How to get published What distinguishes a good manuscript from a bad one?

A good manuscript...

...is in scope

Investigate all candidate journals and find out about the:

- Aims and scope
- Accepted types of articles
- Readership
- Current hot topics by going through the abstracts of recent publications

...adheres to publication ethics

- Avoid plagiarism of others' work
- Avoid multiple publication of the same work, never submit your manuscript to more than one journal at a time
- Cite and acknowledge others' work appropriately
- Only list co-authors who made major contributions

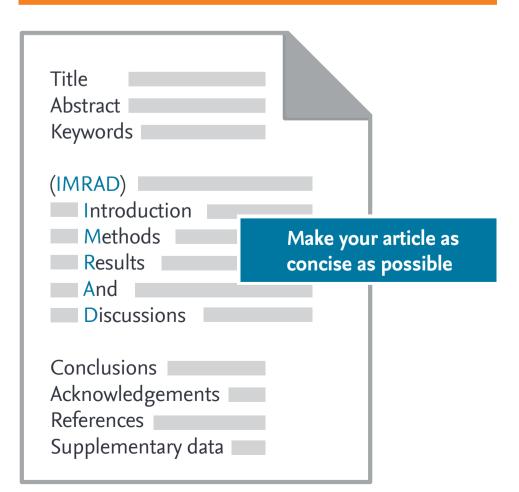
...follows the Guide for Authors

Stick to the Guide for Authors in your manuscript, editors do not like wasting time on poorly prepared manuscripts.

You can find the Guide for Authors on the journal's homepage on



Article structure



Illustrations

Illustrations are critical, because...

- Figures and tables are the most efficient way to present
- Results are the driving force of the publication



One picture is worth a thousand words. Sue Hanauer (1968)



- Captions and legends must be detailed enough to make figures and tables self explanatory
- No duplication of results described in text or other illustrations

Use proper manuscript language

Publishers do not correct language, this is the author's responsibility

- Ask a native speaker or use a language editing service to improve your paper before you submit it.
- Poor English makes it difficult for the editor and reviewers to understand your work and might lead to rejection of your paper.
- Be alert to common errors:
 - Sentence construction
 - X Incorrect tenses
 - Inaccurate grammar
 - Mixing languages
- English language should be used throughout the manuscript, including figures, charts, graphs and photos.

Are you ready to submit?

Roughly 35% of all submitted manuscripts are rejected before peer review. Make sure you revise before you submit.

- Do your findings advance understanding in a specific research field?
- Is your work of interest to the journal's audience?
- Is your manuscript structured properly?
- Are your conclusions justified by your results?
- Are your references international/accessible enough?
- Did you format your figures and tables properly?
- Did you correct all grammatical and spelling mistakes?

Make sure you are equipped!

