




The Reviewer's Role



Philippine Council for Health Research and Development
 Philippine Association of Medical Journal Editors
 Asia Pacific Association of Medical Journal Editors
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The Reviewer's Role




At the end of this session, you will learn:

- The reviewers' role
- How a manuscript is reviewed




OBJECTIVES



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The Reviewer's Role




The Reviewer's Role

Job Description

- Expert in his or her chosen field
- Provides unbiased opinion on quality, timeliness and relevance of submitted manuscript
- Integral part of whole system




Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing (Pointers to getting your article published):
 Role of the Manuscript Reviewer. *Singapore Med J* 2009; 50(10): 931-933.



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Four Responsibilities

- To the editor and journal
- To his/her specialty or subspecialty
- To patients and study subjects
- To the author




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Job Description

Responsible for protecting

- reputation of journal
- integrity of specialty/ subspecialty/
- area of expertise/ profession

i.e. Make sure rubbish does not get published!




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Job Description

- Responsible for protecting welfare of subjects
 - both human & animal
- Responsibility to authors
 - fair treatment of manuscript



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Job Description

- Responsibility to authors
 - remember that all manuscripts are
 - the private property of authors
 - highly privileged communications

This trust must not be abused!

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Job Description

- Responsibility to authors
 - always respect the authors' rights
 - never publicly discuss their work
 - do not steal their ideas before publication
 - do not keep any copies of manuscripts sent for review

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Job Description

- Try to
 - make the manuscript better
 - provide helpful suggestions for improvement


Even if the manuscript is rejected!

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- Should be familiar with journal requirements
 - instructions to authors
 - types of papers published
 - journal style
 - standard of journal

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- Reviewers should declare recognition of any aspect of
 - manuscript origin (ideally, blinded or sanitized)
 - Conflict of interest
- If in doubt- inform editor

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The Peer Review Process



Take home points:

- Peer review is an essential component of the scientific process and medical publishing.
- Manuscript reviewers have certain important responsibilities.
- Manuscript reviews should aim at improving the manuscript and aid editorial decision.
- It is very useful for authors to understand the peer review process and the role of the reviewer.

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