Publishing in Geriatric Oncology: An Editor’s Perspective

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Outline

- Journal of Geriatric Oncology
  - Mission
- Preparing A Strong Manuscript
- Peer-Review Process
- How to Get Involved
- Questions for Discussion
Mission Statement

The *Journal of Geriatric Oncology* is an: International, *multidisciplinary* journal focused on advancing research in the treatment and survivorship issues of older adults with cancer, as well as literature relevant to *education* and *policy* development in geriatric oncology.

The official journal of the International Society of Geriatric Oncology
Milestones

2010
• *Journal of Geriatric Oncology* launched as the official journal of SIOG

2011
• Indexed by Science Citation Index Expanded, Current Contents/ Clinical Medicine, and Journal Citation Reports
• First impact factor awarded by Thomas Reuters
• 2011 Impact factor: 1.000

2012
• Indexed by PubMed/Medline
• Launched “Meet the Expert” series
• 2012 Impact factor: 1.118
• Expansion of the editorial team
  - 2 deputy editors and 4 new associate editors

2013
• 2013 Impact factor: 1.146

2014
• Launch of the “Geriatrics for Oncologists” series
• Increasing to 6 issues a year
Types Of Manuscripts

- Original Research
- Review Articles
- Education and Training Articles
- Meeting Reports
- Letters to the Editors
- Invited Articles: Meet the Experts, Editorials, Perspectives
Getting Your Paper Noticed
By the Editor, the Reviewers, and the Readers
What Makes A Strong Manuscript?

- Clear & useful message
- A logical manner
- Readers grasp the research
Key Components of an Article

- Title
- Authorship List
- Abstract
- Introduction
- Materials & Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- Figures/Tables
Manuscript Title

- Fewest possible words
- Adequately describes content
- Identifies main issue
- Does not use rarely-used abbreviations

Effective manuscript titles
Authorship

The *Journal of Geriatric Oncology* adheres to the guidelines adopted by the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors.

**Authorship should be based on:**

- Substantial contributions to conception and design, acquisition of data, or analysis and interpretation of data
- Drafting the article or revising it critically for important intellectual content
- Final approval of the version to be published
Abstract

This is the advertisement of your article. Make it interesting and understandable

Make it accurate and specific

A clear abstract will strongly influence whether or not your work is considered

Keep it as brief as possible
Tips for a Successful Abstract

- The abstract is often the only thing that is read
- Results are more important than methods
  - Include key data
- The conclusion is not a discussion
  - Should be conclusive
- Follow the journal formatting
Introduction

Provide a brief context to the readers

Start broad and narrow down to the research problem

State your goal and objective

Generally, 2-3 paragraphs
Materials & Methods

- Describe study methodology
- Include detailed information about study measures
- Include a statistics section
- Include a statement regarding IRB approval
Ethics Committee Approval

Experiments on humans or animals must follow applicable ethics standards.

Approval of the local ethics committee is required and should be specified in the manuscript, cover letter, or the online submission system.
Results: Key Tips

- Be clear & easy to understand
- Highlight the main findings
- Feature unexpected findings
- Provide the results from the statistical analysis
- Include illustrations & figures
Discussion: Key Tips

- Most important section
- Summarize in 1-2 sentence(s) the main findings
- Put your findings in the context of the existing literature
- Discuss your limitations
- Future research directions
References

Include only most relevant references

Always ensure you have fully absorbed the material you are referencing

Conform strictly to the style given in the guide for authors
Editorial Process

• Manuscript submitted
• Reviewed by the Editor-in-Chief
• May be assigned to deputy or associate editor
• First decision made
  – Send out to review
  – Outright reject
Responding to Reviewer Comments

- Be responsive to reviewers
- Clearly state where changes are made
- Revised manuscripts are sent back to original reviewers
- Final editorial decision made
Peer-Review

- Editors review articles and choose reviewers
- Manuscript sent for peer review (2 weeks)
  - Experts in the field
  - Statistical review if needed
- Editors make a decision
  - Accept
  - Minor revision
  - Major Revision
  - Reject
- Once accepted – final read-through performed
Review Times

• Time for editorial review: within 7 days
  – Outright reject decision
  – Send out for review

• Time to decision with review: ~25 days
  – Included time taken by referees to review manuscript
Additional Tips

• Language and grammar are important
  - Have a native English speaker edit the manuscript

• Double-check numbers

• Have a statistical colleague review your manuscript

• Turnaround times may be quicker if the authors address these items in advance
How to Get Involved

- Subscribe
- Publish
- Cite
- Review
Thank You

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Thank you so much for the opportunity to be your Editor-in-Chief

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Questions for Discussion