



# Tips for Publishing Success

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## ***Health Care for Women International***



Editors provide a unique interdisciplinary approach to global women's health issues.

Published twelve times a year, we include the newest research, theories, and issues in public health, social science, health care practice and health policy. Scholars and practitioners address cultural differences, alternative lifestyles, violence, public health, aging, maternal health, infectious diseases and a host of other gender-based ethical issues. Welcomed also are comments from readers about articles published in this journal.

# Tip 1



## Know the Aims of the Editor

Knowing our aims helps you determine if this journal is the right fit for your work

# Editor's Aims for *Health Care for Women International*



- Stimulate international, multidisciplinary dialogue on women's health issues.
- Encourage authors who consider how cultural differences, lifestyles, spousal abuse, aging, socio-psychological challenges, childrearing and childbearing, violence, ethical issues, health care diagnoses, regimens, and interventions affect women's health globally.

**An examination of the journal's history may reveal a strong interest in maternal health, but the scope of the journal is now considerably broader.**

- Include theoretical, methodological, & practice contributions to scientific literature and new substantive information on women's health issues
- Add evidence-inspired recommendations for social policy in discussion comments.



# Our Unique Contribution: International Interdisciplinary Appeal

The requirement that all authors address our international interdisciplinary audience is what makes this journal unique.


Keep this requirement in mind when writing each section of the manuscript, beginning with the required introductory paragraph and ending with a discussion section.



## Tip 2



Always Consider Your Audience



# Who Is Our International Interdisciplinary Audience

Researchers, Scholars, Policy Analysts & Practitioners from across the globe in Women's Studies Such As:  
Public Health, Social Work, Sociology, Anthropology, Psychology, Nursing, Medicine, Health Education, Economics, Marketing, Health Care Administration, History, and other Allied Health Professions.



# Addressing Our Audience

The next 7 slides detail just how to do this throughout your paper



# Introductory paragraph

- ▶ Editor's purpose in requiring an introductory paragraph with specific content is to assure authors set a tone, establishing relevance of articles to interdisciplinary international audience.
- ▶ There should be no heading for this paragraph.
- ▶ Relate what work is about, what authors did and why they did it.
- ▶ If study was done in one location on the globe, authors must include what an international and interdisciplinary audience can learn from reading this study that is relevant to researchers elsewhere.
- ▶ Keep in mind that our interdisciplinary audience consists of researchers, scholars, practitioners, health care professionals, and students in public health, women's studies, social work, sociology, anthropology, psychology, health education, business, and history.
- ▶ Authors will be asked to write a similar paragraph to explain the international appeal of their work to reviewers.
- ▶ The "tone" set in the first paragraph must be continued in every section of the manuscript.



# Background

- Editor's purpose for background section is for authors to place their work in the context of existing literature.
- Maintaining tone of addressing international, interdisciplinary audience is paramount .
- Insufficient to say that the study of a topic itself warrants international appeal.
- Include international literature both substantively and theoretically germane.
- Write for an interdisciplinary audience rather than a narrow group of scholars already familiar with authors' method and theory.
- Include citations of work published previously in *Health Care for Women International*.
- Cite literature published in other international and interdisciplinary scholarly journals.
- Include authors' assumptions.
- When intention is to generate theory rather than test an existing theoretical hypothesis, cite the work of others with similar intentions.



# Methods

- ▶ Editor's purpose is for authors to describe who did what, when, where, how, and why.
- ▶ Explain all epistemological assumptions.
- ▶ Explain all quantitative, qualitative, primary, secondary meta-analysis, mixed methods, or literature reviews so someone outside author's field can understand.
- ▶ Detail all methods to allow for replication.
- ▶ Interdisciplinary audience needs details to understand.
- ▶ Include statements explaining how all participants provided informed consent and how work was evaluated by an ethical review board.



# Results



- ▶ Limit results content to what you learned from methods described earlier in the manuscript.
- ▶ Include statistical tables and theoretical diagrams
- ▶ Citations to existing literature do not belong in this section, unless your method of study was literature review.



# Discussion

- ▶ Editor's purpose is to stimulate dialog with scholars from other countries and scholars of disparate disciplines.
- ▶ Revisit ideas presented in the background section
- ▶ Be certain the relevance for an international interdisciplinary audience is obvious.
- ▶ Do not generalize location specific results to an international audience
- ▶ Raise work to a higher level of theoretical abstraction so readers in other geographic areas can learn something new.
- ▶ Suggest how research may be replicated in the context of other countries.
- ▶ Always present suggestions for further research.
- ▶ Always include citations to international interdisciplinary work.



# Challenges

- English is not everyone's native language
- Audience does not share one set of theoretical assumptions, a unique methodological approach or a common scope of practice
- Culture makes a difference in prioritizing health care issues among women



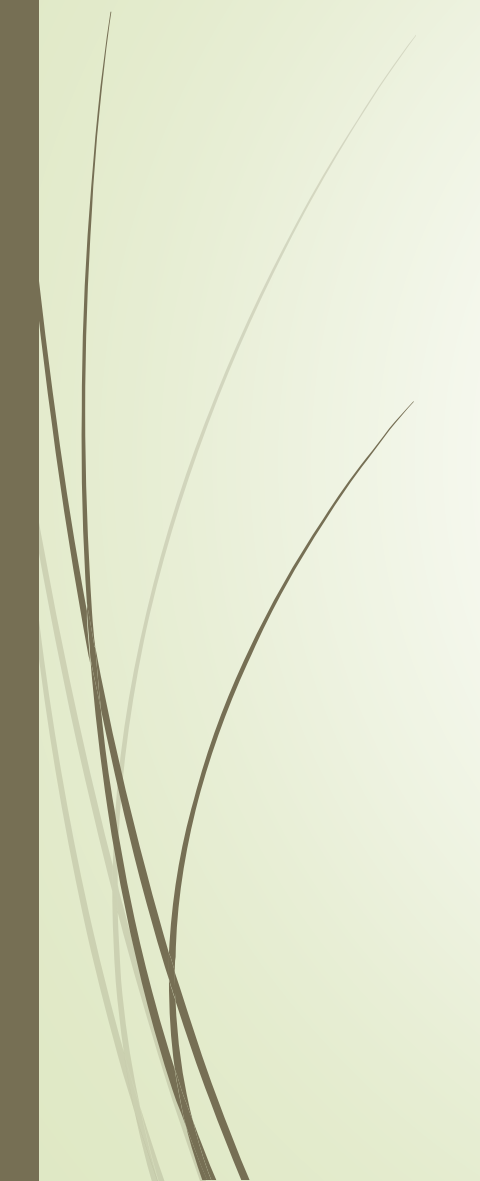
# Our Interdisciplinary Audience

Researchers, Scholars, Policy  
Analysts & Practitioners in Women's  
Studies Such As:

Public Health, Social Work,  
Sociology, Anthropology,  
Psychology, Nursing, Medicine,  
Health Education, Economics,  
Marketing, Health Care  
Administration, History, and other  
Allied Health Professions.



## Tip 3



Do Explain  
Don't Assume





# Writing for an Interdisciplinary Audience

## Do EXPLAIN

- ▶ Epistemology (How you learned what you know)
- ▶ Methods
- ▶ Implications of your results
- ▶ Suggestions for future research

## Don't ASSUME

- ▶ Don't refer to method by name only
- ▶ Don't assume all understand statistics
- ▶ Don't assume all understand axial coding



# Appealing to an International Audience

## DO

- ▶ Explain how things work in your country
- ▶ Use culturally universal terms when possible
- ▶ Collaborate with others if you have a problem writing in English
- ▶ Describe why your work should appeal to an international audience

## DON'T

- ▶ Don't assume everyone knows about your country
- ▶ Use jargon without explanation
- ▶ Assume the editor will correct your English



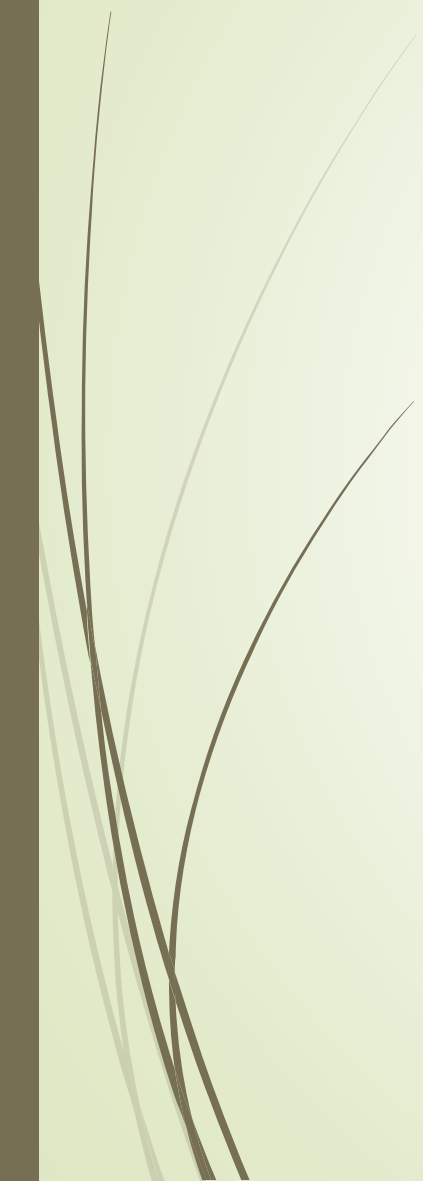
## Tip 4



Follow Stylistic Norms



# Stylistic Guidelines

- The editor reserves the right to modify stylistic guidelines from time to time.
  - In general, follow the guidelines published in the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association. (6<sup>th</sup> edition).
- 



# FIRST PERSON

- We prefer manuscripts written in “first person.”
- First person is consistent with APA guidelines.
  - “We” carried out the investigation because...” lets the reader know you’re proud of your work and why you did it.
  - “The researchers carried out...” tells us what was done, but not who did what, exactly nor why.



# ANTHROPOMORPHISM



- It is against the editorial policy of *Health Care for Women International* to impart human qualities to other than humans.
- Do write, “We analyzed data and thus believe...”.  
“The aims of the researchers were to...”.
- Don’t write, “This study aims to explain...”.  
“Our data suggest...”.

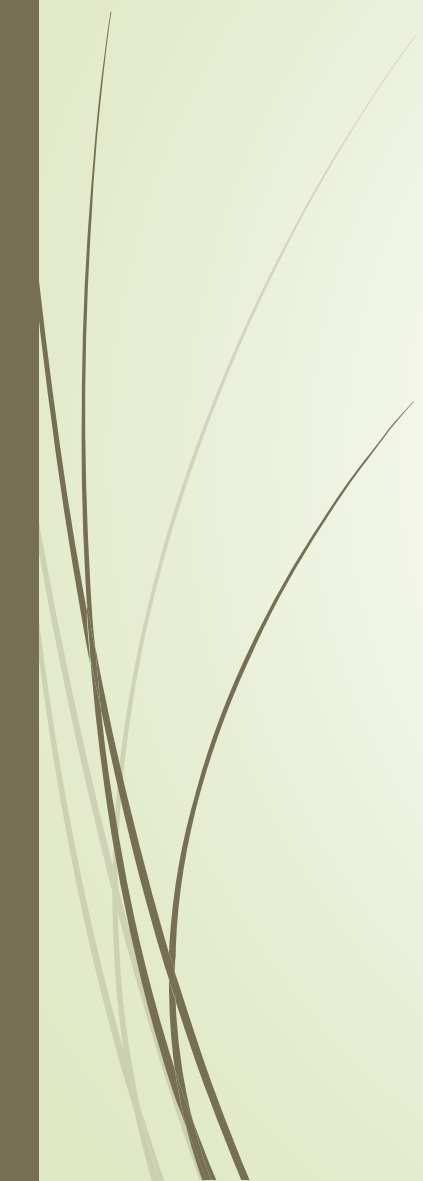


# No “SUBJECTS” Allowed

- It is against editorial policy to refer to research participants as “subjects.”
- A subject is a thing, sub-human, and often unworthy of respect.
- Members of the HCWI Editorial Board take the position that calling a woman a subject is degrading and anti-feminist.
- Use the word “participant” or “informant” to describe those who provided you with information or data.



# Page Length/Word Length

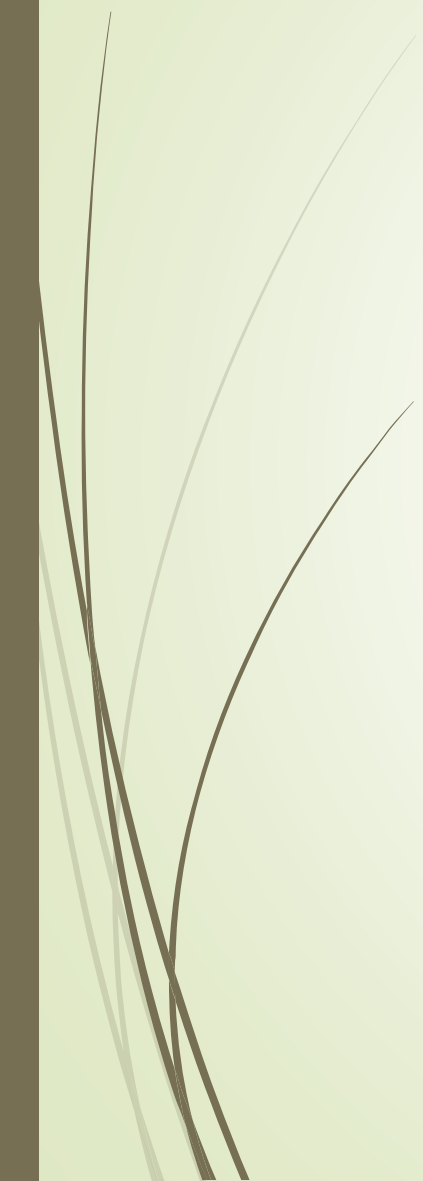
- Most manuscripts are 25 pages, including references.
  - Authors and Peer Reviewers are asked to consider whether manuscripts can/should be shortened.
  - Do not cite every study ever published on your topic
- 





# Literature Review Policy

We publish literature reviews only when authors meet one of the following requirements:

- Provide a theoretical contribution
  - Provide a methodological contribution
  - Provide a summary of substantive information that does not otherwise exist in the literature
- 



# How to Submit Work

- All work must be submitted using ScholarOne  
<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/uhcw>
- To submit work you must:
  - Read Editor's guidelines for authors and reviewers
  - Submit in MS Word (preferred) or Adobe PDF
  - Blind the "Main Document"
  - Certify the work has not been submitted elsewhere
  - Certify the work has not been published elsewhere
  - Certify you have read and followed "Guidelines for Authors and Reviewers"
- Work that doesn't meet the above criteria will be rejected regardless of scientific merit.



# What Happens When a Manuscript is Submitted:

Manuscript is assigned a number;

Author notified by email;

Manuscript is internally reviewed

Manuscript is sent to two peer reviewers;

Peer reviewers submit reviews;


Editors synthesize all review comments.

Authors notified of results of peer review.



## Tip 5

When in doubt, e-mail the editors





# Contact Information

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