Why publish?

- There is something important to say
- To change practice
- To allow examination of your work
- Money/Career advancement
- To entertain/divert/amuse
- To educate
Select a Journal

- Identify a journal
  - What’s important: journal impact or readership?
- If you are not familiar with the journal read some of their published papers
- What is the scope of the journal?
  - International vs National
  - Broard based audience vs discipline specific
- What are the costs?

What do the editors want?

- Excitement! “a headline”
  - No different to popular press
- Importance
- Originality
- Relevance to the audience
  - Target journal
- Correct
- Clear and concise
  - Including grammar, copy editing
- Engagingly written
  - No “Drivel”!
Your research article

- Follow the format suggested in the instructions to authors
- Obtain appropriate permissions early (Re-publication of other authors’ diagrams, illustrations, tables, flowcharts, etc.)
- Tell the story of your research
- Write simply and clearly, avoid complicated jargon
- Check spelling and grammar
  - Use others (co-authors, mentors) to assist

Your article format

- Article formats are generally outlined in the instructions to authors
- Abstract, Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, Conclusion, References
- Is there a guide available to help shape your paper?
  - CONSORT
  - STROBE
  - PRISMA
Submitting your article

- Submission of articles is generally an online process.
- Identify everything you require to complete the online submission. Use author instructions to guide you
- Allow adequate time to complete the process
- Have all the signed declarations ready
- Allow 4 weeks for the review to be completed

The Outcome

1. Accept without revision
2. Accept with minor/major revisions
3. Resubmit
4. Reject

- So my articles been rejected … what do I do?
  - Review the manuscript in conjunction with the reviewers/editors comments.
  - Was the article the right ‘fit’ for the journal?
  - Re-evaluate the target journal/audience and aim for a new home.
What do I do next?

- Read all the comments
- Put them down and walk away for a day or two
- Methodically work through your responses
- Make changes where appropriate
- Provide a reasoned rebuttal where you disagree
- Resubmit
  - The sooner the better
  - Journals will generally have a maximum response time before they close off the resubmission.

The Resubmission & Final Approval

- Editorial vs Peer review
- May have some final modifications
- Final document will enter the “Publication Process”
- Publishers will format the paper according to their own style guidelines
- Editorial modifications
- Proofs
- Published online and in print
Congratulations!

References


- Curzon, MEJ & Cleaton-Jones, PE. Writing scientific papers for publication: “Without publication research is sterile” Eur Arch Paed Dent 2012; 13(1):4-10