From Poster Abstract to Journal Article

Tips and Tricks for successfully publishing scholarly work in an international journal on Medical Education from an Editor’s perspective

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International Association of Medical Science Educators

49 Shades of Research

1. Research fundamentals
   “Research in a Nutshell: How Do I Get Started?”
2. Designing and implementing scholarly projects
   “Putting it into Practice”
3. Grants and other funding sources
   “Show Me the Money: Funding Your Ideas”
4. Writing and publications
   “From Poster Abstract to Journal Article”

Your facilitators

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Master degree in Medical Technology
PhD in Biophysics/Physiology
E-Learning staff adviser
IAMSE Vice President (2008-2010)
Editor-in-Chief of Medical Science Educator

Julie K. Hewett (USA)
Bachelor's Degree in Entrepreneurial Management
Owner of JulNet Solutions
Management Support & Meeting Planning
IAMSE Association Manager (1998- )
Production of Medical Science Educator

Goals of the workshop

Provide a better understanding of scientific publishing and manuscript submission
- Identify barriers for successful publishing
- Provide insight in the editorial processes of a journal
- Provide strategies to increase the chances of acceptance of submitted work

Workshop Layout

- Background of participants
- Barriers for successful publishing
- Why, What and Where do you want to publish?
- How to publish? Organization of a Journal
- How to submit
- Strategies for successful publishing
- Closure remarks

Background of participants
Background of participants

- Never published before
- Published 1-5 articles
- Published >5 articles
- International journal?
- Science or education?

Barriers for successful publishing

What do you think or experienced to be a problem/barrier in publishing?

WHY to publish?

Make sure you have a clear goal
- Claim a finding or discovery
- Help others with your findings
- Comment on published work
- Start or respond to a public discussion

WHAT to publish?
What you want to publish?

What is the nature of your work?
- Evaluation of teaching
- Methodology
- Proof of usefulness, best practice
- A new idea

WHERE to publish?

International Association of Medical Science Educators
AACOM & AODME 2015

Where to submit?

Venues to present your work
- Local meetings and symposia
- Conferences (poster, oral)
- Journal (article)
- Digital repository (assets)

Poster abstract for a meeting

Poster or oral presentation
- Short abstract of presentation
- Used for selection, not peer-reviewed
- Quality requirements less strict
- Publication in program book

Overview of Medical Scientific Journals

Biomedical research journals
- Journal of Biomedical Science, Genomics, Journal of Infectious Diseases
- Medical journals
- JAMA, New England Journal of Medicine
- Medical Educational journals
- Medical Science Educator, Medical Education, Medical Teacher, Academic Medicine
- General science journals
- Science

Overview of Medical Scientific Journals

Journals Indexed in PubMed

PubMed is a service of the U.S. National Library of Medicine that includes over 18 million citations from MEDLINE and other life science journals for biomedical articles back to 1948. PubMed includes links to full text articles and other related resources.

Not all journals are indexed by PubMed

Only indexed journals are provided with citation indexes
Overview of Medical Education Journals

- **Academic Medicine**
  - AAMC (Ass Americ Medical Colleges)
  - Printed & online
  - USA-National oriented
  - Subscription based
  - Peer-reviewed
  - Focus: General, administration
  - Readership: Deans, Directors

- **Medical Teacher**
  - AMEE (Ass Med Educ Europe)
  - (Printed &) online
  - International oriented
  - Subscription/member based
  - Peer-reviewed
  - Focus: General
  - Readership: Broad audience
  - Rejection rate 85%

- **Clinical Teacher**
  - ASME (Ass for the study of Med Educ)
  - Online
  - International oriented
  - Subscription/member based
  - Peer-reviewed
  - Focus: Clinical Teaching
  - Readership: Clinical Teachers

- **Advances in Health Science Education**
  - Printed & online
  - International oriented
  - Subscription based
  - Peer-reviewed
  - Focus: Educational research
  - Readership: educational researcher
Overview of Medical Education Journals

- Medical Science Educator
  - IAMSE (Int Assoc Med Sci Educators)
  - Online
  - International oriented
  - Subscription/member based
  - Peer-reviewed
  - Focus: Scholarship on teaching, sciences
  - Readership: Medical science educators

Overview of Medical Education Journals

- Teaching and Learning in Medicine
  - Printed & online
  - International oriented
  - Subscription based
  - Peer-reviewed
  - Focus: Scholarship on teaching and Learning
  - Readership: Medical Educators

Overview of Medical Education Journals

- Anatomical Sciences Education
  - AAA (Amer Assoc Anatomists, AACA et al)
  - Printed & online
  - International oriented
  - Subscription/member based
  - Peer-reviewed
  - Focus: Scholarship teaching Anat Sciences
  - Readership: Anatomists/educators

Overview of Medical Education Journals

- Which journal to choose?
  - Peer reviewed
  - Appropriate field, ask the Editor!
  - Readership (researchers, educators, students, general public)
  - Outreach, subscription/open access
  - Prestige of journal (indexed, impact factor)
  - Rejection rate
  - Connections, published before

HOW to publish?

General issues:
- Clear topic of the submission
- Only 1 topic
- Embedded in recent literature
- Team/multi-institutional work stronger than individual

Quality of work

- Readership: Medical Educators
Quality of work

- Writing skills
- Spelling and grammar
  - Non-native English writers
- Follow the formats in the journal
  - NOT the printed format!!
- Follow the instructions for authors

Article types (peer reviewed)

- Original Research
  Educational Research
  3000-5000 words
- Short Communications
  Brief observations
  1500 words
- Innovation
  Novel ideas
  500 words
- Monograph
  Subject of general interest to educators
  3000-5000 words
- Commentary
  Editorials, essays, viewpoints, trends
  3000 words

Article types: Research

- Title and abstract
  - Clear, essence of article
- Introduction:
  - Demonstrate importance and relevance, research question
    - Does it matter, so what?
- Methods
  - Provide sufficient info to repeat the experiment
- Results
  - Results only, clear and related to the question!
- Discussion:
  - Putting outcomes into context
    - Link to previous research
- Conclusion
  - Clear and related to question and outcomes
Organization of a Journal

Role of reviewers:
- Indicate the topic is relevant or important
- Suggestions to improve the manuscript

Role of Editors:
- Decide for acceptance or rejection
  - Based on content
  - Based on other factors

Showcase: Medical Science Educator

Organization:
- Editor-in-Chief
- Associate Editors (11)
- International Advisory Board (3)
- Reviewers (close to 200)
- IAMSE management support

8 step review process:
- Author submits a manuscript via website
- Initial review by Editor-in-Chief
- Assignment to Associate Editor and 3 reviewers; 3 weeks for review
- Associate Editor combines reviews with own judgment
- Associate Editor communicates with author
  - Target: within 10 weeks from submission
- Author revises manuscript
- Associate Editor reviews the revision and formulates a decision
- Editor-in-Chief makes final decision and informs author, Associate Editor and reviewers

Instructions for Authors (step 1)
See website of journal for rules on:
- Cover letter
- Style
- Language
- Referencing
- File format for manuscript and figures
- Internal Review Board approval

Why we use peer review
- Adds value to paper (critical analyzed)
- Maintains standards in publishing
- Check on citation errors
- Check on proper methods
- Check on ethical codes in research
- Constructive comments to authors for improvement of publication
Showcase: Medical Science Educator

Revision process:
1. Author reads the comments of reviewers
2. Author makes revisions to manuscript
3. Author explains in a separate letter how comments have been addressed
4. Associate Editor evaluates the revisions
5. If satisfied, article accepted

Production process:
1. Final version formatted to journal style
2. Proofing by authors
3. Published by Springer

Strategies for successful publishing

General tips for success:
- Choose an appropriate journal
- Choose good co-authors
- Be familiar with the journal of your choice
- Follow the instructions for authors strictly (layout, PDF, JPG, length, references etc)
- Have language and grammar checked
- Try to understand the review comments and revise if you agree
- Meet the deadlines or inform the office if you can’t

Solving the barriers we identified in the beginning of this workshop

Closure remarks

Any questions left?