Bridging the gap between your journal and your authors

Clarinda Cerejo
Editor-in-Chief, Editage Insights
Editage

2nd Asian Science Editors’ Conference and Workshop 2015
I’m just swamped with submissions, most of them not even matching the journal’s scope.

All these requests for rapid publication...and yet another peer reviewer turning down my invitation!

Why can’t authors just follow the simple formatting guidelines?

Seems like plagiarism. So much to educate authors about!

Wish I could understand my authors and tell them exactly what we’re looking for in submissions.
In this session, we will talk about...

• Global research output trends and their impact on authors and editors

• Mismatch in the perspectives of authors and editors

BREAK

• Getting closer to your authors
  1. Improving communication with authors
  2. Reducing article-processing times
  3. Publication support and author education
In this section, we will talk about...

- **Global research output trends and their impact on authors and editors**
- **Mismatch in the perspectives of authors and editors**
- **Getting closer to your authors**
  1. Improving communication with authors
  2. Reducing article-processing times
  3. Publication support and author education
Do you know...

How many researchers are there in the world?

How many journals?

How many articles published per year?
EVERY YEAR

ABOUT 8 MILLION RESEARCHERS

8,000,000

PUBLISH

2,500,000 ARTICLES

2.5 MILLION

editage Insights
2.5 MILLION ARTICLES IN

28,134 Peer-reviewed English-language journals*

10,900 journals

22,000 journals

Included in Thomson Reuters' Journal Citation Reports

Included in Scopus

* As of 2014 - Ulrich’s database

Note: Venn diagram not to scale
Predicted increase in global R&D expenditure, 2011

R&D spending, selected countries (2000-2015)

From Knowledge, Networks, and Nations, Royal Society of London, 2011
## Region-wise share of global R&D expenditure, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Americas (21)</td>
<td>34.5%</td>
<td>34.0%</td>
<td>33.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U.S.</td>
<td>32.0%</td>
<td>31.4%</td>
<td>31.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia (20)</td>
<td>37.0%</td>
<td>38.3%</td>
<td>39.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>15.3%</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>17.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>10.5%</td>
<td>10.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
<td>2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe (34)</td>
<td>23.1%</td>
<td>22.4%</td>
<td>21.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>6.1%</td>
<td>5.9%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rest of World (36)</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
<td>5.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Battelle, *R&D Magazine*
Asia’s role continues to increase
Research output quality from Asia and Australia, 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global R&amp;D Rank</th>
<th>Nature Publishing Index (2012) indicative of high-quality R&amp;D output</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Global R&D - highlights

• $522 billion in 1996, $1.3 trillion in 2009, $1.6 trillion in 2014

• North America, the EU, and Asia responsible for up to 92% of global R&D spend

• Asian share of global R&D continues to increase, driven by China, Japan, and Korea, while U.S. and European shares decrease.

• China, India and South Korea have grown their research outputs by 15.6%, 13.7%, and 9.3%, respectively over the last decade
That’s great! But what does all this mean?

More pressure!
Pressure on authors (1/2)

• Publishing in high-impact-factor journals linked to grant and tenure decisions
• Need to publish in prestigious international English-language journals over local journals
• Emphasis on number of publications and journal impact factor over research quality
• Pressure to publish quickly, against long processing time to publication after submission
Pressure on authors (2/2)

• High rejection rates of international journals

• New industry focus on data sharing and research promotion through social media, conferences, etc.

• Scarcity of local-language educational resources for non-native English-speaking researchers
Pressure on journal editors (1/2)

• Ever-increasing submission volumes without a proportional increase in journal subscriptions and sales
• Increase in the diversity of submissions, in terms of subject area and country of origin
• Author demand for rapid publication
• Difficulty in finding suitable peer reviewers
Pressure on journal editors (2/2)

• Need to identify and appropriately tackle increasing cases of misconduct
• Increased competition with other journals
• New industry developments to keep pace with – new models of peer review, changes in submission processes, shift toward open access, etc.
In this section, we will talk about…

• Global research output trends and their impact on authors and editors

• **Mismatch in the perspectives of authors and editors**

• Getting closer to your authors
  – Improving communication with authors
  – Reducing article-processing times
  – Publication support and author education
### Survey with journal editors and authors

- In 2012, Editage conducted parallel 2 surveys

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Author survey</th>
<th>Editor survey</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Target audience</strong></td>
<td>Researchers from East Asia</td>
<td>Editors of International English-language journals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Language</strong></td>
<td>Translated into Japanese, Mandarin, and Korean for dissemination in each country</td>
<td>Disseminated in English</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Distribution channels** | • Social media forums for researchers  
• Workshops for academic researchers  
• Academic societies and research universities  
• Japanese science newspaper  
• Editage website | • Discussion groups for editors on LinkedIn and ResearchGate  
• EASE and ALPSP listservs  
• ALPSP blog  
• Emails to journal contacts |
Do authors from neighboring East Asian countries face common challenges?

Do journal editors encounter unique problems in submissions from East Asia?

Are the perceptions that journal editors may have formed aligned with the actual challenges authors face?

Number of respondents

Total respondents: **326 East Asian authors, 54 journal editors**
Level of experience of respondents

Authors – number of papers published in international English-language journals

- Japan: 38.60% (18.90%), 70.10% (42.50%), 35.90% (40.20%)
- China: 12.20% (17.80%), 70.10% (5-10), 23.90% (>5)
- Korea: 35.90% (38.60%), 12.20% (18.90%), 40.20% (23.90%)

Editors – years of experience with screening manuscripts and making editorial decisions

- <1 year: 1.90%
- 1-5 years: 18.50%
- >5 years: 79.60%
Which is the most challenging stage of the publication process?

What authors find challenging vs. what journal editors think authors find challenging

Scores indicate the average rank assigned to each parameter on a 1-to-5 scale, where 5 = most challenging.
How well do authors understand publication ethics?

How authors rate their understanding vs. how often journals encounter problems in these aspects

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Authors</th>
<th>Journals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data fabr.</td>
<td>5.21</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plagiarism</td>
<td>5.12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salami slicing</td>
<td>4.16</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Authorship</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRB approval</td>
<td>3.36</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>COI</td>
<td>3.29</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copyright</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>3.74</td>
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<td>3.96</td>
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<td>4.76</td>
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<td>5.30</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4.31</td>
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<td>2.44</td>
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</table>

Scores indicate the average rank assigned to each parameter on a 1-to-7 scale, where 7 = best understood aspect (for authors) or most problematic aspect (for editors)
What aspects of manuscript preparation do authors find most challenging?

What aspects authors find challenging vs. what aspects editors most commonly encounter problems with

Scores indicate the average rank assigned to each parameter on a 1-to-9 scale, where 9 = most challenging aspect (for authors) or most problematic aspect (for editors)
How well are author guidelines framed?

*What authors “think” vs. what journal editors “think”*

- **Japanese authors**: 23.60% (28.40% + 5.20%) Unclear and incomplete, 38.60% (23.60% + 15.00%) Clear but incomplete, 38.60% (38.60% + 0%) Clear and complete
- **Chinese authors**: 18.70% (18.70% + 0%) Unclear and incomplete, 37.40% (28.70% + 8.70%) Clear but incomplete, 41.10% (41.10% + 0%) Clear and complete
- **Korean authors**: 28.30% (28.30% + 0%) Unclear and incomplete, 33.70% (28.30% + 5.70%) Clear but incomplete, 38.60% (38.60% + 0%) Clear and complete
- **Journal editors**: 9.30% (9.30% + 0%) Unclear and incomplete, 7.40% (7.40% + 0%) Clear but incomplete, 81.50% (81.50% + 0%) Clear and complete
How do authors approach complex peer reviewer comments requesting many changes?

What authors “think” vs. what journal editors “think”

- Japanese authors: 89.00% Address all comments, 4.70% Address only agreeable comments, 0% Seek editor’s intervention, 6.30% Withdraw manuscript
- Chinese authors: 87.90% Address all comments, 2.80% Address only agreeable comments, 6.50% Seek editor’s intervention, 0% Withdraw manuscript
- Korean authors: 76.10% Address all comments, 14.10% Address only agreeable comments, 2.20% Seek editor’s intervention, 0% Withdraw manuscript
- Journal editors: 51.80% Address all comments, 48.20% Address only agreeable comments, 0% Seek editor’s intervention, 0% Withdraw manuscript
How do East-Asian submissions compare with those from other non-English-speaking countries?

A. In terms of matching the journal scope

- 55.6%: Submissions from all non-English-speaking countries similar
- 35.2%: East Asian submissions worse
- 5.6%: East Asian submissions better
- 3.7%: I don't know
How do East-Asian submissions compare with those from other non-English-speaking countries?

B. In terms of **compliance with ethical guidelines**

![Pie chart showing compliance percentages]

- **East Asian submissions better**: 1.9%
- **East Asian submissions worse**: 44.4%
- **Submissions from all non-English-speaking countries similar**: 35.2%
- **I don't know**: 18.5%
How do East-Asian submissions compare with those from other non-English-speaking countries?

C. In terms of how the submission and peer review processes are handled

- 59.3%: Submissions from all non-English-speaking countries similar
- 31.50%: East Asian submissions better
- 5.60%: East Asian submissions worse
- 3.70%: I don't know
Authors’ wish list (1/4)

A. To make journal selection easier for them

- Document time to first decision, time to publication, and rejection rates and reasons
- Universal database with above information for all journals
- Automated journal selection tools
- Services that help them make pre-submission inquiries
- Journal aims and scope translated into local languages
Authors’ wish list (2/4)

B. To make manuscript preparation easier for them

• Pre-submission editing, journal formatting, artwork preparation, and peer review services
• Highly accurate translation software for scientific material
• Reference management and literature search tools
• Standardized journal guidelines and easy access to sample papers
• Checks by statisticians and analytical experts
Authors’ wish list (3/4)

C. To make ethical compliance easier for them

- Clear description of journal ethics-check processes, with case studies
- Training workshops and seminars on publication ethics
- Ethical guidelines standardized and translated into local languages
- Ethics-related discussion forums
- Pre-submission ethics-check services
Authors’ wish list (4/4)

D. To make the submission process easier for them

• Clearer author guidelines with FAQs, simplified processes, and better use of automation
• Standardized submission processes through stable, user-friendly submission interfaces, compatible with various local languages
• Academic coach to help in interacting with journal editors and addressing peer reviewer comments
• Essential and non-essential changes clearly indicated in peer review reports
What journal editors would like to educate East Asian authors about

- The need to study something relevant, meaningful, and novel that advances the science
- Research ethics, plagiarism and self-plagiarism
- The need for a high-impact study for a high-impact journal
- Getting a thorough pre-submission check by a native English speaker for substance as well as language style
- English-language competence and better writing quality
How can journal editors beat the pressure?

By bridging the gap and getting closer to your authors!

But HOW?
LET’S TAKE A BREAK
and come back to find out how you can get closer to your authors
In this section, we will talk about...

- Global research output trends and their impact on authors and editors
- Mismatch in the perspectives of authors and editors
- **Getting closer to your authors**
  - Improving communication with authors
  -Reducing article-processing times
  -Publication support and author education
Points of journal communication with authors

1. Instructions for authors

2. Submission and editorial decision-making process

3. Corrections, resolutions, retractions
Getting closer to your authors

1. Improving communication with authors
   - Instructions for authors
   - Submission and editorial decision-making process
   - Corrections, resolutions, retractions

2. Reducing article-processing times

3. Publication support and author education
Are journal instructions easy to understand?

Journal instructions are:

- Unclear and incomplete
- Unclear but complete
- Clear but incomplete
- Clear and complete

What authors say:

- 10%: Unclear and incomplete
- 34%: Unclear but complete
- 23%: Clear but incomplete
- 32%: Clear and complete

What journal editors say:

- 1%: Unclear and incomplete
- 11%: Unclear but complete
- 12%: Clear but incomplete
- 76%: Clear and complete
Further research on journal instructions for authors

- Survey results led us to further explore author instructions
- Analysed author instructions of 80 international journals – 40 biomedical and 40 physical sciences
- Scored each journal for completeness and clarity in 5 broad categories

Published paper: Nambiar R, Tilak P, Cerejo C. *Quality of author guidelines of journals in the biomedical and physical sciences*, vol. 27, pp. 201–209
# Categories and criteria assessed

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aims &amp; Scope</th>
<th>Submission &amp; Post-submission Processes</th>
<th>Formatting Instructions</th>
<th>Ethical Requirements</th>
<th>Authorship Criteria</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7. Indexing information</td>
<td>12. Reference style</td>
<td>17. Ethical approval of methods</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8. Open access/self-archiving policies</td>
<td>13. Heading structure, &amp; style</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Categories and criteria assessed**

- Target audience
- Types of studies accepted
- Specific areas of interest
- Indexing information
- Contact information
- Submission requirements & process
- Peer review process details
- Manuscript Categories & word limits
- Sample paper availability
- Table & artwork guidelines
- Reference style
- Heading structure, & style
- Conflicts of interest & funding disclosure Policy
- Duplicate submissions & plagiarism policy
- Misconduct handling policy
- Ethical approval of methods
- Copyright policy
- Authorship criteria
- Process for resolution of authorship issues
Activity

Assess the journal guidelines in the handouts on these 5 parameters.

What aspects have been covered well?

What areas could be improved upon?
Study results

• No journal scored 100% on both completeness and clarity

• “Formatting instructions” were well addressed across journals, but sample papers rarely provided

• Target audience not clearly defined in Aims and Scope

• Ethical policies described but no mention of journal policies for tackling ethical breaches

• Duplicate submissions, plagiarism, copyright issues; authorship criteria rarely touched upon

• Biomedical journals fared better than physical science journals in most categories
Recommendations

• Review and update journal guidelines regularly
• Clarify target audience to avoid scope mismatch in submissions
• If not detailing ethical policies, direct authors to COPE, ICMJE, or EASE (available in >20 languages) guidelines
• Physical science journals should also subscribe to ICMJE and adopt relevant recommended policies
1. Improving communication with authors
   – Instructions for authors
   – Submission and editorial decision-making process
   – Corrections, resolutions, retractions

2. Reducing article-processing times

3. Publication support and author education
I have submitted my paper some time ago. Over the last few days, I noticed that the status is changing quite fast, and it seems that some steps are skipped. What does this imply? If I want to contact journal editor, how should I draft my mail?
I am submitting my paper to a journal that does not have an online submission system. So the submission and all correspondence is through email. Now the question is, there are two chief editors, two consultants, and 20 to 30 editors. Whom should I send my paper to? I'm so confused. Why isn't there any specific person in charge of submissions?
Hi, I got a mail from the Chief Editor after the first round of revision saying that my paper is technically accepted, but needs language proofreading. However, after I got proofreading done and submitted the paper, the status changed to "under review" once again. I sent a mail to the Chief Editor after a week to understand if this status change is normal. Here’s the Chief Editor’s reply: "Thank you for your e-mail. You may rest assured that your revised article is progressing through our review process. There are some technical issues that are currently being reviewed. Please bear with this, and I expect to get back to you in early January with a decision." How should I interpret “There are some technical issues that are currently being reviewed”? Is this technical issue related to the system or my paper?
After I submitted my revised MS to the journal, a month and a half later the handling editor of my MS contacted me requesting to complete some minor revisions and resubmit but this time using email attachments and not through the online submission system as usual! I sent him the revisions using attachments and asked for an update about the status of my MS. Fifteen days later he answered me "that they received my final revised MS and it is now with the EiC for the final decision and I should wait for few days". Two days later the editor contacted me again asking me to check and correct the editorial proofreading of my MS, but with no clear information about acceptance or rejection. I checked the proof and returned it within few hours and now I am waiting. What is your assessment of the progress of my paper? Can the proofreading happen before acceptance? And what should I do in this case?! P.S: On the online submission system of the journal the status for my manuscript still Under consideration by Editorial Office.
Recommendations

• Describe the submission and review process clearly in your instructions for authors
• Explain the different workflow statuses in author guidelines
• If possible, specify tentative time frames for each step
• Communicate clearly
• Communicate timely
• Specify next steps at every stage
Getting closer to your authors

1. Improving communication with authors
   - Instructions for authors
   - Submission and editorial decision-making process
   - Corrections, resolutions, retractions

2. Reducing article-processing times

3. Publication support and author education
An author (Author A) submitted his paper to a journal. The paper was accepted and published in the January issue of the journal. The journal offered the author a free print copy of the January and February issues.
When he received the February issue, he was surprised to see his name on another article that he had not written. He immediately wrote to the journal to inform them about the error.

Meanwhile the article erroneously published under his name had already been cited on social media. The actual author (Author B) of the paper complained to the journal about plagiarism and intellectual property theft.
Case study (2/3)

The journal editor investigated the matter and realized that a new editorial assistant had worked on the February issue and had entered the wrong author name.
What would you do?
Case resolution

- The journal editors wrote to the actual author and the falsely credited author with an apology and an explanation of the error on their part.
- The journal published an erratum online explaining the error, and corrected the article online within a day.
- The subsequent print issue also contained the journal’s formal apology and erratum.
- The journal tagged the author on social media and issued a public apology.
- Author B cleared allegations against author A on social media as well.
Recommendations

When dealing with potential corrections/retractions...

• Protecting scientific integrity should be your first priority. Take responsibility for correcting errors in your published papers.

• Ensure your instructions for authors state your policies and processes for issuing corrections or retractions.

• When you become aware of an error, be polite but firm with the authors about the journal policies.

• Protect the whistle blower.

• In case of a potential retraction, keep the authors updated about the status of investigations.

• In case of retractions, negotiate with authors to agree on the most acceptable wording of the retraction notice.
Activity

Does your journal communicate well with your authors?

• Through instructions for authors
• Throughout the editorial decision-making process
• For corrections, resolutions, retractions

List down any areas of improvement
In this section, we will talk about...

• Global research output trends and their impact on authors and editors
• Mismatch in the perspectives of authors and editors
• **Getting closer to your authors**
  – Improving communication with authors
  – **Reducing article-processing times**
  – Publication support and author education
An informal analysis (Scholarly Kitchen blog) of 18 journals showed varied rates of outright rejection, from 7% to 88%.
## Mean journal processing times (months) by discipline

*As per a study from Oct 2013*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Submission to first decision</th>
<th>Acceptance to publication</th>
<th>Submission to publication</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>4.18</td>
<td>8.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>9.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Biomedicine</td>
<td>4.65</td>
<td>4.82</td>
<td>9.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physics</td>
<td>5.21</td>
<td>5.72</td>
<td>10.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Earth Science</td>
<td>5.74</td>
<td>5.96</td>
<td>11.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics</td>
<td>8.20</td>
<td>5.11</td>
<td>13.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Science</td>
<td>6.17</td>
<td>7.93</td>
<td>14.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts and Letters</td>
<td>7.21</td>
<td>7.00</td>
<td>14.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business/Economics</td>
<td>10.75</td>
<td>6.96</td>
<td>17.70</td>
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</table>
One author’s experience – paper on validation of genomic results (1/2)

- **Submitted to Science, rejected without review**
  - Submitted on Oct 6, 2010
  - Rejected on Oct 18, 2010

- **Submitted to Nature, rejected without review**
  - Submitted on Oct 20, 2010
  - Rejected Oct 28, 2010

- **Submitted to Genome Biology, rejected after review**
  - Submitted on Nov 1, 2010
  - Rejected on Jan 5, 2011

- **Appealed to Genome Biology, appeal accepted**
  - Appealed on Jan 10, 2011
  - Appeal accepted on Jan 20, 2011

- **Resubmitted to Genome Biology, rejected after review**
  - Resubmitted on Jan 21, 2011
  - Rejected on Feb 25, 2011

- **Submitted to Bioinformatics, rejected without review**
  - Submitted on Mar 3, 2011
  - Rejected on Mar 13, 2011

2/3 referees thought the paper was interesting, few specific concerns raised.

One author’s experience – paper on validation of genomic results (2/2)
One author’s experience – paper on validation of genomic results (2/2)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Submitted to Nucleic Acids Research, rejected with resubmission invite</th>
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<tr>
<td>Submitted on Mar 18, 2011</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Resubmitted to Nucleic Acids Research, rejected after review</th>
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<td>Resubmitted on Dec 15, 2011</td>
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<tr>
<th>Submitted to BMC Bioinformatics, accepted with revisions</th>
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<tr>
<td>Submitted on Jan 31, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<th>Resubmitted to BMC Bioinformatics, accepted with revisions</th>
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<td>Resubmitted on Apr 27, 2012</td>
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<tr>
<th>Resubmitted to BCM Bioinformatics, accepted</th>
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<td>Resubmitted on May 25, 2012</td>
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<table>
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<th>Published in BMC Bioinformatics</th>
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<td>Published on Jun 27, 2012</td>
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Other ongoing projects delayed resubmission
Factors affecting journal processing times

• Back and forth with authors for
  – Improperly formatted manuscripts
  – Incomplete/unclear author information
  – Incomplete submission package
• Time and effort spent on initial editorial triage and rejection without review
• Inefficiencies in submission and workflow systems
• Difficulties in finding appropriate and willing peer reviewers
• Reviewer time wasted on manuscripts with poor language and basic presentation issues
• Time taken to process files in different formats like Latex, XML, etc.
Many journals are reducing their processing times through

1. Process improvements
2. Author and journal support services
3. Technological integrations

Are there solutions?
Getting closer to your authors

1. Improving communication with authors

2. Reducing article-processing times
   - Process improvements
   - Author and journal support services
   - Technological integrations

3. Publication support and author education
Innovations in the editorial screening and peer review process

- Less stringent editorial screening criteria
- Your Paper Your Way
- Post-publication peer review
- Cascading peer review
- Peer review templates for standardized format
Getting closer to your authors

1. Improving communication with authors

2. Reducing article-processing times
   - Process improvements
   - Author and journal support services
   - Technological integrations

3. Publication support and author education
How some journals are using author and journal support services

• Directing authors to send their manuscript to these services for editing, technical review, etc. before journal submission

• Partnering with these vendors to offer their authors discounts on these services

• Outsourcing their own processes like editorial screening, post-acceptance editing, etc. to these services
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- Peer review response check
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- Rapid technical review for scientific validity

**Journal selection and submission support services**

- Journal recommendation tools and services
- Manuscript submission support services
- Manuscript re-editing
- Peer review response check
- Re-submission support

**Scientific validity and strength assessment**

- Rapid technical review for scientific validity
Journal services offered by Editage

- **Editorial screening**: Initial triage to ensure that submissions match journal-specific screening criteria.
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2. Reducing article-processing times
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3. Publication support and author education
Tools that are helping speed up journal workflows (1/3)

1. ORCID

   - Offers free unique digital identifiers for researchers
   - Automatically updates author’s publication record
   - Integrated into workflow systems of many journals
   - System identifies author by ORCID and automatically pulls in publication record, affiliations, coauthor list, etc.
Tools that are helping speed up journal workflows (2/3)

2. Overleaf

- Online collaborative writing and publishing platform
- Supports complex formats like Latex and allows easy format conversion
- Allows users to prepare manuscripts in journal-specific templates
- Authors can submit updated versions through Overleaf, and journal system displays changes
3. Editorial Manager Ingest

- New feature of Editorial Manager workflow systems
- Allows authorized third-party author service providers (like Editage) to submit manuscripts on behalf of authors in a single click
- Files transferred along with all metadata in a standardized format
How Ingest works

OPTION 1
Author submits directly to journal

OPTION 2
Author submits via a Submission Partner

Submission Partner

Examples:
- Language editing service
- Pre-peer review service
- Journal selection service
- Publisher branded portal
- Collaborative authoring tool

Ingest Service

Files & JATS XML

em
In this section, we will talk about...

- Global research output trends and their impact on authors and editors
- Mismatch in the perspectives of authors and editors
- Getting closer to your authors
  - Improving communication with authors
  - Reducing article-processing times
  - Publication support and author education
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Clarinda
Editor-in-Chief, Editage Insights
clarinda.cerejo@editage.com
Twitter:
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@Editage
Phone: +1(267) 332-0051 ext. 200
Fax: +91 22 6714 8889