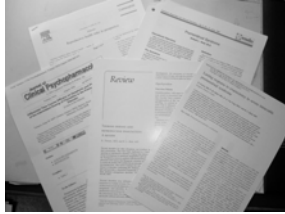


The Publication Process



Copyright 02/12/06 by Robert L. Reid

Without publication, science is dead.

Gerald Piel

Types of Publication

- Abstract
- Case report
- Review article/chapter
- Original research
 - Survey, retrospective review, clinical trial, meta analysis etc.

Submitting an Abstract

- Scored by several reviewers to determine acceptability and plenary vs. smaller forum
- May form basis for selecting prize winners
- May require one version without identifying information

Submitting your abstract

- Make a “catchy” title
- Underline the presenting author
- Give affiliation for all co-authors
- Must include: purpose, research design, setting, subjects, intervention, measurement of variables, results, and conclusions
- Acknowledge financial support (CIHR etc)

Case Report

- Short succinct report of unusual case or management strategy
- Must contribute to the literature
- Should be novel – cite previous data
- Photo or drawing helpful

Review Article

Why?

- Summarize an expanding literature
- Reappraisal in light of new developments
- Different angle (thyroid disease in pregnancy)

When?

- Timing is critical
- Don't reinvent the wheel

Review Article

How:

- Describe methods
 - "All English citations using index medicus 1972 – 2000"
- Be thorough
- How can this knowledge be applied to basic science or clinical practice –provide a simple take-home message

The Reference Section

- Reference Manager*
- Appropriate style and numbering for your chosen journal
- Take time to proof read the reference section



Original Research

May be:

- Basic science
- Epidemiological research
- Meta-analysis
- Clinical experiment
- Therapeutic trials

Order For "Write – Up"

- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Introduction
- Abstract

Methods

- State study design concisely in the first sentence
 - i.e. DBPC – X or retrospective case control
- Clear definition of study population
 - inclusion / exclusion criteria
- Precise methodology with references

The New England Kernel of Medicine

Established in 1612 as The New England Kernel of Medicine and Sorcery

Volume 642 October 20, 1993 Number 4

**A Randomized, Double –Blind, Placebo
Controlled, Multicentre, Peer Reviewed, Non-
denominational, Ecologically Sound,
Cholesterol Free Study of Herbal Tee in the
Treatment of Chronic Hemorrhoids...33**

A. Krauss, D. Krauss and S. Fox

**The right to search for truth
implies also a duty:
One must not conceal any part
of what one has recognized to
be true.**

Albert Einstein

Results

- Describe both positive and negative findings
- Include appropriate statistics
- Liberal use of table / graphs

Discussion

- Be as definitive as the data allow
 - “show clearly”
 - “establish for the first time”
 - “extend and confirm our previous observations”
- Interpret
- Discuss: Possible significance
 Possible weakness of study
 Future directions

Introduction

- Short
- Must provide capsule summary of current state of knowledge and / or importance of the problem

The Structured Abstract

- Now required by most journals
- Must include: purpose, research design, setting, subjects, intervention, measurement of variables, results, and conclusions
- Is often the only thing readers see

**First impressions are strong impressions;
A title ought therefore to be well studied,
and to give, so far as its limits permit, a
definite and concise indication of what is to
come.**

T. Clifford Allbutt

Title Page

- Succinct (proactive) title
- Authors
 - Most responsible first
 - Others who contribute material
 - Senior author last
- Institutional affiliation and funding source
- Corresponding author / address
- Short (running) title

Avoid Redundancy

- Consensus ‘of opinion’
- My own personal
- A period or interval ‘of time’

Replace Phrase With Fewer Words

A number of	Some, many or several
A majority of	Most
A large proportion of	Much or many
It is our opinion	We believe
Subsequent to	After

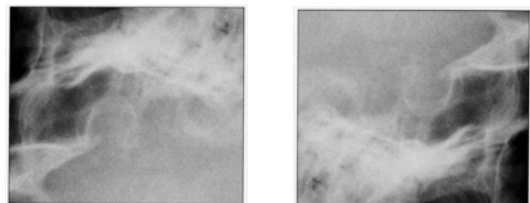
Finally

- Electronic submission
- High resolution pictures required
- If hard copy required...label reverse of figures
- Sign copyright transfer
- Covering letter
 - Indicate type of article
 - Disclose financial considerations / conflicts



Reid and Hahn To↑

What is this??



**An upside down:
“Enlarged pituitary sella due to prolactinoma”**



Case 3

The mother of this 10-month-old infant was concerned because the infant's vagina was partially covered by a membrane.

Questions

1. What is the diagnosis?
2. What is the significance?

Provided by Dr. Alexander K.C. Leung and Justine H.S. Fong, Calgary, Alberta.



Case 8

This neonate was noted to have a mass protruding from the sacral area.

Questions

1. What is the diagnosis?
2. What is the treatment?

Provided by Dr. Alexander K.C. Leung and Reginald S. Sauve, Calgary Alberta.

Choosing the Right Journal

- Readership
 - General vs. Specialty
- Prestige
 - Circulation
- Ease of review
- Frustration / Satisfaction
- Peer review

Don't let rejection of your paper get you down!



Consider the reviewers' comments and any suggestions from the editor



Revise and resubmit elsewhere

When Your Paper is Tentatively Accepted

- Itemize and respond to each reviewer's concerns
- Stand your ground on important points
- Covering letter should include summary of changes or justification for no change

Letters to the Editor

Remember:

“He/she who laughs last, laughs best.”



To the Editor:

I am writing to comment on Dr. Klutz's article on outpatient hysteroscopic transtubal oophorocystectomies.

He reported five complications in 100 cases. I have performed 5000 cases with only two complications.

I suggest that Dr. Klutz enroll I my postgraduate course or repeat his residency so that he may learn to operate.

A. Lout

In Reply:

Thank – you for your interest in our report.

Evaluation of the prevalence of cysts appropriate to manage hysteroscopically indicates that there are only 1000 cases in the entire United States in a given year.

Perhaps the reason for the difference in our results is that I operate only on patients who have appropriate indications and demonstrable disease.

A. Klutz

Table 1. Claim of Letter Writer and Author's Reply

Claims (N = number)	Reply			
	Did Not	Did	Thanks	Other
You missed an important point or confounding variable (25)	23	0		2
You did it wrong (7)	7	0		
You came to the wrong conclusion (5)	5	0		
I have a different point of view (4)			4	
We did it better	3	0		

From: Gerson Weiss Letters to the Green Journal: What you can do with them. O&G 78(6):1136, 1991.



Ethical Guidelines for Publication of Research

Obligations of authors

Forbidden:

- Submitting work of others in whole or in part as ones own (plagiarism / theft)
- Fabricating a report of research (fraud / lying)



Ethical Guidelines for Publication of Research

Obligations of authors

Must:

- Show written permission to quote information learned personally from another investigator or by reviewing applications for research grants
- Include as coauthors only those who have made significant intellectual and scientific contributions to the work reported
- Ensure that coauthors have read the final draft and agree to share responsibility and accountability for the results

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH
**Doctor who faked
research findings
is struck off register**

By Wendy Holden

A SENIOR gynaecologist, whose bogus claims of a medical breakthrough had caused "incalculable" damage to scientific research and could have put pregnant women at risk.

Malcolm Pearce, 45, a former senior consultant at St. George's Hospital, Tooting, London falsified records to substantiate a claim that he had successfully relocated an ectopic embryo into the womb of a 29 year-old African patient who later gave birth to a health baby girl.

Ethical Guidelines for Publication of Research

Forbidden:

- **Suppression or altering data not in agreement with ones hypothesis (self-serving / dishonest)**
- **To submit reports of the same or substantially overlapping research to more than one journal at the same time without justification in letters to both editors**

Acting as a Reviewer

- **Timely completion**
- **Brief summary of paper**
- **General / specific comments**
- **Helpful vs. "hatchet" reviews**

Obligations of Reviewers

A Reviewer Must:

- **Provide expert critical, unbiased scientific and literary appraisal of research reports in the fields of the reviewers knowledge and skills**
- **Return reviews within the editors deadline (or return manuscript at once)**
- **Report to the editor any third party consultant that may be asked to read the manuscript**

Obligations of Reviewers

A Reviewer must not:

- **Review a manuscript if she/he does not feel competent**
- **Review a manuscript if there may be a conflict of interest**