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Getting Published Workshops: Effectively Communicating Your Research

Summary and objectives: The goal of this workshop is to help researchers improve their chances of publication success and maximize the impact of their research. This workshop will provide practical insights and strategies to help attendees achieve this goal.

The workshop contains numerous interactive elements and activities to stimulate engagement amongst participants. A workbook will be available for the attendees that will include key points, useful online resources, and activities that will be covered in the workshop.

Two-day Getting Published Workshop

Day 1

Designing an Impactful Study (09:00 – 10:30)

This section will review how to identify an impactful research question for the field and how to generate efficient aims to address this question. We then discuss how to design the study by choosing the appropriate methodologies and protocols. Lastly, we highlight the importance of refining the study design based on feedback and preliminary data.

Break (10:30 - 10:45)

Effective Academic Writing (10:45 – 12:00)

This section will emphasize how to clearly communicate your ideas in research articles by discussing how to implement effective strategies related to brevity, ambiguity, and logical flow in writing. We then review strategies to improve readability to ensure that complex scientific ideas are more easily understood and accessible worldwide.

Lunch (60 min)

Harnessing Generative AI in Academic Writing (13:00 – 13:40)

This section will provide a brief overview of generative AI and the available tools that can assist in academic writing. We will then discuss the ethical issues and policy considerations surrounding the use of AI in academic writing and publishing. Lastly, we will cover basic prompt engineering techniques to produce desired academic content outputs.

Break (13:40 - 13:50)

Preparing Impactful Figures: Graphs and Tables (13:50 – 15:00)

This section discusses the usage of graphs and tables to present numerical information. We first discuss how to choose the most appropriate way to present your data accurately. And when using graphs, which one would be most appropriate for your data.

Break (15:00 – 15:10)

Preparing Impactful Figures: Photographic Images and Line Art (15:10 – 16:45)

This section discuss presenting photographic and line art images, emphasizing clarity, representativeness, and accuracy. We then conclude this module with tips on writing clear figure captions that factually describe the complex information shown in the figure.

Final Q&A session (15 min)

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Day 2

Writing Effective Titles, Keywords, and Abstracts (09:00 – 10:15)

This section begins with how to write a title that will catch the reader's attention when they are looking for articles online. We then discuss the importance of keywords and strategies for choosing ones that will increase your discoverability. Finally, we discuss strategies for writing an impressive abstract to improve your impact and influence in the field.

Break (10:15 - 10:30)

Choosing the Most Appropriate Journal (10:30 – 12:00)

This section will focus on how to choose the most appropriate journal for the manuscript. We review strategies for using an evidence-based strategy to find journals appropriate for the study. We will also address key issues surrounding the Impact Factor, Open Access, and predatory publishing.

Lunch (60 min)

Successful Submission Strategies (13:00 – 14:30)

This section discusses various strategies authors can consider when submitting to journals, along with back-up and alternative strategies such as using preprint servers. We then discuss what journal editors are looking for in submissions and how to best communicate the suitability and relevance of your study to the editor in a cover letter.

Break (14:30 - 14:45)

Navigating Editorial Decisions and Peer Review (14:45 – 16:45)

This final section begins by discussing the editorial workflow that is used by most journals. We then review how editors make their decisions related to submitted manuscripts and communicate those decisions to the authors. Finally, we discuss navigating through the peer review process and using effective strategies after acceptance to improve visibility and impact of the article.

Final Q&A session (15 min)