Editors Speak: The Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
Charon Pierson

In response to frequent requests to hear directly from nurse editors, we are reviving an old feature of the original Nurse Author & Editor Newsletter, the interview with journal editors. We have found that readers want more specifics about journals and editors and don’t know where to find that information.

We invite journal editors to submit a short (500 words) narrative (“interview”) including some basic information about their journals. In particular, we would like your thoughts on these two questions: 1) In your opinion, what distinguishes the most read or cited articles in your journal over the past few years? And 2) In your experience as an editor, what are the top three reasons you reject articles?

To start this feature I am responding as the editor-in-chief of the Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

- Journal name: The Journal of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (JAANP) is a monthly peer-reviewed professional journal that serves as the official publication of the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners (AANP).
- Contact information for editor-in-chief, managing editor, other editors:
  Editor-in-Chief, Charon A. Pierson, PhD, GNP, FAANP (email: jaanp.eic@gmail.com or cpierson@aanp.org)
  Managing Editor, Robert T. Pigors, DFT (email: jaanp.eic+adm@gmail.com)
- Publisher: Fiona Williams at Wiley-Blackwell, Malden office (email: fwilliams@wiley.com)
- Journal home page website:
  Wiley InterScience, http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/journal/118489147/home
  American Academy of Nurse Practitioners, www.aanp.org

- Aim or mission, including target audience: Published since 1989, the JAANP provides a strong clinical focus with articles related to primary, secondary, and tertiary care, nurse practitioner education, health policy, ethics and ethical issues, and health care delivery. The journal publishes original research, integrative/comprehensive reviews, case studies, a variety of topics in clinical practice, and theory-based articles related to patient and professional education. Although the majority of nurse practitioners function in primary care, there is an increasing focus on the provision of care across all types of systems from acute to long-term care settings.
- Circulation: approximately 28,000, mostly US, members, libraries, and consortia
- Indexed: CINAHL: Cumulative Index to Nursing & Allied Health Literature (EBSCO); Current Contents® (Thomson ISI); Family Index; Index Medicus/MEDLINE (NLM); Science Citation Index® (Thomson ISI); SCOPUS (Elsevier)
- Impact factor and ranking: Impact Factor: 0.823; 2008: 54/62 Health Care Sciences & Services; 38/60 Nursing (Science); 35/58 Nursing (Social Science)
• Submission process, address or web link: [http://www.aanp.org/NR/rdonlyres/23CA14F2-934C-44AE-9ACF-6AF5A522E4BF/0/JAANPGuidelinesForAuthors.pdf](http://www.aanp.org/NR/rdonlyres/23CA14F2-934C-44AE-9ACF-6AF5A522E4BF/0/JAANPGuidelinesForAuthors.pdf) includes all information related to submission and [http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jaann](http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jaann) is the link to the ScholarOne Manuscripts submission site for JAANP

• Acceptance rate, average time in review, average time to publication: average acceptance rate for past 12 months = 50%; average time in review = 45 days; average time to publication from submission = 52 weeks (includes revision cycles).

• Special services such as early view or online publishing ahead of print, virtual issues, slides or podcasts: themed issues have been published since 2008; the first virtual issues are scheduled for 2010; for NIH grantees, we follow the Wiley-Blackwell policy found at [www.wiley.com/go/nihmandate](http://www.wiley.com/go/nihmandate). The journal is also a member of the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE). On-line production tracking is available through the journal website. Supporting on-line material is encouraged to reduce the page count in the paper copy of the journal.

• Specific types of articles sought, where to find a call for papers: We normally do not issue a call for papers. Prospective authors are encouraged to read the mission and aims, journal table of contents, and current articles to determine if their manuscript is a good match for the audience.

Finally, here are my responses to the questions posed above:

1) In your opinion, what distinguishes the most read or cited articles in your journal over the past few years?

Because JAANP is a clinically-focused journal, the most read articles have a clear application to clinical practice and a specific focus on advanced practice nursing. The most cited articles tend to be comprehensive reviews of clinical topics of recurring importance in nurse practitioner practice.

2) In your experience as an editor, what are the top three reasons you reject articles?

The top reason is poorly written material, often work that appears to be a “first draft” or a paper submitted to meet academic course requirements. It seems commonplace that authors do not use grammar or spell checking tools and that they apparently use a thesaurus to find more important sounding words without actually understanding the meaning of those words.

The second most common reason is flawed research or review methodology. There are good guidelines on how to write a research or a review manuscript (see resources on the Nurse Author & Editor site).

The third most common reason is redundancy of the topic. Journals with broad readership such as JAANP must please a wide audience of clinicians with many different specialties. Due to page budget restrictions in the print journal, we cannot devote all our resources to a single topic or type of article.

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