

Nurse Researcher articles

These guidelines are designed to help you submit suitable articles to the evidence & practice section of Nurse Researcher

What follows is an overview of how to write articles for publication in Nurse Researcher and should be used in conjunction with the general article guidelines for the evidence & practice section.

Nurse Researcher is an international, peer-reviewed journal that publishes high-quality papers on research methodology, the methods and processes used to collect and analyse data, and topical issues related to research design. The journal does not publish papers analysing results of research. Editor Liz Halcomb welcomes the submission of potential papers. In addition to full papers, submissions can include short reports, conference and seminar reports, book reviews, letters or commentaries. If you are unsure of the suitability of your paper for publication, please contact the editor, at ehalcomb@uow.edu.au Please read the following instructions carefully for details of how manuscripts should be presented and submitted. The main reason for the delay in accepting papers for publication is authors not adhering to the journal's requirements.

Presentation

General manuscripts should be prepared using a text editor, such as Word. All submissions must be presented in double-spaced format and be no more than 3,000 words long including title, abstract, introduction, distinct sections and conclusion. Do not include footnotes. The journal also welcomes shorter reports on specific issues relevant to the journal's aims. These should be no more than 1,600 words long.

Authorship

All named authors must have contributed to the article, and should have reviewed and approved its content before submission.

Title page

The title page should include the article title and each author's name, qualifications, post and organisation, address for correspondence, email address and daytime telephone number.

Abstract

An abstract of no more than 250 words should be provided. Headings should include: background, aim, discussion, conclusion, implications for practice.

Keywords

Six keywords describing the article should be provided.

References

All written material should be referenced using current literature and primary sources. Please adhere to the Harvard style for writing references (see below) and ensure that all the information required is included.

It is the author's responsibility to ensure that references are accurate. Overuse of online internet references is not advisable because these may be unreliable; links can break easily and information may be withdrawn at any time.

References in the text

Please ensure you use the Harvard (name and year) system for references in the text. For example, 'It has been suggested that nurses should examine their relationship with patients (Brown 2015)'. For three or more authors, print the first author's name followed by 'et al', for example 'White et al (2016) argued.' Note that White et al is acceptable for White, Red and Blue but not for White and Red, which should be written as 'White and Red (2016)'. When several references are cited simultaneously, the order should be chronological, from earliest to most recent. If there are two or more references to the same author, the order should also be chronological, for example '(NICE 2016, 2017)'.

References in the reference list

Each journal reference should include (in this order):

1. The author's surname and initial(s): write the surname and initial(s) of all authors for references with three authors or fewer. For four or more authors, write the first three and add 'et al'.
2. The year of publication in brackets.
3. The title of the article in full.
4. The name of the journal in full.
5. The volume, issue number and first and last page numbers, separated by a hyphen.
6. Use alphabetical order for references. If there are two or more references to the same author, use chronological order.

Each book reference should include (in this order):

1. The author's surname and initial(s). Please indicate if the people cited are editors.
2. The year of publication in brackets.
3. The title of the book in full.
4. The edition (if not the first).
5. The publisher.
6. The city of publication (and the state if in the US, province or territory in Canada, and territory in Australia).
7. If you are citing a chapter in a book, supply the author's name, chapter title and page numbers.
8. Use alphabetical order for references. If there are two or more references to the same author, use chronological order.

Examples

Department of Health (2012) *Liberating the NHS: No Decision About Me, Without Me*. The Stationery Office, London.

Smith B, Wright K (2017) Pressure ulcers. In Jones P, Don T (Eds) *Care of the Patient*. Second edition. Guild Publishers, London.

Simpson E (2016) How to manage a choking adult. *Nursing Standard*. 31, 3, 42-46.

Submission

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Contributions should be submitted through the online submission system at www.edmgr.com/rcnp-nr, a tutorial for which is available through its 'Instructions for authors' link.

During the registration and submission process, authors are asked for contact details and the full names, job titles, institutions, email addresses and countries of all co-authors.

Each author receives an email acknowledging receipt of submission and can thereafter track its progress online.

All manuscripts are checked using antiplagiarism software. Those containing substantial passages of text that are similar to those in previously published work are rejected by email.

Suitable articles are submitted to double-blinded peer review involving two external reviewers who are experts in the relevant areas. In light of the reviewers' recommendations, the editor decides whether to accept or reject articles, or to ask authors to revise their articles. Accepted articles are then prepared for publication, which usually involves editing and may involve shortening.

Shortly before publication, lead authors usually receive a proof of their article. Only minor amendments can be accepted at this stage. The editor reserves the right to edit accepted manuscripts.

Open access

Nurse Researcher offers open access publishing. Full details are available at rcni.com/write-us/open-access

Complaints

RCNi is a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), which will investigate complaints that members have not followed the COPE code of conduct for journal editors. www.publicationethics.org.uk

Open access

Are you interested in making your article available to everyone, not just RCNi subscribers? RCNi Open Access enables authors to pre-pay and make the final version of their journal article freely available to all when it's published online. This service makes your article more discoverable and can increase its overall impact on nursing practice and patient care



Contact managing editor Julie Sylvester at julie.sylvester@rcni.com

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY IN NURSING AND HEALTH CARE

Nurse
Researcher

RCNi