WILEY Understanding peer-review

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Apr 27, 2017

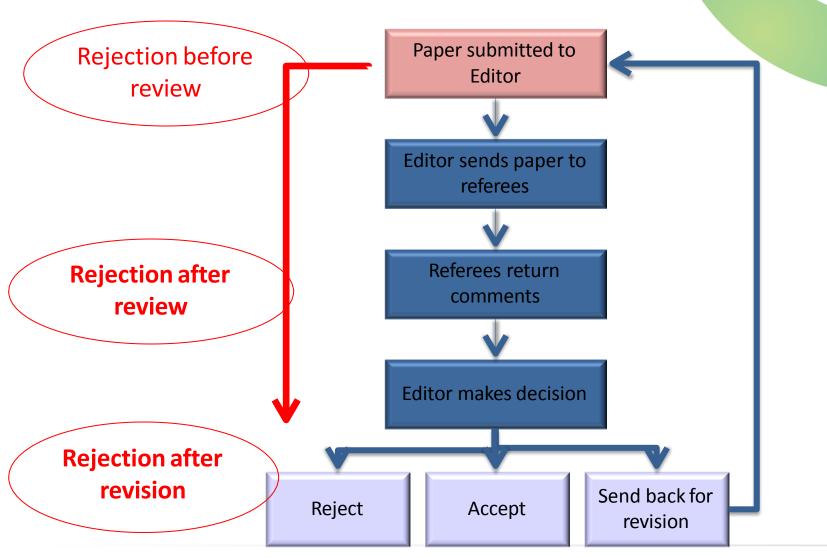
Why Peer Review?

- ✓ A methodological check
- ✓ A learning and improvement process
- ✓ A filter for selection and a quality control mechanism

Peer Review types

- √ Single-blinded peer-review
 - Reviewers know who the authors are
- ✓ Double-blinded peer review
 - Authors / reviewers do not know who each other are
- ✓ Transparent peer review
 - Anonymous but reviewer reports are published
- ✓ Open peer review
 - All information available, including reviewer names after acceptance
- ✓ Technical peer review
 - Adherence to basic scientific principles

The Peer Review Process



How to avoid immediate rejection?

- ✓ Choose the right journal
- ✓ "Sell" your work a nice cover letter
- ✓ Show your "muscle"
- ✓ Well present your work

Choosing the right journal

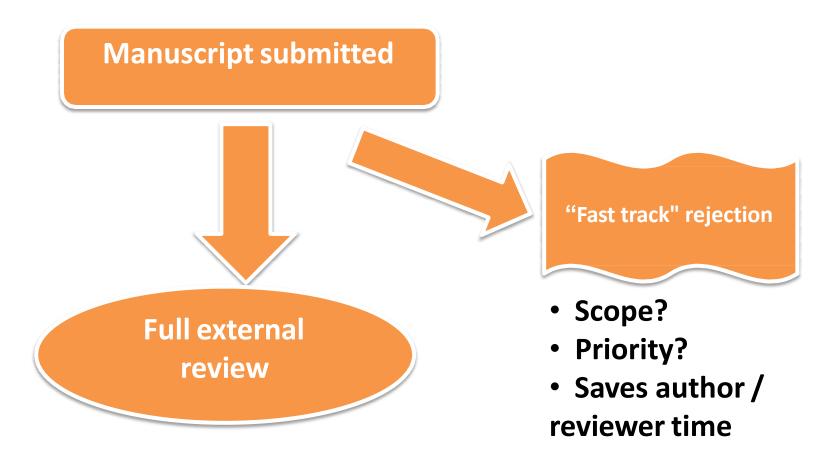
- ✓ Scope of the journal
- ✓ Reputation of the journal & Editorial Board
- ✓ Publication Speed
- ✓ Editorial office

"Sell" your work – a nice cover letter

- Importance and Novelty of your work
- It is **NOT** abstract
- Does it fit the scope of the journal?
- Practical application

> Write this for the EDITOR!

After submission:



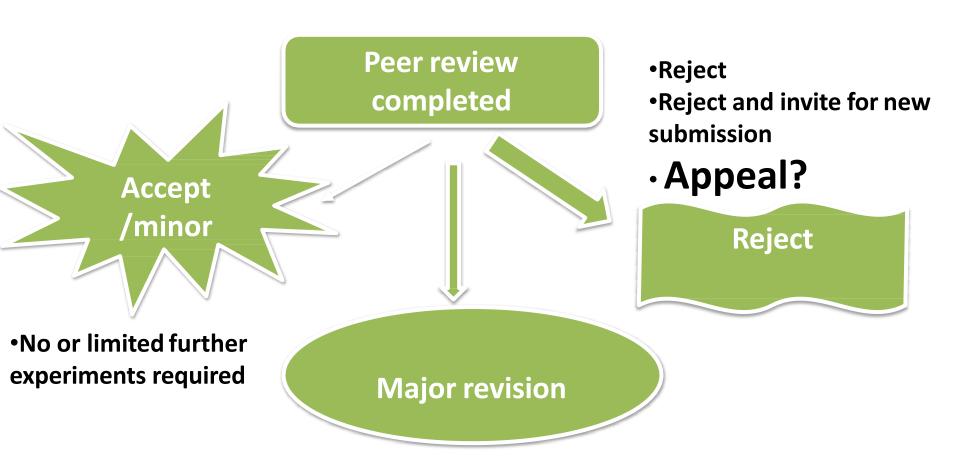
What does a reviewer look at?

- 1. Is your article within scope of the journal?
- 2. Is it of sufficient quality? e.g.
 - Is it novel and important work?
 - Are the research, analysis and conclusions valid?
 - Does it give a clear statement of aims and achievements?
 - Is the presentation of figures, tables correct?
 - Are calculations correct, do models work?
 - Is existing literature cited appropriately?
 - Is statistical analysis used appropriately?
- 3. Areas for improvement
- 4. Ethics publishing or experimental





After peer review:



Further experiments...

Before you respond to reviewers...

- ✓ Remember: Editors/Reviewers are just trying to help
- ✓ Reject Don't get angry
- ✓ Don't respond immediately
- ✓ Seek advice from your supervisor or colleagues

How to revise your paper

- ✓ Instructions to authors
- ✓ Point-by-point response
- ✓ Specifying where the changes are
- ✓ Highlight the changes

- ✓ Be courteous
- ✓ Be professional
- ✓ Be rational
- ✓ Check, check, check
- ✓ Ok to disagree but be respectful

How to Respond

- Persistence pays answer questions and address requests for revisions in a clear and timely fashion
- Avoid personal attack and defensive behavior
- Be polite but not obsequious
- Address each point/comment in the order given
- Explain which changes have been carried out

Comments —— Author preferred reviewers

- Select someone who can really help your research
- Be careful when you select your colleagues or friends
- The Editors can tell!

Thank you

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Questions?