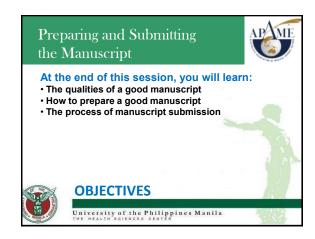
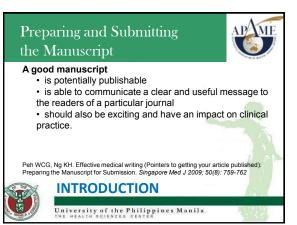
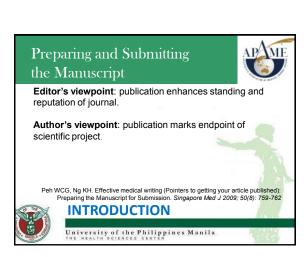
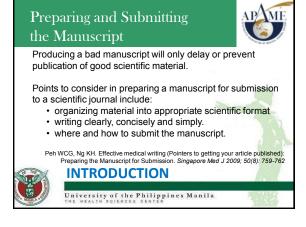


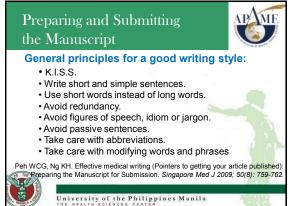
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Preparing and Submitting the Manuscript



Exercise

"To put it bluntly, the medical profession and its suzerain health system can no longer plan and operate as an amorphous farrago of services in splendid isolation from society's imprimatur"

(AMA Gazette 1978)

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

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Exercise

- Suzerain = feudal lord; nation that controls another nation but allows domestic sovereignty
- Amorphous = shapeless, ill-organized
- Farrago = medley, hodge podge, conglomeration
- Imprimatur = official approval, license to publish

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

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Preparing and Submitting the Manuscript



Exercise

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Preparing and Submitting the Manuscript



Finding your voice

- · Grammar is not everything but without it you risk obscurity
- · Find the right word to convey your meaning
- · Focus on correctness and consistency of language
- Don't be afraid of flair and individuality
 - but do read the guidelines to authors

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Tips for better writing

- Try to create visual images with words
- "structure is everything" (Easton)
- Organize your ideas to lead the reader through your argument
- · In a sentence move from the 'known' to the 'unknown'
- Mix up sentence length
- Keep one idea per paragraph

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Writing Tips

- Use strong verbs rather than adding adverbs
- Avoid using intensifers
- Strong words are robbed of their impact by intensifying them
- Look for redundancy of expression and delete

Eg: instead of 'look into deeply' try 'delve' or 'probe' Eg: for 'extremely thirsty' use 'parched'; 'awfully hot' could become 'scorched' Eg: really exhausted; truly

exceptional
Eg: more equal; most unique

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Exercise

- · Avoid the possibility of
- · Another way this can be expressed is by saying that
- · All results presented in this study
- · Provides a detailed account of
- · Due to the fact that

Avoid In other words

All our results Describes

Because

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Preparing and Submitting the Manuscript



More Tips

- · Avoid cliches
- · Active versus passive voice
- Use similes, metaphors, analogies Similes use 'like' or 'as'; to add interest and aid clarity
- · Avoid acronyms and abbreviations wherever possible

"like the plaque "the patient passed a specimen"

metaphors state that item A is item B

"the patient with SOBOE had an ECHO which showed she had PPH, not an AMI"

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EXERCISE: Edit vour work

This observer believes that, the most common criticism made presently by older practioners are that young graduates have been taught a great deal of information about the mechanism of disease but little relative to the practice of medicine - or to put it in a more blunt fashion, they are too "scientific" and not know how to take appropriate care of patients'.

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EXERCISE: Edit vour work

This observer believes that, (wordiness, inappropriate punctation) the most common criticism made presently (misuse) by older practioners (misspelling) are (misuse) that young graduates have been taught a great deal of information (wordiness) about the mechanism of disease but little relative to (wordiness) the practice of medicine - or to put it in a more blunt fashion (wordiness), they are too "scientific" and not (misuse) know how to take appropriate (wordiness) care of patients'

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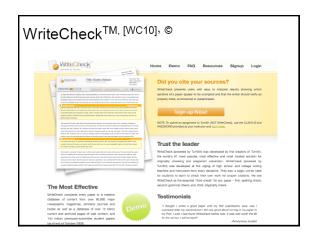
EXERCISE: Edit your work

The most common criticism made at present by older practitioners is that young graduates have been taught a great deal about the mechanism of disease but little about the practice of medicine - or, to put it bluntly, they are too 'scientific' and do not know how to take care of patients.

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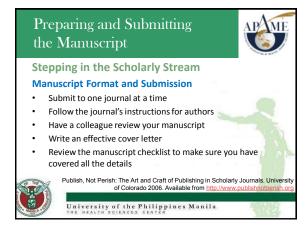
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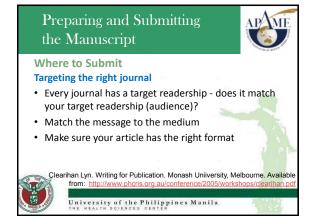












Preparing and Submitting the Manuscript



Stepping in the Scholarly Stream

Manuscript Format and Submission

What can authors do to ensure the publication process goes as smoothly as possible?

Work very hard, and send a polished article in that is very well-written. It also helps to meet editors at meetings, and do presentations of working papers and get feedback before submitting and become known in the field.

Elizabeth Cooperman, peer reviewer and author

University of the Philippines Manila

Preparing and Submitting the Manuscript



Take home points:

- 1. If you want to write well, read good writing
- 2. Revise and proof read your work
- 3. Read it out loud for sense
- 4. Remember: Clarity, Brevity, Simplicity
- 5. Get the basics right!.

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Preparing and Submitting the Manuscript



Take home points:

- 1. Structure your material into a scientific format.
- Organize your material according to the appropriate article category.
- 3. Aim for clarity in transmitting your message to the
- 4. Match your material to the audience (i.e. journal).
- 5. Follow exactly the journal's "Instructions to Authors".

Peh WCG, Ng KH. Effective medical writing (Pointers to getting your article published):

Peparing the Manuscript for Submission. Singapore Med J 2009; 50(8): 759-762

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