

How to Avoid Mishaps in Moving from Data Collection >>> Presentation & Publication

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Objectives

- Review the submission & publication process
- Discuss 4 common mishaps in presentation and publication
- Understand how to interpret editorial feedback

20 Steps to Publishing an Article

- Step #2: Decide on authors and co-authors
 - JAMA authorship sheet

Step #3: **MISHAP ONE** – poor selection of journal or audience

Mishap One: Poor Selection of Venue or Journal

- Venues (unique deadlines & audiences w/ different expectations):
 - Scientific Assemblies/Symposia
 - CME meetings
 - Practice Management Forums/Seminars (ACPE)
 - Medical education - AAMC

Mishap One: Poor Selection of Venue or Journal

Journals are not all the same
Know the journals in your field

- Acceptance Rates:
 - JAMA & NEJM: 3-8%
 - Lancet: 10%
 - Academic Medicine: 30%
 - Annals of Family Medicine: 25%
 - Annals of Internal Medicine: 20%
 - Pediatrics: 35%

Mishap One: War Stories?



20 Steps to Publishing an Article

- Step # 8 Follow Instructions to Authors
- Where do you find them?
 - **MISHAP TWO**

Mishap Two: Not following instructions

- Each Journal has its own instructions & formatting
 - *Primary reason for journal rejection*
- Abstract only or Abstract + Paper
- Page order
- Writing Style
- Reference Style
- Tables & Figures

Mishap Two: Not Following Instructions

- Word Counts
 - They are not up for negotiation:
 - 300 words ≠ 301 words
 - You can always cut more words (or slides)

Mishap Two: War Stories?



20 Steps to Publishing an Article

- Step # 9 – 11: Write, Write, Write, Get Critique and then Revise, Revise, Revise
 - **MISHAP THREE**

Mishap Three: No Rigorous Revision by Authors

- Your 1st draft (tip: “vomit it out”)
- REVIEW
- Your 2nd draft
- REVIEW
- Your 3rd draft
- REVIEW
- At least three versions

Mishap Three: No Rigorous Local Review

- Get Local Critique: What types of reviewers?
 - I like at least three
 - English grammar & style
 - Science and Statistics
 - Overall content

Mishap Three: No Rigorous Local Review

- Who should Review?

- Skilled
- Honest
- Timely

You need to be a good recipient of feedback;

- be thankful & gracious
- clarify confusion
- offer to review something they write

Mishap Three: War Stories?



20 Steps to Publishing an Article

- Step #12: Recheck your references !!
- Step #13: Get permissions
- Step #15: Send the manuscript to ONE journal

20 Steps to Publishing an Article

- Step # 16: WAIT patiently...
- Step #17: Receive and interpret the editor's response
 - **MISHAP FOUR**

Mishap Four: Misinterpretation of editorial feedback

- Feedback is for your information: it is always good to get it!
- Journal submission Process
 - First Level Review: What it means?
 - Receive a brief note within days to weeks
 - Peer Review Outcome
 - Accept as-is
 - Reject
 - Revise & Re-submit

Mishap Four: Misinterpretation...

- What does this mean?
 - “ Thank you very much for submitting your manuscript. I am sorry to inform you that we have decided not to accept it for publication”

Mishap Four: Misinterpretation...

- What does this mean? Para#1

“Review of your manuscript has now been completed. On the basis of the peer review done I am unable to accept your manuscript for publication in its present form”

Mishap Four: Misinterpretation...

- Para #2:
- “However the topic of your manuscript is of great interest to our readers. Therefore I would be willing to re-consider the manuscript if it were revised to address some of the enclosed comments of our reviewers”

Mishap Four: Misinterpretation...

- What does this mean? Para #1
- “ We have completed review of your manuscript and are unable to accept it for publication in its present form. This letter is an invitation to revise and resubmit the manuscript for re-consideration.”

Mishap Four: Misinterpretation...

- Para #2

“ Upon receipt of your revised manuscript it may be a) accepted for publication, b) sent back for additional specific revisions prior to publication, c) sent back for extensive revision and re-consideration d) not accepted for publication”

Mishap Four: War Stories?



20 Steps to Publishing an Article

- Step # 18: rework & re-submit OR
 - Submit to another journal after copyright transfer
 - Be sure to check formatting
 - Be sure to recheck references

20 Steps to Publishing an Article

- Step #19: Review “Galleys” quickly
 - Usually less than 48 hours
 - Specific author queries (AQ’ s)
 - Only for errors of fact
 - Step #20: Congratulations!

Summary

- Know the 4 mishaps: learn to avoid them
- Follow instructions
- Review, review, review -Use qualified mentors/reviewers
- Think about your venue or journal
- Read editorial feedback carefully

Questions

