

PRIMER

Peer-reviewed Reports in Medical Education Research

A New Online Journal Focused on Medical Education and Training

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AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
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All individuals in a position to control content for this session have indicated they have no relevant financial relationships to disclose.

Presenters

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Disclosures

Dr. Morley is paid a stipend to serve as Editor-in-Chief of both the STFM Resource Library and of PRiMER.

The presenters have no other real or apparent conflicts of interest to disclose.

Where does the story begin?

...With the STFM Resource Library (formerly known as “FMDRL”)

www.fmdrl.org

The STFM Resource Library provides an online repository of conference material, curricular items, assessment tools, and other resources to share.

It also had a “peer-reviewed” option. Initially conceived to allow peer review of the items described above, it proved to be problematic:

- “Peer-reviewed” material not really at the level of a journal article (bait-and-switch)
- Heterogenous submissions = heterogenous peer-review process

Birth of PRiMER

- Peer-reviewed section needed overhaul.
- Turning the peer-reviewed section into an actual short-report, online-only journal format was a next step. Other options considered:
 - “MedEdPortal” styled resource (<https://www.mededportal.org/>)
 - Keeping as-is, with refinement

Why a new journal?

- New mid-point between conference presentation & “traditional” journal
- Training ground for new authors, as well as new reviewers
- Solves a “File Drawer” problem*
- May help scholarly productivity for residencies and departments with new requirements looming

What is the “File Drawer” Problem?

In traditional print journals, there is a need to consider space requirements, as well as subscriptions, audience, advertisers, etc.

Studies with fundamentally sound design but which are:

- confirmatory or replicative
- small or single-program
- Not “sexy” (headline-grabbing)
- Negative results (“our intervention didn’t work”)
- QA/QI only

...tend not to make it past the conference presentation stage, and end up in the “file drawer.”

Information loss results.

PRiMER Requirements

1. Must be scientifically sound/rigorous.
2. Human Subjects? IRB review/exemption/finding required.
3. Introduction/Methods/Results/Discussion format (IMRD).
4. References (up to 25) & tables/figures must conform to publication standards.
5. 1000 word maximum.
6. Writing quality must be acceptable. (English-only.)

PRiMER Review

1. Checked by an Editor (EiC or Ed Board Member)
2. Editor will decide whether to send out for review, or editorially reject
3. Review: at least two reviewers (may be junior/senior pairing)
4. Reviewers will receive instructions to provide comments that are:
 - Instructive & constructive
 - Concise
 - NOT an editing service
5. Editor will consider reviews, and do one of the following with the manuscript
 - accept
 - send back for revision and reconsideration
 - reject

Handouts

We will now look at the author instructions and an example article as a group:

1.Example “article”

2.Author instructions (final draft)

During the break...

- Discuss / think about how you might implement the information you just heard.
- Fill out a session evaluation.



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