

Maximizing Research Impact Webinar Series

From First Draft to Published Article

Presented by the Local Capacity Development Crosscutting Theme

13 May 2022

Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems











Presented in collaboration with the University of Florida Libraries

TERRY KIT SELFE, DC PhD

A Translational Research and Impact Librarian











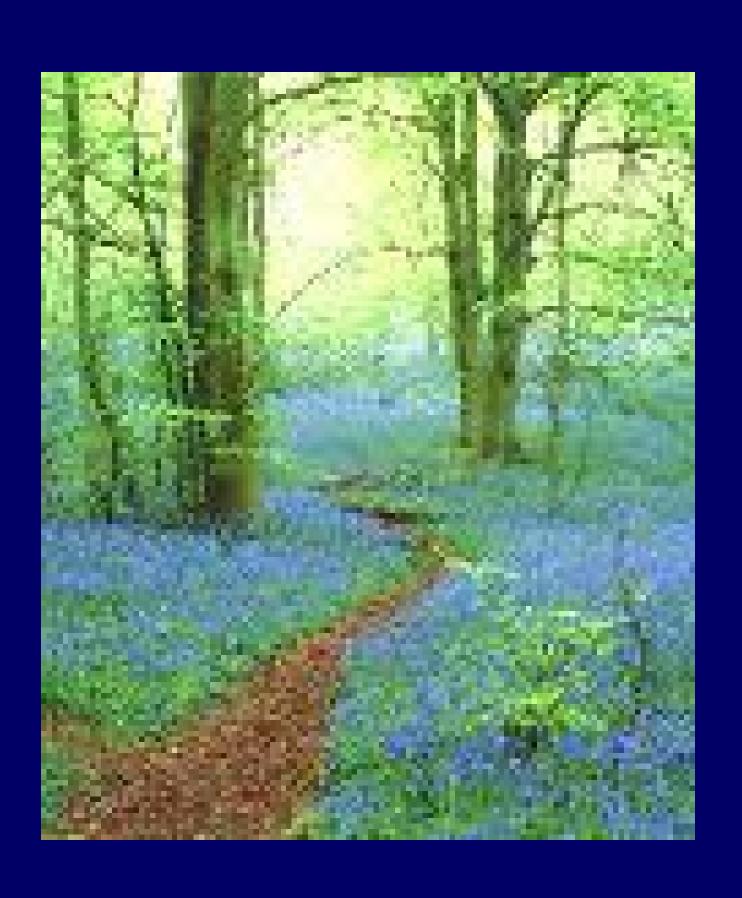
Outline

Preparing the manuscript for submission

- ICMJE recommendations
 - General principles, reporting guidelines, manuscript sections
- Journal instructions for authors
 - Examples

Submitting the manuscript

- Initial submission
 - Main text, tables, figures, other pieces
- Revisions
 - Responding to reviewers
- Accepted for publication
 - Review proofs/galleys



Publish

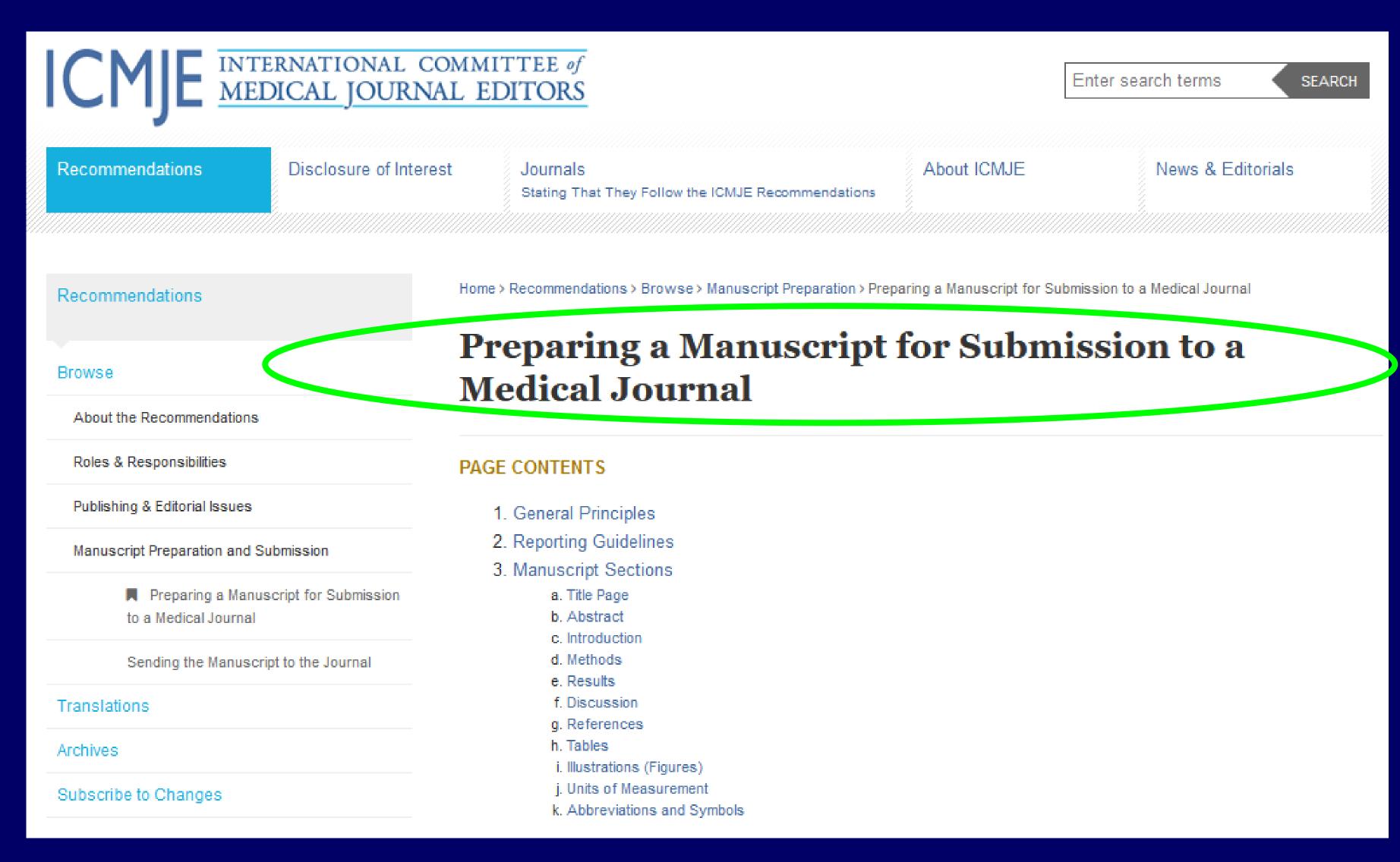
What and where?

- Journal articles
 - Original research
 - Results from lab studies and clinical trials
 - Study protocols
 - Good for replicability and transparency
 - Reviews
 - Possibly something from your dissertation, grant submission
- In journals that will reach your audience
 - In databases they use when searching for information
 - Accessible to them
 - Research4life content providers
 https://portal.research4life.org/content/publishers
 - Open access publishing options (publishers who waive or discount APCs) https://extranet.who.int/hinari/en/oaapc info.php



International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)

- Manuscript Preparation and Submission
 - General Principles
 - Reporting Guidelines
 - Manuscript Sections



General principles

- Original research
 - IMRAD structure
 - Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion
 - May need subheadings for further organize content
- Other types of articles
 - May require different formats

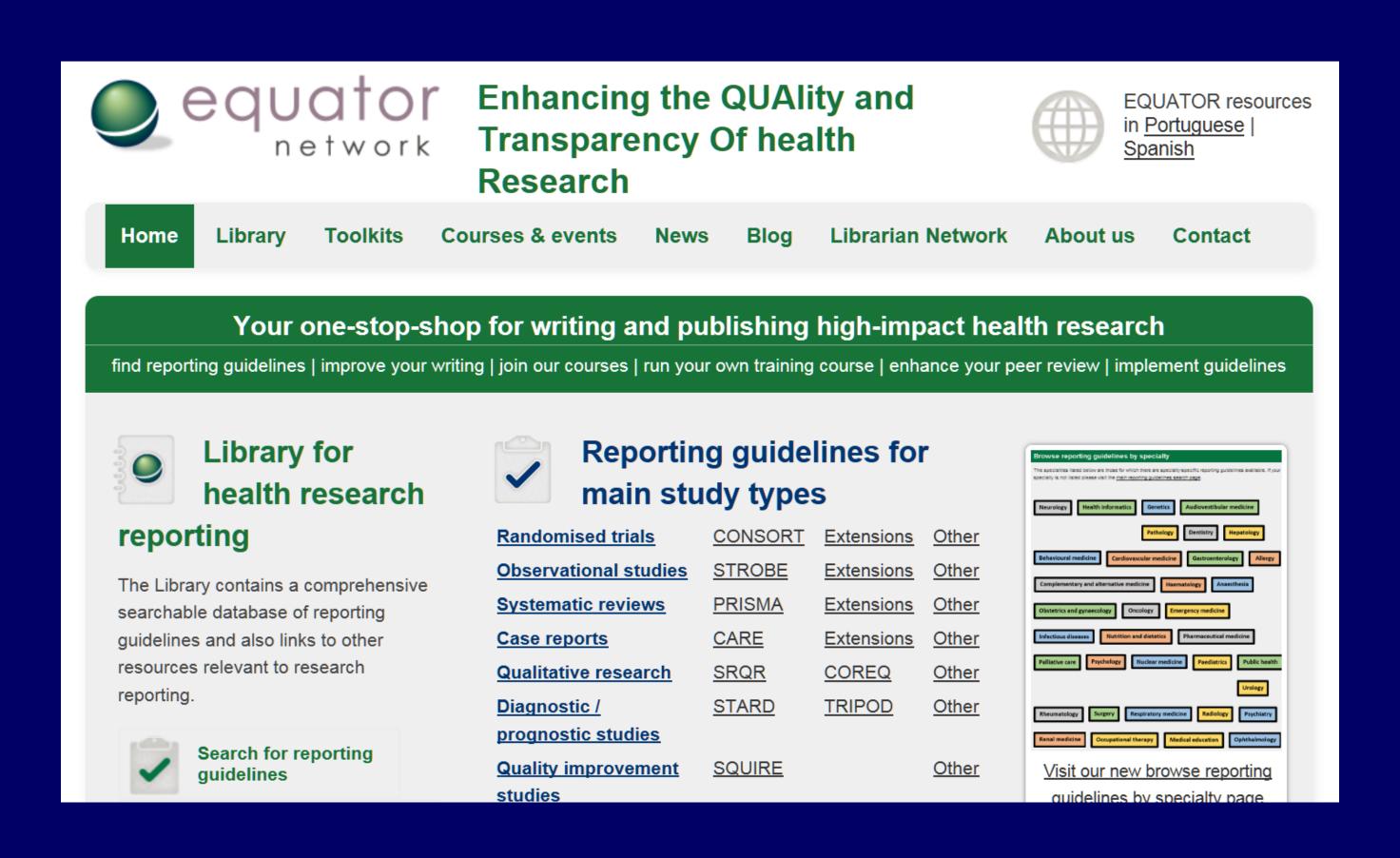
Reporting guidelines

- Based on study design
 - Content items
 - E.g., CONSORT for randomized trials
- Good sources
 - EQUATOR Network

CONSORT 2010 checklist of information to include when reporting a randomised trial*			
Section/Topic	Item No	Checklist item	Reported on page No
Title and abstract			
	1a	Identification as a randomised trial in the title	
	1b	Structured summary of trial design, methods, results, and conclusions (for specific guidance see CONSORT for abstracts)	
Introduction			
Background and	2a	Scientific background and explanation of rationale	
objectives	2b	Specific objectives or hypotheses	
Methods			
Trial design	3a	Description of trial design (such as parallel, factorial) including allocation ratio	
	3b	Important changes to methods after trial commencement (such as eligibility criteria), with reasons	
Participants	4a	Eligibility criteria for participants	
	4b	Settings and locations where the data were collected	
Interventions	5	The interventions for each group with sufficient details to allow replication, including how and when they were actually administered	
Outcomes	6a	Completely defined pre-specified primary and secondary outcome measures, including how and when they were assessed	

https://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/manuscript-preparation/preparing-for-submission.html

Find Reporting Standards





OME ARRIVE PRISMA REFLECT STROBE-VET STARD (DIAGNOSTICS) OTHER GUIDELINES

Fill out an ARRIVE checklist in RIGOR.

The ARRIVE (Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments) guidelines improve the reporting of research that uses animals.

Their goal is to reduce the number of unnecessary studies and to increase the amount of information published. The guidelines are produced by the National Centre for the Replacement Refinement & Reduction of Animals in Research (NC3Rs). Please see more information about ARRIVE here.



CONSORT

Fill out a CONSORT checklist in RIGOR.

The CONSORT Statement provides recommendations for describing randomized trials. It seeks to help authors report conclusions drawn from the trials, make their reporting more complete and transparent, and make it easier to review and interpret the evidence. CONSORT stands for Consolidated Standards of Reporting Trials.

Fill out a PRISMA checklist in RIGOR.

PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses) statement includes a reporting checklist for meta-analyses and systematic reviews. The main focus of PRISMA is on evaluating randomized trials. However, it can also be for reviewing other types of research, e.g., evaluations of interventions. More information about PRISMA can also be found here and at http://www.prisma-statement.org/.





Fill out a REFLECT checklist in RIGOR

The overall goal of the REFLECT (Reporting Guidelines for Randomized Controlled Trials for Livestock and Food Safety) statement is to help authors improve the reporting livestock trials. More information about REFLECT can be found here.

Fill out a STROBE-Vet checklist in RIGOR.

The STROBE-Vet (Strengthening the Reporting of Observational Studies in Epidemology – Veterinary Extension) modifies the STROBE statement for reporting observational studies of animal populations. More information about STROBE-Vet can be found here



https://www.equator-network.org/

https://meridian.cvm.iastate.edu/tools-for-checklists/

- Title page
 - Article title
 - Some also require a short title/running title
 - Author information
 - Highest academic degrees, affiliation, corresponding author's contact information, ORCID is encouraged
 - Disclaimers
 - E.g., views expressed are mine alone
 - Source(s) of support
 - Grants and other support that facilitated conduct of the work

- Title page
 - Word count
 - Main text
 - Typically excluding abstract, tables, figure legends, references, and acknowledgments
 - Number of tables and figures
 - Giving number on title page lets editorial staff and reviewers confirm all of the pieces are included in the manuscript
 - Disclosure of relationships and activities
 - ICMJE Disclosure Form: https://www.icmje.org/disclosure-of-interest/

- Abstract
 - Structured
 - Context and purpose of the study, basic procedures, main findings, and principal conclusions
 - Specific format differs between journals
 - Information in abstract should be consistent with what is stated in the text
 - Be sure to review and update abstract whenever manuscript is revised

- Introduction
 - Background
 - Purpose / Research objective / Hypothesis tested
- Methods
 - How and why study was done in particular way
 - Detailed enough to be reproduced
 - Only information from planning stage
 - All information obtained while conducting the study goes in the Results section
 - Statement of approval by an ethics committee, IRB

- Methods
 - How and why study was done in particular way
 - Selection and description of participants
 - Eligibility criteria and description of source population
 - Technical information
 - Primary and secondary outcomes
 - For any equipment used, give manufacturer's name and address in parentheses
 - For any drugs/chemicals, give generic name, dose(s), and route(s) of administration
 - Give references to established methods, reference and describe methods that are not well-known
 - Statistics
 - Clearly identify prespecified and exploratory analyses
 - State statistical software package(s) and version(s) used

- Results
 - Text, tables, figures
 - Data on all primary and secondary outcomes mentioned in Methods
- Discussion
 - Recommend beginning with brief summary of main findings
 - Your findings in the context of existing literature
 - What is new and important about your study
 - Study limitations
 - Implications for future research, policy, or clinical practice
 - Distinguish between statistical and clinical significance
 - Only make statements that are supported by the data

- References
 - General considerations
 - Cite original research sources when possible
 - Reviews do not always accurately reflect the original work
 - Use 'in press' or 'forthcoming' for a paper accepted but not yet published
 - Use 'unpublished observation' to describe information from a manuscript submitted but not accepted
 - Avoid citing 'personal communication' unless essential
 - Avoid citing articles in predatory journals
 - Style and format
 - NLM's sample references: https://www.nlm.nih.gov/bsd/uniform-requirements.html
 - NLM's Citing Medicine: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK7256/

Manuscript sections

- Tables
 - Efficient way to display information
 - Can reduce length of text
 - Prepare according to journal's requirements
 - Number tables consecutively in order of their first mention in the text
 - Each table should have a self-explanatory title
 - Reader shouldn't have to go back to the text for context
 - Each column should have a short or abbreviated heading
 - Use footnotes for explanatory matter
 - E.g., symbols, non-standard abbreviations
 - If including tables that supplement the published material, inform readers where this additional information is available

https://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/manuscript-preparation/preparing-for-submission.html

- Figures (Illustrations)
 - Check journal instructions for quality of image requirements
 - Send high-resolution photographic image files for pictures of pathology specimens, clinical or diagnostic images
 - Before and after images should be taken with same intensity, direction, and color of light
 - Text should be large enough to remain legible when figure is reduced in size for publication
 - Use legends for titles and explanatory material
 - Number figures consecutively in order of their first mention in the text
 - If figure has been published previously, acknowledge original source and submit written permission from the copyright holder to reproduce

- Units of measurement
 - Metric units for weight, height, length, and volume
 - Temperatures in degrees Celsius
 - Laboratory values in both local and International System of Units (SI)
 - Consult journal's instructions for authors
- Abbreviations and symbols
 - Use only standard abbreviations
 - At first use, spell out the term and follow with the abbreviation in parentheses
 - Do not use abbreviations in manuscript title

Sending the manuscript: ICMJE

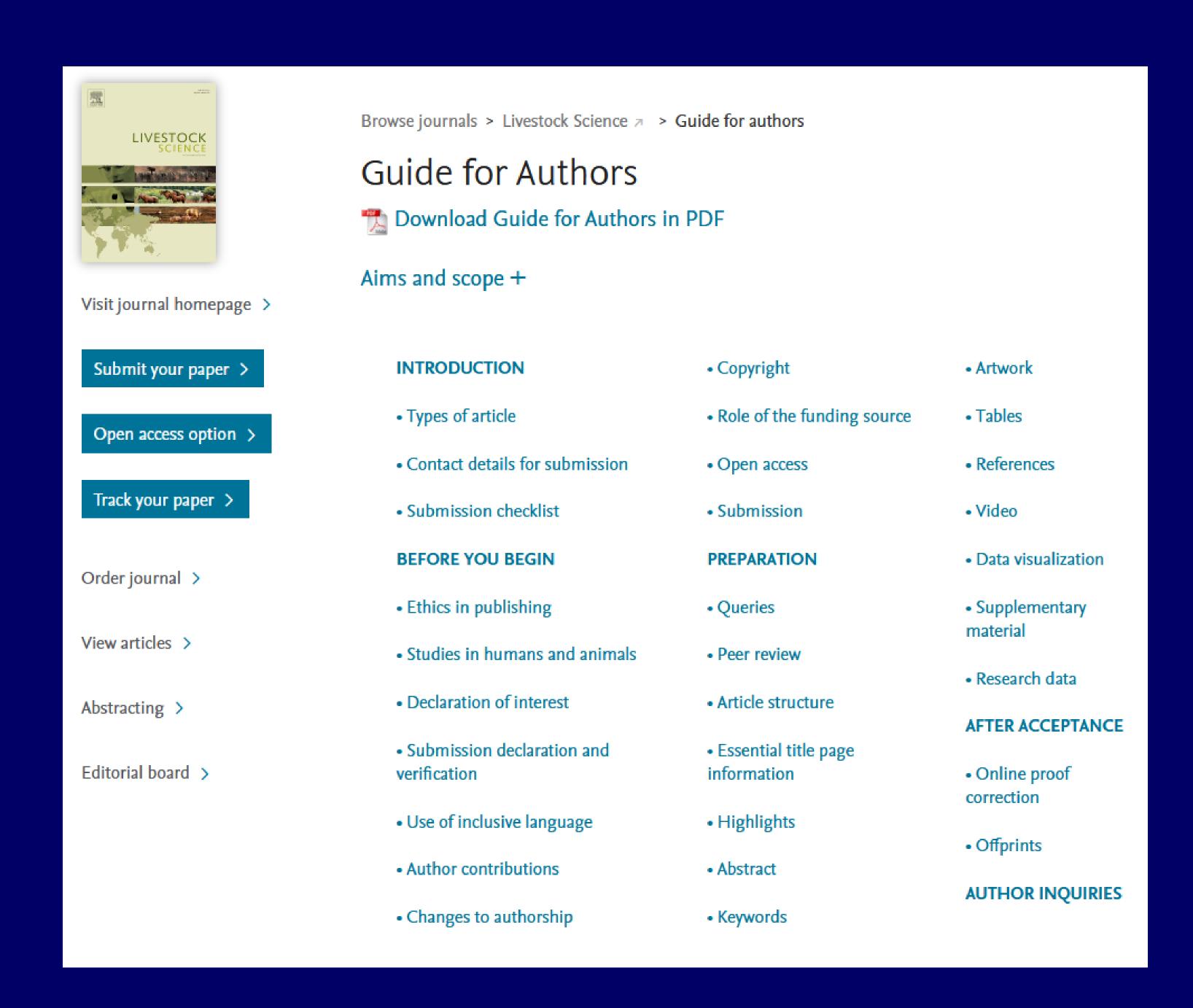
Information to include in cover letter or submission form if not provided elsewhere

- All submissions and previous reports that might be redundant
 - Not currently under consideration by another journal
- Conflict of interest statement
- Authorship statement
- Contact information for corresponding author
- Checklist(s) if required
 - Pre-submission checklist to be sure all pieces are included
 - Reporting guidelines checklist, e.g., CONSORT
- If any previously published material is included, provide evidence that permission to reproduce was obtained

https://www.icmje.org/recommendations/browse/manuscript-preparation/sending-the-submission.html

Journal specific instructions

- Instructions for Authors
 - Main text, tables, figures
 - Structure
 - Order, section headings
 - Title page information
 - Abstract
 - Tables and figures
 - File types to use
 - Additional pieces
 - Cover letter
 - Author statement
 - Disclosure form
 - Reviewers



https://www.elsevier.com/journals/livestock-science/1871-1413/guide-for-authors

Main text, tables, figures

- Livestock Science example
 - Structure

Article structure

Manuscripts should have numbered lines, with wide margins and double spacing throughout, i.e. also for abstracts, footnotes and references. Every page of the manuscript, including the title page, references, tables, etc., should be numbered. However, in the text no reference should be made to page numbers; if necessary, one may refer to sections. Avoid excessive usage of italics to emphasise part of the text.

Manuscripts in general should be organised in the following order:

- Title should be clear, descriptive and not too long
- Abstract
- Keywords (indexing terms)
- Introduction
- Material studied, area descriptions, methods, techniques
- Results
- Discussion
- Conclusion
- Acknowledgment and any additional information concerning research grants, and so
 on
- References
- Figure captions
- Figures (separate file(s))
- Tables (separate file(s))

Main text, tables, figures

- Livestock Science example
 - Information on title page

Essential title page information

- Title. Concise and informative. Titles are often used in information-retrieval systems. Avoid abbreviations and formulae where possible.
- Author names and affiliations. Please clearly indicate the given name(s) and family name(s) of each author and check that all names are accurately spelled. You can add your name between parentheses in your own script behind the English transliteration. Present the authors' affiliation addresses (where the actual work was done) below the names. Indicate all affiliations with a lower-case superscript letter immediately after the author's name and in front of the appropriate address. Provide the full postal address of each affiliation, including the country name and, if available, the e-mail address of each author.
- Corresponding author. Clearly indicate who will handle correspondence at all stages of refereeing and publication, also post-publication. This responsibility includes answering any future queries about Methodology and Materials. Ensure that the e-mail address is given and that contact details are kept up to date by the corresponding author.

https://www.elsevier.com/journals/livestock-science/1871-1413/guide-for-authors

Main text, tables, figures

- Livestock Science example
 - Abstract
 - Structure
 - Word limit

Abstract

A concise and factual abstract is required. The abstract should state briefly the purpose of the research, the principal results and major conclusions. An abstract is often presented separately from the article, so it must be able to stand alone. For this reason, References should be avoided, but if essential, then cite the author(s) and year(s). Also, non-standard or uncommon abbreviations should be avoided, but if essential they must be defined at their first mention in the abstract itself.

The abstract should not be longer than 400 words.

Main text, tables, figures

- Livestock Science example
 - Tables information

Tables

Please submit tables as editable text and not as images. Tables can be placed either next to the relevant text in the article, or on separate page(s) at the end. Number tables consecutively in accordance with their appearance in the text and place any table notes below the table body. Be sparing in the use of tables and ensure that the data presented in them do not duplicate results described elsewhere in the article. Please avoid using vertical rules and shading in table cells.

https://www.elsevier.com/journals/livestock-science/1871-1413/guide-for-authors

Main text, tables, figures

- · Livestock Science example
 - Figures information
 - Formats

Electronic artwork

General points

- Make sure you use uniform lettering and sizing of your original artwork.
- Embed the used fonts if the application provides that option.
- Aim to use the following fonts in your illustrations: Arial, Courier, Times New Roman,
 Symbol, or use fonts that look similar.
- Number the illustrations according to their sequence in the text.
- Use a logical naming convention for your artwork files.
- Provide captions to illustrations separately.
- Size the illustrations close to the desired dimensions of the published version.
- Submit each illustration as a separate file.
- Ensure that color images are accessible to all, including those with impaired color vision.

Formats

If your electronic artwork is created in a Microsoft Office application (Word, PowerPoint, Excel) then please supply 'as is' in the native document format.

Regardless of the application used other than Microsoft Office, when your electronic artwork is finalized, please 'Save as' or convert the images to one of the following formats (note the resolution requirements for line drawings, halftones, and line/halftone combinations given below):

EPS (or PDF): Vector drawings, embed all used fonts.

TIFF (or JPEG): Color or grayscale photographs (halftones), keep to a minimum of 300 dpi.

TIFF (or JPEG): Bitmapped (pure black & white pixels) line drawings, keep to a minimum of 1000 dpi.

TIFF (or JPEG): Combinations bitmapped line/half-tone (color or grayscale), keep to a minimum of 500 dpi.

https://www.elsevier.com/journals/livestock-science/1871-1413/guide-for-authors

Additional pieces

- Cover letter
- Author statement
- Potential reviewers
- Disclosures



REMEMBER TO INCLUDE

In cover letter:

Name, postal address, phone number and e-mail address of the corresponding author.

Name of an Associate Editor with expertise in the area of the study (if no Associate Editor is suitable, the Editorial Office will handle the submission). No authors of a submission can serve as the Handling Associate Editor. Additionally, an Associate Editor who has collaborated with the authors in the past three years cannot serve as the Handling Associate Editor.

Statement that all authors have contributed to the work, agree with the presented findings, and that the work has not been published before nor is being considered for publication in another journal.

A list of at least 6 potential reviewers knowledgeable in the area of the study (including the name of a statistician if needed) and potential reviewer conflicts.

Statement that procedures involving experiments on human subjects are done in accord with the ethical standards of the Committee on Human Experimentation of the institution in which the experiments were done or in accord with the Helsinki Declaration of 1975.

Statement that procedures involving experimentation on animal subjects are done in accord with either the guide of the institution in which the experiments were done, or with the National Research Council's guide for the care and use of laboratory animals.

Statement of all financial and material support for this research and any potential conflicts.

Additional pieces

- Livestock Science example
 - Author statement
 - Recommended format

Author contributions

For transparency, we encourage authors to submit an author statement file outlining their individual contributions to the paper using the relevant CRediT roles: Conceptualization; Data curation; Formal analysis; Funding acquisition; Investigation; Methodology; Project administration; Resources; Software; Supervision; Validation; Visualization; Roles/Writing - original draft; Writing - review & editing. Authorship statements should be formatted with the names of authors first and CRediT role(s) following. More details and an example.

Additional pieces

- Livestock Science example
 - Disclosures
 - Funding support

Role of the funding source

You are requested to identify who provided financial support for the conduct of the research and/or preparation of the article and to briefly describe the role of the sponsor(s), if any, in study design; in the collection, analysis and interpretation of data; in the writing of the report; and in the decision to submit the article for publication. If the funding source(s) had no such involvement, it is recommended to state this.

Additional pieces

- Livestock Science example
 - Disclosures
 - In manuscript and a Declaration of Interest form

Declaration of interest

All authors must disclose any financial and personal relationships with other people or organizations that could inappropriately influence (bias) their work. Examples of potential competing interests include employment, consultancies, stock ownership, honoraria, paid expert testimony, patent applications/registrations, and grants or other funding. Authors must disclose any interests in two places: 1. A summary declaration of interest statement in the title page file (if double anonymized) or the manuscript file (if single anonymized). If there are no interests to declare then please state this: 'Declarations of interest: none'. 2. Detailed disclosures as part of a separate Declaration of Interest form, which forms part of the journal's official records. It is important for potential interests to be declared in both places and that the information matches. More information at the information of the information at the information of the information of the information at the information matches.

https://www.elsevier.com/journals/livestock-science/1871-1413/guide-for-authors

Additional pieces

- Livestock Science example
 - Potential reviewers
 - No recent co-authors
 - Editor's decision

Suggesting reviewers

Please submit the names and institutional e-mail addresses of several potential reviewers.

You should not suggest reviewers who are colleagues, or who have co-authored or collaborated with you during the last three years. Editors do not invite reviewers who have potential competing interests with the authors. Further, in order to provide a broad and balanced assessment of the work, and ensure scientific rigor, please suggest diverse candidate reviewers who are located in different countries/regions from the author group. Also consider other diversity attributes e.g. gender, race and ethnicity, career stage, etc. Finally, you should not include existing members of the journal's editorial team, of whom the journal are already aware.

Note: the editor decides whether or not to invite your suggested reviewers.

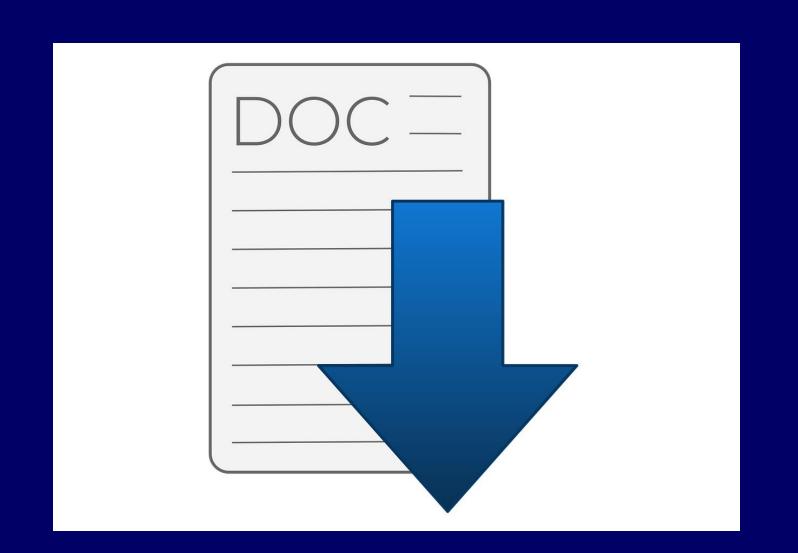
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Initial submission

- Upload main text, tables, figures
- Sometimes additional pieces are required
 - Cover letter
 - Author form, disclosure form
 - Reviewer recommendations
- Often all of the files will be combined into one pdf
 - Check pdf for formatting errors, missing pieces

Allow way more time than you think this process will take

- Generally will receive email confirming submission
 - Sometimes just corresponding author is notified
 - If you are a co-author on someone else's submission and receive an email, check it to see if you need to respond in some way



Initial submission

- Editor makes first decision whether to reject or send for peer review
 - Identifies peers with relevant expertise
- Peer review
 - Generally two to three reviewers suggest improvements and provide recommendations
- Editor communicates decision to author
 - Potential decisions
 - Accept; Accept with minor revisions; Major revisions required with no guarantee of acceptance; Reject https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/0898010112464943

Revisions

- Responding to reviewers
 - Response letter addressing all comments
 - Take a breath before responding
 - Sometimes reviewers get it wrong
 - Pick your battles
 - Have someone else read your response for tone
 - Revised manuscript, generally with changes noted
 - E.g., track changes on, changes highlighted
 - Often a clean version as well
 - Be sure to keep track of your revision versions so at a later date you can easily identify the final approved version

Accepted for publication

- Save this email
- Journal production team works on manuscript and sends proofs/galleys to corresponding author for review
 - The formatted version as it will appear in the journal
 - Respond to all queries
 - Check against final approved version
 - Not the time to introduce new changes
 - Formatting of tables is often an issue
 - Often expected back within 48 hours

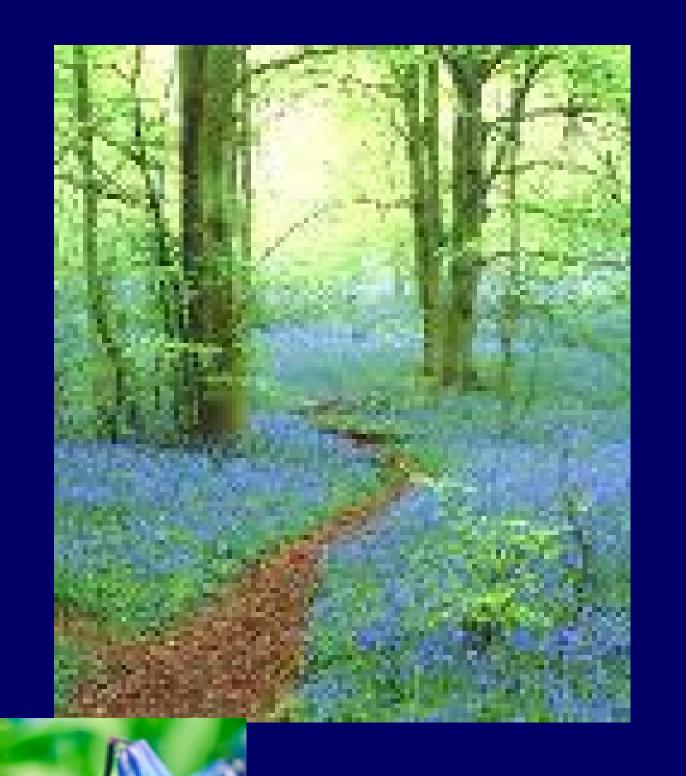
Recap

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Upcoming Webinars

Fridays at 8 a.m. Eastern Time

June 10: Avoiding Predatory Journals: Make your publication count

This webinar will introduce the participants to predatory journals, how and why to avoid publishing in one, and best practices for determining where to publish.

June 24: Tools for Managing Your Researcher Profile

This webinar will introduce a number of tools participants can use to manage their researcher profile, including Google Scholar, Dimensions, Scopus, Web of Science, and Publons.



Q&A

Acknowledgements:

- University of Florida George A. Smathers Libraries

This presentation is archived on the website of the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems https://livestocklab.ifas.ufl.edu







Next session on June 10th

Avoiding Predatory Journals

8:00 a.m. EST or UTC-04:00

Connect by Zoom

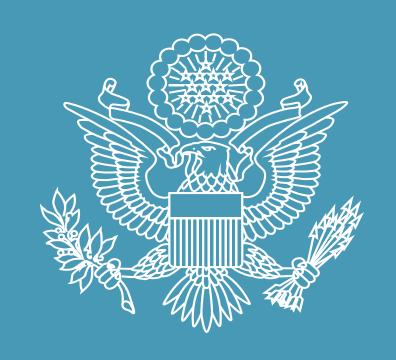












FEEDIFUTURE

The U.S. Government's Global Hunger & Food Security Initiative

www.feedthefuture.gov







