

RESEARCH FORUM SERIES

Core Curriculum Module J

Writing for Publication

Part 1: "Strategies for Success"

Part 2: "Ethical and Legal Matters"

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Part 3: "Negotiating Authorship"

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I. Background

Research productivity is critical to becoming a successful primary care/health services researcher. Federal and private sector funding sources usually expect researchers to disseminate their study findings to both professional and lay audiences. Obtaining jobs and promotions are also often linked to the number and quality of publications in peer-reviewed journals. The literature related to the subject of writing for publication has expanded greatly in recent years. Issues of concern have included establishing uniform and equitable standards, protecting intellectual property rights, and insuring the quality, authenticity, and relevance of research. The NRSA Fellowship program is fortunate to have a number of faculty who have valuable insights and expertise related to these important issues.

II. Aim

In this 3-part workshop, fellows will have an opportunity to learn about successful strategies in writing for publication, the submission and review process, selected ethical and legal issues, and approaches to negotiating authorship.

III. Learning Objectives

Part 1: Strategies for Success

- Select the publishing medium to which to submit a manuscript
- Identify how editors conceptualize "what's new"
- Use the information about the review process to create a personal plan for publishing

Part 2: Ethical and Legal Matters

- Specify the differences between morality, ethics and law
- Define the criteria for authorship, including guest and ghost authors
- Avoid the pitfalls of duplicate publication, scientific misconduct, and

conflicts of interest

- Distinguish between and among intellectual property aspects: ownership, rights and management

Part 3. Negotiating Authorship

- Discuss existing journal requirements related to multiauthored publications
- Describe strategies that can be used to resolve conflicts relating to authorship

III. Teaching method(s)

The faculty will present three 1.5 hour seminars. Didactic lectures, a panel presentation, and small group discussions will be utilized.

IV. Content Outline

Part 1: Strategies for Success (see attached [handout](#) and powerpoint [slides](#))

Part 2: Ethical and Legal Matters (see attached [handout](#) and powerpoint [slides](#))

Part 3: Negotiating Authorship

A panel of faculty will share experiences they have had in writing and publishing papers, and negotiating authorship. Issues to be explored include the importance of shared responsibility, individual roles and contributions, authenticity, and fairness. Conflict resolution strategies will be discussed along with Ahmed et al.'s (1997) proposed method for assigning multiple authorship in multiauthored publications.

VI. Application to Actual Research Projects by Fellows

NRSA Fellows will have an opportunity to share their personal experiences relating to writing for publication and negotiating authorship. These discussions will be continued at subsequent Fellow's Rounds.

VII. References/Internet Resources

International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. "Uniform Requirement for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals," JAMA 1997; 277(11):927-934.

Ahmed SM, Maurana CA, Engle JA, Uddin DE, Glaus KD. "A Method for Assigning Multiple Authorship in Multiauthored Publications," Family Medicine 1997; 29:42-44.

Carter SP: Writing for your Peers. The Primary Journal Paper, New York: New York, 1987.

Day RA. How to Write & Publish a Scientific Paper, 3rd Edition, Phoenix: Oryx Press, 1998.

Huth EJ. "Guidelines on Authorship of Medical Papers," Annals of Internal Medicine 1986; 104:269-274.

International Committee of Medical Journal Editors. "Uniform Requirements for Manuscripts Submitted to Biomedical Journals," Journal of the American Medical Association 1997; 277:927-934.

Shapiro DW, Wenger NS, Shapiro MF. "The Contributions of Authors to Multiauthored Biomedical Research Papers," Journal of the American Medical Association 1994; 271:438-442.

Susser M. Editorial: "Authors and Authorship -- Reform or Abolition?" American Journal of Public Health 1997; 87:1091-1092.

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Yankauer A. "Editor's Report -- On Decisions and Authorships," American Journal of Public Health 1987; 271-273.