

Pearls from a Journal Editor

Presenter: Donna Fick, PhD, RN, GCNS-BC, FAAN

Time	Section
00:10	<p><u>Why bother to write or disseminate your work?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “The future belongs to the best writers!” • Is an essential skill in science for grants and publishing • Writing is the best way to disseminate/advance the science (or is it?) • Publishing is your primary currency for getting grants
02:31	<p><u>Why Publish?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To exchange ideas • Advance the science • To build reputation • To disseminate work globally • Have you got: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Something new to say? ○ A solution to a current or difficult problem? ○ A new development on a “hot” topic in your field?
05:47	<p><u>What are your publishing goals this year? (discussion topic)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interaction discussion with webinar attendees
13:26	<p><u>What can you publish?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clinical article • Reviews-systematic, integrative • Meta-analysis • Data based research paper with prospective data • Secondary data analysis or large data sets • Brief report or research briefs • Other editorials, letters, special issues
15:35	<p><u>Examples</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diversity of publications
17:08	<p><u>Know your delirium audience</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit your university library • Look at publisher and journal websites—iDelirium, NIDUS, HELP citation list • Research the journals in your field <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Talk to your peers in NIDUS, ADS, EDA, Surgery, Pediatrics, Nursing ○ Pick your type: generalist or niche, international or region specific?
18:06	<p><u>Know your audience</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the right questions and know the right answers: • Who, or what, is the journal’s: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Editor? Editorial board? Publisher? Authors? Readership? Online/print? Impact factor? Peer review? Submission process? Open access policy? • Build up a picture of the journal and understand the stages your paper will go through before it is published
19:38	<p><u>The Stages to go through Before Submitting</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) IDEA or data; MAKE a deadline and timeline 2) Choose and read journal 3) Letter or email query 4) Write first draft (see tips for large study or dissertation) 5) Use critical friend or editor

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6) Refine further drafts • 7) Revise and revise, cut back and get critical feedback and approval ALL authors • 8) Proofread and submit
22:04	<p><u>Choose at least 3 journals in the beginning</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Stretch journal”—top tier journal, hard to get acceptance (probability 10-30%) • “Good fit journal”—good journal, less hard to get in, feel you have a good chance (probability 40-60%) • “Safety journal”—lower rank, least hard to acceptance, feel you have very good chance (probability 70+%)
22:57	<p><u>Planning Chart for Multiple Team Publications</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blank table template
24:07	<p><u>Publishing your dissertation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Put away your dissertation • Work from an outline • Follow the journal scientific writing, not your chapters • Watch duplicate publications and plagiarism and cite if is in a dissertation public repository
24:41	<p><u>Your Submission Checklist</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A title page file with the names of all authors and co-authors • Main document file with abstract, keywords, main text and all references • Figure, image or table files (with permission cleared) • Any extra files, such as your supplemental material • Biographical notes • Your cover letter
25:29	<p><u>Editing is also an essential skill!</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “the future belongs to the best editors” • Write, let it sit, revise, cut, simplify • Each step ask- “what’s really important?” • Ask others to suggest cuts
25:56	<p><u>Sample QUERY email</u></p>
27:12	<p><u>Sample Cover Letter</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give a brief explanation, STUDY PURPOSE and title • Explain why you think it would be of interest to their readers • Sometimes cover letters ask for acknowledgement information, conflicts, or author contribution information—follow the AUTHOR INSTRUCTIONS
27:42	<p><u>Resources you should know</u></p>
30:13	<p><u>Barriers to Writing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of time • Lack of confidence • Fear of rejection • Not knowing how to get started • Not knowing how to develop a thesis or study into a paper
30:35	<p><u>A few tips to become a better writer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read—pay attention to form and content • Write • Read and write • Be a reviewer • Join writing groups or team publishing
30:50	<p><u>Changing writing behavior</u></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Snack writing/micro goals (30-90 minutes, section per week/day) • Make firm deadlines/take course to prepare a paper • Block off a day every week • Do necessary but less creative stuff first • Read writing books • Learn to embrace criticism
31:06	<p><u>Useful writing habits</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt a daily routine • Keep a log or daybook of your notes and ideas • Break long papers into short parts • Remember that good work takes time—and not just for you—leave time for others to give strong feedback
31:44	<p><u>The deadline is the greatest invention of western civilization</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A firm cutoff date is a surprisingly powerful motivator • You will have a daily struggle between the things on your to do list with deadline and the one without • A group or mentor can help set deadlines • Have to give it both time and power—“the self can interrupt the self—the internal distractions”
31:51	<p><u>Exercise #1</u></p>
32:33	<p><u>Revisions: what does this mean?</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be happy—it means you’re on the base/in the game! • Don’t get discouraged • Make an outline of comments to address (divide if co-authors) • Decide if addressable • Follow polite letter example
34:23	<p><u>Sample revision letter</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be polite/grateful • Make it easy to find changes-quotes and lines or use a table • Make changes! • If you can’t or do not agree then give rationale • Do not be discouraged with a lot of comments—many are overlapping
38:26	<p><u>Promoting your work</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Search engine optimization (use top keywords throughout your article) • Press releases (write a press release and distribute it to online and print academic sources relevant to your field) • Institutional newsletters (write an article on your research or announce a new publication and submit to you institution’s newsletter) • Presentations at conferences (face-to-face networking at conference can bring awareness to your work) • Other (BLOG about it and create a link to the article from your BLOG and your University page) • SOCIAL MEDIA platforms
40:43	<p><u>Other?—Concerns I did not address</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Open access-beall’s criteria • Ethics, plagiarism issues and resources • Squire-standards for quality improvement reporting • Lots of materials online to access afterwards • Ethics in detail-ICMJE, COPE, and others
41:45	<p><u>Questions and Answers</u></p>