

7-Module Virtual Workshop: Getting Published

Summary and objectives: The goal of these webinars, which were developed from our face-to-face workshops, is to help researchers improve their chances of publication success as well as maximize the impact of their research after publication. These webinars will provide practical insights and strategies to help attendees achieve this goal.

The webinars contain numerous interactive elements and activities to stimulate engagement amongst participants. A workbook will be available for the attendees to download before each webinar begins that will include key points, useful online resources, and pre-work activities that will be covered in the webinar.

Because participant attention in online webinars is often less than that of face-to-face workshops, we will be limiting each webinar to 2 hours.

Module 1: Effective Academic Writing

Section 1: Importance of clear communication (10 min)

This short introductory section discusses the challenges that readers have when reading complex scientific ideas, and emphasizes the importance of keeping the reader in mind.

Section 2: Logical flow and structure (35 min)

This section reviews strategies to keep writing concise and improve the flow of ideas in academic papers to ensure that people can read these articles quickly and easily.

Break and Q&A (15 min)

Section 3: Improving readability (35 min)

This section guides attendees on how to improve clarity and readability when communicating complex scientific ideas to their readers to avoid confusion and misinterpretation.

Section 4: Writing strategies (15 min)

This final section discusses strategies that attendees can use to make the writing process more efficient and easier for all co-authors.

Final Q&A (10 min)

Module 2: Logical Manuscript Structure

Section 1: Planning your manuscript (20 min)

This short introductory section discusses strategies on preparing an effective plan before the writing begins.

Section 2: Introduction (20 min)

This section discusses how to establish the author's subject expertise by introducing the topic and the important research question for the study.

Break and Q&A (15 min)

Section 3: Methods (15 min)

This section reviews what should be communicated regarding the study's methodology to establish technical expertise and confidence in the research.

Section 4: Results (15 min)

This section reviews how to highlight the important patterns and trends among the data found in the figures of the paper so readers understand their significance.

Section 5: Discussion (25 min)

This section discusses how to emphasize the study's importance by synthesizing the current findings in the context of what is known and how this will impact the field.

Final Q&A (10 min)

Module 3: Maximizing Discoverability

Section 1: Impactful titles (25 min)

This section discusses how to write a title that get the reader's attention in online databases and increase the chances that they will click on it and read the abstract of the paper.

Section 2: Effective keywords (20 min)

This section guides attendees on to choose the best keywords to that will increase the chance of discoverability online.

Break and Q&A (15 min)

Section 3: Abstracts (30 min)

This section reviews the importance that abstracts will have for editors, reviewers, and peers in the field. We will review both structured and narrative abstracts and discuss strategies to ensure that it is the best first impression of the paper for the reader.

Section 4: Improving visibility (15 min)

This section highlights how authors can improve the visibility of their published research online and at conferences to increase their awareness in the field.

Final Q&A (10 min)

Module 4: Preparing Impactful Figures

Section 1: Importance of figures and tables (10 min)

This section discusses the challenges in presenting complex data to readers and the importance of figures and tables to achieve this.

Section 2: Choosing the right graph (30 min)

This section reviews which graphs are appropriate for which types of data and how to ensure trends are clearly presented to the reader.

Section 3: Presenting numerical data in tables (10 min)

This section guides attendees on how to prepare tables that present numerical data in a clear and impressive manner.

Break and Q&A (15 min)

Section 4: Preparing clear and accurate images (35 min)

This section reviews how to prepare images to best illustrate visual data along with ethical guidelines that should be followed.

Section 5: Writing clear figure captions (10 min)

This section discusses how to communicate the presented data in a clear and concise way that is not redundant with the text in the Results section.

Final Q&A (10 min)

Module 5: Successful Submission Strategies

Section 1: Journal selection (15 min)

This section discusses the challenges in finding an appropriate journal as well as ways to select potential options for a specific study.

Section 2: Journal evaluation (35 min)

This section guides attendees on how to evaluate journals by reviewing the aims and scope, open access, and selectivity of the journal.

Break and Q&A (15 min)

Section 3: Efficient submission strategies (20 min)

This section reviews how to choose which journal to submit to first and what are the best next steps if rejected. We will also discuss submitting to Nature journals as well as alternative strategies such as preprint servers.

Section 4: Writing an impactful cover letter (25 min)

This section discusses why cover letters are useful for journal editors and how to communicate the significance and relevance of the study for the journal clearly to the editor in this letter.

Final Q&A (10 min)

Module 6: Navigating Editorial Decisions and Peer Review

Section 1: The peer review process (15 min)

This short introductory section discusses why the peer review process is important and what editors expect from reviewers during the evaluation of submitted manuscripts.

Section 2: Editorial decisions and letters (30 min)

This section reviews how editors make decisions after peer review and gives strategies on how to best interpret their decision letters so attendees understand their expectations.

Break and Q&A (15 min)

Section 3: Writing response letters (35 min)

This section highlights how to ensure response letters clearly communicate the revisions that have been completed in response to the reviewer's concerns.

Section 4: After final decisions (15 min)

This section discusses the steps attendees should take after their paper has either been rejected or accepted by the journal to ensure their study has impact in the field.

Final Q&A (10 min)

Module 7: Publishing Ethics

Section 1: Authorship (25 min)

This section discusses what a researcher needs to do to qualify as an author on a paper. We also review authorship contributions as well as authorship order for the article.

Section 2: Data manipulation (20 min)

This section reviews how to properly handle and present your data in your figures to improve trust and reproducibility.

Break and Q&A (15 min)

Section 3: Transparent reporting (30 min)

This section discusses the importance of being transparent in reporting the study in the paper, as well as strategies to avoid selective reporting and publication biases.

Section 4: Plagiarism (15 min)

This last section first reviews how journal editors assess plagiarism in submitted manuscripts, and then highlighting strategies authors can use avoid plagiarism in their manuscripts.

Final Q&A (15 min)