Writing for Publication

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Session Objectives

• List knowledge and skills necessary for writing for newsletters, journals, and other nursing related publications

• Generate a potential topic for publication based on your area of clinical expertise

• Identify potential organizational resources within the work setting that can be accessed to achieve your publication goal.

Conflict of Interest Disclosure

• Cecily L. Betz, PhD, RN, FAAN
  – As Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Pediatric Nursing (JPN), the official Journal of PENS benefits indirectly as I receive an Editor’s stipend from Elsevier, Inc, JPN publisher
Understand mission & editorial focus

• Types of manuscripts
  – Empirical research with clinical relevance
  – Systematic or integrative reviews
  – Program evaluation
  – Theoretical discussion/analysis
  – Evidenced based practice

• Style & format
  – Reference style
  – Article format
  – Number of references
  – Content organization
  – Abstract format
  – Submission process

Journal of Pediatric Nursing

Strategies for writing a manuscript

• Develop a plan
  – Outline
  – Reasonable expectations
  – Timeline
  – Competing demands

• Identify available resources
  – Literature databases
  – Bibliographic software
  – Technical editor
  – Experienced authors as readers
  – Thesaurus/ dictionary
Determine Your Area of Expertise

- What is your area of expertise?
  - Pediatric Endocrinology
  - What do you do that is unique within that area of expertise?
    - Children with type 2 Diabetes
    - What is your area of practice?
      - Clinical, Research, Education,
      - Program Development

Coming Up with the Idea

- Area of expertise
  - Clinical Practice, Research, Education
- Dearth of information
- Innovative idea
- Accepted but not known
- Obvious but not realized/apparent

Formulate Your Topic

- Scan the specialty journals to determine the appropriate “fit”
  - Journal of Pediatric Nursing
  - Pediatric Nursing
  - Issues in Comprehensive Pediatric Nursing
  - Journal for Specialists in Pediatric Nursing
  - MCN: The American Journal of Maternal Child Nursing
Formulate Your Topic

• As you scan the journals, note:
  – Type of articles published
    • Research, Clinical, Evidence based, Theory
  – Article format
    • Sections required for inclusion in article
  – Page length
    • Length allowed with vary

Obtain editorial feedback on manuscript/concept/draft

• Consult with journal editors
  – Plan/options/content for manuscript development
  – Editorial assistance
  – Writing assistance
• Confer with peers
  – Manuscript suggestions
  – Networking
  – Editorial assistance
Formulate Your Topic

- Write notes to yourself
  - Information gathered
  - Stream of consciousness
- Focus your thinking
- Entertain new ideas
- Be positive

Select a Journal

- Appropriate to your topic area
- Peer reviewed
- “In press” timeline
- Target audience
- Author Guidelines
- Editorial Policy
- Websites

Publishing Papers

- **Choosing a Journal**
  - Impact Factor
  - Audience
    - Interdisciplinary
    - Discipline-specific
Send Query Letter/Email

• Elicit interest from editor about your topic
• Editor can provide you with useful input in developing your outline

Formulate the Timeline-Strategy

• Operationalize the Idea/Select a Topic
• Formulate the Outline
• Survey the Literature (Journals/Author guidelines)
• Develop the First Draft
• Review/Proofread
• Formulate Revisions
• Submit

(Betz, Smith, Mazurek-Melnyk, & Rickey, 2014)

Formulate the Timeline-Hints

Avoid Being Overly Ambitious

Think Small

Enjoy it
Formulate the Outline-Hints
• Scan the literature for models
• Scan the literature for content
• Review the author guidelines of various journals
• Note the style of referencing required

Formulate the Outline-Strategy for Clinical Paper
• Introduction
• Incidence/Etiology
• Pathophysiology
• Interdisciplinary Management
• Nursing Care
  – Assessment
  – Nursing Diagnosis/Problems
  – Planning
  – Interventions
  – Evaluation/Identification of Outcomes
• Conclusion

Formulate the Outline-Strategy for Clinical Paper (Evidenced Based)
• Clinical question
• Search for evidence
• Critical appraisal
• Application to practice
• Evaluation
Formulate the Outline-Strategy for Research Manuscript

• Statement of the Problem
• Literature Review
• Theoretical Framework
• Methods
  – Human Subjects
  – Subjects
  – Procedure
• Findings
• Discussion/Clinical Implications

Formulate the Outline-Strategy for Concept Paper

• Introduction
• Organizing Concepts
• Literature
  – Methodology for literature selection
  – Analysis
• Synthesis
  – Implications
  – Knowledge Development

Formulate the Outline-Strategy for Program Outline

• Statement of the Program Need
• Overview of the Program to be Described
• Background Information (development)
• Description of the Program
• Nursing/Clinical Implications
• Program/Client Outcomes
PENS Column
Journal of Pediatric Nursing

• Purpose
  – To publish scientific articles that are relevant to PENS nurses and general pediatric nurses

PENS Column Guidelines
• Primary author must be PENS member
• Needs to be an endocrine-related topic, but must be of interest to other pediatric nurses
• APA style, 6th edition (font size 12, double-spaced, 1 inch margins, etc.)
• 1400 word limit
• No more than 6 pages (including references, tables, figures)
• No abstract
• Submit to Jan Foote
PENS Column

Process
• Final version is due 4 months prior to publication date
• You will receive a proof close to publication date
• Please keep in touch
• Understand that this is a commitment

Examples of PENS Columns
• PENS Position Statement on Transgender Youth (Kirouac) 31(2)
• Screening for Depression in Adolescents With Diabetes (Dover) 31(1)
• Hypoparathyroidism in Children (Snyder) 30(6)
• McCune-Albright Syndrome: An Overview of Clinical Features (Brillante et al.) 30(5)
• Shared Medical Appointments for Adolescents With Type 1 Diabetes Mellitus: Important Learning Communities, (Davis et al.) 30(4)

PENS Column - JPN
• Everyone can do this!
• Why?
  – Share knowledge
  – Challenge yourself
  – Career satisfaction
What Topic?

- What is your interest in Pediatric Endocrinology?
- Have you:
  - Presented a poster?
  - Given a PENS talk?
  - Had an interesting case?

Steps

- Research
  - On topic
  - Look at past articles
  - Journal guidelines
- Outline
- Write
- Edit
- Have others edit
- Consult with PENS Column Editor

Bigger Topic

- Find a mentor
- Collaborate with other authors
- Identify appropriate journal
- Read articles in that journal
- Proceed through the writing process
- One submitted, it will be reviewed
  - Accepted, rejected, or make changes and resubmit
References


