

EDITORIAL

Why Adhering to Journal Submission Guidelines Matters in Academic Publishing

Tekle Ferede Metaferia^{1*}

OPEN ACCESS

Citation: Tekle Ferede Metaferia. Why Adhering to Journal Submission Guidelines Matters in Academic Publishing. *Ethiop J Health Sci.* 2026;36(2):60.
doi:<http://dx.doi.org/10.4314/ejhs.v36i2.1>

Received: February 10, 2026

Accepted: February 24, 2026

Published: March 1, 2026

Copyright: © 2026 Tekle Ferede Metaferia. This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.

Funding: NIL

Competing Interests: The authors declare that this manuscript was approved by all authors in its form and that no competing interest exists.

Affiliation and Correspondence:

¹Department of English Language and Literature, Jimma University, Ethiopia

*Email:

tekle.ferede2014@gmail.com,

tekle.ferede@ju.edu.et

In today's competitive academic publishing world, following journal submission guidelines is essential for professional scholarship and effective dissemination. These guidelines ensure consistency, transparency, and efficiency in editorial and peer review processes. Not complying with them can result in delays, desk rejection, or misrepresentation of otherwise high-quality work.

Submission guidelines provide a standardized framework for screening manuscripts. Editors often base initial decisions on adherence to formatting, structure, and referencing conventions (1). Non-compliant manuscripts may be returned without review due to avoidable technical issues, making compliance a key indicator of professionalism and respect for editorial procedures.

Guidelines also ensure clarity and credibility in scholarly communication. Standard structures such as IMRaD (Introduction, Methods, Results, and Discussion) promote logical organization, while consistent citation practices enhance transparency and traceability of sources (2). Poor quality formatting can reduce readability and trigger concerns about academic integrity.

Additionally, adherence reflects attention to detail and familiarity with disciplinary norms. Reviewers may perceive non-compliance as a lack of rigor, whereas well-prepared manuscripts can positively influence evaluation outcomes (3). In the digital era, proper formatting and metadata further improve indexing, visibility, and citation potential (4).

Overall, adhering to journal submission guidelines is essential to the quality, accessibility, and impact of academic work. It streamlines editorial processing, reduces revisions, and improves readability. It also enhances author credibility and increases the chances of accurate indexing, wider visibility, and meaningful citation, enabling stronger contributions to the research environment.

REFERENCES

1. Day RA, Gastel B. *How to write and publish a scientific paper*. 7th ed. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press; 2012.
2. Swales JM, Feak CB. *Academic writing for graduate students: Essential tasks and skills*. 3rd ed. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press; 2012.
3. Belcher WL. *Writing your journal article in twelve weeks: A guide to academic publishing success*. 2nd ed. Chicago: University of Chicago Press; 2019.
4. Elsevier. *Publishing ethics and guidelines for journal authors*. Amsterdam: Elsevier; 2020.