Editorial: Suggestions To Authors Submitting to The Internet Journal of Health (I.J.Health)

M Said Maani Takrouri

Citation

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Abstract

The reason of rejecting a submitted paper is hard and usually depends on a complex mechanism involving many factors. Major defects in the scientific worth, methodology or poorly expressed facts can not be remedied. Some common misses can be corrected but take time to be resent to the author and to come back corrected e.g. full names of all authors Affiliations and address for correspondence. Delay in taking decision on accepting a paper for publication is preventable if author adheres to instruction to authors of I.J.Health, looking to previous issues style and to tray the following suggestions in this editorial.

A well-written paper has a better chance of being accepted in I.J.Health or any other Journal if it is written simply and concisely. The author should be certain that words express his ideas and message. In short, The author should adhere to the following rules: "(1) He should have something to say; (2) He says it; and (3) He stops as soon as he has said it. Otherwise, the scientific worth of the manuscript will be doubtful.

General Suggestions

- The author should adhere strictly to I.J.Health format as described in the Instructions for Authors of Scientific Publication Journals. Incorrect style makes the job of reviewers and editors more difficult.
- 2. Editing the paper carefully, in order to eliminate errors of spelling, punctuation, and grammar, helps to rapidly process the manuscript.
- An incorrect reference suggests that the paper was not properly prepared. The accuracy of the references should be checked with the original sources. Incorrect citations are a burden to the

- publisher and disappoint the readers.
- 4. The editors of I.J.Health do not rewrite poorly-written manuscripts; this is the responsibility of the author. Those who have difficulty writing scientific English should obtain assistance from colleagues or alternatively solicits the help of international editor's services.
- 5. I.J.Health uses American Standard English
- 6. It is recommended to organize the paper to answer the following main questions; the reviewers and readers want them answered:
- 8. Introduction: What did the paper purpose and why?
- 9. Methods: How did the author(s) planned to achieve it
- 10. Results: What did the author(s) learn?
- 11. Discussion: What does it mean? and how does it relate? to what else is known?

Focused Suggestions

It is easy to mix fact and opinion; the author(s) should keep the Results and Discussion separate, and to keep the discussion clearly reasoned, tightly written, and focused on the implications of the Results.

The author(s) should keep the abstract brief and in the active voice. For original articles the abstracts should be structured. The abstracts should be substantive. The author(s) should avoid gemera;ity "The implications are summarized." Instead, author(s should describe the implications.

The author(s) should avoid repetition:

- The Abstract in the Introduction or Discussion.
- The results in the Introduction.
- The Introduction in the Discussion.
- The figure legends, table titles, or the contents of the tables. in the text.

Bar graphs and pie charts should only be used where absolutely indicated and should be provided in colour; where possible the information should be presented in table format.

The author use the active voice in the Abstract, Introduction, and Discussion; it is shorter, clearer, and more emphatic. The passive voice is boring suggests lack of conviction, required more words, extends reading time, and may be ambiguous. The passive voice, by convention is appropriate in the Methods and Results.

Discussion. Author emphasize the new and important aspects of the study and the conclusions that follow from them. Include in the discussion section the implications of the findings and their limitations, including implications for future research, and relate the observations to other relevant studies.

The author should link the conclusions with the goals of the study but avoid unqualified conclusions not completely supported by the data. In particular, author (s) should avoid making statements on economic benefits and costs unless their manuscript includes economic data and analyses.

The author should avoid claiming priority and alluding to work that has not been completed. Recommendations, when appropriate, may be included.

Reference should be numbered consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text, not alphabetically. Listong all authors when there are six or fewer; when there are seven or more, list only the first six and add "et al". All references must be cited in the text or tables. Unpublished data and personal communications will not be accepted as references. Electronic references on the web generally are not reliable except if they are from online website of scholarly journals or WHO and other official websites. It is almost mandatory to indicate the website address and the time accessed at the end of the references.

Typical Editor's Response

Dear author: Thank you for your article submission. Please

resize all your images to a file size of maximum 200 KB each (best as JPEG) and embed all images and their legends into the text at the correct location. Do the same for all tables. Remember, tables can not be wider than a regular page with at least 1 inch (about 2.5 cm) margins on both sides. Always indicate in your email the name of the journal to which you are Submitting. Please check also our web site for more detailed instructions.

http://www.ispub.com/ostia/index.php?xmlFilePath=journals /instructions.xml All paper manuscripts must be written in standard grammatical English. Authors who would like assistance in meeting this requirement are encouraged to contact BioScience Writers (http://www.bsw-llc.com/ispub) for language-editing services. Language-editing helps authors effectively communicate their research to fellow scientists and to the journal editors and reviewers. Thanks Olivier Wenker, MD, MBA

The technical suggestions

The manuscript should be arranged in the following order:

Name of the journal you are submitting the paper to,

- title of the paper
- the first name(s) and last name of each author and his or her highest academic degree(s) and institutional affiliation
- name of the department and institution or hospital where the work was done
- the source of any support received
- the document abstract (no more than 450 words) REQUIRED
- up to 6 key words (terms from the medical subject headings of Index Medicus should be used whenever possible)
- text
- acknowledgments
- references

Include graphics and tables 'inline' in electronic documents. Images can be sending attached to an e-mail as JPEGs or GIFs

General References:

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Robert Day "how to write and publish a scientific paper" (isi press, philadelphia, 1979).

International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (JAMA 1997;277:927-934).

Instruction to authors

http://www.ispub.com/ostia/index.php?xmlFilePath=journals/inst

BioScience Writers http://www.bsw-llc.com/ispub

Robert Q. Pollard Jr.: From Dissertation to Journal Article: A Useful Method for Planning and Writing Any Manuscript: The Internet Journal of Mental Health. 2005; Volume 2, Number 2.

References

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