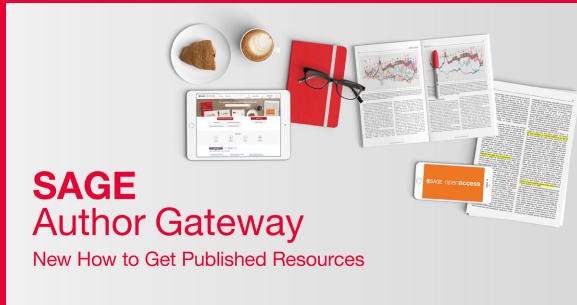


How to Get Published in an Academic Journal

March 3, 2020



Presenting the SAGE team in partnership with...

Panelist of Editors-in-Chief



Jessica Lipowski



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Richard Stackman



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Catherine Walshe



sagepub.com/authorgateway

Why you should publish

- Disseminate your research findings to the community
- Make a contribution to your field of study
- Influence policy and practice
- Career advancement
- Validated through the peer review process



Questions to ask yourself

- Who's going to be interested?
- How does it build on what we already know?
- How significant is your message?
- How sure are you of your findings?
- Is this novel, innovative work? Filling a gap/theory extension? Showing conventional wisdom was mistaken?



Tips for getting started

- Plan time to brainstorm—writing takes time and energy!
- Ensure you have enough material, research and data
- Read current journal articles in your field of study
- Find an experienced writer to help you
- Take the time to outline and organize your manuscript
- Read, re-read, revise
- Use external resources, like the [SAGE Author Gateway](#), for guidance



Authorship

- Made a substantial contribution to the concept or design of the work; or in the acquisition, analysis or interpretation of data
- Drafted the article or revised it critically for important intellectual content
- Approved the version to be published
- Participated sufficiently in the work to take public responsibility for appropriate portions of the content
- All others should be listed in the acknowledgement section



Choosing a journal

- Reputation
- Paper Type
- Authors & Reference List
- Aims & Scope
- Editorial Board
- Acceptance Rate
- Peer Review
- Readership
- Metrics and Indexing
- Funding & Institution Restrictions



Preparing for submission

- Read and follow the manuscript submission guidelines
- Make every effort to improve the quality of your manuscript
- Be objective about your work
- Include in your submission:
 - Funding Statement
 - Conflict of Interest Statement
 - Complete Ethics Statement(s)
- Abide by research ethics



Article structure

Introduction

- What's the purpose of the study?
- What was the hypothesis you wanted to prove?
- What did you research?
- What is the question you are addressing?

Materials and Methods

- What did you do?
- What was your technique?
- How many patients did you use? How did you select them, etc.?
- Include any relevant materials or methods used, including ethical approval you needed to acquire

Results

- What answers did you get? Present your data
- What complications arose?

Discussion

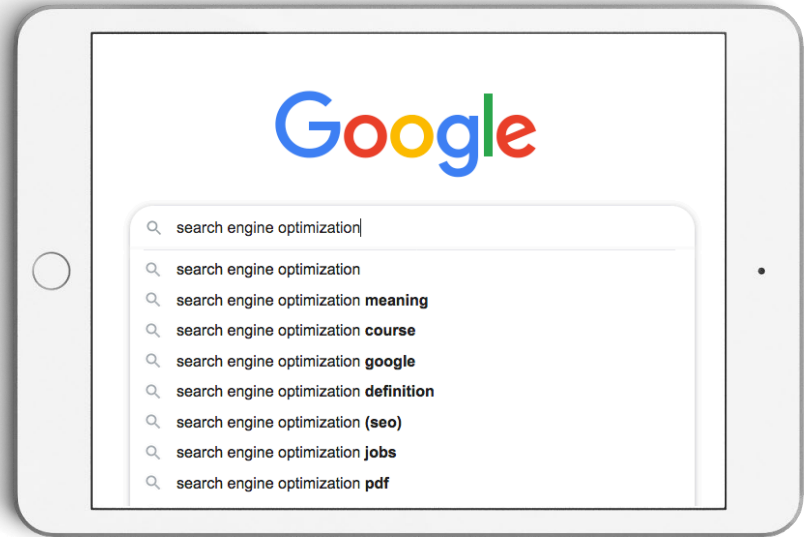
- What do the results mean?
- What is the impact of previous studies, in relation to the present study?
- How is the data of the new trial related to totality?
- How does this answer the question in the introduction?

Conclusions

- What are the implications of the research?
- What future studies do you recommend?
- Conclusions should be placed after Discussion as a separate section

Help readers find your article

- Well written title and abstract
- Good keywords
- Repetition of keywords
- Keep users in mind



Submission checklist

- Check journal-specific requirements:
 - Word limits
 - Article structure
 - Reference style
 - Guidance on title, abstract, keywords
 - Figures and labels
- Ensure there are no identifying features in your manuscript to facilitate blind peer review
- Use English language editing services if needed
- Prepare a cover letter, if applicable
- Obtain permission for all copyrighted material
- Consider supplemental data

Common mistakes to avoid

- Not thoroughly reviewing submission guidelines
- Incorrect formatting of tables and figures
- Not an appropriate fit for the journal (out of scope)
- Wrong manuscript type
- Poor grammar and syntax



Preprint submissions

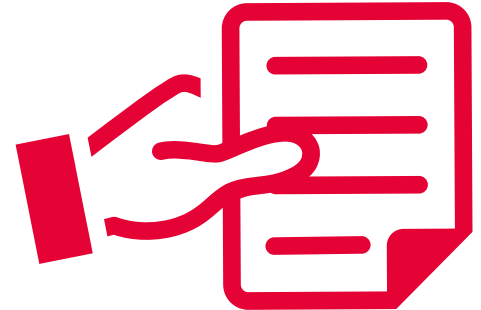
- Receive feedback from your peers on manuscripts before submitting to a journal
- Quickly release your research
- Peer review, copyediting and formatting not provided
- <https://advance.sagepub.com/>
- Opportunities to get involved: <https://us.sagepub.com/en-us/nam/get-involved-with-advance>

A Preprint is a scholarly manuscript posted by the author(s) in an openly accessible platform, usually before or in parallel with the peer review process (COPE)

advance 
a SAGE preprints community

Submit your manuscript

- ONE journal at a time
- Send in via an online manuscript submission system, e.g. ScholarOne Manuscripts
- Follow the steps outlined in the platform



Why papers get rejected before review

- Poor fit with the journal
- Poor presentation
 - Bad grammar
 - Poor spelling
 - Incorrectly formatted
- Weak methods or inadequate literature base



What is peer review?

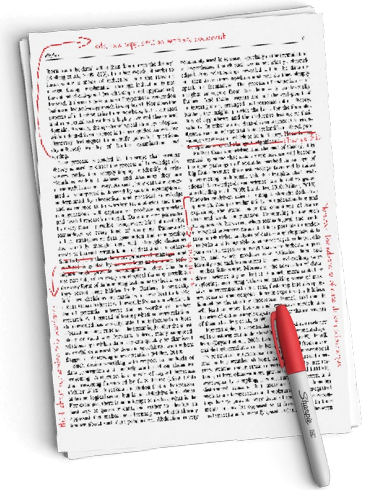
- The peer review process is essential to the development of research across all subject areas
- Filtering out poor quality articles
- Assessing validity
- Maintaining integrity of science

At SAGE we value the work done by peer reviewers in the academic community, who provide an essential service to the process of publication excellence, driving research within their fields of expertise

Types of peer review

- **Single blind peer review** – the name of the reviewer is hidden from the author
- **Double blind peer review** – names are hidden from both reviewers and the authors
- **Open peer review** – everyone is identified

Make sure you understand the peer review model before submitting.



The peer review process

- Initial decision
- Peer review steps
- Possible outcomes
 - Reject
 - Major revisions
 - Minor revisions
 - Accept



Why papers are rejected after review

- Reviewers are not convinced of the contribution to the knowledge base
- Methods are not robust enough for the journal
- Specific sections are weak
- Paper was ill focused or fundamentally flawed



Handling rejections

- Criticisms are there to enhance your paper—don't overreact
- Read the reviewer comments and Editor's letter carefully
- Focus on why the manuscript was rejected
- Rework the paper to address reviewer concerns
- Submit to another journal



Handling revisions

- Read the reviewer comments and Editor's letter carefully
- Follow the timeframes requested
- Clearly demonstrate what you have changed point-by-point
- Address each referee point in a separate document
- If you can't meet all criticisms, explain why
- Be positive and polite
- Process may take 2-3 iterations

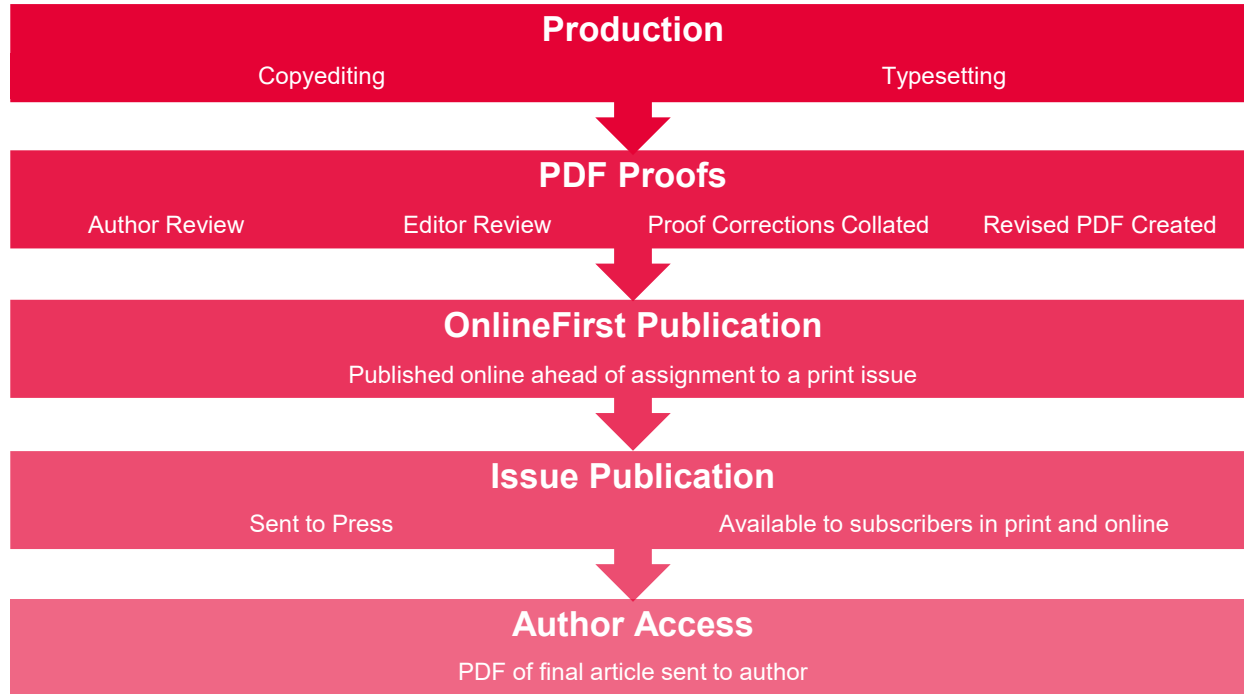


Congratulations!

Your paper has been accepted!



Production process



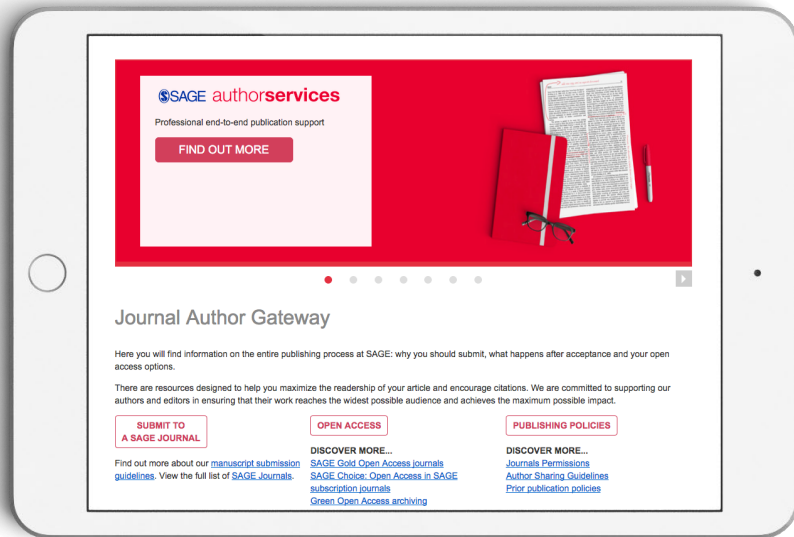
Promote your article

The process doesn't end with publication!

Promote your article to drive downloads and citations

- Share on social media (Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn)
- Share on relevant blogs and scholarly communication networks
- Notify your colleagues and peers
- Issue a press release via your institution, which could lead to broader news pick up
- Review [SAGE's guides](#) on how to promote your article

SAGE Author Gateway



- Dedicated space for author support and services
- Visit for Author FAQ's and additional How to Get Published resources
- Learn which version of your paper you can share, where and when
- SAGE Chinese Author Gateway features translated materials

Other resources

- [SAGE Campus How to Get Published course](#)
- [How to Get Published Video Series](#)
- [Download our guide to getting an article published in a SAGE journal](#)

Panelists

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Thank you!

Good luck!

