



UNIVERSITÉ
DE LORRAINE



FACULTÉ DE
MÉDECINE / MAÏEUTIQUE /
MÉTIERS DE LA SANTÉ à NANCY

nature research
academies

Getting Published Workshops from the Nature Research Academies

Task Force Publication – Nature Research – CHRU de Nancy / Faculté de Médecine de Nancy

Summary and objectives: The goal of this workshop is to help researchers improve their chances of publication success as well as maximize the impact of their research after publication. 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.

Day 1

Effective academic writing (09:00 – 10:30)

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.

Break (10:30 – 10:55)

Logical Manuscript Structure: Introduction and Methods (10:55 – 12:10)

This section discusses the importance of the Introduction to clarify why the study needs to be done for the field. We then review writing the methodology of the study to validate the study design and ensure the findings can be reproducible.

Lunch (75 min)

Logical Manuscript Structure: Preparing Impactful Figures (13:25 – 14:55)

This section discusses the challenges in presenting complex data to readers and the importance of figures and tables to achieve this. We will review how to determine which graph is most appropriate for your data, how to create logical tables, and how to process images in an appropriate manner.

Break (14:55 – 15:20)

Logical Manuscript Structure: Results and Discussions (15:20 – 17:20)

This section reviews the final two sections of the main text in the manuscript. We first review how to guide your readers through the important patterns in trends amongst your data in your Results section. We then discuss how to synthesize your results with previously published work to emphasize their value to the field.

Final Q&A session (15 min)

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 – 10:40)

Choosing the most appropriate journal (10:40 – 12:10)

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 (75 min)

Successful submission strategies (13:25 – 14:55)

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 (14:55 – 15:20)

Navigating editorial decisions and peer review (15:20 – 17:20)

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)