Development of a Journal for Medical Students

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1. Introduction

- Currently there is no journal in the United Kingdom that solely publishes the work of medical students.
- Commitment to research has become increasingly important for medical students and the General Medical Council encourages research at all stages of education.
- Job application criteria now include points awarded for pub-med indexed publications.
- Many medical schools have changed their curricula to adapt to this change.
- Now many medical students conduct a research project as part of their curriculum.
- Therefore, there is a clear need for an outlet for this research.

2. The Barriers To Publication

- The projects medical students complete are often audits, small research projects.
- Medical students have to compete with established researchers.
- Therefore, many of these projects are not published.

3. The Solution

- The National Student Association of Medical Research (NSAMR) is a student run, Wellcome trust funded organisation.
- NSAMR founded the NSAMR Journal in 2016.
- The NSAMR Journal will reduce barriers to publication through:
  - RDA recommendation incorporation
  - Utilising links to our 25 affiliated UK medical schools
  - Development of a national team of student peer reviewer

4. Aim

- Develop a free to publish, open access journal authored, reviewed and edited by medical students that incorporates RDA recommendations and latest technologies.

5. Journal Design

- An example of the journal layout is presented in Figure 1.

EXAMPLE OF A NSAMR JOURNAL ARTICLE

Byrne M, Author B, Author C.

Table 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tool</th>
<th>Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Datacite</td>
<td>Identification of DOIs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossmark</td>
<td>Ensures up to date valid references and DOIs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thor Project</td>
<td>ORCID integration.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossfund</td>
<td>Standardised funding data formatting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iThenticate</td>
<td>Plagiarism detection software.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OpenAire</td>
<td>Deposit for open access articles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PKP journal software</td>
<td>Open access, free, journal system.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journal search integration</td>
<td>Finds similar articles from other journals for Readers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6. Journal Design

- The article presents the most important details.
- Additional detail can be accessed by moving the mouse over key text (Figure 2).
- By hiding details which can clutter the article it allows viewers to quickly read the article while maintaining the information if Readers wish to access it.

7. Future Work

- A number of tools which could be used by NSAMR Journal have been identified. These are displayed in Table 1.

8. Benefits

For medical students

- Education in manuscript writing, submission and peer review processes.
- Reduced competition from established researchers.
- Students can be inspired by others, with impact increased via social media.
- New researchers are introduced to open science at the earliest possibility.

For RDA and the research community

- RDA can trial its new publishing recommendations in a low risk format.
- Research is not wastefully reproduced.
- Research commonly not published will be introduced to the public domain.

References

1. Author Name, Article Title, Journal, Year.