

Publishing Addiction Medicine*

Fellows Immersion Training (FIT) Program

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*Slides adapted with permission from *Publishing Addiction Science: A Guide for the Perplexed*, developed by the International Society of Addiction Journal Editors.
Available online at www.isaje.net

Publishing Addiction Medicine

- I. Choosing a Journal
- II. Submission and Peer Review
- III. Authorship

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- I. **Choosing a Journal**
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The Plethora of Journals

- Over 100 peer-reviewed addiction journals
- Journals from other disciplines also publish addiction articles
- How does one make an informed choice?

Questions to Ask when Choosing a Journal

- National or international audience?
- Addiction specialty journal or a journal from another discipline?
- The journal's content area/culture?
- Exposure opportunities?
- Chances of acceptance?
- Impact factor?
- Time to publication?
- Open access?

Addiction Specialty Journal or a Journal from Another Discipline

- Sometimes it is easier to get an addiction article published in an addiction journal
- Addiction scientists benefit from contact with scientists from other disciplines
- Journals from other disciplines sometimes have more prestige than addiction specialty journals

Consider Your Chances of Being Accepted

- Acceptance rates: <5-95%
- Many journals do not want to state acceptance rates
- Seek guidance from mentor regarding the likelihood of acceptance

Impact Factor - Definition

- Average recent citation frequency for articles published in a journal

$$\text{2024 Impact Factor} = \frac{\text{2024 citations of articles published from 2022-2023}}{\text{Number of articles published from 2022-2023}}$$

Impact Factors for Selected Addiction Journals

Journal Title	2023* Impact Factor
ADDICTION	5.2
JOURNAL OF ADDICTION MEDICINE	4.2
DRUG & ALCOHOL DEPENDENCE	3.9
ADDICTION SCIENCE & CLINICAL PRACTICE	3.7
ADDICTIVE BEHAVIORS	3.7
SUBSTANCE USE & ADDICTION JOURNAL (Previously SUBSTANCE ABUSE)	2.8
AMERICAN JOURNAL OF DRUG & ALCOHOL ABUSE	2.7
JOURNAL OF STUDIES ON ALCOHOL & DRUGS	2.4

*Year for which most current data are available at Web of Science from Clarivate Analytics.

Impact Factors for Other Journals (for reference)

Journal Title	2023 Impact Factor
THE LANCET	98.4
NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE	96.2
NATURE	50.5
JAMA PSYCHIATRY	22.5
JAMA INTERNAL MEDICINE	22.3
ANNALS OF INTERNAL MEDICINE	19.6
JOURNAL OF GENERAL INTERNAL MEDICINE	4.3
PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES	3.3

Consider these Practical Aspects

- How long to get the article peer reviewed?
- How much editorial support does the journal give?
- Cost of publication?

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Submitting Manuscripts

- Check author guidelines and select article type.
- Obtain approval from all authors to submit
- Write a letter to the editor (optional)

Examples of Article Types

- Research articles
- Book Reviews
- Case Reports
- Case Series
- Commentaries
- Letters to the Editor
- Meeting Reports and Supplements
- Methodologies
- Reviews
- Study Protocols

Steps in the Review Process

- Editor* initial assessment
- Editor selects reviewers
- Editor monitors review process
- Reviewers review paper
- Reviewers make recommendation
- Editor makes decision: revise, reject, or accept
- Author revision
- Editor decides if further review is needed

* “Editor” refers to Editor or Associate Editor

Why have peer review?

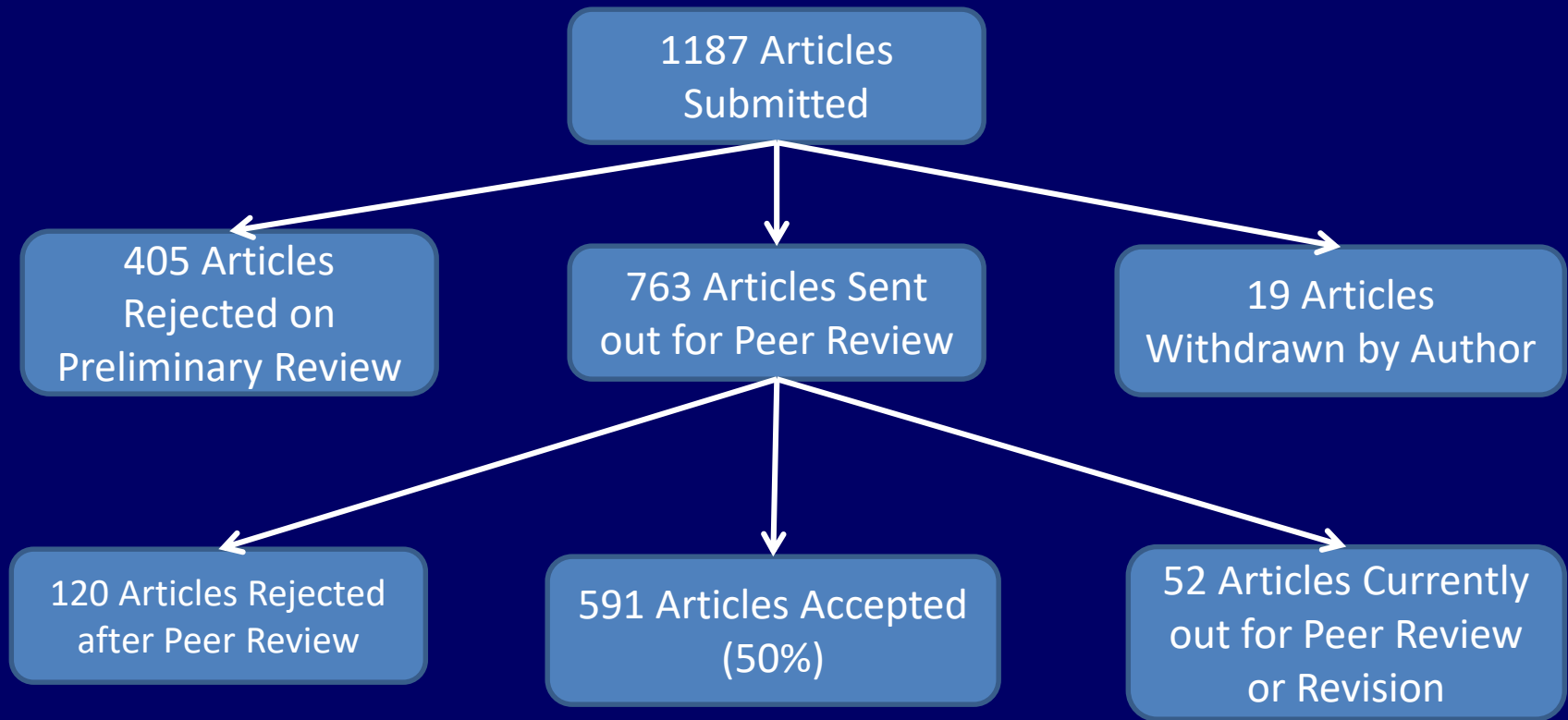
- Advise the editorial decision making process
- Justify rejections
- Improve the quality of acceptable manuscripts
- Identify instances of ethical or scientific misconduct

Possible Reviewer Recommendations

- Accept as-is (usually only used for revisions)
- Minor revision (usually does not need to be peer reviewed again)
- Major revision (revised paper may still not be acceptable and may need to be revised again)
- Reject



ADDICTION SCIENCE & CLINICAL PRACTICE



Data from 2011 to present (April 2025)

Editorial Decision Making

- Reviewers make recommendations, but editors make final decisions
- Editors may disagree with recommendations of the reviewers

The Peer Review Process – Revise and Resubmit

Your paper was accepted for peer review, you have the reviewers' and editor's critiques in hand.

- If their critiques are so severe that you feel you cannot respond to them, then inform the editor.
- If you decide to answer their critiques you may rewrite your paper to respond to their criticisms, and/or debate and refute their criticisms.
- Communicate in writing your response to each specific criticism (e.g. reviewer's critique, *your response*, **edited manuscript**).

Example: Response to Reviewer Comments

Reviewer: The authors used multiple logistical regression models, Chi Square and T-tests to run their analyses. It would also be interesting to see if there were any differences among gender in the outcomes.

Response: *We appreciate the reviewer's suggestion to assess whether differential effects exist by gender. To minimize multiple testing our approach was to first test for gender by pain interactions for each of the two primary outcomes and subsequently stratify analyses by gender only if the interactions were significant at an alpha level of 0.10. The resulting interaction p-values were >0.10 in all cases; therefore, we did not perform additional analyses stratified by gender.*

Manuscript [changes in response to reviewer in **bold**]:

The main analyses were adjusted for age, marital status, gender, education, heavy drinking, cannabis use, and depression. Models of sex outcomes were additionally adjusted for opioid use. Two-tailed tests and a significance level of 0.05 were used for all hypothesis testing. **Post hoc exploratory analyses assessed gender interaction; they were not significant at alpha of 0.10 and are not reported here.**

The Peer Review Process – Rejection

- If your paper was rejected, consider all of the critiques and maybe incorporate feedback.
- Rejection is part of the process...
- Try, try again!

Reading Proofs

Once accepted, you may have little to do with your paper until you receive the proofs.

- Sometimes your careful prose is rewritten and this can translate into feeling unappreciated.
- Ask yourself, “has my meaning been respected or has it been changed?” If the meaning is unchanged, trust the editor’s judgment and let it be.

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Why Authorship is Important

- Certification of public responsibility for truth of a publication
- Equitable assignment of credit
- Productivity, promotion and prestige

Authorship – Abridged ICMJE* Consensus Statement

- Only those in a position to take public responsibility for the work
- All authors should make substantive contributions to each of the following:
 - Conception and design OR acquisition of data OR interpretation
 - Drafting of article
 - Final approval of published version

*International Committee of Medical Journal Editors

Original slide by Tom Babor

Prevention of Authorship Problems

- Early agreement on the precise roles of the contributors and on matters of authorship and publication.
- The lead author should periodically review the status of authorship credits within a designated working group by having open discussions of substantive contributions with all prospective collaborators.
- Authorship guidelines should be distributed to and discussed with all potential collaborators.

Ethical Issues: Authors' Seven Deadly Sins

Sin	Example
Carelessness	Citation bias, understatement, negligence
Redundant publication	Same tables or literature review reported without noting prior source
Unfair authorship	Failure to include eligible authors, Honorary authors
Undeclared conflict of interest	Failure to cite funding source
Human subjects violations	No approval from Review Board or Ethics Committee
Plagiarism	Reproducing others' work or ideas
Other fraud	Fabrication or falsification of data, misappropriation of others' ideas or plans given in confidence

Plagiarism

- Plagiarism ranges from the unreferenced use of others' published and unpublished ideas to submission under “new” authorship of a complete paper, sometimes in a different language
 - May occur at any stage of planning, research, writing, or publication
 - Applies to print and electronic versions
- All sources should be disclosed through appropriate citation or quotation conventions
- If a large amount of other people's written or illustrative material is to be used, permission must be sought (COPE 2001)

Self-Plagiarism

- Author is not allowed to re-use previously published material when rights have been assigned to the publisher
- Many journals are not interested in reproducing published material because it consumes valuable space

How to avoid self-plagiarism

- Short quotes from a previously published article should be used in quotation marks and original version cited
- Permission must be requested when large sections are reproduced
- Methods and literature reviews should be paraphrased

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Any questions?

Resources:

- International Society of Addiction Journal Editors: www.isaje.net (see Authors' Resources)
- JAMA *Users' Guide to the Medical Literature* (individual articles online & collected in a textbook)