



## Writing for Publication

### Deciding where to publish

Consider these factors when selecting sources to publish in:

#### Your intended audience

- Which publications are read by the people you are trying to reach with your research?
- Does the publication have the coverage you need e.g. national, international, regional?
- Is the journal covered by the key databases in your subject area?

#### Fit of the publication to your research

- Which publications do key researchers in your area publish in?
- Does the publication publish similar material?
- Does the publication publish original research, reviews or a mixture of types of article?
- What advice have research partners or project workers given you. Do they have any suggestions?
- Investigate the lead-time to publication - if competition is a relevant factor, consider if there is likely to be a long delay.

#### Prestige/Quality of the publication

- What are the top journals in your area?
- Is the publication you are considering peer reviewed?
- Consider bibliometrics, such as the impact factor of the journal (see the 'Metrics' tab on this guide for more information)
- Check the publisher, editorial board, etc.
- Be wary of 'predatory' and poor quality journals

#### Conditions of funding

- What are the conditions relating to publication attached by any funders of your research? For example, you may be required to publish in an open access publication.

#### Dissemination of your research

- Think about the options relating to open access publishing.
- What are the copyright conditions attached to the publication? Will you be able to/want to use open access publishing?



Visit our website at <https://www.wuth.nhs.uk/choose-us/for-library-and-knowledge-services/> or contact us at:

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Arrowe Park Hospital  
Tel: 0151 604 7223 ext 8610  
Email: [wuth.lks@nhs.net](mailto:wuth.lks@nhs.net)

# Advice and Guidance

## Journal Homepage

It is always advisable to consult the homepage of the actual journal you intend to attempt to get published in. They will provide detailed guidance for authors which will include some, or all, of the following elements and much more:

- Guidance on subject/topic coverage/article types
- The journal's impact factor and other metrics
- House style
- Referencing guidance
- Competing interest declaration
- Ethics approval
- Editorial and submission policies
- Publishing charges (if applicable)
- Adherence to relevant specific guidance
- Review processes
- Copyright
- Plagiarism detection



## Authorship

This can be a contentious area so discuss authorship early in the process, ideally before you start to write.

- Create an authorship agreement
- What is to be written up
- Who is to write up each element
- Agree the order of authors on the final document
- All authors to agree the draft before final submission and agree any amendments required by the journal

## Writing Collaboratively

Whilst a number of organisations offer writing courses from time to time, You might want to consider setting up writing workshops or away days to encourage those in your teams who are aspirational writers, but who haven't quite got from idea or research to Publication yet.

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# Library Support

**Your Library & Knowledge Service will support you in the preparation for and the process of writing for publication. We provide assistance with:**

- Searching for information and evidence and setting up evidence alerts for new results.
- Providing resources to critically appraise evidence
- Academic/ Reflective Writing Training

**We also provide Systematic review support, including:**

- Advice and tips on your search strategy
- Help with defining your topic and search considerations, e.g. inclusion of English language studies
- Advice on basic methodology, good/bad practice, advice on sources
- Support with navigating resources, exporting results databases
- Help with developing a search protocol
- Searching for grey literature
- Explaining what is a systematic review, what it involves, helping you understand the process
- Support with managing documentation
- Information on Wirral University Teaching Hospital NHS Foundation Trust's published research, via the Library Blog [wuthlibraryresearchandebp.blogspot.co.uk](http://wuthlibraryresearchandebp.blogspot.co.uk)
- Providing the organisational code required for submitting case reports to the BMJ

**Resources we can provide:**

A selection of relevant books can be found in the McArdle Library, Education Centre, Arrowe Park Hospital at the following classification numbers:

- 808 - Writing and publishing
- 370 - Study skills
- 610.72 - Research
- 428 - Grammar and punctuation



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