

Author Tutorial

International Journal of Gynecological Cancer

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Criteria for Publication

High Priority

- New and original research
- Prospective randomized trials
- Largest retrospective series on a topic of interest
- Data that contradicts previously established results
- Reviews of relevant and current topics
- High-quality educational videos of novel techniques

Low Priority

- Commentaries

Finding A Topic of Interest

- Do a literature search to assure is not published already
- Review current literature
- Discuss with an expert in the field
- Attempt to capture the missing element
- Go to Abstracts/Posters in meetings
- Discuss in group conference

Writing the Manuscript

- Be concise and to the point
 - A lot of words does not equal a good story
- A manuscript should tell a story
 - Beginning/Middle/End
- Do not use non-scientific language

Examples:

- We perform this approach in the easiest manner
- The blood loss was less than expected
- The approach was done as routine

Writing the Manuscript

- Do not use language that can be misinterpreted

Example:

-The length of stay was very short

-The rate of sentinel node detection was outstanding

-Complication rates were minimal

- Do not place Tables or Figures in middle of manuscript
- Use English-speaking editors (non-native speakers)
 - DO NOT use Google translate!

Writing the Manuscript

- Title of manuscript
 - Should represent the overall message of the paper
- Authors
 - First: Person who wrote it and did most work in data gathering
 - Second: Next person providing substantial contribution
 - Last: Developed idea, responsible for data generation, analysis, and interpretation

*Avoid leaving important individuals out as authors or including others who have not contributed anything to the manuscript
- Abstract
 - Tells the whole story
 - Often the only thing people read of your work!

Writing the Manuscript Introduction

- Do not exceed 3-4 paragraphs
- 1st Paragraph
 - Background information
- 2nd Paragraph
 - Relevance of the subject of interest
- 3rd Paragraph
 - Gaps in knowledge
 - Goals of your study

Writing the Manuscript

Methods

- IRB approval statement
- What data were collected
- Who was the study group
- Provide details for ease of replication
- Provide Inclusion or Exclusion Criteria
- Method of statistical analysis (meet with statistician)
- Method of assessment of primary and secondary endpoints
- Therapy details (type of drug, doses, regimen)
- Consent process if subjects alive or prospective
- Process of randomization
- DO NOT say it was a prospective study if it WAS NOT!!

Writing the Manuscript

Results

- Should reflect all that you were collecting in Methods
- Always begin with the number of patients included
- Provide chronological sequence of data
- Make sure numbers match Abstract and Tables
- Make sure all numbers add up
- Provide data that will be of interest to the reader
- Do not interpret the data
JUST THE FACTS!!

Writing the Manuscript Discussion

- Begin with a single statement of your overall findings
- Do not repeat your Results
- Place in context of previously published literature
- Be sure to include comparisons to major articles
- Outline external validity of your findings
- Include Strengths and Weaknesses
- Provide future directions
- Provide details as to why this is contributing to literature
- Do not make editorial statements or make personal judgment of the value of the findings to the gynecologic oncology community
- BE CONCISE!!

Writing the Manuscript References

- Review the Guide for Authors for format
- Double check spelling and “specifics” of citation
- Keep references to only relevant ones
- Do not be repetitive in your references
- Site original or primary reference
- Think about including references of potential reviewers

Cover Letter

- Include title of the manuscript
- Statement that all authors have provided substantial contribution and are in agreement with all aspects of the final manuscript
- Provide a brief statement as to why this research will contribute novel data to the literature (should not exceed 2-3 sentences)
- Statement that the manuscript has not been concurrently submitted to other journals
- Suggested Reviewers with contact information
- Undesired Reviewers

Manuscript Review Process

Editor's Perspective

- Submitted to Associate Editors
- First Assessment by Associate Editor
- Proceed for formal review by Reviewer
- Decisions:
 - Accept
 - Minor revisions
 - Major revisions
 - Reject

Thank you!

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