

Supplemental Digital Appendix 1

Interview Guide, From a Study of Author Decision-Making Around Journal Submission, 2016

Demographics: Participants were asked their institution, academic rank, degrees, job description, whether publication is an explicit part of their job; what “protected time” they have for scholarship; age and gender.

What area of medical education research and/or scholarship are you typically involved with?
What type of studies have you conducted? Is your research typically quantitative, qualitative, or mixed methods?

Do you regularly present your work at medical education conferences?
Do you ever present your education work at non-education meetings such as clinical conferences?

You answered our survey about your abstract “name of abstract” at “name of conference” in “year.” We’d like you to think back on the specific experience – could you tell me if you went on to publish?
Depending on yes/no – why or why not? What else was going on that time that led you to publish or not?

After you present at a conference/meeting, what factors influence your decision to try to publish your abstract?
Probes: oral vs. poster; completed work vs work in progress; methodology (qualitative, quantitative, or mixed)

What do you see as the pros/cons of publishing?
What are some incentives to publish?
What are some disincentives to publish?

Do you feel you have the necessary support to execute a project that leads to publication?
E.g., do you have a mentor? Do you have a team that supports you? Do you have institutional support to facilitate research/publication? What about support from the medical education community?

Do you encounter barriers with regard to publication of your research and/or scholarly projects within medical education?

Do you consider yourself a mentor or supervise others within the field of medical education? If so, how do you encourage and facilitate others’ scholarship?

How do you decide on which type of journal to submit your research to?
Educational focused journal vs. clinically focused journal?
Are there any factors related to journals that influence your decision to pursue publication in a particular journal or type of journal? (e.g., turn-around time, impact factor, acceptance rate)

We're interested in learning what influences you to make that final decision about which journal to submit to. E.g., once you've chosen a broad journal category, what really pushes you to choose one journal over another?

Do you submit your work to online-only journals? Open access publication?

Why or why not? Are finances with open-access journals a factor? What do you do with journals where you have the option to provide open-access?

Have you ever published your work on in a non-traditional format such as MedEdPortal (other examples include blogs, newsletters, non-academic journals, works of art, videos)? If so, what was your experience like?

If you try to publish once and get rejected what do you usually do?

How often do you tend to try with a particular piece?

Did your response to rejection differ over the course of your career (early/late)

How discouraging was it to get to rejected?

What do you tell junior colleagues if they get rejected?

Do you think anything should be changed within medical education to facilitate publication?

What message(s) would you have for medical education journal editors?

Is there anything else you'd like to tell me about your experience with publication in the field of medical education?