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How freelance publication professionals help avoid waste

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Reducing waste for whom?

- Authors
- Journal and publisher staff
- Readers

**Manuscript work offers opportunities
that should not be wasted
to educate and train authors.**



Introduction, redundant content:

Neuropathy is associated with several risk factors such as raised triglyceride levels, body mass index, smoking, hypertension (9), and diabetic microvascular (10) and macrovascular injuries (11[PW1]).

[PW1] You have also included similar text in the discussion. The introduction only needs to include the background to explain why the study was done and what research question you were trying to answer, so it could probably be deleted here (and maybe look at the rest of the paragraph too).

Introduction, more specific/informative wording:

Gender has also been a concern[PW1] regarding admission to critical care units and mortality (8, 9).

[PW1] Could you be more specific here? For example, “Higher ICU admission and mortality rates in men/women [as applicable] are also a concern”

Results, data duplicated in table and figure:

The statistical analysis showed a significant difference between [protein] expression in patients with ovarian cancer (27.2%) and control group (9.3%) ($P=0.024$). There was also a significant difference between [protein] expression in patients (55.7%) and the controls (23.0%) ($P=0.001$) (Table 2, Figures[PW1] 1, 2).

[PW1] Figures 1 and 2 are not so helpful, as they are showing the same data as in Table 2. I suggest they are deleted. If deleted, remember to renumber the other figures and the cross-references in the text.

Results, data presentation (possible missing data not considered):

The questionnaire was completed by 391 ~~Out~~ of the 432 healthcare professionals; ~~the questionnaire was completed by 391 participants~~ (response rate 90.5%) (Table 1).

Note: In Table 1, all the variables have a total N of 390, and the percentages have been calculated using 390 as the denominator. But you've said that 391 completed the questionnaire. I would add an explanation as to what happened: was there 1 participant who didn't provide complete data?

Discussion, coherence with previous sections:

On the whole, family cooperation with the [hospital services] was good to very good[PW1] , those of families with the [welfare agency] were felt to be more wearing[PW2] .

[PW1]Were rating scales used? If so, these should be described in the methods and presented in the results section

[PW2]Not sure if this is the best word... maybe 'demanding' would be better?

'Language-specific' advice relating to the Word menu:

Throughout the document I would delete the extra paragraph marks. If a page break is needed for a new section, then use *Absatz/Zeilen- und Seitenumbruch/Seitenumbruch oberhalb*



Language, meaning and clarity:

??**Au**, part of the difficulty in understanding your text is the confusion between difference, increase or decrease, and larger (greater) or smaller.

In summary, in both tasks, at [observation time 2] compared to [observation time 1], the [outcome 1] and [outcome 2] differences of [variable 1] and [variable 2] showed no significant changes, but [outcome 3] of [variable 2] to [variable 1] had a significant decrease.

??**Au**, part of the difficulty in understanding your text is the confusion between difference, increase or decrease, and larger (greater) or smaller. You compared [technique] parameters in the two tasks [redacted] between [2 observation times]. It is clearer if you avoid “increase” and “decrease” and just say that the value in the [observation time 2] (second measurement in the second test session) was “larger (or greater) than” or “smaller than” the value in the [observation time 1] (first measurement in the first session).

Readability:

Mean between-group differences (95% CI) were 5 points (1.8 to 8.1), 8.3 points (4.2 to 12.3) and 3.34 points (1.02 to 5.6) for functional disability level and -1.47 (-1.7 to -1.17), -3.17 (-3.6 to -2.7) and -1.7 (-2.04 to -1.3) for trigger point sensitivity, **respectively**.

Scientific style:

??**Au**, even after an abbreviation has been defined in the text, abbreviations should not be used as the first word in a sentence. Please see the link to “Abbreviations”

<http://www.authoraidem.org/index.php/advice-for-authors>

Content organization:

??**Au**, all the Results should be in the Results section, so some of the content of the Discussion section should be moved to Results. The Tables and Figures should be first mentioned to readers in the Results section. The results should not be repeated in the Discussion section.

Quotation, citation, references:

??**Au**, this is a word-for-word quotation from reference 16 so you must put this text in “quotation marks” in addition to providing the reference. Please check all the manuscript (especially the Introduction and Discussion) to identify word-for-word quotations and put them in quotation marks.

Reporting guidelines:

??Au, For this type of study it is a good idea to prepare the manuscript so that it contains all the information required in the STROBE checklist <http://www.equator-network.org/reporting-guidelines/strobe/> .

Education, editorial policies on plagiarism:

Para evitar problemas siempre es de bien nacidos comentarle al editor, en el momento de enviarle el original, el que algunas partes están tomadas de otros artículos, preguntarle cuál es la política editorial de la revista, y manifestar tu disposición para hacer las modificaciones editoriales oportunas si procede. Eso evita que el editor piense mal, y le facilita la toma de una decisión al respecto.

(Full advice to author was 500 words long.)

Email from an author:

“Thank you for sending final corrected manuscript. Besides the manuscript correction, I learned many new things about scientific writing.”

Reducing waste before MS submittal

- MS preparation (following journal's instructions, language, "style", writing)
- Choosing an appropriate journal
- Quotation, citation, referencing
- Publication ethics

**Researchers need
education and training**

Reducing waste after MS submittal

- MS revision
- Responding to reviewers (especially unhelpful ones) and editors
- Licensing, copyright, access, dissemination

**Researchers need
education and training**

**Those who work directly with authors
are well positioned to educate and
train them.**

Freelance advantages:

1. Fluency in the authors' first language
2. Familiarity with the authors' academic culture
3. Geographical proximity
4. Freedom from institutional pressures

Thank you very much!

Handout with bibliography available



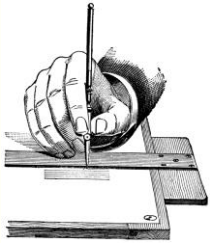
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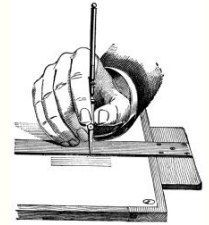


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Strategies for successful research publication



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AERTeM, ASETRAD, COPE, EASE, EMAME, MET, TREMÉDICA, WAME

- 1:** La elección de la revista, el proceso de escritura
- 2:** La estructura y el contenido de los artículos:
Introducción, Métodos, Resultados, tablas y figuras
- 3:** La estructura y el contenido de los artículos:
Discusión, Conclusiones, título, resumen
- 4:** “Good scientific English style”, el estilo de escritura, el estilo técnico
- 5:** Contenido y organización de la Discusión, estudio de ejemplos de escritura
- 6:** La revisión por expertos (*peer review*), cuestiones éticas en el sistema de publicación