

The Evolving Landscape of Scientific Publishing: Navigating Trends, Challenges, and Opportunities

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Podcast Episode

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Professor Joost Trent, editor-in-chief of the UEG Journal and hepatology professor, discusses the evolving landscape of scientific publishing in gastroenterology, emphasizing collaboration, peer review credibility, and strategies for navigating the submission and rejection process.

KEY POINTS

- The guest argues that starting research with a clear, relevant question is pivotal and determines the quality of the work that follows, with methodology flowing from the hypothesis.
- Authors facing rejection should read the feedback carefully, wait before responding, and share with co-authors rather than send immediate inflammatory replies; the guest notes there is always a home for a good paper even after eight or nine rejections.
- Journal impact factor, calculated annually by Clarivate, is only loosely correlated with paper quality, and guidelines act as citation magnets that inflate impact factor without necessarily representing impactful science.
- Publishing in peer-reviewed journals provides credibility and a seal of approval that social media posts lack, making formal publication essential despite higher barriers to entry.
- The guest advocates for multi-centre collaboration over single-centre studies to achieve robust, generalizable results that can be implemented across institutions immediately, and encourages use of existing datasets like UK Biobank; the UEG Journal offers trainee editor roles to support early-career involvement in publishing.

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