

Preparing a Research Paper for Publication

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Blackboard Collaborate – PATIENTS IN CONTEXT – EHR CAPTURE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH

File Edit View Tools Window Help

AUDIO & VIDEO

New Page Delete Page Fit Page

Talk Video

PARTICIPANTS

Clinical Direc... Moderator

MAIN ROOM (5)

Clinical Directors Network Moderator (You)

CDN-Help

CDN-Help Cleo

CHAT - Supervised

You joined the Main Room. (11:00 AM) -
Your chat permission is off; however, you may send chat messages to moderators. (11:00 AM) -
Your chat permission has been enabled. (11:00 AM) -

Room Moderators

Audio Setup

CDN-Help

CHAT BOX

A screenshot of the Blackboard Collaborate web application interface. The interface is divided into several panels. At the top, there's a title bar and a menu bar. Below the menu bar, there's a toolbar with icons for audio and video. The main area is a large black rectangle, likely a video feed. To the left of the main area, there's a sidebar with panels for 'AUDIO & VIDEO', 'PARTICIPANTS', and 'CHAT - Supervised'. The 'PARTICIPANTS' panel shows a list of users, including 'Clinical Directors Network' and 'CDN-Help'. The 'CHAT - Supervised' panel shows a chat log with messages. Red arrows point from text labels to specific elements: 'Audio Setup' points to the audio icon in the toolbar, 'CDN-Help' points to the 'CDN-Help' user in the participants list, and 'CHAT BOX' points to the chat log area.

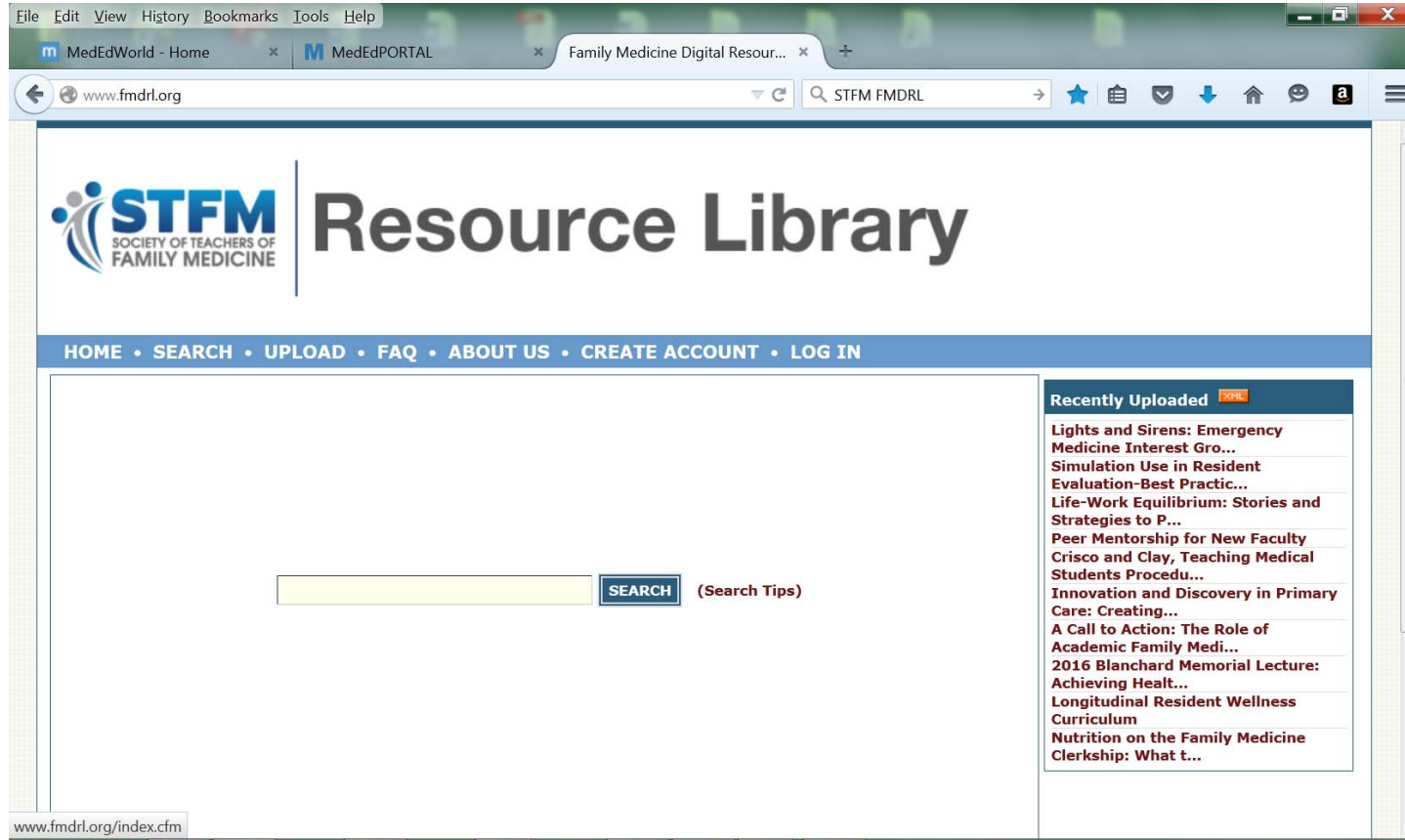
Session Objectives

- Alternative Opportunities for Publishing
- Highlight what editors expect from authors
- Introduce useful resources

Alternative Publishing

- Useful for mentoring residents/students
- Some examples:
 - STFM FMDRL
 - MedEdPORTAL
 - MERLOT
 - MedEDWorld
 - iCollaborative

STFM Family Medicine Digital Resource Library (FMDRL)



May 19, 2016

MedEdPORTAL Services

✦ ***Publications: peer reviewed***

- ✦ health education and assessment tools

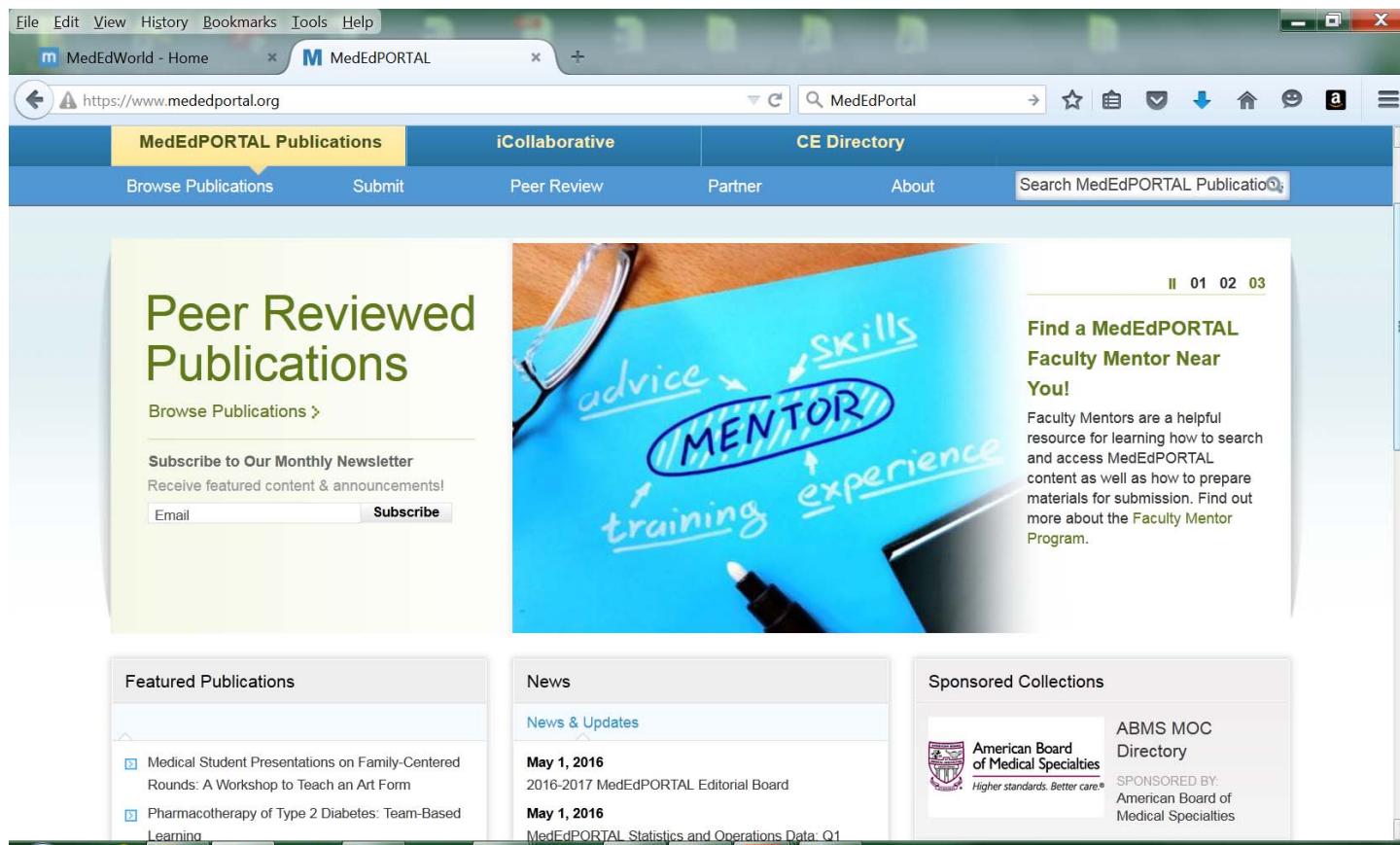
✦ ***iCollaborative: non peer reviewed***

- ✦ promotes exchange of Innovative approaches, practices, and strategies for transforming healthcare

✦ ***CE Directory: peer reviewed***

- ✦ directory of evidence-based online CE credited activities

MedEdPORTAL



May 19, 2016

Multimedia Educational Resource for Learning and Online Teaching (MERLOT)



May 19, 2016

MedEdWorld

The screenshot shows the MedEdWorld website homepage. The browser's address bar displays www.mededworld.org/Home.aspx. The page features a blue-themed layout with a left-hand navigation menu containing links such as Home, News, AMEE News, Reflections, Conferences, Courses, Learning Technology, Forums, Glossary, Job opportunities, MedEdPublish, MedEdWorld Select, Publications, Resources, SIGs, Webinars, Join, FAQs, About MedEdWorld, and Contact or Report abuse. The main content area has a large banner with the text "Welcome to MedEdWorld. A global medical education community. Learn. Connect. Debate." and a globe graphic. Below the banner are tabs for Webinars, Courses, Publications, Conferences, and Harden's Blog. The Webinars tab is active, showing a featured article titled "Discussion Storylines: A helpful framework for writing the most difficult section of your research paper" by a woman with red hair. The article text states: "The Discussion is arguably the most important section of the paper, and also the most difficult section to write. To be effective, your Discussion must avoid the common pitfalls of mere summary, meand..." with a "View all" link. At the bottom, there are sections for "Latest News" (Simulation presentations at the Ottawa conference), "AMEE News" (AMEE 2016 Abstracts - UPDATE), and a "Poll" (In PBL, should the small group facilitator also be an...). The right-hand sidebar includes a "Member Login" section with fields for User name and Password, a "Register here" button, and an advertisement for "myprogress" software.

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Peer-Reviewed Journals

✦ Journal Bootcamp Basics

- Outlining your paper
- Editor expectations
- Resources
- Authorship
- Key elements of research reports
- Submitting
- Responding to peer review

Basics: Before Writing Paper

- Outline 2-3 papers per project
- Identify author teams
- Select a journal
 - Use references from your lit review
 - Peruse a few issues
 - Is it a good fit? Has the Jr. recently published something similar?

Editors' Expectations for Authors

- ✦ Do your homework.
 - Read instructions to authors
 - Be familiar with ICMJE Authorship guidance
- ✦ Submit your best work!
- ✦ Publishing ethics:
 - IRB approval
 - Patient consent
 - Permissions for figures

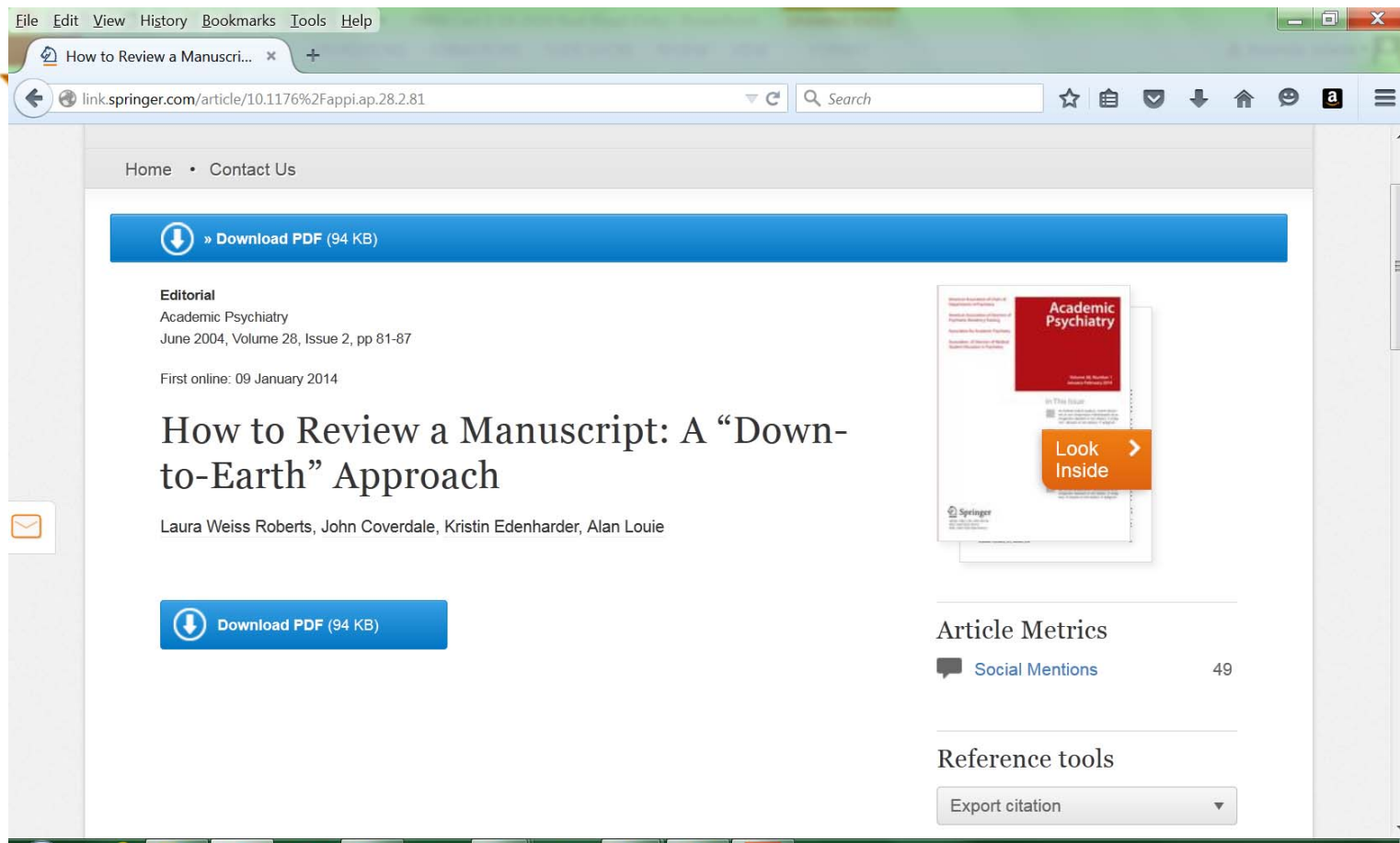
Resources

- ✦ Bordage paper: Preparing a paper for publication
 - ✦ Outline of key elements
- ✦ Roberts paper:
 - ✦ Checklist for authors and reviewers
- ✦ ICMJE: the editors' handbook

Bordage paper

- ✦ Great checklist of elements to consider addressing in your study/paper
- ✦ Brief narratives on each of the major sections in a scientific paper
 - ✦ IMRAD

Resources: *Roberts* checklist



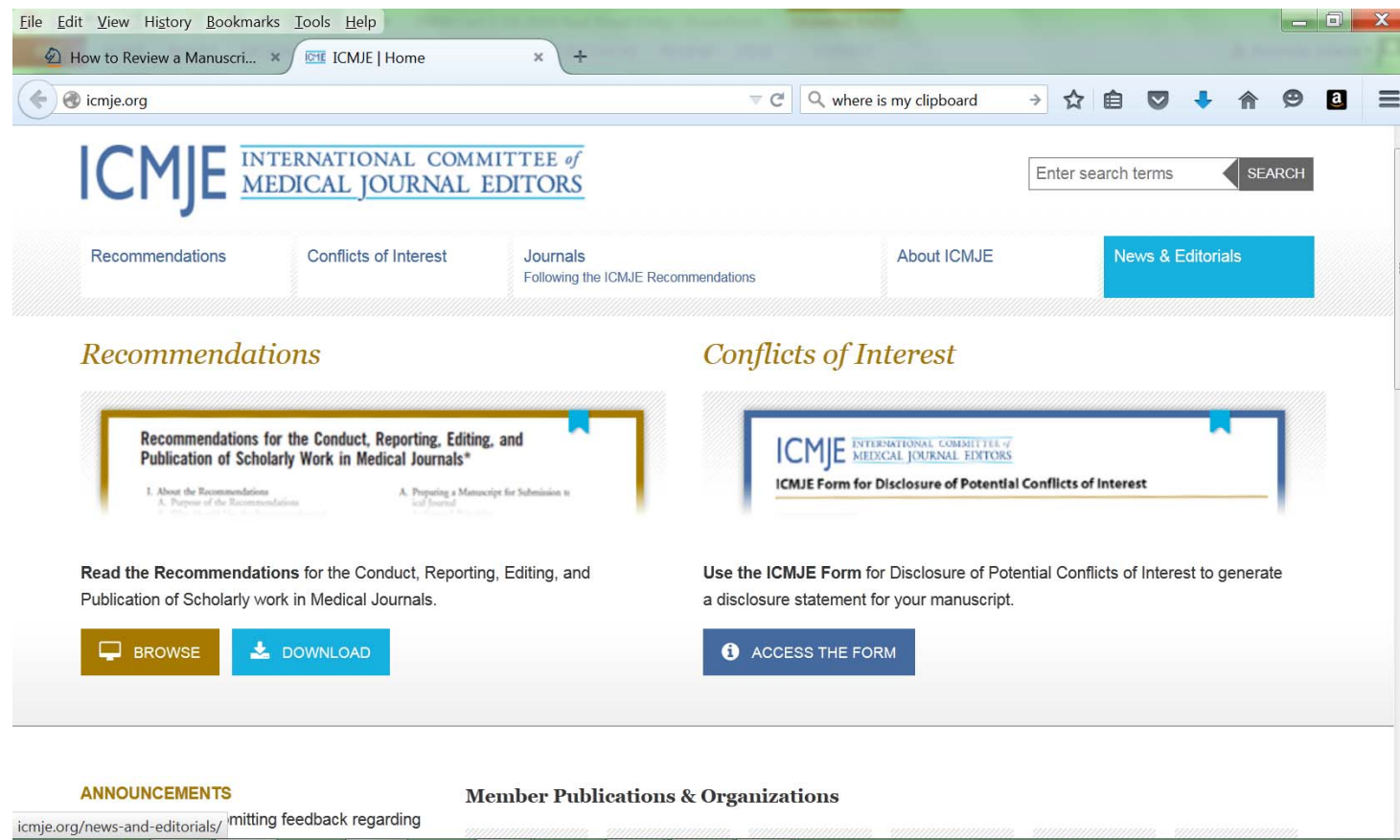
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Resources: “*ICMJE Recommendations*”

- “*Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals*”
Authored by the ‘International Committee of Medical Journal Editors’ (ICMJE)
- Followed by hundreds of journals
- URL: www.icmje.org

ICMJE website



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“ICMJE Recommendations (2)”

- Tells what editors expect from authors
- Instructions for submitting manuscript for publication
 - Manuscript components (**IMRAD** format)
 - AMA reference format
- Provides editorial policy statements
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Corrections & Retractions
 - Confidentiality
 - Redundant Publication
 - Authorship

Authorship Criteria

- 3 Authorship criteria (per the ICMJE)
 - Substantial contributions to conception & design, or acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data *AND*
 - Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content *AND*
 - Final approval of the version to be published.

The Sticky Issue of Authorship

- ✦ Negotiate with Co-Authors:
 - Division of labor
 - Deadlines & expected time commitments
 - Order of authorship
- ✦ Discuss at study inception and periodically
 - Authors and order of authors may change

MS Key Elements

- ✦ Title page
 - ✦ All authors; Corresponding author;
 - ✦ Funding; Conflict of Interest declarations
- ✦ Abstract
- ✦ IMRAD
- ✦ Acknowledgements
- ✦ References
- ✦ Figures and Tables

IMRAD Format

- ✦ Organize your thoughts with IMRAD outline
- ✦ Keep a balance in length of each section
 - ✦ **I**ntroduction (2-3 pages)
 - ✦ **M**ethods (3-4)
 - ✦ **R**esults (3-4)
 - ✦ **A**nd **D**iscussion (2-4)
 - ✦ **F**igures/**T**ables (< 6)
- ✦ 10-15 double-spaced pages for most papers
 - ✦ Qualitative papers may be a bit longer

Introduction

- Background/Literature Review
- How will your study contribute?
- Keep it short and direct

Hypotheses

- ✦ State an explicit hypothesis or research question
- ✦ This provides a focus for the paper
 - ✦ Methods, Results and Discussion should all relate to the research question
 - ✦ Tells reader what the paper is about

Methods

- ✦ Often write this section first
- ✦ Write in logical or chronological order
- ✦ Provide enough detail for replication
- ✦ Describe in detail:
 - ✦ Sample
 - ✦ Materials
 - ✦ Research Design
 - ✦ Variables
 - ✦ Procedures/Interventions
 - ✦ Data collection
 - ✦ Data analysis plan

Results

- Focus paper by developing tables
- Describe the most important findings
- Organize data in logical manner

Tables & Figures

- Tables are the heart of the paper
- Title/legend
 - Comprehensive description of sample and time/context of data collection
- Clearly label columns & rows/coordinates

Discussion

- Summarize/interpret key findings
- Integrate findings with literature
- Describe study limitations
- What is the take-home message?

References

- Include complete citation information
- Use style specified by journal, or use the AMA style “punctuation lite”
- Be meticulous about accuracy and uniform format
- Don't cite articles you haven't read

Penultimate Draft

- ✦ Take 2 tests: “So What?” and “Who Cares?”
- ✦ When you are ready to submit your paper, do a final review and shorten

Proof Read!

- ✦ Proof read again and again.
- ✦ Have a good “editor” review grammar and writing style.

Submitting for Publication

- ✦ Appearance Counts!
- ✦ Make it look professional to increase editor's confidence in your ability to produce a quality final draft

Peer Reviewed Journals

- ✦ Submit most of its published articles for external review and critique by experts (peers) not part of the editorial staff.
- ✦ Avoid non-peer reviewed journals
- ✦ Avoid predatory journals
 - ✦ Kolata NYT 04/07/2013

Common Reasons for Rejection

- ✦ Low interest, originality or importance
- ✦ Validity concerns
- ✦ Not likely to be cited
- ✦ Not well written or focused
- ✦ Author failed to inspire confidence that a resubmission will be suitably revised

Responding to Peer Review

- Don't get upset
- Make a list of each comment, and ask co-authors to assist in addressing each one
- When resubmitting, write a cover letter/rebuttal explaining how each comment was handled

Author Rebuttal Example

Reviewer	Comment	Response
R1.2	Authors indicate a bias against DFM proposals. Other contributing factors were not considered.	Excellent point. We added sentences in the Limitations section to address this.
R2.5	The figure could be improved if the proportions were visualized across years.	See response to R2.4
R3.1	Paper needs editing for clarity & to eliminate errors	We performed a closer copy edit and apologize for the errors.
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Good Luck!

- Rejection is common
- Improvement is possible!
- Stick with Peer-Reviewed publication opportunities!

References

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- Family Medicine Digital Resource Library - FMDRL: url: <http://www.fmdrl.org/>
- AAMC – MedEdPORTAL: <https://www.mededportal.org/>