

Towards preparation of quality medical writings

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Medical science is no different than other branches of knowledge which is enriched through continued research¹. Old ideas are tested and reevaluated through research using modern tools and explain the new ideas². Publication is the effective tool to disseminate knowledge generated through new research. Reserchers in the filed of medical science often face tough situations to publish their findings in high end indexed journals. Publishing in the reputed journals, though tempting, is always a big ask which requires not only breakthrough findings but also language skill. Preparation of manuscript to some extent is a matter of practice. On the other side, editors rely on peer review for maintaining quality and standards of papers published in their journals. Similarly researchers rely on peer reviewed journals as sources of thought provoking research in their fields. Evaluation of manuscripts by reviewers is mainly based on two criteria: 'contribution to the field', and 'adequacy of the research design'. So there is a cycle between researchers (writers)-editors (publishers)-reviewers (assessors). A researcher can become established as a writer if he can successfully communicate in this cycle^{3,4}.

To become a good medical writer a researcher need to be aware of the frequent reasons for manuscript rejection. These are 'poor argumentation', irrelevant discussion, flaws in designing the protocol, failure to resist bias during sample collection or processing, failure to choose appropriate tool or using old obsolete tools. Sometimes very good data fail to get published due to lacking in clarity of presentation⁵. In the recent times there seems to be a rush by the contributors for quick publication of articles. This may be linked to the number publications as a prerequisite for promotion. This compulsion to attain certain number by the contributors often drive them to compromise the quality of the manuscript. This, however, drags them towards a dangerous and hopeless end.

There is light at the end of the tunnel. Journals

published by some professional societies in Bangladesh are trying to maintain the quality. In addition to ongoing activities of different organizations postgraduate students are also conducting research for their theses. If, from the very beginning of their works, design is done carefully within sharp focus and executed professionally this may lead to generation of enormous data and ultimately be source of quality productions⁶. It may be noted that preparation of manuscript is a matter of practice and skill develops through practice as well. For the interest of the nation it is our utmost duty to raise the quality of the publications and at the same time create able contributors. This will ultimately raise standard of research in the country and encourage researchers many folds. High standard of our own journal will also attract contribution(s) from abroad and bridge the gap among researchers in the region and far.

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