

How to get published

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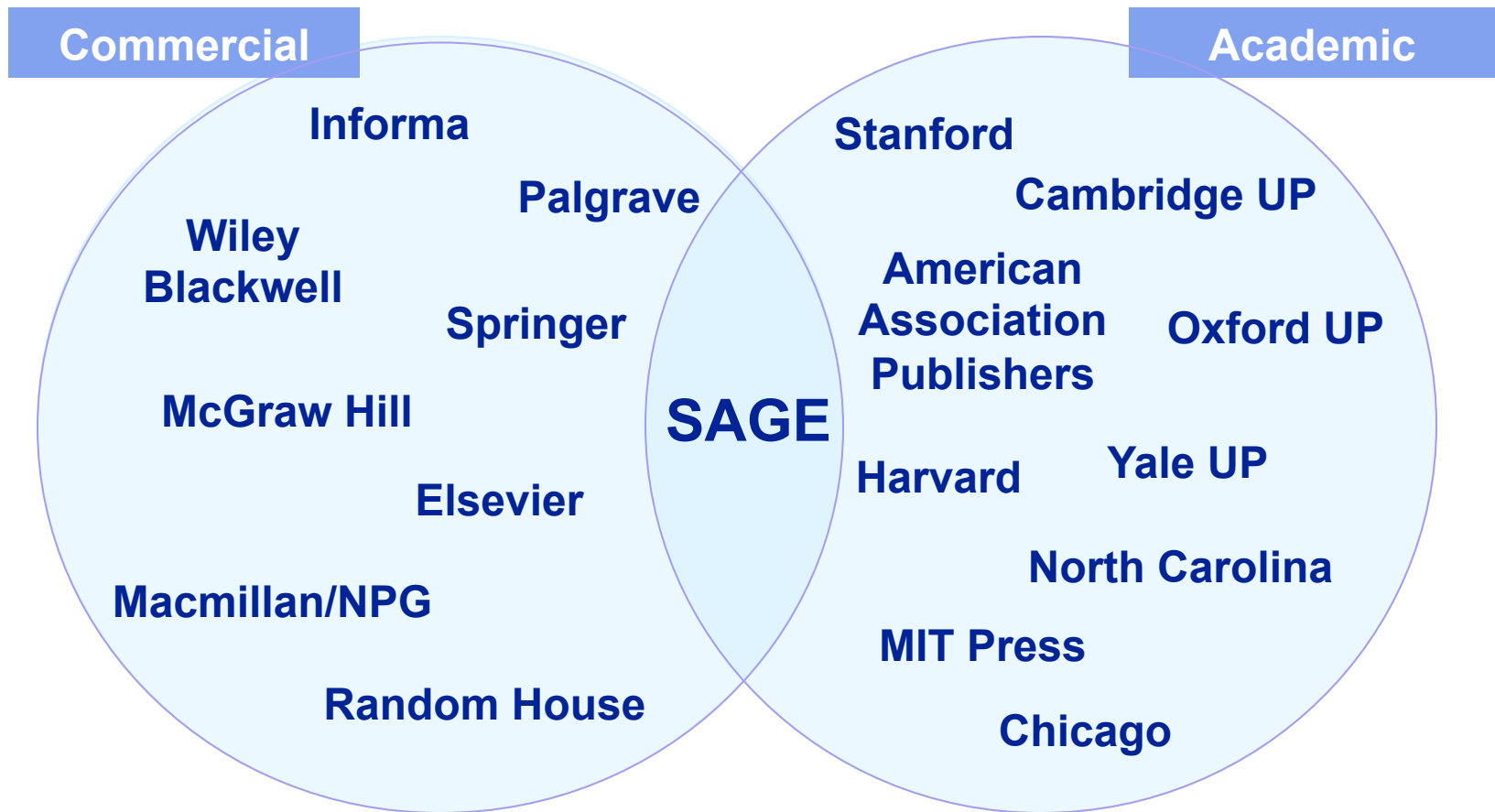
Outline

- About SAGE
- Why publish?
- The process:
 - **Choosing** your journal
 - **Finding** specific guidelines
 - **Writing** your paper
- When it goes wrong (and right!)
- Your role, and ours
- Where to find help
- Research resources

About SAGE

- *“Big enough to matter, and small enough to care”*
 - 5th largest publisher – but much smaller than the big 4 (Elsevier, Wiley-Blackwell, Taylor and Francis, Springer)
- Independent
- Philanthropic

The natural home for authors, editors and societies



Why publish?

- Are you sure you have something to say?
- Where is the best place to say it?
 - Journal article? Book? Blog?
- A genuine contribution to knowledge – is it original? Is it concise?

- *Disseminate your research findings to the community*
- *Make a contribution to your field of study*
- *Influence policy*
- *Advance your career*

Some general guidelines...

- Make sure you have something worthwhile to say
- Find the right journal to say it in
- Find their specific submission guidelines and follow them completely
- Read articles from your chosen journal to get a sense for what they publish
- Submit to only **one journal at a time**
- Ask a friend, colleague or peer to proofread your work before submission
- Take any feedback constructively – not personally

How to choose the right journal

Choosing the right journal is **key** to acceptance. Consider:

- Which journals do you read and cite regularly?
- Which journals focus most closely on your field of research?
- What is the publisher's reputation?
- Who is the editor?
- Who is on the editorial board?
- How international is the journal's scope?
- Do you know someone who has published in the journal?

Impact Factor: 2.037 | Ranking: Orthopedics 24 out of 72 | Surgery 73 out of 198

Source: 2014 Journal Citation Reports® (Thomson Reuters, 2015)

Journal of Hand Surgery (European Volume)

The Journal of Hand Surgery (European Volume) is essential reading for everyone involved in restoring the function to the hand and upper limb. Dedicated to the needs of hand, plastic, reconstructive and orthopaedic surgeons, it publishes the best selection of current papers on hand surgery. The journal regularly highlights key developments in a range of original, authoritative and highly informative articles written by distinguished experts from around the world. This journal is a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) Manuscript submission guidelines are available in several languages.

- **OnlineFirst**
(Forthcoming articles published ahead of print)
- **Current Issue: October 2015**
- **All Issues**
February 1969 - October 2015
- **PDA Download**
- **Click here for supplements**
- **Podcasts**
- **JHS (E) app**

New! Journal of Hand Surgery app now available in iTunes! Click here!

Be first to read what's new in your field.

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE **JRSM** **Journal of Hand Surgery (European Volume) Vacancy for the role of Editor-in-Chief**

How to choose the right journal

Once you have created your shortlist...

- What are their aims, scope and subject area?
- Are they a member of COPE?
- What is their impact factor?
- How well-ranked are they?
- What is their open-access policy
- How long would the process take?

Review previous issues of each suitable journal...

- Do they publish your kind of work?
- Do you like their style?
- Do you think they would accept your work?
- What are their individual submission guidelines? Can you meet them?

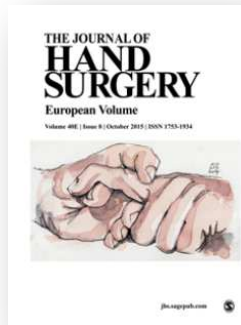
How to choose the right journal



Recent publications

The Journal of Hand Surgery

IF. 2.037



- ‘The effects of partial carpal fusions on wrist range of motion’
- ‘Scaphoid fracture non-union: a systematic review of surgical treatment using bone graft’
- ‘A biomechanical study of the effects of simulated ulnar deviation on silicone finger joint implant failure’
- ‘Effective bony mallet reduction using the principles of Elson’s test’

The Journal of International Medical Research

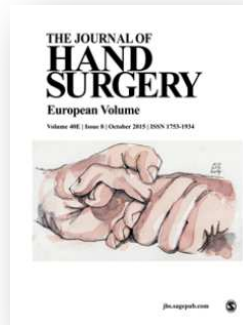
IF. 1.438



- ‘Association between red blood cell distribution width and disease activity in patients with Behçet’s disease’
- ‘Analysis of corneal topography in patients with pure microphthalmia in Eastern China’
- ‘Expression and clinicopathological significance of microRNA-21 and programmed cell death 4 in malignant melanoma’
- ‘Relationship between dietary pattern and cognitive function in elderly patients with type 2 diabetes mellitus’

Abstracting and indexing

*The Journal of
Hand Surgery*
IF. 2.037



- Cab Abstracts
- Current Contents / Life Sciences
- EMBASE/Excerpta
- Medica Genamics
- JournalSeek Database
- Global Health (Previously CAB Health)
- International Center for Scientific Research
- Medline
- Reference Update
- Science Citation Index
- Scopus
- UK Cochrane Centre

*The Journal of International
Medical Research*
IF. 1.438



- Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)
- Elsevier: EMBASE
- Index Medicus
- PubMed: MEDLINE
- SCOPUS
- Thomson Reuters: BIOSIS Previews
- Thomson Reuters: Current Contents - Clinical Medicine
- Thomson Reuters: Current Contents - Life Sciences
- Thomson Reuters: Science Citation Index
- Thomson Reuters: Science Citation Index Expanded

Submission guidelines

The Journal of Hand Surgery

IF. 2.037



- Accepts articles from any country, but must be **written in English**, with **British spelling**
- **Word-process** the text in **double spacing** with a **margin of at least 3 cm** all round. **Left justify** the text and **include line-numbers** and **page-numbers**.
- Do not use "he", "his" *etc*, where the sex of a person is unknown; **use a non-gendered term** such as "the patient"
- Permissions should be submitted as **separate documents** as well as being referenced inline (Word, JPG or TIF; PDF and PowerPoints will not be accepted)
- Randomized controlled trials should conform to the CONSORT recommendations

The Journal of International Medical Research

IF. 1.438



- Accepts US **or** UK spelling, but must be **consistent** throughout the article
- The text should be **double-spaced** throughout and with a minimum of **3cm for left and right** hand margins and **5cm at head and foot**. Text should be standard 10 or 12 point.
- Small-scale, localized and pilot studies are discouraged and unlikely to be accepted
- The text should be divided into: Introduction, Patients & Methods/ Materials & Methods, Results, Discussion, Acknowledgements, Declaration of Conflicting Interests and References.
- Vancouver reference style

Writing your paper

When finished:

- Title
- Abstract
- Keywords
- Main text
 - Introduction
 - Methods
 - Results
 - Discussion
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgement
- References
- Supporting materials

When writing:

- Figures and visualizations (tables, graphs *etc*)
- Methods, results plus discussions
- Conclusions
- Introduction
- Abstract and title

Writing a good title and abstract

- The better your title and abstract, the more your work will be:
 - Discovered
 - Read
 - Cited
- Consider what your audience would be searching for (**keywords**)
- Choose these words carefully - test them with your own internet searches: are you finding what you would expect?
- Include your keywords in:
 - The title
 - In your abstract (3 to 4 different keywords)
 - Throughout your paper
 - **All without losing the natural flow of language!**

Preparing your manuscript: copyright and publication ethics

- Obtain permission for all copyrighted material
- Authorship / Acknowledgement
- Funding statement
- Conflict of interest
- Research ethics
- COPE - <http://publicationethics.org/>



Submit!

- Check the guidelines one more time
- Check your formatting and additional submissions
- Have it proof-read
- Submit to **one** journal at a time
- Submission is usually via an online manuscript submission system, e.g. ScholarOne Manuscripts
- And now wait....

... but for how long?

The publication process

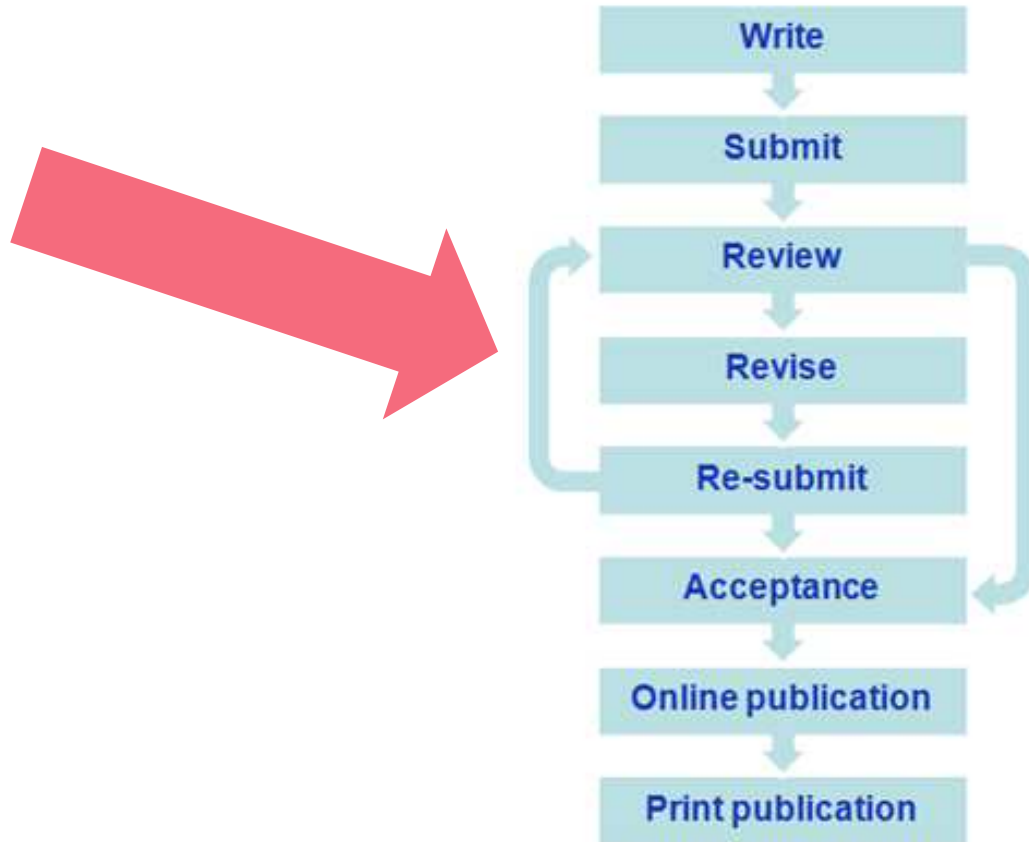
- Initial decision
 - Desk reject: immediate decision
 - **Or**
 - Peer review
- Peer review decision
 - Reject
 - Accept with major revisions
 - Accept with minor revisions
 - **Accept and publish**

The peer review process

Paper is sent out to **two or three referees** by an Associate Editor

Referees **write a report** and **make recommendation** to the journal Editor

The publication process



Handling revisions

- Read the reports and Editor's letter **carefully**
- Follow the **timeframes** requested
- **Clearly demonstrate** what you have changed
- **Address each referee point in a covering note**
 - If you can't meet all criticisms, explain why
- Be **positive** and **polite**
- Process can take **2 to 3 iterations** – be patient

Why do papers get rejected?

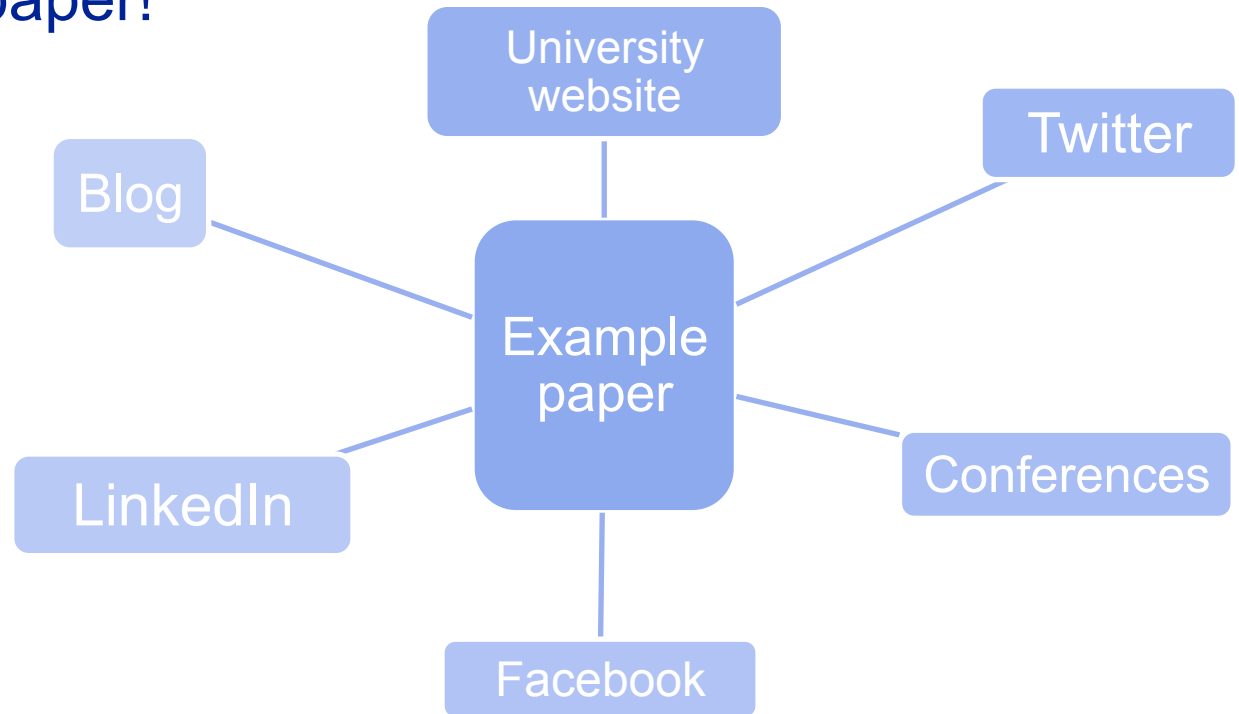
- Referees are not convinced of the contribution to the knowledge base
- Methods are not robust enough for the journal
 - e.g. too few observations on quantitative papers
 - e.g. transparency of qualitative methods
- Specific sections are weak
 - Conclusion
 - Discussion
- Bad grammar and writing

What to do if it goes wrong

- Stay calm
- Read the referees' report and the Editor's letter
- Try and re-work the paper according to their recommendations
- Consider submitting to an alternative journal
- Write another paper!

What to do if it goes right!

- **Celebrate!**
- Promote your paper!



Your role, and ours

The responsibilities of the author

- **Professional ethics** as a researcher searching the truth (*no fraud or distortion*)
- **Accurate and professional account** of research and relevance to others (*clear concise communication*)
- A commitment to **the public good** and public values (*despite intense competitive pressure in research*)
- **Respect to peers and to the public** served (*issues such as privacy*)

The responsibilities of the publisher

- Sustainability of journals
- Quality of journals
- Quality of editor and editorial boards
- Relevance of the journal as a field develops (managing the aims and scope)
- Dissemination of content
- Uphold ethical values of the publication

Author rights in the digital age

- Copyright situation can be much more complex
- Funders may require authors to make their papers available in repositories
 - Responsibilities sometimes at odds with publisher requirements
 - It may be up to you to ensure the paper is posted in the right place
- Publisher policies vary

Stay informed and if unsure, ask!

Where to find help

Think. Check. Submit

- A [campaign](#) designed to help researchers follow best-practice during the submission process

Sense About Science

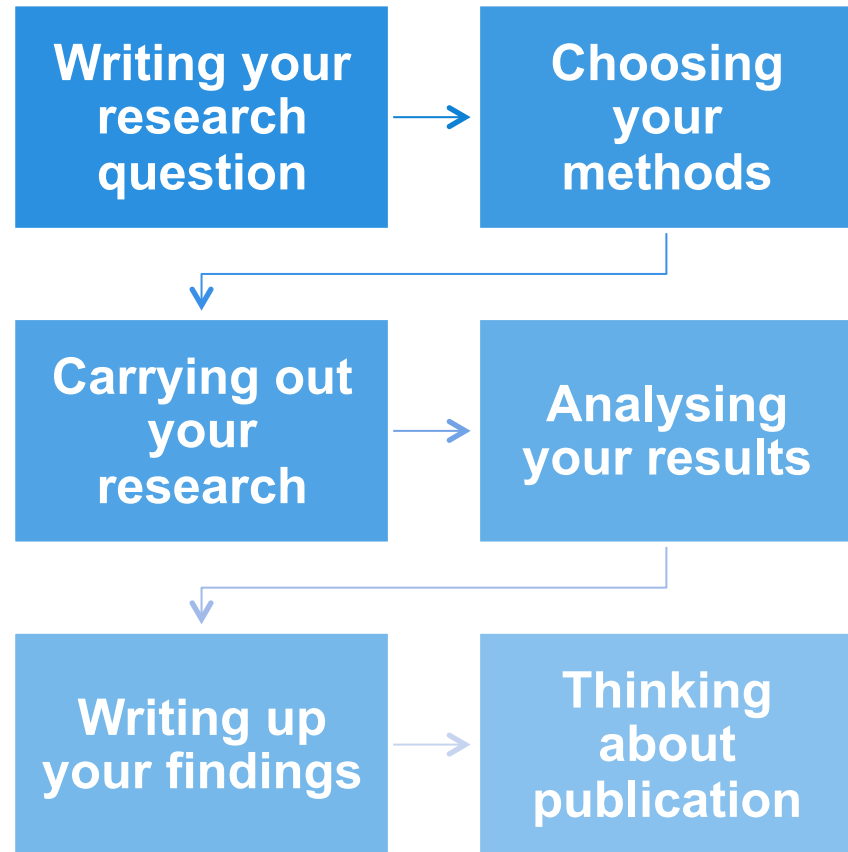
- Offers [free resources](#) to help scientists ensure their work is academically rigorous and reaches the widest possible audience

SAGE is dedicated to helping researchers be the best they can be

- [SAGE Journal Author Gateway](#) provides plenty of tips on improving your chances of publication
- [SAGE Research Methods](#) helps researchers refine and improve their research skills

SAGE Research Methods

- A **library** subscription or purchase platform
- Offers **research methodology resources** for all researchers
- Helps you **refine** your skills, **learn** new ones, and **justify** choices you make in your research projects



'Developing and Writing a Research Proposal' (**Book Chapter** from *From Postgraduate to Social Scientist*)

'Research question' (**Encyclopaedia Entry** from *The SAGE Encyclopaedia of Social Science Research Methods*)

'Choosing Among Methods' (**Book Chapter** from *Needs Analysis*)

'How do I choose between different methods?' (**Video**)

Writing your research question

Choosing your methods

The SAGE Dictionary of Statistics (**Book**)

"Complex Sampling Designs and Statistical Issues in Secondary Analysis" (**Journal Article** from *Western Journal of Nursing Research*)

Doing interviews (**Book**)

'How should a real time online interview be incorporated into a research design?' (**Video**)

'The Experience of Female Football Fans in England: Conducting One-to-One Interviews and the Reliability of Memory' (**Case**)

Carrying out your research

Analysing your results

Writing up your findings

Thinking about publication

Writing for publication (**Book**)

'Publication and Dissemination' (**Book Chapter** from *Participatory Research with Children and Young People*)

'The writing-up process: The Long Interview' (**Little Blue Book**)

The Essential Guide to Postgraduate Study (**Book**)

Thanks for listening!

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