Scientific Publication in Nepal
Current trend, challenges and Future Perspectives

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Geography
Greetings from Nepal

Mt Everest and Home of Gurkhas
Nepal

Birthplace of the Buddha and abode of Shiva
Human beings have been able to communicate for thousands of years.

Yet scientific communication as we know it today is relatively new.

The first journals were published only 300 years ago, and the IMRAD (Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion) organization of scientific papers has developed within the past 100 years.

The earliest scientific journals

5 January 1665

Le Journal des Scavans

6 March 1665

Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London
JNPS 1981
1st Subspeciality Journal of Nepal
• Total Journals: >20
• General & Subspeciality
• Indexed in Pubmed: 4
Why Publish?

• To make the work permanent and made publicly accessible the findings
• Contribution to science/improve health services
• To convince the funding body to sink even more money for research
• Your supervisor forces you
Why Publish?

• CV enhancement
• To get your name in print
• Ego: Work is your epitaph
• No PhD without publication
• No Academic achievement without publication
We value things published in Newspaper more than a Scientific Journal, in Nepal.

... its time to improve scientific community in our country.
Article Types

- Scientific Paper
- Systematic Review
- Meta-analysis
- Case Report
- Case Series
- View Point/Perspective
- Letter to the Editor
- Images
Current Trend

- Compulsion per se
- Scientific Writing
- Methodology
- Result
- Authorship
- Submission
- Peer Review

- Editor
- Scenario Medical Sciences
- Journal Mushrooming
Challenges
Scientific Writing

• Very less expertise
• Poor writing skill
• Even formatting is not properly done
• Plagiarism
Methodology

• Weak study design, unplanned
• Ethically poor
• Sample size and sampling error
• Inappropriate use of statistical tools e.g. p value, percentage
• Validity and reliability of procedure
Results

• Falsifying data
• Falsifying evidence
• Fabricating data
• Fabricating evidence

Read more: http://www.experiment-resources.com/scientific-falsification.html

Author

- Ghost author
- Gifted author
- Pressure author
Submission

• Salami
• Duplicate
• Multiple
Peer Reviewer

• Peer reviewing is not just simply reading an article giving decision – but suggestions
• Very less trained peer reviewers
• Sluggish
Editor

- Limited to volunteer job
- Not formal training
- Lack of knowledge at various levels of management
- Pressure from author and higher authority
- ? Editorial freedom
Scenario in Medical Sciences

• Very few foundation research and publications
• No article about policy and guideline review
• Most of the researches have not been published in the journal – e.g. grants writing
• Health data depends up on reports which is not as valid as published in the journal
• Negligible no of experience author, peer reviewer and editors
Journal mushrooming

• Many new medical colleges and Universities are dying to have their own JOURNAL
  • Lack of trained manpower
• Considering journal as an ornament for decoration
• Universities ask article for academic achievement, but do not support journal office
Nepal Association of Medical Editors (NAME)

• Trainings
  • Scientific writing
  • Editor
  • Peer Reviewer
  • Referencing system
  • Publication misconduct
• Advisors to various journals
• Seminar/Conferences?
beyond INTERNSHIP at KUSMS

More detail about the talk is available at:
Thank You