Peer Review Innovations at Elsevier

and collaborations with PEERE

Bahar Mehmani

PEERE conference, Rome-March 2018
Reviewer Recognition Program

Transparency Recognition Engagement
Transparency
Understanding the impact
Transparency

- Information about peer review process
- Publishing peer review reports
Transparency: Who handled this article?

Euler class groups and the homology of elementary and special linear groups

Marco Schlichting

Mathematics Institute, Zeeman Building, University of Warwick, Coventry CV4 7AL, UK

Received 4 August 2017, Accepted 10 August 2017, Available online 4 September 2017.

Communicated by Tomasz S. Mrowka
The effectiveness of the computerized visual perceptual training program on individuals with Down syndrome: An fMRI study

Yi-Ting Wan\textsuperscript{a}, Ching-Sui Chiang\textsuperscript{a}, Sharon Chia-Ju Chen\textsuperscript{b}, Yee-Pay Wuang\textsuperscript{a, c}

\textsuperscript{a} Department of Occupational Therapy, Kaohsiung Medical University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
\textsuperscript{b} Department of Medical Imaging and Radiological Sciences, Kaohsiung Medical University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan
\textsuperscript{c} Department of Pediatrics, Kaohsiung Medical University Hospital, Kaohsiung, Taiwan

Received 9 December 2016, Revised 16 March 2017, Accepted 26 April 2017, Available online 20 May 2017

Number of reviews completed is 2
Transparency: Publishing review reports as articles (example)

Long-term results of open repair of popliteal artery aneurysm

M.U. Wagenhäuser, K.B. Herma, Duran

https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amsu.2015.01.

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Peer review report

Peer review report 3 on Long-term Results of Open repair of Popliteal Artery Aneurysm

Original Submission

Recommendation

Reject - invite resubmission.

Comments to the author

This paper describes treatment of popliteal artery aneurysm (PAA) from a single centre. Only 30 patients, operated on 42 legs. Open operation with medial approach in all cases. All aneurysms were resected at the operation. Different subgroups of the PAA are based on morphology, symptomatic or asymptomatic.

Control examination and assessment of the quality of life with clinical examination/duplex sonography and a homemade questionnaire.

Good operative results and patency in accordance with other reports. No follow-up data.

The outcome of this paper is not accordance with the title. The descriptions of the long-term results are few and weak. The operation technique could be better described in details. The anatomic dissemination of the aneurysm could be of interest for other surgeons who would like to use this approach instead of the posterior approach. The analysis of the 8 patients, who were deceased or did not participate in the control examination, could be more detailed, except which group did they come and what did they die from? The 12 patients who had bilateral operations: Symptoms from the legs, which group did they belong to; asymptomatic or symptomatic?

The answers from these 12 patients in the questionnaire: Did they get two or one questionnaire? How did the author assess the information from these questionnaires? Which leg was of current interest?

The discussion is very focused on endovascular treatment. The discussion consists of 36% of treatment which is not the author's treatment of choice and only 7% questionnaire review.

Referred to by

Annals of Medicine and Surgery, Volume 4, Supplement 1, January–December 2015, Pages S1
Transparency: Survey results

We surveyed 204 referees who had accepted

Response to the survey
- 40 (19.6%)

Willing to accept further review invitations from the journal
- 39 (97.5%)

Publishing referee reports did not influence their recommendation
- 38 (95.0%)

We surveyed 440 referees who declined

Response to the survey
- 100 (22.7%)

Publication of referee reports was not the reason for declining
- 91 (91.0%)

Indicated lack of time as the primary reason
- 68 (68.0%)

Indicated personal reasons
- 24 (24.0%)

Indicated a mismatch with areas of expertise
- 23 (23.0%)

Authors are supportive of the pilot
- Very much
- Liked it
- Neutral
- Disliked it
- Didn’t like it at all
Transparency: Data analysis with PEERE

- No significant impact on accept-to-review
  - despite the design of the pilot

- No significant impact on recommendation type

- No significant impact on reviewer turn-around time
Recognition

My Elsevier Reviews profile
My Elsevier Reviews profile

Objective
• Thank and Reward
• Engage

Current Status
• +300,000 review profiles
• ~2000 Elsevier Journals
• ~50,000 of Volunteers

Next Steps
• Add My Reviews to Mendeley profiles
My Elsevier Reviews profile: Rewards

My Latest Review: January 2018, Consciousness and Cognition

My Review Status

Please find an overview of your review recognitions below.

Recognized reviewer - Consciousness and Cognition
Achieved: January 2018

— You have been awarded this recognition because you completed at least one manuscript review in the last two years for Consciousness and Cognition.

View details for your full Elsevier journal review record and to claim your free certificate.

View Detail...

Outstanding reviewer - Cortex
Achieved: June 2017

— You have been awarded this recognition as you are within the top 10th percentile of reviewers for this Journal, in terms of the number of manuscript reviews completed in the last two years. For Cortex, this meant a minimum of 2 reviews in two years. View details for your full Elsevier journal

View Detail...
Rating Peer Review Quality: Experiment with 12 journals

- Handling editor: “How timely was the delivery of the review report?” ★★★★★

- Handling editor: “Did you feel confident to follow the reviewer recommendation for this manuscript?” ★★★★★

- Cor. Author: “Was this review report helpful for you to improve quality of your manuscript?” ★★★★★
Rating peer review quality: Data analysis with PEERE

• Authors find review reports with ‘reject’ recommendation more helpful

• High quality reviews are more helpful for decision making
My Elsevier Reviews profile: Rewarding review quality

Welcome

We thank you for your contributions to the peer review process. If you are interested in reviewing for more titles, please let us know.

Engagement
Volunteering to Review
Volunteer to review

- My Elsevier Reviews profile

Volunteer for Peer Review with JMB

JMB provides high quality and broad coverage in all areas of molecular biology. Editorial decisions are made by the editorial board members who are active scientists and recognized experts in their respective fields. The editorial board works very closely with a large number of dedicated reviewers to offer expert and constructive comments to authors with the goal of improving their manuscripts.

Register as a reviewer for Journal of Molecular Biology
Engagement: Volunteers

Journal homepage

Volunteer for Peer Review with JMB

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Register as a reviewer for Journal of Molecular Biology

Please make sure to specify your areas of expertise, your short CV, your motivation for choosing this journal to review for and indicate your availability. It is then up to the relevant editors to contact volunteer reviewers in order to request a review.

JMB Editors will consider volunteer reviewers along with editor-invited reviews for each manuscript and provide feedback to volunteer reviewers.

The aim of this program is to offer a quick, constructive and fair peer-review process, to engage reviewers actively into the publishing process and to provide mentorship to researchers (especially early career) to provide meaningful and constructive reviews to their peers.

![Diagram showing submission process with stages: New submission, Revisions, Editorial peer review, Rejection, Editorial decision, Acceptance]

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Short C.V.:</td>
<td>JMB volunteer peer-review pilot</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Journals:</td>
<td>Journal of Molecular Biology</td>
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<tr>
<td>List of subject areas:</td>
<td>NMR; structural biology; amyloid fibrils; macromolecular assemblies; protein filaments</td>
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<tr>
<td>Motivation:</td>
<td>to be actively engaged in the reviewing process.</td>
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<td>Availability:</td>
<td>Monthly</td>
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Latest articles: [ORCID or Scopus ID]
What’s your motivation? Data analysis with PEERE

1. Areas of expertise

2. *Journal prestige*

3. *Publication history*
VolunPeers: Early results

Feedback from reviewers:
“This was the first time that I got a detailed review/feedback on my review. It’s really helpful, and I think more journals should do this. Encourages a better review process, and also encouraged me that my efforts to improve the manuscript were appreciated by the authors/editors”

Feedback from editors:
“The review was far more comprehensive and helpful, both to the editor and to the authors, than the usual reports.”

- 60% reply rate to initial notification
- 7.7 days in average to submit review
- 4.18/5 editor satisfaction
- 5/5 reviewer satisfaction
Transparency, Recognition and Engagement: Next steps

• Combine initiatives and expand

• Upscale

• Analyze collected data, learn and plan for future
Thank you!
Engagement: VolunPeers

RRP registered volunteers in JMB

- Nov-16: 62
- Dec-16: 335
- Jan-17: 335
- Feb-17: 435
- Mar-17: 453
- Apr-17: 490
- May-17: 512
- Jun-17: 537

Countries with the highest number of registered volunteers:
- United States of America
- United Kingdom
- Australia
- Brazil
- France
- India

Map showing the distribution of volunteers across different countries.