The Perils and Practical Pearls of Publishing at the Daily Planet

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Statement of disclosure

• I have no conflicts of interest as it relates to the content of this presentation.
Learning Objectives
Upon completion of this lecture the participate should be able to:
• Compare and contrast how impact factors are used by some authors to determine what journal to publish in
• Identify what the proper author sequence should be in a manuscript
• List the types of publications and submission types that can be used depending on the manuscript type

Learn from my mistakes....
Why publish?

- Because you have something important to say
- To change practice
- To promote thought or debate
- To allow analysis of your work
- Fame
- Money
- Career advancement
- To entertain/divert/amuse
- To educate

Authorship

https://conservationbytes.com/2015/10/02/the-sticky-subject-of-article-authorship/
Authorship

1. Research teams should discuss authorship issues frankly early in the course of their work together.

2. Disputes over authorship are best settled at the local level by the authors themselves or the laboratory chief. If local efforts fail, the Faculty of Medicine can assist in resolving grievances through its Ombuds Office.

Authorship

• Everyone who is listed as an author should have made a substantial, direct, intellectual contribution to the work. For example (in the case of a research report) they should have contributed to the conception, design, analysis and/or interpretation of data.

• Honorary or guest authorship is not acceptable.

• Acquisition of funding and provision of technical services, patients, or materials are not in themselves sufficient contributions to justify authorship.

• Everyone who has made substantial intellectual contributions to the work should be an author.
  • Everyone who has made other substantial contributions should be acknowledged.

• All authors should participate in writing the manuscript by reviewing drafts and approving the final version.
Order of Authorship

1. The authors should decide the order of authorship together.
   • “Harvard way” - place the person who took the lead in writing the manuscript or doing the research first and the most experienced contributor (i.e., senior author) last

2. Authors should specify in their manuscript a description of the contributions of each author and how
   • they have assigned the order in which they are listed so that readers can interpret their roles correctly.

3. The primary author should prepare a concise, written description of how order of authorship was decided.

Consider the Publication Types

• Books/Book Chapters
• Peer reviewed article
  – Clinical focus
  – Research report
• Case study/clinical pearl
• Newsletter
  – National
  – Local chapter
Journal Article (Book, Book Chapters)

- Select the journal **before** you begin writing
- Read articles in the journal you are considering
- Get the author guidelines **before** you begin writing
  - Style, format, references are important
- [http://jane.biosemantics.org/](http://jane.biosemantics.org/)
Impact Factors

• Measure reflecting the yearly average number of citations to recent articles published in that journal
• Used as a proxy for the relative importance of a journal within its field
• Calculated yearly starting from 1975 for journals listed in the *Journal Citation Reports*
  - NEJM 72.406
  - AJHP 1.882
Beware of Predatory Journals

- Open-access publishing
- Exploitative
  - Involves charging publication fees to authors without providing the editorial and publishing policies
  - Journal is poor quality or even fraudulent!
- Why predatory
  - Academics are tricked into publishing with them
  - Names similar to established journals

...Journal of Life Sciences

- Impact factor: 2.702
- Impact factor: 0.36

If you’re not sure....things to look for

- Rapid acceptance with little or no peer review or quality control
- Notifying authors of article fees only after papers are accepted
- Listing academics as members of editorial boards (without their permission)
- Mimicking the name or web site style of more established journals
- Citing fake or non-existent impact factors
Easy vs. Hard Journals

selecting a proper journal for publication. Issues to consider include the “level” or “tier” of the journal, the scope and readership of the journal, and whether the journal has published similar studies in the past. If the author selects a journal characterized by extremely stringent peer review and the study is not of sufficient quality and impact, a rejection may end the motivation for resubmission and effectively kill the project or, at the least, it will delay publication in an appropriate venue. Conversely, if the manuscript is submitted to an “easy” journal (a journal that has a reputation for a low rejection rate) and is accepted rapidly, the article may not reach the widest and most appropriate readership, or it may not be published in the highest-quality journal possible, reducing its impact.


Researching Your Topic

• Don’t just read the abstracts:  
  • may misinterpret the findings or miss important information

• Primary source, secondary source, or review

• All types of publications have a format:  
  • Example: research reports include an Introduction, Methods, Result, Discussion  
  • Read author instructions for the journal (or book)

Starting to Write the Manuscript

- Just do it!
- Make an outline
- Start in the middle if necessary
- Title and abstract are last
- Once draft done, leave it for couple of days and revisit to edit

Practical Tips

- Define abbreviations early
- Minimize jargon
- Be concise
- Keep sentences and paragraphs short
- One paragraph = one thought
- Use the simpler word
- Reduce repetition
- Do not editorialize
- Active tense, not passive

https://bestcustomwriting.org/
References

• References – should be < 5 years unless a classic
• Cite per author’s guidelines
• Use proper format (Reference Manager, EndNote)
• References are not needed for commonly held knowledge
  • e.g. CVLs are used to infuse parenteral nutrition
• Internet resources include title, url, and date accessed

Reproducing Tables and Figures

Use with permission or adapted
• require written permission
• Often $$$$ and difficult to obtain permission
• Easier to create your own
Don’t Forget to Register

- All clinically directive trials which test any clinical hypothesis about health intervention and its outcomes

- Trials that don’t need registration
  - Phase 1 trials
  - Trials investigating disease biology
  - Trials providing preliminary data

- When in doubt – register it!

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**ClinicalTrials.gov**

**Perils & Practicals of Publishing**

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**Pharmacists & Technicians Are Healthcare Heroes**

**MSHP ANNUAL MEETING AND AWARDS SANDETT 2018**
Don’t Plagiarize!

• Paraphrase
  • Must be cited
  • Restatement of a passage from the original work
• Plagiarism
  • Copying original works without citing
• This includes your previously published work!

Literary Theft!!!

http://www.plagiarismchecker.net/plagiarism-checker-about-plagiarism.php

Cover Letter

Make sure to include:
• Name of the journal manuscript being sent to
• State regarding the novelty/originality of the paper
• Statement about each authors’ contribution and that they read and approved the manuscript being submitted
• Suggested reviewers/excluded reviewers
• Name/address/phone/email of corresponding author
Publication Process

Source: dor.umc.edu/.../WritingandpublishingaresearcharticleAdair.ppt

Request for revision….

- Doesn’t mean it’s rejected or accepted
- Use the suggestions to improve the paper
  - Do they simply want clarifications
  - More experiments
- May still ultimately get rejected but at least you have a better manuscript to submit to the next journal
When submitting the revised manuscript...

• Follow the journal’s rules
  • May need to use highlighting/track changes
• Include a letter explaining point by point a response to each reviewer
  • Repeat the comment in 12 point font and your response below indented in 10 font
  • Example:
    Why were there no dogs in this study?
    Thank you for that observation. There were no dogs in our study because we chose to focus on cats.
• Never get defensive in the letter
  • “we respectfully disagree .....”
  • You don’t always have to include the suggested changes but always explain why you aren’t....reviewers can be wrong!
• Always thank the reviewer for taking the time to review the paper
• Detailed reviews are a blessing not a curse!

Dealing with rejection.....

“Editor says the manuscript would serve some purpose if it were written on toilet paper.”
Flow diagram illustrating the choices authors can make after receiving a manuscript rejection letter from the editor of their first-choice journal.

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http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0022475
Resources

- [erm.wustl.edu/Dodson_ERM_3.27.08.pdf](erm.wustl.edu/Dodson_ERM_3.27.08.pdf)
- [dor.umc.edu/.../WritingandpublishingaresearcharticleAdair.pptx](dor.umc.edu/.../WritingandpublishingaresearcharticleAdair.pptx)
- [www.pri.univie.ac.at/~derntl/papers/meth-se.pdf](www.pri.univie.ac.at/~derntl/papers/meth-se.pdf)
- [www.publication ethics.org.uk](www.publication ethics.org.uk)

Key Points

- Follow instructions!
- Don’t plagiarize
- Don’t get discouraged if you get rejected, resubmit to another journal
- Expect rejections – rare to get paper accepted without any edits
Any questions?

https://www.thesuperheroquiz.com/