

Publication: The Final Step of a Research

Vikrant Negi* and Prabhat Kiran Khatri

Department of Microbiology, Dr. S.N. Medical College, Jodhpur, India

*Corresponding Author: Vikrant Negi, Department of Microbiology, Dr. S.N. Medical College, Jodhpur, India.

Received: March 20, 2019; Published: April 12, 2019

“Take all the courses in your curriculum. Do the research. Ask questions. Find someone doing what you are interested in! Be curious!” quoted by Katherine Johnson, an African-American mathematician whose calculations of orbital mechanics as a NASA employee were critical to the success of the first and subsequent U.S. manned spaceflights.

Research is defined as careful or diligent search, studious enquiry or examination especially investigation or experimentation aimed at the discovery and interpretation of facts, revision of accepted theories or laws in the light of new facts, or practical application of such new or revised theories or laws [1]. Research helps modern medicine to progress and has become an important part of ever evolving medical world. Medical practices are being influenced by day to day new discoveries made by researchers. Research is performed all around the globe and in all subjects like science and art. Diseases like smallpox, poliomyelitis, dracunculiasis, etc. are eradicated with the help of biomedical research. In India, very few undergraduate students are involved in research projects and it is exclusively performed by postgraduates or PhD scholars. Undergraduate students are being encouraged for short term research projects in India by providing them studentship and few students take part in these research projects. Dissemination of the work is the final step of a research process and most of students fulfill this step by presenting it at conferences in the form of poster or oral research presentation. Although such activities are important but the final step of a research work must be considered by publishing the findings of research work in the academic journals. A scientific work is communicated through writing [2]. The published research circulate the knowledge and aids other scientists to research further and support clinicians in providing better care to the patients [3]. Gregory TN., *et al.* found that in five year study period 888 podium presentations at the Canadian Society of Plastic Surgeons, American Society of Plastic Surgeons, and American Association of Plastic Surgeons annual meetings were made and only 45% were published in peer-reviewed journals [4]. The researchers need to focus on publishing their work in peer reviewed journals and also the guides of student researchers must encourage them to get their result published. Various journals have special section for the research publications by student researcher.

The history of scholarly scientific publishing dates back from 1665 when *Journal des savans* and the *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* started publishing research results in French and English respectively [5]. The *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society* was established by Henry Oldenburg of the British Society, a diplomatic interlocutor between the dispersed, independent scientists. He communicated with those scientists individually. The publication was created by him to make a public record of original research to knowledge and to encourage scientists to “speak” directly to one another [6]. The scientists got credit publicly for their intellectuality which encouraged them to disclose knowledge through publications which they might otherwise have kept secret. This also created a healthy competition among scientists to publish their findings before others, which still is continuing in modern scientific journals.

There are certain risks of publishing research such as a competitor might use published result to take forward their own research and not giving credit to the original author in future publications. The prospective research of young scientists may be “picked off” by other scientists and leaving the careers of young scientist vulnerable [6]. The published result also has a risk that other scientists might use findings of other papers to invalidate or to raise question on the findings and publish conflicting results.

Research publications have a long list of benefits to the authors as well as readers. Medical teaching and training, clinical care and public health works are well complemented by research and publications. Research publications aids many professionals to fulfill specific requirement for jobs by employers that include promotion to an academic position. It also helps in improving prospect of success in research grant application. National and international recognition can be gained in particular field through research publications. Publications in peer-reviewed reputed journals not only give recognition to an individual but also to the department, institute and university.

Conclusion

A research is not complete until it is published. Publishing in a peer-reviewed journal should be the final step of a research study. Despite of certain risks, there are plenty of benefits which the published papers bring to the author. The quality of research publication brings recognition to scientists as well as the department and institute.

Bibliography

1. Jawad F. "Importance of good quality research". *Journal of Pakistan Medical Association* 62.1 (2012): 1-2.
2. Asnake M. "The importance of scientific publication in the development of public health". *Ciencia and Saude Coletiva* 20.7 (2015): 1972-1973.
3. Gasparyan AY and Banach M. "A medium of science communication in our times". *Archives of Medical Science* 5.1 (2009): 1-2.
4. Gregory TN, *et al.* "What is the ultimate fate of presented abstracts? The conversion rates of presentations to publications over a five-year period from three North American plastic surgery meetings". *The Canadian Journal of Plastic Surgery* 20.1 (2012): 33-36.
5. DA Kronick. "History of Scientific and Technical Periodicals, 2nd edition". Scarecrow (1976).
6. National Research Council (U.S.) Committee on Responsibilities of Authorship in the Biological Sciences. "Sharing Publication-Related Data and Materials: Responsibilities of Authorship in the Life Sciences". Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US) (2003).

Volume 3 Issue 5 May 2019

©All rights reserved by Vikrant Negi and Prabhat Kiran Khatri.