Web of Science

- * Web of Science (previously known as Web of Knowledge).
- * Originally produced by Institute for Scientific Information (ISI)
- * Now maintained by Clarivate Analytics (previously Intellectual Property and Science business of Thomson Reuters).
- * Provides a comprehensive citation search.
- * The Web of Sciences is the same database that we calculate the Journals Impact Factor from its data.

Journal Impact Factor Journal Citation Reports

* **The Journal Impact Factor is calculated for those journals that are indexed in Web of Sciences Databases, NOT just ISI Master list Journals.**

The database which contain the Journal Impact Factors is Journal Citation Report.

Journal Impact Factor ISI Web of KnowledgeSM
Journal Citation ReportsSM

* The average citation frequency for articles published in a journal that appeared in 2 previous years of that journal received citations in other (ISI) indexed journals.

Citations in 2019 to articles published in 2017 & 2018
Total number of 2017 & 2018 papers

Finding Impact Factor ISI Web of KnowledgeSM
Journal Citation ReportsSM

* **Journal Citation Reports (JCR)**

* <http://www.bioxbio.com/if/>

* <http://jifactor.org/>

Where to Publish our Paper?

1. National or international audience? Language?
2. Databases indexes Journal?
3. The journal's content area/scope?
4. Multidisciplinary or specialty journals?
5. Chances of acceptance?
6. What about the impact factor?
7. Practical matters (time to publication, previous papers, etc.)

Where to Publish our Paper?

Where to look for the journal:

- * Personal experience
- * Colleagues' experience
- * Library
- * Citations in Databases
- * Online Resources

Hints and Tips

- * **Avoid reader confusion:** Readers expect verbs to closely follow subjects
- * **Active or passive voice:** Active verbs are clearer and add more interest than passive verbs
- * **Language:** Simple language works best
Minimizes confusion – maximizes understanding
- * **Sentence length:** 15–20 words long
One sentence: one idea

Anatomy of a Manuscript (MS)

Title page - Cover letter

Abstract
Introduction
Materials and Methods
Results
Discussion

(IMRD = Introduction Methods
Research Databases)

Anatomy of a Manuscript (MS)

Acknowledgements

Bibliography

Tables

Figures - Legend

Title Page

Title of manuscript
List of authors
Affiliations
Corresponding author / Contact information

Cover Letter

Competition for publication space and for editors' attention is very high:

- * Address to the editor personally.*
- * State your manuscript title and publication type.*
- * Give a brief background, rationale and description of your results.*
- * Explain the importance of your findings and why they would be of interest to the journal's target audience.*
- * Provide corresponding author details.*

Cover Letter

The cover letters should contain these sentences:

- We confirm that this manuscript has not been published elsewhere / is not under consideration by another journal.*
- The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.*
- All authors have approved the manuscript and agree with submission to (Journal Name).*

Authorship List (Order / Position)

First (lead) author
Last (senior) author
Other (middle) authors

Lead author usually makes final decisions

Abstract (1 Page)

VERY short version of the MS

Unstructured (free text)

Structured / formatted

Length limitations

Why, what, how, primary result/s

Introduction Section (1- 2 Pages)

Research issue of interest

Other published studies

Rationale for this study

Goals of this study

Materials and Methods Section (1- 4 Pages)

Study population

Treatment(s) applied

Bio samples obtained

Laboratory procedures / assays

Statistical methods (study design, N, analyses)

Results Section (1- 4 Pages)

Where/when/how many subjects recruited

Describe ineligible, dropouts

Present results in a logical sequence

Limit number of tables + figures

Results Section (1- 4 Pages)

State only the important observations
Use ("data not shown") as needed
Write CONCISELY and CLEARLY
AVOID overly long sentences

Discussion Section (1- 4 Pages)

Usually the hardest MS section to write:

Briefly summarize your principal findings.
Reconcile findings with the literature.
Critically appraise the former authors if necessary.
Interpret findings in light of the literature.
Implications your results for other researchers.
Limitations of your study – Conclusions.

Acknowledgements

All grants or other funding sources
Technicians, support staff, consultants
Participants in the (clinical) study

Bibliography

List of all of sources you have used (whether referenced or not) in the process of researching your work.

Follow format instructions of target journal
Cite only relevant articles
Cite every article at least once
Verify correct articles are cited in the MS text

Tables

Format table carefully.
Use clear, concise titles.
From title, can new reader sketch the table ?
Use the least numerical content possible.
Leave SPACE between rows and also columns.
Use footnotes as needed to clarify.

Figure Legend

A list of descriptions of the figures.
Use clear, concise titles.
From title, can new reader sketch the figure?
Leave ample space between figure descriptions.

Figures

Avoid clutter (too many numbers or symbols).
Should provide a clear statistical message.
Vertical (Y) axis: outcome / dependent variables.
Horizontal (X) axis: exposure / independent variables.
Good way to show overall patterns in data.
Some numerical details **MUST BE** sacrificed.

Manuscript Preparation Process

Literature review (for the Intro., Disc. Sections)
Use PubMed, MedLine, conf. proceedings, etc.
Draft the bibliography
Think of potential target journals and choose one

Manuscript Preparation Process

Coauthors write portions of Materials & Methods.
Biostatistician can write part/all of Results.
Lead author completes first full draft.
Circulate to coauthors for review & comment
Lead author revises MS per coauthors' comments.
Lead author decides when MS is finalized.

Submitting the Manuscript

Follow the instructions to authors carefully.
Need signatures from all coauthors.
Medium: paper vs. electronic.
Figures as separate files.
(GIF, other format)

Response from the Target Journal

Be patient !

Weeks to several months after MS submission.

Decisions

Reject, Conditional accept, Accept

Reject: send MS elsewhere (with / without revision)

Accept (with no changes required): RARE !

Conditional Acceptance Decision

Address all concerns/comments of the (1-3) referees.
Number all comments of each referee.
Write point-by-point response to every comment.
Agreement with every comment not mandatory.
Can just defend your position (but not "too often")

Submission of Revised Manuscript

Polite cover letter to Editor.
Thank referees for their suggestions and insight.
Clearly mark changes in the revised MS.
Peer-review DOES improve MS quality (even yours).
Be patient !
Weeks to several months after MS re-submission.
Some journals "RE-review" a revised MS.

Galley Proofs

Arrive week/s after MS acceptance.
Paper or PDF of page-image version of MS.
Must proofread/correct galleys within 1-2 days.
Detailed instructions for marking up galleys.
Your last chance to find & correct errors.
Order reprints ?

When MS is finally published

Notify & thank all your coauthors.
Give them full journal citation (for their CVs).
Provide URL link (or website) if online journal.
Send each coauthor a reprint (if available).
Update your own CV.

After MS is published

Letters to the Editor?
Reply politely and address each issue raised.
Watch for related articles to appear.
Have another MS(s) already in press or under review.

MS Preparation: Learning Resources

Chicago Manual of Style, 15th Ed., 2003.
University of Chicago Press.

www.pubmed.com search on "MS preparation"

Mee CL. 10 lessons on writing for publication.
J. Infus. Nurs., 26:110-113, 2003.

Kern MJ. MS preparation and submission
Catheter Cardiovasc. Interv., 58:391-6, 2003.

MS Preparation: More Learning Resources

Your training program mentors

Participate in journal club meetings

After publishing several articles, volunteer as a referee
a journal(s)

Take a MS writing workshop.

Summary

Always pursue a worthy clinical research question.

Remember the goals & sections ("IMRD") of a MS.

Know the procedure before / after MS submission.

Read & critique more published articles.

Find / use MS development learning resources.

Eventually, become a journal referee.

Final Thought

**Be patient.
The best writing comes from rewriting.**

Thank you !

Any questions ?

Why do we want to publish our manuscript?
“Publish or perish.”

Why do we want to publish our manuscript?
?