



Effective Publication Strategies: 12 Tips
for Selecting the Right Journal for Your
Research and Scholarship



Introduction to the Speakers and the MESRE Annotated Bibliography

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- First published: 2012
- Original Editor: Maria Blanco, Tufts
- Currently updated and published every 2 years
- Changes made over the past few years:
 - COVID-19 edition
 - Inclusion of publishing model (open access/subscription/hybrid)
 - Addition of over 20 new journals since 2018

AAMC-Regional Groups on Educational Affairs (GEA)

Medical Education Scholarship, Research and Evaluation Section

(MESRE - Former RIME Section)

Annotated Bibliography of Journals for Educational Scholarship

Coordinated by:

**NEGEA (Northeast Group on Educational Affairs) in collaboration with
SGEA, WGEA and CGEA.**

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DR-ED E-list

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Understand Your Audience



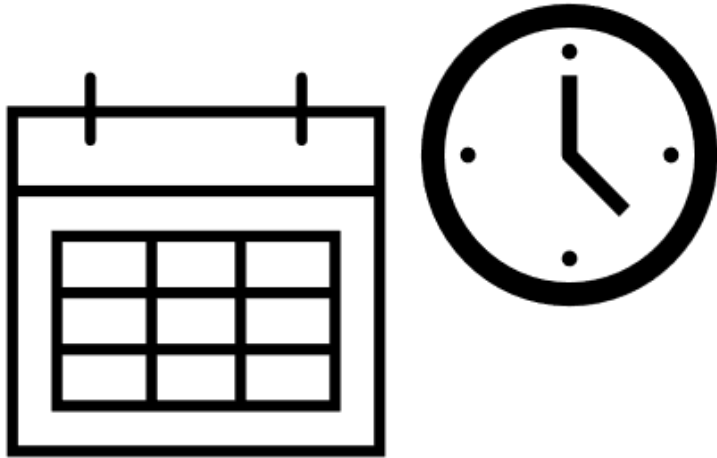
- Identify who would be most interested in your research.
- Example: If your research has an international slant, consider international journals with a broader audience who may find the findings useful.
- Resources: Attend conferences and seminars in your field to understand your audience's interests and focus areas. MESRE Annotated Bibliography lists a journal's audience.

Align with Journal Scope

- Ensure your paper aligns with the journal's scope and objectives. Research the aims and scope sections of journals to see if your paper fits.
- Example: A study on innovative family medicine clerkship curriculum, that might fit well in Family Medicine (the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine journal).
- Tools: Aims and Scope section on journal website; MESRE Annotated Bibliography lists this information in the description and topics; Search through journal to see how often it publishes your topic.

The screenshot shows a PubMed search interface. The search bar contains the query "innovative curriculum AND (Family Medicine [Journal])". Below the search bar, there are options for "Advanced", "Create alert", and "Create RSS". The search results are displayed on page 1 of 5. A filter is applied: "Filters applied: in the last 10 years. [Clear all](#)". The first result is titled "Insights for New and Developing Rural Family Medicine Residency Programs." by Forrest LL, McHugh D, Marquis-Eydtman T. The citation is "Fam Med. 2023 Feb;55(2):81-88. doi: 10.22454/FamMed.2022.810495. Epub 2023 Jan 7. PMID: 36689447 [Free PMC article](#)." The abstract text is partially visible: "The aim of this study was to explore strategies employed by RFMRP program directors from across the United States to strengthen their programs in the context of evolving paradigms in graduate medical..."

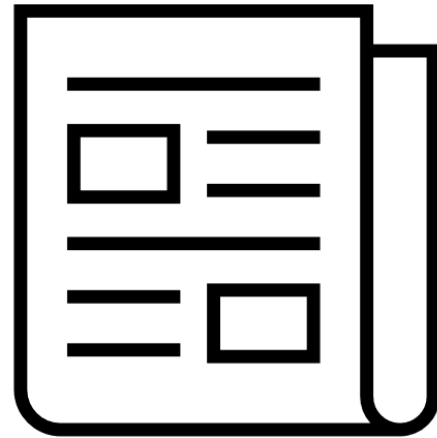
Consider Frequency of Publication



- Check the journal's website for the number of monthly/weekly articles and how many articles there are per issue.
- Example: Many open access and online only journals publish on a rolling basis which could result in your paper being published faster.
- Tool: The MESRE Annotated Bibliography highlights the frequency of publication for each journal listed.

Check the Types of Articles Accepted

- Different journals accept different types of research. Verify whether your manuscript type is accepted by the journal.
- Example: Some journals may focus exclusively on full-length articles while others accept brief reports. As a new researcher, you may consider letters or innovation reports as a good place to start.
- Resource: The MESRE Annotated Bibliography provides a list of the types of manuscripts accepted by each journal. Check the journal's author submission section.



Assess Open Access Options



- Consider whether you want your work to be freely available. If so, look for journals with open access options and understand their fee structures.
- Example: If your research is applicable to a broader audience, publishing through an open access option will make it easier for them to access.
- Tool: The MESRE Annotated Bibliography notates journals that are open access and the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) lists journals and whether they charge publication fees. Check with your medical library to see if your institution has agreements with certain publishers for discounted or free article processing charges (APC).

Review Time and Acceptance Rates

- Research the average time to publication and acceptance rates of journals to manage your expectations and timelines.
- Example: Some journals provide average review times and acceptance rates on their site to help authors gauge the publication timeline.
- Resource: Email the journal's editorial office for these stats if they're not publicly available.

 BMC Part of Springer Nature

BMC Medical Education

Annual Journal Metrics

2022 Citation Impact

3.6 - 2-year Impact Factor

3.9 - 5-year Impact Factor

1.792 - SNIP (Source

Normalized Impact per Paper)

0.914 - SJR (SCImago Journal

Rank)

2023 Speed

41 days submission to first

editorial decision for all

manuscripts (Median)

191 days submission to accept

(Median)

2023 Usage

6,205,310 downloads

3,103 Altmetric mentions

Read Recently Published Articles

- Review articles recently published by the journal to get a sense of the quality and style of work they publish.
- Example: Analyzing recent publications can give insights into the complexity and depth of research typically accepted.
- Tool: Browse recent issues online to familiarize yourself with content and style.



Ask your Medical Librarians or Colleagues for Recommendations

- Experienced librarians and colleagues can offer insights into journals with good reputations and efficient editorial processes.
- Example: Librarians can help identify potential publishing options using various tools and strategies.
- Resource: Networking! Discuss with mentors, those in your academic circles, email listservs, or during conferences.



Consider the Journal's Indexing

- Check whether the journal is indexed in major databases relevant to your field, as this affects the visibility and accessibility of your work.
- Example: Being indexed in PubMed, ERIC, or CINAHL may be important in health professions education for wider visibility.
- Tool: Check journal websites and the MESRE annotated bibliography to verify indexing.

Medical Teacher is included in the following abstracting and indexing services:

Australian Education Index (AEI); CINAHL; Current Contents/Clinical Medicine; ERIC; EMBASE/Excerpta Medica; e-psyche; Euro-Factor Database; Human Resources Abstracts; ISI Social Sciences Citation Index (SCI); National Database for Research into International Education (NDRI); PsycINFO; Research Alert; SciSearch; Scopus; Sociological Abstracts; Violence and Abuse Abstracts; Index Medicus/MEDLINE.

Use Journal Finder Tools



The screenshot shows the Jane Journal/Author Name Estimator interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the logo "Jane Journal/Author Name Estimator" and a background of blue network lines. Below the header, there is a large text input field with the placeholder text "Insert your title and/or abstract here: (or, click here to search using keywords)". To the right of the input field, there is a "Welcome to Jane" section with the following text:

Welcome to Jane

Have you recently written a paper, but you're not sure to which journal you should submit it? Or maybe you want to find relevant articles to cite in your paper? Or are you an editor, and do you need to find reviewers for a particular paper? Jane can help!

Just enter the title and/or abstract of the paper in the box, and click on "Find Journals", "Find authors" or "Find Articles". Jane will then compare your document to millions of documents in PubMed to find the best matching journals, authors or articles.

Keyword search

Instead of using a title or abstract, you can also search using a keyword search, similar to popular web search engines. Click [here](#) to search using keywords.

Beware of predatory journals

JANE relies on the data in PubMed, which can contain papers from predatory journals, and therefore these journals can appear in JANE's results. To help identify high-quality journals, JANE now tags journals that are currently indexed in MEDLINE, and open access journals approved by the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).

At the bottom of the input field, there are three buttons: "Scramble", "Clear", and "Show extra options". Below the input field, there are three buttons: "Find journals", "Find authors", and "Find articles".

- Use tools like Elsevier's Journal Finder, Springer's Journal Suggester, or JANE to identify target journals.
- Example: Enter your abstract into JANE to see where similar articles were published.
- Tool: Tools like the MESRE annotated bibliography, JANE, or publisher-specific tools can help match your manuscript to suitable journals.

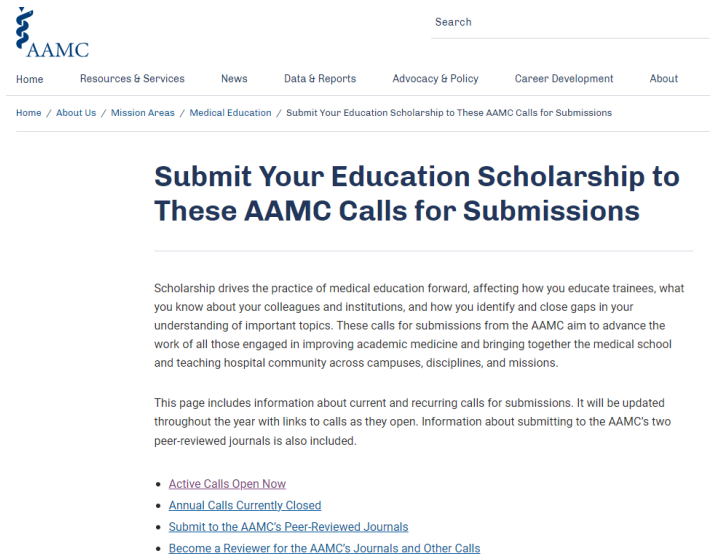
Prepare for Rejection and Resubmission

- Be prepared for rejection or requests for major revisions. Select a few potential journals so you can re-submit quickly if your paper is not accepted on the first try.
- Example: If your paper is rejected from a top-tier journal, consider alternate options recommended by the first journal's reviewers.
- Resource: Keep a list of target journals ready, ranked by preference and fit, to speed up resubmission if necessary. Check journal websites for formatting citations, etc.



Investigate Multiple Options for Scholarly Dissemination

- Disseminate your scholarship as widely as possible for greatest impact.
- Example: There may be opportunities to submit your work to a conference (as a poster or oral presentation), preprint server, organizational self-archives, in addition to for publication.
- Resource: Carefully read publisher guidelines for dissemination of your work in other venues. In general, it's ok to present preliminary findings before submitting your manuscript.



The screenshot shows the AAMC website header with the logo and navigation menu. The main content area features a title, a search bar, and a paragraph of introductory text. Below the text is a list of four links related to scholarship calls.

AAMC

Search

Home Resources & Services News Data & Reports Advocacy & Policy Career Development About

Home / About Us / Mission Areas / Medical Education / Submit Your Education Scholarship to These AAMC Calls for Submissions

Submit Your Education Scholarship to These AAMC Calls for Submissions

Scholarship drives the practice of medical education forward, affecting how you educate trainees, what you know about your colleagues and institutions, and how you identify and close gaps in your understanding of important topics. These calls for submissions from the AAMC aim to advance the work of all those engaged in improving academic medicine and bringing together the medical school and teaching hospital community across campuses, disciplines, and missions.

This page includes information about current and recurring calls for submissions. It will be updated throughout the year with links to calls as they open. Information about submitting to the AAMC's two peer-reviewed journals is also included.

- [Active Calls Open Now](#)
- [Annual Calls Currently Closed](#)
- [Submit to the AAMC's Peer-Reviewed Journals](#)
- [Become a Reviewer for the AAMC's Journals and Other Calls](#)

<https://www.aamc.org/about-us/mission-areas/medical-education/scholarship-submissions#active>

Questions?



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