

Tips on Getting Published in *MCN*

Perhaps you would like to have an article published in *MCN*, but you're new at the process, and not sure where to start. Here are a few tips for how to begin.

Journal editors are always looking for articles which present something new for the readers. No one wants to read article after article about the same topic, so think about something new and different to submit. For instance, *MCN*'s readers are interested in breastfeeding, but if you want to have an article published about breastfeeding it should be about something new and different in the field, not an article about how breastfeeding is a good idea for mothers and babies. For *MCN*, your topic can be anything that affects the practice of nurses who work with mothers, newborns, and children. That's a wide audience.

Here are some ideas about how to choose a topic:

- A program you developed
- An unusual clinical experience
- Your special clinical expertise
- A quality improvement project
- A new protocol
- An interesting literature review you did for an assignment at work or school
- Clinical research
- A collaboration you've had with other disciplines in an interesting/different way

If you want to submit to *MCN*, read a few of the recent past issues of *MCN* to see what types of articles we publish, and how the articles are written. Be sure that your submission contains a thorough literature search to determine what is already in the literature about your topic. *MCN*'s Information for Authors can be found at: <http://edmgr.ovid.com/mcn/accounts/ifaauth.htm> There you will also find complete information about how to submit your article. It is essential that you follow all the instructions given exactly.

If you are a new researcher and want to submit your study for publication, I advise you to spend a lot of time with an experienced mentor who can help you with all the intricacies of publishing research. For all of you who want to become published authors, it is always advisable, if possible, to have an experienced mentor read your manuscript before you submit it to a journal, taking his or her criticisms to heart in the spirit of making the manuscript stronger.

Good luck and I encourage you to write for publication! Nurses will learn from your article, and you'll add a new skill to what you already have as a nurse.

Editor-in-Chief

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