



Practical difficulties faced by doctors while publishing a Research in medical colleges.

**Dr Aparna Vishal
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Assistant Professor, Rajiv Gandhi Medical College , Kalwa

ABSTRACT This is article is published to raise an awareness regarding practical difficulty faced during publications by doctors in medical institution. Recently Medical council of India has changed guidelines regarding the promotion of faculty & had made it mandatory to have publications for promotion. It is not true that research is not done in government medical colleges. Day to day decision making is also some sort of research process and reasoning that brings new ideas and thought processes. These are transmitted across various sponsored or non-sponsored projects. Sponsored studies go smooth due to funding. Non sponsored projects are primarily via post graduate students as a part of student thesis. In fact each institute is a full of research depending upon the number of medical postgraduates students; each one doing ethically permitted study with the help of guide or co-investigator and submitting to universities; and its only after the approval of thesis by university ; the student can appear for their final examinations.

KEYWORDS :

Despite conducting scientific and ethical research; it gets stored in library as a project and not as a google-able or pub-med-able research that can be easily accessed by the community.

So the practical difficulties faced by the doctors:

1. Government hospitals receive wide variety of challenging cases with different approach to different patients. Due to faculty shortages, doctor shortages, increasing patient and lab loads, even though there are many interesting cases they fail to get reported & published to increase the awareness of the medical community.

2. Lack of time due to increased workload. The full timer faculties busy working round the clock being responsible for full hours.

3. Administrative issues: The administrative issues of department, equipment, maintenance of hospital, entertaining social, media, political tactics; administrative backlashes, insistence of no outside prescription policies; financial constraints of patients making doctors hunt for donors; all becomes the responsibility of doctors and faculties despite having designated faculties for most jobs. This is because the doctor is held responsible if the patient is not cured.

4. Lack of knowledge to use technology.

5. Poor knowledge about selection of Journal for publication: There are thousands of journals that are indexed; another thousands are struggling to get indexed. Preference towards an indexed journal is obviously rewarding by peers and reader base. But a good publication should not lose its value in time if the indexed journal has waiting period of publication more than a year. A journal that is published online and is easily searchable and follows international journal ethics should be enough criteria for a new publisher to publish an article.

6. Lack of experience on part of new researcher or post graduate and high submission rates for known or high indexed journals gives a high rate of rejection of an article that can affect morale of a new researcher for who just a publication is enough.

7. If each institute provides a list of indexed journals of respective specialty at onset of his or her dissertation; the student does get primed towards publication and will plan his research accordingly.

8. Local indexed journals should be released by MCI or ICMR or local institute bodies so that each research gets published and will not go waste.

9. Preparation of Manuscript: Cultural or educational backgrounds of post graduate students and their Basic English skills have a major role in preparing a manuscript. Education technology and research methodology skills do not help in manuscript writing. For example publishing one case report in each semester will keep the postgraduate in tune with publishing experience when it comes to publication of research.

10. Acceptance and rejection by a journal: This depends on many factors; like type and objectives of research; its uniqueness, preparation of quality and easy to understand manuscript; funding and most importantly the submission load to a journal. To save time and publish early; often it's wiser to write to more specific specialty journals.

11. Funding: publications involve cost; and it differs for different journal; depending on country of publishing; value of a journal and advantage of the article to the journal. A high class indexed journal may at times be compelled to publish an article free if the article has a strong message to give. This is very rare. International publishing houses charge in dollars; and thus it does give a major setback to Indian authors. But in the race of "number of publications"; authors prefer low publishing cost journals till they satisfy the criteria.

12. Belief that study is not publishable: Its subjective; depending on authors; objectives of study; data available and statistical tests applied, results, limitations and bias factors. If a study can give a clear message even if it a negative study is publishable. But if a manuscript, discussion and references are loosely prepared; it's better to skip its publication till one modifies it.

All this is likely to create terror among those aspiring for full time faculty job in medical colleges and take interest away from patient management; forget the research and publication.