Tips for Publishing Success

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Advice from An Editor

• Grasp Opportunities to make a difference
• Discover Your Passion
• Utilize Lessons from Mentors and Your Own Inner Wisdom
• Engage in Continuous Comparative Analysis
Tip 1

Know the Aims of the Editor
Health Care for Women International is a critically acclaimed, international publication that provides a unique interdisciplinary approach to health care and related topics that concern women around the globe. Published twelve times a year, Health Care for Women International includes the newest research, theories, and issues in the fields of public health, social science, health care practice, and health care policy. Scholars and practitioners address topics such as cultural differences, alternative lifestyles, domestic violence, public health issues associated with the aging of the population, maternal morbidity and mortality, infectious diseases and a host of other gender-based ethical issues. The editor also encourages discussion topics, inviting readers to comment on articles that focus on specific aspects of health issues for women.
Editor’s Aims for Health Care for Women International

• Stimulate an international, multidisciplinary dialogue on women’s health issues.

• Publish evidence-based research on health care & related topics that concern women around the globe.

• Empower authors who consider cultural differences, alternative lifestyles, domestic violence, public health issues, the aging of the population, maternal morbidity and mortality, infectious diseases, treatment regimens, caregiving, and a host of other gender-based ethical issues.
How to Stimulate Dialogue

• Publish original research

• Publish analyses of literature to inform social policy

• Publish letters to the editor in which authors reflect on work previously published in HCWI

• Present diverse points of view
Tip 2

Always Consider Your Audience
Challenges

• English is not everyone’s native language

• Audience does not share one set of theoretical assumptions, a unique methodological approach or a common scope if practice

• Culture makes a difference in prioritizing health care issues among women
Our Interdisciplinary Audience

Tip 3

Do Explain
Don’t Assume
Writing for an Interdisciplinary Audience

Do EXPLAIN
- Epistemology (How you learned what you know)
- Methods
- Implications of your statistical results
- Suggestions for future research

Don’t ASSUME
- Don’t refer to method by name only
- Don’t assume all understand statistics
- Don’t assume all understand axial coding
QUALITATIVE AND QUANTITATIVE METHODS ARE EVALUATED DIFFERENTLY
Appealing to an International Audience

**DO**
- Explain how things work in your country
- Use culturally universal terms when possible
- Collaborate with others if you have a problem writing in English
- Describe why your work should appeal to an international audience

**DON’T**
- Don’t assume everyone knows about your country
- Use jargon without explanation
- Assume the editor will correct your English

The international appeal must be explicit in the introductory paragraph and the discussion.
Health Care for Women International (HCWI) editorial board members may help a bit with regard to grammar and HCWI format BEFORE authors submit manuscripts for publication.
Tip 4

Follow the Norms of HCWI
ANTHROPOMORPHISM

- It is against the editorial policy of Health Care for Women International to impart human qualities to other than humans.

- Do write, “The aims of the researchers were to...”. “We analyzed data and thus believe...”.

- Don’t write, “This study aims to explain...”. “Our data suggest...”.
FIRST PERSON

• There’s nothing wrong with using “first person” subjects
• First person is consistent with APA guidelines.

• “We carried out the investigation because…” lets the reader know you’re proud of your work and why you did it.

• “The researchers carried out…” tells us what was done, but not who did what, exactly nor why.
Tell members of our interdisciplinary international audience what will be of interest to them when they read your study. This should appear as the first paragraph of your work. You will also need this information for the submission process in Manuscript Central.
No “SUBJECTS” Allowed

- It is against editorial policy to refer to people whom you study as “subjects.”
- A subject is a thing, sub-human, and often unworthy of respect. Try substituting the word “participant” or “Informant.”
- Members of the HCWI Editorial Board take the position that calling a woman a subject is degrading and anti-feminist.
Stylistic Guidelines

- The editor reserves the right to modify stylistic guidelines from time to time.

Page Length/Word Length

- Most manuscripts are \( \leq 6500 \) words, including references.

- Longer manuscripts \( \leq 10,000 \) words are accepted when appropriate in relation to research design.

- Authors and Peer Reviewers are asked to consider whether manuscripts can/should be shortened.

- Do not cite every study ever published on your topic.
Knowledge about Women and Health

- Social Policy
- Social Structural Processes
- Social Psychological Processes
- Social Interaction
- Treatment Paradigms
- Not Just Reproductive Reductionism
Literature Review Policy

We publish literature reviews only if the authors meet one of the following requirements:

• Provide a theoretical contribution

• Provide a methodological contribution

• Provide a summary of substantive information that does not otherwise exist in the literature
How to Submit Work

- All work must be submitted using Manuscript Central [http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/uhcw](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/uhcw)

- To submit work you must:
  - Submit in MS Word (preferred) or Adobe PDF
  - Blind the “Main Document”
  - Certify the work has not been submitted elsewhere
  - Certify the work has not been published elsewhere
  - Certify you have followed our “Tips for Publishing Success”

- Work that doesn’t meet the above criteria will be rejected regardless of content
What Happens When a Manuscript is Submitted:

Manuscript is assigned a number;
Author notified by email;
Manuscript is internally reviewed
Manuscript is sent to two peer reviewers;
Peer reviewers submit reviews;
Authors notified of results of peer review.
Tip 5

When in doubt, e-mail the editor
Contact Information

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