


The Journey of a Manuscript:

The highs, the lows and answering the do-not-knows!

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 **Researcher Tip:** Address the gaps you know are there...

- Start by building on existing literature and your past research.
- Clearly identify the gaps in knowledge that need attention.
- Dive deep into your topic, but make sure not to lose momentum by over-researching.
- Yarn, yarn and keep yarning through ideas!

Ideas

Gathering Evidence

Identify and articulate your research questions.

Game Plan

Formation

your argument, theory or new knowledge!


Ready to Submit


Reviewing

Publishing
- Get Sharing!

- Celebrate your publication with your co-authors and project partners.
- Actively share your work through social media, newsletters, press releases, university comms and community summaries for your project partners and participants.
- Update your professional profiles, CV and send copies to key authors that you cited.
- Use what you've learned to inspire your next research project!


- Review the literature and existing evidence.
- Synthesise what's important and relevant to your research idea or your past research.

 **Researcher Tip:** Don't get stuck down the rabbit hole forever, chuck a deep dive timer on - **we know you have a phone!**

 **Researcher Tip:** Do not underestimate how much **your local librarian** can help you at this stage!


- Decide who will be listed as authors and the order of their names based on their contributions.
- Select the appropriate type of article and identify a journal that fits your topic and goals.
- Consider your target audience, any publication fees, open access requirements, and whether ethical approval is necessary before submission.

 **PLAN!**

 **Researcher Tip:** Transparency and Respect are always a good idea when working as a Collaboration.

- Begin drafting your paper and continue refining it through multiple revisions.
- Save each version and collaborate closely with your co-authors throughout the process.
- Conduct self and peer reviews, format references properly, finalise figures, and obtain final approvals from all co-authors.

 **WRITE!**


 **Researcher Tip:** Even if you have 17 versions of the same manuscript, keep writing...

Also, please **save EVERYTHING** and when you can feel yourself getting frustrated, you are either hungry or need to take a pause... **Take that pause or eat that thing you've been craving!**

- Prepare all required submission materials, including the cover letter, author information, and declarations.
- Submit your manuscript and be prepared for feedback - get ready ready for a whirlwind of emotions, drafts and you guessed, more revisions!



- Share reviewer feedback with your co-authors and discuss how to respond.
- Make necessary revisions to the manuscript and draft a letter addressing the reviewers' comments.
- Re-submit your manuscript and continue the review process, which may involve multiple rounds.


 **Researcher Tip:** If you are apart of the 0.0001%, who got no changes, please tell us how you did that? **You can just head straight to step 7!**
*Not based on real data

If you are like the rest of us mortals and got changes sent back, work through them one comment at a time.

If you get a rejection remember, it's not you, it is definitely them - just try again (rewrite or try another journal).

Also, keep in mind that revisions can take a while to be sent back to you. While you wait you can get back some of your work/life balance!



 **Researcher Tip:** Don't be shame, **BE GAME** to share your research - you have worked hard, now dazzle us with your brilliance!

Aim to complete all of your Knowledge Translation activities with the next 2 months...

 **THE FINAL RESEARCHER TIP!**

You will not believe this, but this "Journey of a Manuscript" graphic is absolutely a cycle for every single manuscript you will be writing in your career. So, after step 7, guess what?

You go right back to step 1...

Happy writing researchers!

