

Submitting Healthcare Simulation Manuscripts for Publication: Why? What? Where? How?

Melody Bethards, MSN, RN, EdD(c), CNE, CHSE
Simulation Coordinator/Nursing Professor
Des Moines Area Community College

Objectives:

- ▶ Explore where and how to submit manuscripts for publication.
- ▶ Identify information to include when submitting a manuscript for publication.
- ▶ Develop a plan to submit a manuscript to a peer-reviewed journal.

Why?

- Motivation/Reason for Publication
 - Personal
 - Professional
 - Prerequisite

What?

- ▶ Topic of manuscript
 - Important
 - Relevant
 - Timely
 - Needed
 - Distinguishing/Unique

What?

- ▶ Types of manuscripts
 - Action research
 - Formal research
 - Innovative approaches
 - Educational/practice strategies
 - Literature review
 - Case study
 - Theory
 - Theoretical framework development

What?

- ▶ Types of manuscripts (continued)
 - Debates
 - Information sharing/short communications
 - Letters to the editor/commentaries
 - Technical/equipment reviews
 - Web Site Reviews
 - Book reviews
 - Classic papers revisited
 - Policy information

Where?

- ▶ Selecting a Journal for Submission
 - Identify 3 – 4 journals for consideration
 - Audience
 - Scope
 - Impact factor
 - Fit the journal to the manuscript topic/type
 - Author guidelines/requirements
 - Similar published manuscripts
 - Resources
 - Query letters
 - Journal/Author Name Estimator (JANE)

Where?

- ▶ Types of Journals
 - Print
 - On-line
 - Web-based
 - Scholarly
 - Peer-reviewed
 - Popular
 - Open access

Where?

- ▶ Avoiding Predatory/pseudo-journals
 - Reputable publishers
 - Professional Organization journals
- Resources
 - <http://beallslist.weebly.com/>
 - <http://thinkchecksubmit.org/>

Where?

- ▶ Ethical Considerations
 - Plagiarism
 - Simultaneous/concurrent submission
 - Redundant manuscripts
 - Copyrighted material
 - Conflict of interest
 - Human subjects protection
 - Authorship

How?

- ▶ Preparing the manuscript
 - Identify barriers
 - Personal
 - Professional
 - Time
 - Content

How?

- ▶ Preparing the manuscript
 - Authorship
 - If working with a group of authors verify authorship responsibility **before** writing begins
 - Print journal author guidelines
 - Write a rough draft as quickly as possible
 - Use journal author guidelines
 - Take a break from writing as needed

How?

- ▶ Preparing the manuscript
 - Structure the manuscript as directed by the author guidelines
 - Writing style
 - No identifying information
 - Enlist a peer reviewer(s)
 - Consider someone who has successfully published
 - Consider a second peer reviewer typical of the journal audience
 - Use an editor for writing style only
 - Only make changes if absolutely necessary

How?

- ▶ Submitting the Manuscript
 - Register for the submission process early
 - Before submitting
 - Compare manuscript to journal author guidelines
 - Update references
 - Follow the submission guidelines

Then??

- ▶ After submission
 - Be prepared to wait
- ▶ Decision
 - Accepted with no changes required
 - Accepted subject to minor revisions
 - Major revisions required
 - Not accepted for publication
