

Book Review



how to

WRITE A PAPER

FIFTH EDITION

Edited by George M. Hall

 WILEY-BLACKWELL

BMJ|Books

Title:

How to Write a Paper?

FIFTH EDITION

Edited by **George M. Hall**,
Professor of Anaesthesia,
Department of Anaesthesia &
Intensive Care Medicine, St
George's, University of London,
London, UK 2013

جورج ام. هال

how to

WRITE A PAPER

FIFTH EDITION

Edited by **George M. Hall**

***How to Write a Paper* is the bestselling guide on how to get published in biomedical journals.**

This fully revised fifth edition provides clear instructions on all aspects of writing each section of a scientific paper. It covers how to best prepare your paper and what to expect at each stage of the publication process. It also provides current guidance on open access, online submission and publication, and the ethics of publication.

Contents include:

- Structure of a scientific paper
- Methods, results and discussion
- How to write a letter
- Open access
- How to prepare an abstract for a scientific meeting
- How to write a case report
- How to write a review
- The role of the editor, manuscript assessor and publisher
- Writing style
- Ethics of publication

Written by an international team of leading medical journal editors and publishing experts, *How to Write a Paper, Fifth Edition* is an easy to use guide for anyone wanting to successfully publish in journals.

Titles of Related Interest

How to Present at Meetings

Third Edition

George M. Hall and Neville Robinson
9780470654583

How to Read a Paper: The Basics of Evidence-Based Medicine

Fourth Edition

Trisha Greenhalgh
9781444334364

How to Display Data


Jenny V. Freeman, Stephen J. Walters
and Michael J. Campbell
9781405139748

How to Write a Grant Application

Allan Hackshaw
9781405197557

 **WILEY-BLACKWELL**

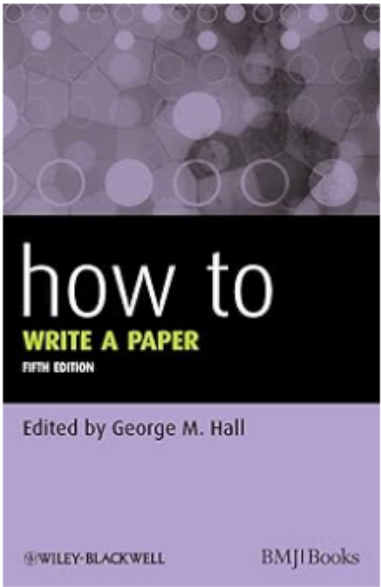
www.wiley.com/go/howtoseries

 Also available
as an e-book

ISBN 978-0-470-67220-4



9 780470 672204



How To Write a Paper 5th Edition

by George M. Hall (Editor)

4.5 ★★★★★ 21 ratings

Part of: How To (30 books)

[See all formats and editions](#)

This concise paperback is one of the best known guides to writing a paper for publication in biomedical journals. Its straightforward format – a chapter covering each of part of the structured abstract – makes it relevant and easy to use for any novice paper writer.

How to Write a Paper addresses the mechanics of submission, including electronic submission, and how publishers handle papers, writing letters to journals abstracts for scientific meetings, and assessing papers. This new edition also covers how to write a book review and updated chapters on ethics, electronic publication and submission, and the movement for open access.

[Report an issue with this product or seller](#)

Roll over image to zoom in



[Read sample](#)

ISBN-10	ISBN-13	Edition
047067220X	978-0470672204	5th

Kindle \$39.00 Available instantly

Paperback \$8.98

Other Used and New from \$8.98

Currently unavailable.

We don't know when or if this item will be back in stock.

Deliver to Iran, Islamic Republic of

[Add to List](#)

amazon book clubs early access

[See Clubs](#)

Not in a club? [Learn more](#)



How to Write a Paper

Editor(s): George M. Hall

First published: 22 October 2012

Print ISBN: 9780470672204 | Online ISBN: 9781118488713

| DOI: 10.1002/9781118488713

Copyright © 2013 John Wiley & Sons, Ltd

About this book


This concise paperback is one of the best known guides to writing a paper for publication in biomedical journals. Its straightforward format – a chapter covering each of part of the structured abstract – makes it relevant and easy to use for any novice paper writer.


How to Write a Paper addresses the mechanics of submission, including electronic submission, and how publishers handle papers, writing letters to journals abstracts for scientific meetings, and assessing papers. This new edition also covers how to write a book review and updated chapters on ethics, electronic publication and submission, and the movement for open access.


Show less ^

Table of Contents

» Export Citation(s)

 Buy this Book

 Contact your account manager

 For authors



About this book

WILEY

- ▣ This **concise** paperback is one of the best known guides to writing a paper for publication in **biomedical** journals. Its straightforward format – a chapter covering each of part of the structured abstract – makes it relevant and easy to use for any **novice paper writer**.
- ▣ How to Write a Paper addresses the mechanics of **submission**, including electronic submission, and how publishers handle papers, **writing letters to journals** abstracts for scientific meetings, and assessing papers. This new edition also covers how to write a **book review** and updated chapters on **ethics**, electronic publication and submission, and the movement for **open access**.

Book Review ???!!!!!!

- Typically, reviews are **brief**. In newspapers and academic journals, they rarely exceed **1000 words**, although you may encounter lengthier assignments and extended commentaries. In either case, reviews need to be **succinct**. While they vary in tone, subject, and style, they share some **common** features:
- First, a review gives the reader a **concise summary of the content**. This includes a relevant **description** of the **topic** as well as its **overall perspective, argument, or purpose**.
- Second, and more importantly, a review offers a **critical assessment of the content**. This involves your reactions to the work under review: what strikes you as noteworthy, whether or not it was **effective or persuasive**, and how it **enhanced your understanding** of the issues at hand.
- Finally, in addition to analyzing the work, a review often **suggests** whether or not **the audience would appreciate it**.

What is Academic Publishing?

- Shares new knowledge using accepted research methods, giving credible results.
- Uses peer review or an editorial referee system to qualify texts for publication.
- Follows policies to protect the integrity of researchers and research.
- Follows standards to allow the organization and retrieval of information.

Why is Publishing **Important**?

- For academic **disciplines**—it **generates** and **publicizes** new knowledge based on scholarly activities and research.
- For **individual** faculty members' careers—it is used to decide **promotion**.
- For **universities**—it enhances **profiles** and standing.

Chapter 1 Structure of a scientific paper, 1

George M. Hall

Chapter 2 Introduction, 6

Richard Smith

Chapter 3 Methods, 16

Gordon B. Drummond

Chapter 4 Results, 22

Charles W. Hogue

Chapter 5 Discussion, 29

George M. Hall

Chapter 6 Titles, abstracts and authors, 33

Kevin W. Eva

Chapter 7 Who should be an author?, 42

Richard Horton

Chapter 8 References, 47

Simon Howell and Liz Neilly

Chapter 9 Electronic submissions, 57

Michael Willis

Chapter 10 Open access, 64

Mark Ware

Chapter 11 How to write a letter, 71

Michael Doherty

Chapter 12 How to prepare an abstract for a scientific meeting, 78

Robert N. Allan

Chapter 13 How to write a case report, 83

Martin Neil Rossor

Chapter 14 How to write a review, 89

Paul Glasziou

Chapter 15 How to write a book review, 98

Mark W. Davies and Luke A. Jardine

Chapter 16 The role of the manuscript assessor, 102

Domhnall MacAuley

Chapter 17 The role of the editor, 115

Jennifer M. Hunter

Chapter 18 What a publisher does, 124

Gavin Sharrock and Elizabeth Whelan

Chapter 19 Style: what it is and why it matters, 133

Sharon Leng

Chapter 20 Ethics of publication, 141

Chris Graf and Elissa Wilson

Chapter 1

Structure of a scientific paper, 1

George M. Hall

THE **OBJECT** OF PUBLISHING A SCIENTIFIC PAPER

provide a **document** that contains sufficient information to enable readers to:

-
- **assess** the observations you made;
 - **repeat** the experiment if they wish;
 - **determine** whether the **conclusions** drawn are justified by the **data**.

The basic **structure** of a paper is summarized by the acronym **IMRAD**, which stands for:

- **I**ntroduction (What question was asked?)
- **M**ethods (How was it studied?)
- **R**esults (What was found?)
- **A**nd
- **D**iscussion (What do the findings mean?)

Introduction

- should be **brief**
- must state clearly the **question** that you tried to answer in the study.
- To lead the reader to this **point**, it is **necessary** to review the relevant literature briefly.

Introduction

- Many **junior** authors find it difficult to write the introduction.
- The most common problem is the inability to state clearly what **question** was asked.
- This should not be a problem if the **study** was **planned** correctly.
- it is too late to rectify **basic errors** when attempting to write the paper.
- the **original objectives** can easily be forgotten. It is useful to ask **collaborators** from time to time what question we hope to answer. If I do not receive a **short clear** sentence as an answer, then **alarm** bells ring.

Introduction

- **Must not** include a **review of the literature**.
- Only cite those references that are **essential** to justify your proposed study. **Three** citations from different groups from different countries, usually are enough to convince most assessors.
- You must never ignore pertinent literature **published** while the **study is in progress**.

Methods

- methods section is the most common cause of **absolute rejection** of a paper

□ The main purposes:

- to **describe**, and sometimes
- **defend**, the experimental **design** and
- to provide enough **detail** that a competent worker could **repeat** the study.

Methods

- give the precision of the **measurements** undertaken;
- **sensibly use statistical analysis.**
- Statisticians are helpful, and they have contributed greatly to improving both the **design** and **analysis** of clinical investigations.
- They cannot be expected, however, to resurrect a **badly** designed study.

Results

□ **has two key features:**

- an overall description of the **major findings** of the study,
- the **data** should be presented clearly and concisely.

only relevant, representative data

avoiding unnecessary **repetition** of data in the text, figures and tables

Discussion

- ❖ The initial draft is too long.
- ❖ Should not be more than **one - third** of the **total** manuscript (Introduction +Methods+ Results + Discussion)
- ❖ Summarise the **major findings**
- ❖ Discuss **possible problems** with the methods used
- ❖ **Compare** your results with previous work
- ❖ Discuss the clinical and scientific **implications** of your findings
- ❖ **Suggest** further work
- ❖ Produce a succinct **conclusion**

Common errors in Discussion

- include **repetition** of data already given in the **results**
- a belief that the methods were **beyond criticism**
- preferential citing of **previous** work to **suit** the **conclusions**
- Good assessors will seize upon such mistakes, so do not even contemplate trying to deceive them.

Many people will read the **title** of the paper and some will read the **summary**, but very few will read the **complete text**.

- **Title and summary** of the paper are of great importance for indexing and abstracting purposes

Before you start the first draft of the manuscript, carefully read the ‘ **Instructions to Authors** ’ that every journal publishes, and prepare your paper accordingly.

Some journals give detailed instructions, often annually, and these can be a valuable way of **learning some of the basic rules.**

A grave mistake is to submit a paper to one journal **in the style of another**; this suggests that it has **recently been rejected.**

Chapter 2

Introduction

Richard Smith

Ovations, UnitedHealth Group, London, UK

Before beginning, answer the basic questions

- ❑• What do I have to say?
- ❑• Is it worth saying?
- ❑• What is the right format for the message?
- ❑• What might be right for the paper edition of the publication and what for the Web edition?
- ❑• What is the audience for the message?
- ❑• What is the right journal for the message?

Tell readers why you have undertaken the study

Clarify what your work **adds**

Editors will not want to publish – and readers will not want to read – studies that simply **repeat what has been done** several times before.

The **EQUATOR** web site brings all these together and includes other useful material on scientific writing. More guidelines will follow and many journals, including the BMJ, require authors to **conform to these standards**.

- Keep it **short**
- Make sure that you are **aware** of earlier studies
- Give the study's **design** but not the conclusion
- Think about using journalistic tricks sparingly
- Don't **baffle** your readers (abbreviations)

- To write an effective introduction you must know your **audience**, keep it **short**, tell readers **why** you have done the study and explain why it 's **important**, convince them that it is **better** than what has gone before and try as hard as you can to hook them in the first line.

Chapter 3

Methods

Gordon B. Drummond

**University Department of Anaesthesia and Pain Medicine,
University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK**

What to include in the **methods** section

❑ *How the study was designed:*

- Keep the description brief
- Say how randomisation was done
- Use names to identify groups or sections of a study

❑ *How the study was carried out:*

- Describe how the participants were **recruited** and chosen
- Give reasons for **excluding** participants
- Consider mentioning **ethical** features
- Give accurate details of **materials used**
- Give exact **drug dosages**
- Give the exact **form of treatment**

❑ *How the data were analysed:*

- Use a **P-value** to disprove the null hypothesis
- Give an estimate of the **power of the study** (the likelihood of a false negative– the β error)
- Give the exact **tests used for statistical analysis** (chosen a priori)

A good **methods** section can answer these questions

- Does the text describe
 - what **question** was being asked
 - what was being **tested**
 - how **trustworthy** are the measurements?

- Were the **measurements recorded, analysed** and interpreted **correctly**?

- Would a suitably qualified reader be able to **repeat** the experiment in the same way?

Chapter 4

Results

Charles W. Hogue

**Department of Anesthesiology & Critical Care Medicine, The
Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore,
USA**

Key elements of a well-written **results** section

- **Account** for all subjects in the study and **double check** that the **number** of subjects is **consistent** in the abstract, text, tables and figures.
- Be concise and **emphasise** the **important findings.**
- **Do not repeat** information provided in the tables.
- Minimise abbreviations.
- Describe the results from each table or figure in a **separate paragraph.**
- Begin each paragraph with a **topic sentence** but do not simply repeat the table or figure legend.
- Importantly, the results should be **interpreted** in the **discussion**, not in the results section.

Hints on constructing **tables**

- • Make the tables **visually** easy to read.
- • Begin each table on a **separate page** and number in the order referenced in the text.
- • **Do not repeat** data in more than one table or figure.
- • Place only **one value** in each table **cell**.
- • Provide a concise legend that **summarises** the content of the table.
- • Provide definitions of each **abbreviation** in the table legend or **footnote** so the reader does not have to refer to the text.
- • Include a **heading for each column** and clearly denote the number of subjects in each group ('n').
- • **P-value** for comparison as an annotation with the actual value provided in a **footnote** may be appropriate when there are few comparisons.
- • Provide the **actual P-value**, **not** terms such as 'P = NS' or 'P > 0.05'.
- • Provide units of measurement, preferably within parentheses after the variable in the row heading.

Advice for preparing figures and illustrations

- ❑ • Use scientific **graphics** programmes, not simple graphics generated from a spreadsheet.
- ❑ • If using colours, keep the **background white**, and avoid yellow and other colours that are difficult to see.
- ❑ • Axes of line drawings should be black and not less than 0.25 pt.
- ❑ • If **scanning** a hard copy of a figure, submit as **TIFF or JPEG** (not PowerPoint) with
- ❑ at least 600 dpi and 15 -cm/6-inch **margin**.
- ❑ • Label all axes clearly.
- ❑ • Figures should be **numbered** in the order that they appear in the text.
- ❑ • Provide a legend for each figure that describes the data and all annotations.
- ❑ • Figures should stand **alone**; the reader should not need to refer to text for definitions.
- ❑ • Permission to reproduce a figure is necessary, and the source should be stated clearly in the figure legend.
- ❑ • Consider including supplemental tables, graphs, appendices and video or audio material to augment the results and understanding of a study.
- ❑ • **Video** formats are usually **MPEG -4, QuickTime or Windows Media Video**.
- ❑ • Limit video clips to **15 –25s** with resolution of 480 × 360 and 640 × 480 pixels.
- ❑ • Preferred audio formats include **WAV or MP3**.
- ❑ • Refer to journal preference for submitting video or audio material (i.e. CD or DVD).

Chapter 5

Discussion

George M. Hall

**Department of Anaesthesia & Intensive Care Medicine, St George 's,
University of London, London, UK**

Discussion: overall format

- ❑• Statement of **principal finding(s)**
- ❑• **Appraisal of methods**
- ❑• **Comparison** with previous work
- ❑• Clinical and scientific **implications** (if any)
- ❑• Further work
- ❑• Conclusion (optional)
- ❑• Acknowledgements

Chapter 6

Titles, abstracts and authors

Kevin W. Eva

**Department of Medicine, University of British Columbia, Vancouver,
Canada**

Title and abstract

Do:

- Follow the **journal's format**/length requirements.
- Write in **plain** English.
- Use **terms** that be used by colleagues when **searching** for papers.
- Concentrate on distilling the **essence** of your paper.
- Indicate how your data **fill a void in the literature**.
- Think carefully about who you hope will read your paper(**audience**)

Do NOT:

- Promise things your data cannot provide.
- Use **jargon** extensively.
- Be **too cute** with your title.

Chapter 7

Who should be an author?

Richard Horton

The Lancet, London, UK

How to be a Vancouver Group positive author

- All persons designated as authors should qualify for authorship. Each author should have **participated sufficiently in the work** to take public responsibility for the content.
- **Authorship** credit should be based only on substantial contributions to (1) **conception and design or analysis** and interpretation of data; (2) **drafting the article** or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and (3) **final approval** of the version to be published. Conditions 1 –3 must all be met.
- Participation **solely** in the acquisition of **funding** or the **collection of data** does not justify authorship. General **supervision** of the research group is not sufficient for authorship. Any part of an article critical to its main conclusions must be the responsibility of at least one author.
- **Editors may ask authors** to describe what each **contributed**; this information may be published.
- All members of the group who are named as authors, should fully meet the above **criteria for authorship**. Group members who do not meet these criteria should be listed, **with their permission**, in the **acknowledgements** or in an **appendix**.
- The order of authorship should be a **joint decision** of the co -authors.
- many journals limit the number of authors listed in the table of contents and that the US National Library of Medicine **NLM** lists in Medline only the **first 24 plus the last** author when there are more than **25** authors.

Box 7.2 An example of contributorship

Byline: A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H

Contributors: A carried out the trial, helped in data analysis and wrote the paper. B was involved in the design, implementation and data analysis, and contributed to the writing of the paper. C was involved in the execution of the trial, data management and analysis, and quality assurance of the turnip assay. D was involved in the trial execution and data entry, management analysis and quality assurance. E was involved in the trial execution and data management with emphasis on analysis. F and G were involved in the design and contributed to the writing of the paper. H was involved in the design, implementation, analysis and biochemical interpretation, and contributed to the writing of the paper.

Guarantors: A and H

Box 7.3 Acknowledgements according to Vancouver

At an appropriate place in the article (the title page footnote or an appendix to the text; see the journal's requirements), one or more statements should specify (1) contributions that need acknowledging but do not justify authorship, such as general support by a departmental chair; (2) acknowledgements of technical help; (3) acknowledgements of financial and material support, which should specify the nature of the support; and (4) relationships that may pose a conflict of interest.

Persons who have contributed intellectually to the paper but whose contributions do not justify authorship may be named and their function or contribution described – for example, 'scientific adviser', 'critical review of study proposal', 'data collection' or 'participation in clinical trial'. Such persons must have given their permission to be named. Authors are responsible for obtaining written permission from persons acknowledged by name, because readers may infer their endorsement of the data and conclusions.

Technical help should be acknowledged in a paragraph separate from that acknowledging other contributions.

- Chapter 8 References
- Simon Howell¹ and Liz Neilly²
- ¹ Senior Lecturer in Anaesthesia, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK
- ² Medical Librarian, University of Leeds, Leeds, UK

Box 8.1 Common databases

Allied and Complementary Medicine Database (AMED); Applied Social Sciences Index and Abstracts (ASSIA); British Nursing Index (BNI); Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL); ProQuest Dissertations and Theses; Health Management Information Consortium (HMIC); Popline (population database); PsycINFO (psychology database); Sociological Abstracts; Toxline (toxicology database)

- A search using **MeSH terms** is likely to be more successful and comprehensive than a general keyword query alone, but for those aiming to carry out the most effective searching, a combination of the **two techniques** is strongly advised. PubMed provides a browser of MeSH terms, so you can identify and use the relevant terms. In **OvidSP**, the '**mapping**' **function** helps the user locate the most appropriate heading(s).
- **EMBASE** uses a similar set of subject **headings**, which may again be accessed using the mapping facility provided by OvidSP.

Ethics

- **Ethics in publication** and research have a higher profile now than in the past, assisted by organisations such as **COPE** and the **ICMJE**.
- **Publishers and editors** are increasingly aware of the need to maintain integrity in these areas, helped by **online tools** that are only possible in the era of electronic databases. **CrossCheck**, for example, enables editors to **check** for **duplication of text across a wide range of published materials**, allowing them to spot instances of possible **plagiarism**.

What is open access?

- Put simply, open access is the idea of providing **unrestricted online access** to scholarly literature, so that anyone can make use of it without having to pay for a subscription, site licence or per - **article fee**.
- To expand a little, to qualify as fully open access, the material needs to be freely available online:
 - **without payment** or access barriers such as **registration**,
 - **immediately on publication**,
 - in **perpetuity**,

- How do I make my articles open access?
- There are two main ways of making an article open access: open access
- publication (sometimes known as the ‘ Gold ’ route) and deposit by the author
- in an open online repository (the ‘ Green ’ route, also called self- archiving).

- Article charges typically range from \$1,000 to \$3,000, though some charge less and a few charge up to \$5,000.
- Journals with publication charges usually have arrangements to reduce or waive these charges for authors unable to afford them (e.g. those from less developed countries).

Hybrid and partially open access journals

- The main variants are as follows:
- **Optional open access**. Subscription journals that will allow authors (in return for a publication charge, similar in size to that charged by fully open access journals) to make their individual articles open access.
 - the most numerous type of open access journal
- **Delayed open access**. Subscription journals that make their content open access after a set period (anything from **2 to 24 months**).
- **Hybrid journals**. These offer **open access** to some kinds of content, typically **research articles**, while still requiring a **subscription** to access the other types of content (e.g. **review articles** or **journalistic content**).

Self-archiving ('Green' open access)

- The other route to open access is for authors to deposit a copy of their journal articles in an open repository.
- Many journals also attach some conditions to self-archiving. Many will require an embargo period between publication and the earliest the article can be made open access. Others will require a URL linking to the official version on the publisher ' s web site.
- Publishers ' policies with regard to self - archiving can be conveniently checked at the ROMEIO web site.
- ROMEIO – this web site maintains a database of publisher policies regarding self - archiving (<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/projects/sherparomeio.html>)

The purpose of a letter

□ Usual

- • **Comment** (positive or negative) in response to a previous publication
- • Concise communication of **clinical or investigative data**
- • Communication of **case report(s)**

□ Less common

- • General medical or **political comment** ('guild issues')
- • Comment concerning the **nature or format of the journal**
- • Advertisement of interest to collaborate or to **gain access** to patients or study material

Sir,

I feel I must put pen to paper with respect to the recent communication by Dr Peter Jones and colleagues in your August issue,¹ to draw the attention of your readers to possible misinterpretation of the data that they present. Although these excellent workers have an internationally renowned track record in the field of complement activation (not only in rheumatoid arthritis but in other inflammatory diseases as well), in this present study, they seem to have omitted to properly control for the varying degrees of inflammation in the knee joints of the patients that they aspirated – not only those with rheumatoid arthritis but also those with osteoarthritis. Such inflammation of the knee joint could have been assessed readily either by local examination and scoring of features such as temperature increase, effusion, synovial thickening, anterior joint line tenderness, duration of early morning stiffness, and the duration of inactivity stiffness, with addition of the different scores to a single numerical value (that is, the system devised and tested by Robin Cooke and colleagues in Alberta²) and/or by simultaneous measurement and comparison to levels of other markers of inflammation, for example, the synovial fluid total white cell and differential (particularly polymorphonuclear cell) count or local synovial fluid levels of various arachidonic acid products such as prostaglandins or leukotrienes . . .

(Dr C Dickens)

Guidelines for a **letter** in response to an article

- ❖• Be **courteous** and interested – not rude or dismissive
- ❖• Make **specific** rather than general comments
- ❖• Give **reasoned** argument, **not biased** opinion
- ❖• Do not **repeat** aspects already covered in the original article
- ❖• Introduce a **different** perspective or **additional** data to the topic
- ❖• Attempt to make only **one or a very few specific** points
- ❖• Be **concise**

Structure for reporting a systematic review

Section	Contents
Introduction	Sets out the problem and the specific questions addressed in the review
Methods	Describes the search and appraisal processes Often describes the number of studies checked and found eligible
Results	Describes the quality and results of eligible studies
Discussion	Summarises findings and their limitations and the implications for <u>practice</u> and <u>research</u>

Steps in a systematic review

Step	Processes
Formulate researchable questions	Set out the answerable ' PICO ' question(s)
Find relevant primary studies	Databases and search terms
Appraise quality and extract data	Quality criteria used to select studies and data extraction template
Synthesise	Methods of interpreting and/or combining results
Interpretation	Set in context of the clinical or research problem, and previous reviews

Table 14.3 Designation of levels of evidence according to type of research question

Level	Intervention	Diagnosis	Prognosis	Aetiology
I	Systematic review of level II studies	Systematic review of level II studies	Systematic review of level II studies	Systematic review of level II studies
II	Randomised controlled trial	Cross-sectional study among consecutive presenting patients	Inception cohort study	Prospective cohort study
III	One of the following: non-randomised experimental study (e.g. controlled pre- and post-test intervention study), comparative (observational) study with a concurrent control group (e.g. cohort study, case-control study)	One of the following: cross-sectional study among non-consecutive patients, diagnostic case-control study	One of the untreated control patients in a randomised controlled trial, retrospectively assembled cohort study	One of the following: retrospective cohort study case-control study (<i>Note:</i> These are the most common study types for aetiology, but see level III for intervention studies for other options.)
IV	Case series	Case series	Case series, or a cohort study of patients at different stages of disease	A cross-sectional study

Table 15.1 The elements of a book review

- Description of the book
 - is it a handbook/workbook/textbook/reference book?
 - hardback/paperback – can be read in bed?
 - Stated intended audience and whether this matches with reviewers' impressions – who do you think the book would suit?
 - At what level is it pitched – student/beginner to postgraduate to expert
 - Price – and suitability for targeted audience, is it value for money?
 - No. of pages, sections, chapters
 - Scheme/layout of sections/chapters – logical, systematic (avoid just listing contents)
 - Readability – does it flow in a logical manner?
 - What it covers and what it doesn't – strengths and weaknesses. Brief examples. Anything missing?
 - Navigation – contents and index
 - Pictures any good? Brief examples.
 - Usability – size (pocket size?), able to be carried around, too big, too heavy, too fragile
 - Is it current?
 - References appropriate?
 - Is it unique or one of a crowd? Does it compare favourably to others of its ilk?
 - Font and font size OK?
 - Paper
 - Any changes since last edition
 - How is controversial material handled?
 - Overuse of non-standard abbreviations or jargon?
-

Referee, reviewer or **assessor**

- It helps to remember, however, that the final decision is with the **editor**, and it is his or her responsibility.
- Your role, as reviewer, is to give an **honest assessment** of the value of a piece of work in the context of your knowledge, experience and your **brief review** of the relevant literature.

• استفاده از عبارت **داور** می تواند **گمراه کننده** باشد زیرا به این معنی است که شما داور نهایی هستید، که اینطور نیست زیرا این سردبیر است که باید تصمیم نهایی را بگیرد.

• نقش شما، به عنوان داور، **ارزیابی صادقانه** ارزش یک اثر در زمینه دانش، تجربه و بررسی مختصر شما از ادبیات مربوطه است.

Research **misconduct**

- You may, at times, as an assessor, have doubts about a paper. It may be that you doubt the **figures**, the **tables**, the complete **reporting** of results, **manipulation** of **sampling** and so on.
- If you **suspect** research **misconduct**, it is important that you bring your **doubts** to the attention of the **editor**. You could be wrong, however, so this must be done in a sensitive manner. **Do not contact the authors directly.**

Immediate rejection

- Occasionally, it is immediately obvious to an **EIC** that the manuscript has been submitted inappropriately: the **topic** would be more suitably considered by another speciality journal, or the **standard of the science** or the use of **English** is well below the minimum required by that journal. Not more than **5% of new manuscripts** fall into this category. In such an instance, the EIC will not hesitate to take an immediate decision, which is usually 'Reject'. However, a thoughtful editor will often accompany this decision by **detailed advice** to the author on how the manuscript could be improved significantly.

Box 17.1 How to please an editor

- Adhere strictly to the Guidelines for Authors throughout the text.
- Do exactly what the Guidelines dictate: no more, no less. Make the editor's life easier.
- Avoid basic errors such as incorrect numbering of figures or tables, forgetting to attach figures and using the wrong reference format.
- If invited to submit a revision, attend to every detail raised by the editor and assessors in a structured, unemotional manner.
- Contact the editorial office if you are concerned that your manuscript is not being dealt with efficiently.
- Communicate courteously and correctly with the editorial office, arguing your case coherently and professionally.
- Never submit a manuscript to more than one journal simultaneously: editors find out, and they loathe the practice.
- Make sure that all the authors have read and contributed to the manuscript. Would they be willing to stand up in public to defend their work?

Table 19.1 Common phrasal verbs and alternatives

Phrasal verb	Alternative
Consisted of	Comprised
Drawn up	Devised
Trade off	Compromise
Look at	Assess
Prop up	Support
Zeroed in	Focused
Cut off	Threshold, limit
Prior to	Before
Rule out	Exclude
Build up	Accumulate
Clear up	Resolve
Work-up, check-up	Evaluation

Table 19.2 Common phrases that can be shortened

Common phrase	Suggested alternative
Kept in mind	Considered
The majority of	Most
A number of	Several
A variety of	Various
In line with	Comparable, similar, conform
With regards to	Concerning, about, for
Low cost	Inexpensive
Matter of debate	Contentious
With the exception of	Except for
Make up for	Compensate
Of note	Notably
In order to	To
Not the same	Different
Small number, not many	Few
In spite of	Despite
Due to	From
Not often	Rarely
It is possible that	May, might
Has the ability to	Can
On the occasion of	When
Despite the fact that	Although
Due to the fact that	Because



Figure 20.1 Ethics at the centre of research and its publication.

Ranking Tools Using Metrics

Library Resources

- **Journal Citations Report JCR** Provides quantitative tools for ranking, evaluating, categorizing, and comparing journals. ISI Web of Knowledge.
- **CiteScore (Excellent for citation searching)** Search by subject area, title, ISSN, or Publisher

Other Tools

- **Google Scholar Metrics** allows authors to view journal rankings and ratings by various h-indeces
- **SCImago Journal & Country Rank** Journal evaluation tool that includes the journals and country specific indicators developed from the information contained in Scopus.

Journal Finder Engines

- JournalGuide

<https://www.journalguide.com>

- Journal Suggester (Springer Journals)

<http://journalsuggester.springer.com/>

- Elsevier Journal Finder

<http://journalfinder.elsevier.com/>



Self-Archiving

Self-Archiving allow authors to post their work on the web in




- An **Institutional Repositories**
- A **Subject Repository** (such as [PubMed Central](#) or [arXiv](#))
- A **Restricted or Publicly available network** (such as Research Gate and Academia.edu)

Self-Archiving policies varies according to the publisher and funder's policies:

- Archive **published article** (post-print copy)
- Archive **before peer-review** (pre- print copy)
- Some do **not allow any archiving**

Finding Publisher's Policies

Check publishers' policies:

- **On the journal website under** “Instructions for Authors” or “Copyright Information.” Or, contact the publisher.
-  **SHERPA/ROMEO database of publishing policies:**
Search by journal title, publisher or ISSN to review the default copyright and self-archiving policies for publishers and journals.

RIGHTS

Determine the rights you may still hold to your work and/or your ability to post and share your article once published.



Open Access Publishing

Retain your copyright with Open Access publishing model.

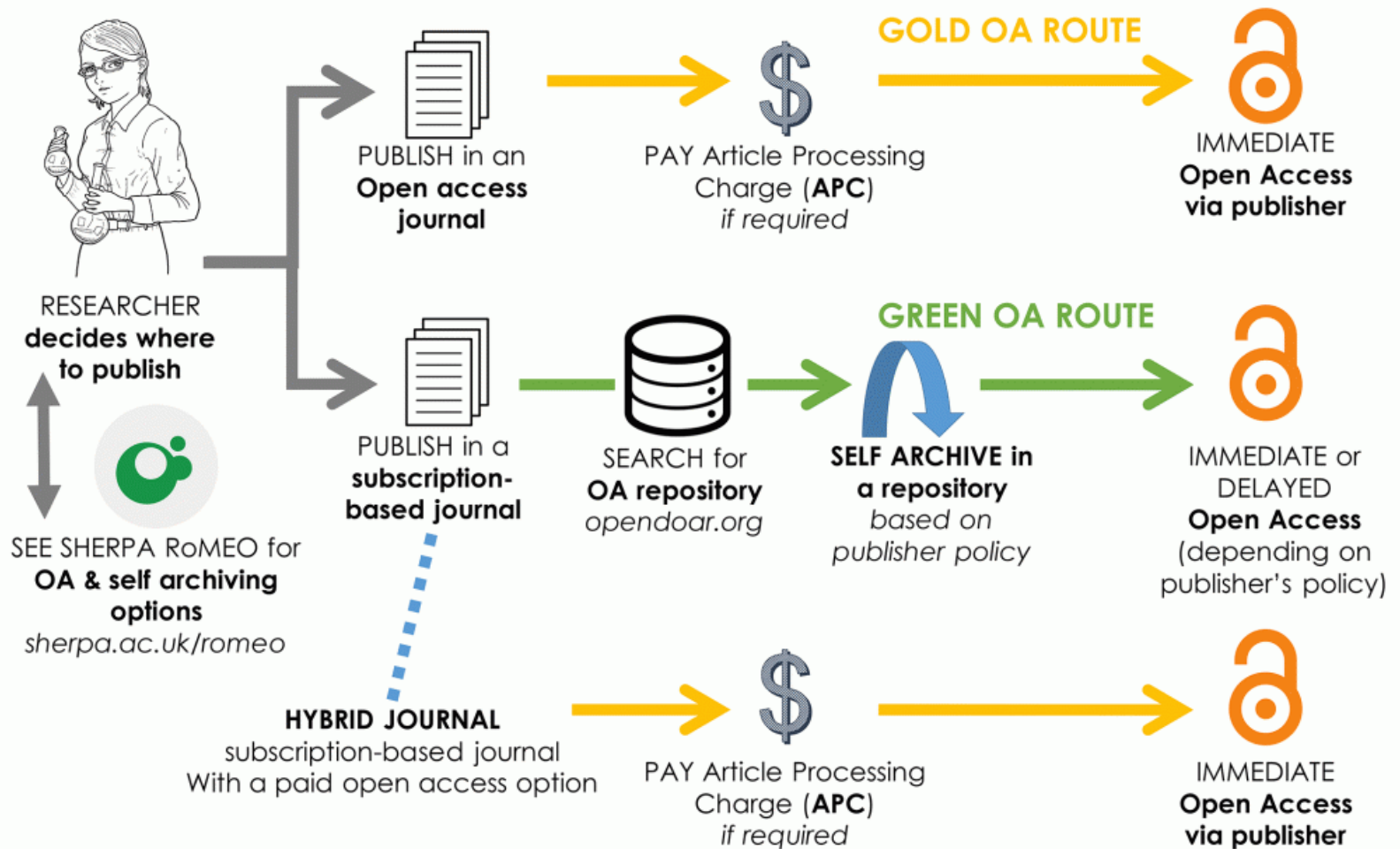
In general, open access stands for the free and permanent access to published research

Open Access Options?

There are two main types of open access: gold and green

(Gold Open Access) 	(Green Open Access) 
Free journals	Subscription journals
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Public access to the final published articleAccess is immediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Free access to a version of your articleSelf-archive a version of your articleEmbargo period
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Open access fee paid by the author or researcher funder	

Open Access Publishing



Fees

Both subscription-based and open access journals may charge a fee (typically \$50-125) at the time of manuscript submission to help to fund editorial and peer review administration.

An **article processing charge** (APC), also known as a publication fee. It is **common** in **open access** journals and **fully closed journals**. This fee is usually **paid** by an **author's institution** or **research funder**.

Open access fee is paid by the **author**, or **on their behalf** (*Fee could range between \$ 500 and \$ 5,000 US dollars depending on the journal*)

Research Funding

Some research funders request or require that work created with their funds be made available openly on the web.

The [Registry of Open Access Repository Mandates and Policies](#) (ROARMAP) is a searchable international registry charting open access mandates of universities, research institutions and research funders

Build your Research Profile

- Keep **consistent** in the style of **writing your** full **name**.
- **Distinguish** your **name** from other authors with **similarity in name**.
- Consider **registering** with ORCID or ResearcherID.
 - Both provide the **solution** to the **author ambiguity** problem within the scholarly research community.
- Get your unique identifier with:
 - [ORCID](#)
 - [ResearcherID](#)

ORCID

RESEARCHERID

Networking

Join a scientific society

Join an online platform for academics to share research papers

- [ResearchGate](#) the professional network for scientists, 80 million publications, 7 million researchers
- [Academia.edu](#) 23,080,282 academics have signed up to Academia.edu

Social media: [LinkedIn](#),

Thank you