



Why Write?




Philippine Council for Health Research and Development
 Philippine Association of Medical Journal Editors
 Asia Pacific Association of Medical Journal Editors
National Medical Writing and Review Workshop
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Why Write?




I believe I have no financial or other (including personal) relationships, intellectual passion, political or religious beliefs, and institutional affiliations that might lead to a conflict of interest in making this presentation.



DISCLOSURES


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Why Write?




“Writing, like life itself, is a voyage of discovery”

Henry Miller




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Why Write?



At the end of this session, you will learn:


- **Some reasons for writing,**
 starting where you are in taking your place in the history of scholarship
- **The advantages of medical writing**
 - career benefits
 - professional benefits
 - institutional benefits
 - practical benefits



OBJECTIVES

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Why I WRITE PART ONE

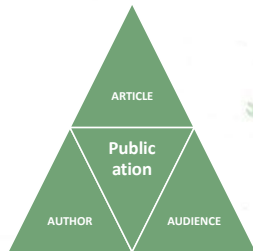



How else can I take all of my Life's Demons, mess-ups and embarrassments – and use them to create the ultimate “Do-Over”

Re-writing Life is ONE reason I write.

Why Write?









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Why Write?



The Author (YOU)


Personal motivation	Professional Motivation
Enjoyment	Academic advancement
Personal growth	Contribute to the knowledge of the discipline
The need to share	Build and develop the professional skill base
Fame and fortune	



Clearihan Lyn. Writing for Publication. Monash University, Melbourne. Available from:
<http://www.phcris.org.au/conference/2005/workshops/clearihan.pdf>


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Why Write?



Common Barriers to Writing


- I don't have time
- I have nothing important to say
- I can't write
- It is too hard
- I am not interested



Clearihan Lyn. Writing for Publication. Monash University, Melbourne. Available from:
<http://www.phcris.org.au/conference/2005/workshops/clearihan.pdf>


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Tips for Reducing Barriers


- The 'nibble technique'
- Keep an ideas "book" handy
- Keep pieces of writing in a scrap book
- Have a camera (phone?) handy
- Discuss ideas with colleagues



Clearihan Lyn. Writing for Publication. Monash University, Melbourne. Available from:
<http://www.phcris.org.au/conference/2005/workshops/clearihan.pdf>

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Why Write?



"If you have an apple and I have an apple
 and we exchange these apples
 then you and I will each still have an one apple.

 But, if you have an idea and I have an idea
 and we exchange these ideas,
 then each of us will have two ideas"


George Bernard Shaw



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Why Write?



Start Where Your Are: Taking Your Place in the History of Scholarship

"Similar to others who write, (historians and poets),
 scientists and those involved in medical research
 need to write ...
 to leave behind a documented legacy
 of their accomplishments."



Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing (Pointers to getting your article published): Why Write?. Singapore Med J 2008; 49(6):443.


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Why Write?

**Start Where Your Are:
Taking Your Place in the History of Scholarship**

“A successful researcher is usually a **good communicator** who has the ability to maximize the transmission of research findings to his or her chosen **audience.**”

Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing: the nuts and bolts (editorial). Singapore Med J 2008; 49:369.


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Why Write?

**Start Where Your Are:
Taking Your Place in the History of Scholarship**

“While ‘doing’ the research is important, ‘writing’ about why and how it was done, what was found, and what it means is far more important as it serves as a permanent record of scientific work that has been completed and accepted by peers.”

Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing (Pointers to getting your article published): Why Write?. Singapore Med J 2008; 49(6):443.


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Why Write?

**Start Where Your Are:
Taking Your Place in the History of Scholarship**

“In short, research, no matter how ‘good’, is incomplete, until it has been published.”

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Why Write?

**Start Where Your Are:
Taking Your Place in the History of Scholarship**

“Publishing” means to make something public. By making ideas public, scholars provide each other with the opportunity to build on each other’s contributions create dialogue (sometimes heated!) with one another join the documented and ongoing history of their field


Publish, Not Perish: The Art and Craft of Publishing in Scholarly Journals. University of Colorado 2006. Available from <http://www.publishnotperish.org> Accessed 24 April 2008.

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“How do I know what I think, until I see what I say?”

E.M. Forster

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Why Write?

**Setting the Stage:
Advantages of Medical Writing**

“The altruistic doctor writes for the pleasure derived from the creative activity of writing and intellectual sharing, and the desire to advance knowledge and benefit mankind.

writing may act as a channel for expressing the joy of scientific discovery, and may even be regarded as a leisurely pursuit.”

Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing (Pointers to getting your article published): Why Write?. Singapore Med J 2008; 49(6):443.

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SMJ
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Medicine in Stamps
José Protacio Rizal (1861-1896):
Physician and Philippine national hero
Lapeña JF

PHILIPPINES

PROFESSOR OF OTORHINOLARYNGOLOGY

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Rizal the Physician: Preparation, Practice and Politics

Rizal @ 150 sa Manila Robinsons Midtown Ermita

June 17, 2011



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Setting the Stage: Advantages of Medical Writing

For the rest of us, the advantages that can be gained from medical writing can be classified into:

- Career
- Professional
- Institutional
- Practical

Peh WCG. Scientific writing and publishing: its importance to radiologists. *Bioméd Imaging Intery. J 2007; 3:e55.*

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Advantages of Medical Writing: Career Benefits

Getting published in prestigious, scholarly journals may have the most direct bearing on your appointment, promotion, tenure and advancement within your institution, organization and discipline.

Publish, Not Perish: The Art and Craft of Publishing in Scholarly Journals. University of Colorado 2006. Available from <http://www.publishnotperish.org>
Accessed 24 April 2008.

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Advantages of Medical Writing: Professional Benefits

“For young doctors, having published articles in reputable international journals are a great help when applying for positions in foreign institutions, and when applying for competitive overseas fellowships.”

Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing (Pointers to getting your article published): *Why Write?*. Singapore Med J 2008; 49(6):443.

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Why Write?

Advantages of Medical Writing: Professional Benefits

“For more established doctors gaining recognition as experts in a particular field at regional & international levels leads to:

invitations to lecture at scientific meetings & refresher courses appointments as consultants to external agencies, expert panels and advisory boards, reviewer and editorial boards.”

Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing (Pointers to getting your article published): *Why Write?*. Singapore Med J 2008; 49(6):443.

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Why Write?



Advantages of Medical Writing:

Professional Benefits

- attainment of a certain standard of scholarly endeavour by prestigious invitation-only international academic societies.
- applications for, extension of, and further research funding
- increases depth of knowledge in a particular subject that complements and hones clinical skills, and enables better teaching of students, clinical trainees and postgraduates.

Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing (Pointers to getting your article published): Why Write?. Singapore Med J 2008; 49(6):443.



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Why Write?



Advantages of Medical Writing:

Institutional Benefits

"Publication in peer-reviewed journals is arguably the most important means to achieve international recognition for an individual, department, hospital, and university.

The author's country, and even the region, may also derive benefit from published work, particularly if it is on a topic of major importance."

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Why Write?



Advantages of Medical Writing:

Practical Benefits

"The most important practical reason... the benefit derived from the inherent training gained during the process of manuscript preparation."

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Why Write?



Advantages of Medical Writing:

Practical Benefits

"discipline of performing a thorough literature search, collating and analysing data, and drafting and repeatedly revising the manuscript."

"Authors who have had their own manuscripts accepted and published will be much better positioned to appreciate what is written in journals and other publications."

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Why Write?



Advantages of Medical Writing:

Practical Benefits

"With the huge amount of information available in journals and in other forms, it is vital ... to be able to judge the quality and reliability of published work."

"If one has published, and appreciates the writing, reviewing and editing process, then one will be better positioned to critically read and evaluate articles."

Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing (Pointers to getting your article published): Why Write?. Singapore Med J 2008; 49(6):443.



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Why Write?



*I'm deep inside a funny mood again,
like to brood again, if I could again
I feel like walking on a cloud again,
think aloud again, write and then ...*

*See my thoughts and feelings fill the paper,
seems I'll never, never really know
Why when other people talk and chatter,
I would rather, rather, rather write
a song...*

Lapeña JF. "I'd rather write a song." (Music and Lyrics). 1979.



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