

Publishing 101: Things You Need to Know to Get Your Article Published

Natalie Culbertson, Managing Editor

Jim Shelton, MD, MPH, Editor-in-Chief

Steve Hodgins, MD, MSc, PhD, Deputy Editor-in-Chief

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What is the GHSP Journal?

- Peer-reviewed
- Open access
- Online-only
- Quarterly
- No publication fees
- Program-focused
- Editorially-independent
- Funded by USAID through the Knowledge for Health Project at Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs



Goals

- To improve health practice, especially in LMICs, by advancing knowledge on how programs are implemented
- To move important information out of the grey and into the peer reviewed literature



Some Details

- **Indexed:** PubMed, Google Scholar, EBSCO
- **Subscribers:** Almost 5000 alert subscribers
- **Audience:** Most focused on research and evaluation
- **Citations:** 165 articles have generated over 500 citations
- **Reach:** Of top 25 countries accessing articles, 17 are LMICs



The Process

- **Build a team**
- **Choose a journal**
- **Read instructions for authors**
- **Determine type of article**
- **Prepare manuscript**
- **Submit manuscript online**
- **Wait.....**

Build a Team

**Identify team of authors
and their respective
responsibilities**

- **Lead/First author**
- **Co-authors**
- **Corresponding author**



*"Welcome to the co-author's party!
You're number twenty-one!"*

Choose a Journal

Factors to consider:

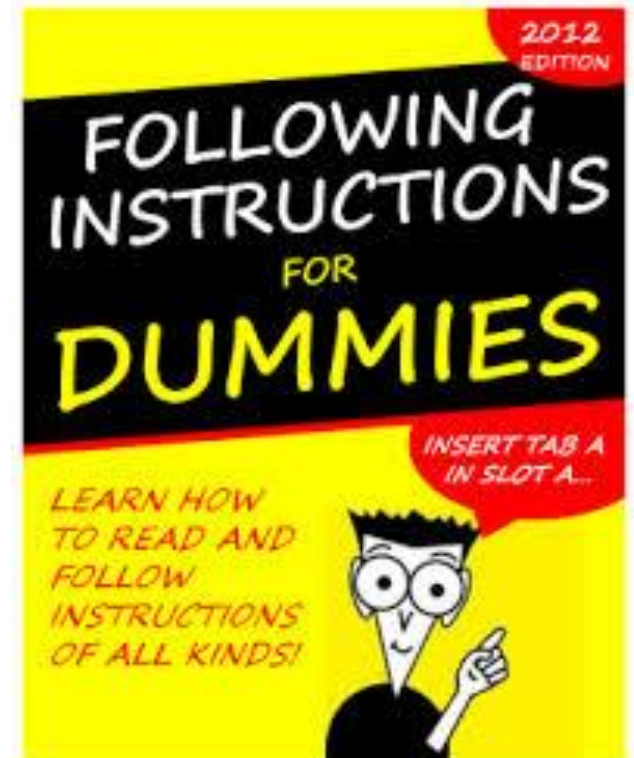
- **Peer-reviewed**
- **Audience**
- **Accessibility**
- **Fees**
- **Speed of publication**
- **Impact factor and reputation**

“If your IF is above 10, then you enter here. If it’s lower, well... ”



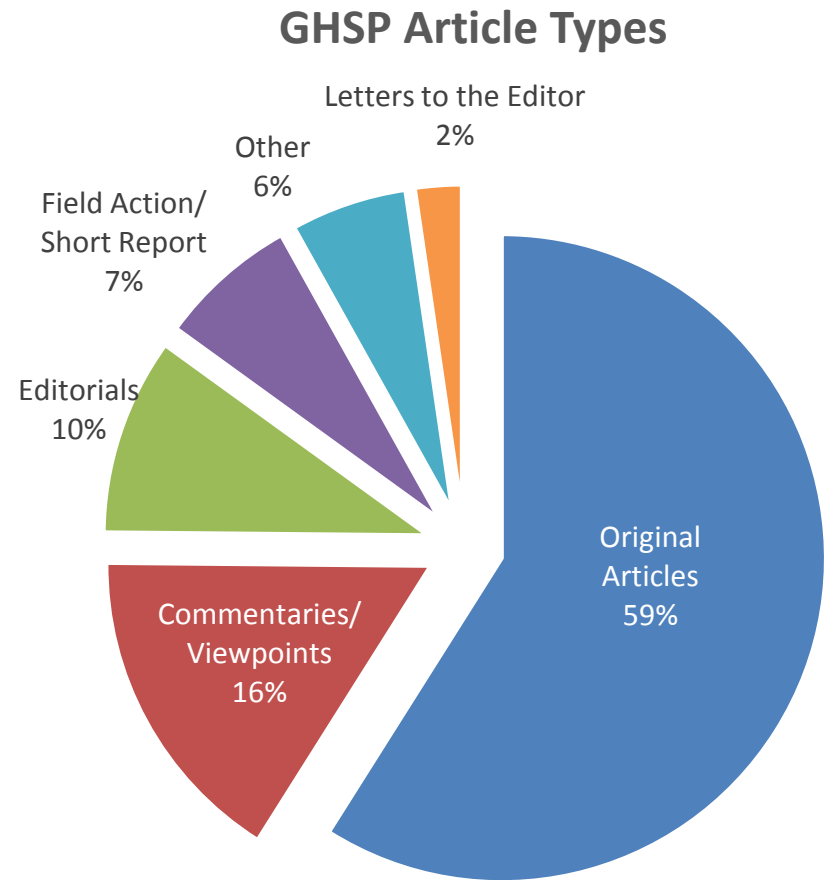
Read Instructions for Authors

- Different from journal to journal
- Dictate exactly how an article should be prepared for each journal down to the font size
- Some journals are more stringent than others



Determine Type of Article

- **Review the article types listed in the Instructions for Authors**
- **Select the type that best matches your existing content**



Prepare/Adapt Manuscript

- **Model your manuscript on published articles**
- **Organize based on focus (program/research)**
- **Conduct literature review**
- **Use headings and subheadings liberally**
- **Write succinctly and simply**
- **Follow one reference style but don't sweat it**
- **Deemphasize your organization**
- **Include supplemental files**
- **Get feedback from colleagues**



Submit Your Manuscript

Corresponding author will upload manuscript and will need:

- **Title page, manuscript, table and figure files (with no identifying information)**
- **Author names and email addresses**
- **Table and figure files should be in original source file e.g., ppt, xls when possible**
- **ICMJE Conflict of Interest Forms**
- **Possible peer reviewers**

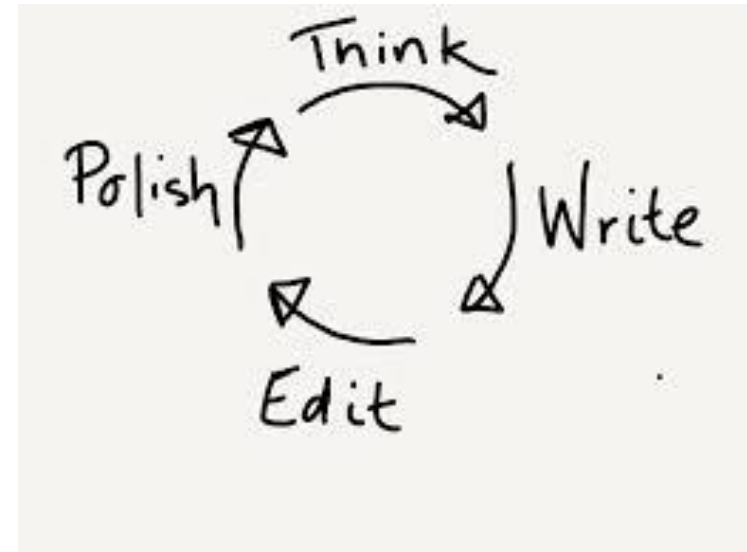
Wait....

- **Screen manuscript
(1-2 weeks)**
- **Peer review manuscript
(6-8 weeks)**
- **Revise manuscript
(2-4 weeks)**
- **Copyedit manuscript
(2-4 weeks)**
- **Publish manuscript
(2-4 weeks)**
- **Total: 13-22 weeks / 3-6 months**



What Reviewers Consider

- Importance of the issue addressed
- Original work that contributes to knowledge
- Sound design and execution (program or study)
- Sound, actionable, and scalable conclusions
- Relevance to programs and/or policy
- Engaging writing style





Global Health: Science and Practice



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