



How to write a paper?

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Profesor George M. Hall je uvaženi znanstvenik, specijalist anesteziologije na Sveučilištu u Londonu, a u vrijeme pisanja ove knjige bio je predsjednik Uredničkog odbora časopisa *British Journal of Anaesthesia* te je kao nositelj te funkcije dugo bio uključen u složen proces izdavanja znanstvenih radova. Njegova knjiga *How to write a paper* je obavezno štivo za sve koji žele steći vještinu pisanja kvalitetnih znanstvenih radova. Knjiga je razumljivo i jasno napisana uz puno praktičnih primjera i savjeta iz bogatog uredničkog iskustva.

Poglavlja ove nadasve korisne knjige su vrlo logično organizirana, tako da ju mogu lako čitati čak i studenti dodiplomske nastave. Knjiga ima 18 poglavlja uz koja se uglavnom nalazi popis preporučenog štiva za daljnje čitanje.

Knjiga započinje uvodnim poglavljem kojega je napisao sam urednik, a u nastavku slijede razne tematske cjeline raznih renomiranih autora koji su uglavnom dobro poznati urednici vodećih biomedicinskih časopisa kao što su: *British Medical Journal*, *British Journal of Anaesthesia*, *Lancet*, *Gut* i mnogi drugi. Knjiga završava poglavljem pod naslovom *Electronic publishing* koje daje pogled na budućnost izdavaštva.

U uvodnom poglavlju pod naslovom *Structure of a scientific paper* profesor Hall naglašava glavna načela osnovne strukture znanstvenog članka. Poglavlja koja iza toga slijede bave se osnovnim tematskim cjelinama članka: uvod (*Introduction*), metode (*Methods*), rezultati (*The results*), rasprava (*Discussion*), naslovi, sažetak i autori (*Titles, abstracts and authors*) te na kraju literatura (*References*).

Professor George M Hall is a distinguished scientist, Professor of Anaesthesia at the University of London and the Chairman of the Editorial board of the *British Journal of Anaesthesia*, at the time book was written, and has been involved in the complex process of publishing scientific papers for many years. His book *How to write a paper* is must-have reading for anyone who wishes to become skilled in scientific writing. The book is comprehensive, easily readable and full of practical issues and advices coming from the editor's own experience.

This useful book is arranged in a such a logical manner, that even undergraduate students could easily read it. It has 18 chapters, mostly accompanied by a list of recommended references for further reading. The book begins with the introductory chapter written by the editor himself, moving next to more specific topics written by various authors who are mostly well established editors of some leading medical journals such as the *British Medical Journal*, *British Journal of Anaesthesia*, *Lancet*, *Gut* and some other. The book finally ends with the chapter on what the editor envisions as the future: *Electronic publishing*.

In the introductory chapter entitled *Structure of a scientific paper*, Professor Hall stresses major principles of the basic structure of a paper. Following chapters deal with the basic parts of a paper: *Introduction*, *Methods*, *The results*, *Discussion*, *Titles, abstracts and authors* and finally *References*. Each topic is divided into multiple short subtopics devoted to a single aspect of writing. For example, chapter *In-*

Svako poglavlje podijeljeno je u cjeline koje su posvećene određenom aspektu pisanja. Primjerice, u poglavlju pod naslovom *Introduction* govori se o važnosti kratkoće uvoda, koji mora biti informativan i sadržavati glavna pitanja na koja autor želi tijekom svog istraživanja odgovoriti. Glavna poruka poglavlja glasi: budite kratki i jezgroviti! Kroz cijelo poglavlje autor naglašava osnovna načela pisanja te na konkretnim primjerima ilustrira *kako treba i kako se ne smije pisati*.

Poglavlja koja slijede posvećena su drugim kategorijama radova kao što su: *Letter* (Pismo), *Abstract for a scientific meeting* (Kongresni sažetak), *Case report* (Prikaz slučaja) i *Review* (Pregledni članak). U tim su poglavljima opisane temeljne značajke svake pojedine vrste publikacije.

Posljednji dio knjige bavi se osobitostima kao što su uredništvo, autorstvo, stil i etika znanstvenog publiciranja. U poglavlju pod naslovom *The role of the editor* govori se o glavnoj ulozi i zadaćama urednika jednog časopisa te općenito o prirodi uredništva kao i o ustroju uredničkog tima. Opisuje se i način zaprimanja i obrade svakog rukopisa sa strane Uredništva, što neiskusnom autoru daje uvid u to što se događa s njegovim člankom nakon što je zaprimljen u časopis.

Toplo bih preporučila ovu vrijednu knjigu svima koji žele pisati i objavljivati znanstvene radove. Knjiga može biti vrlo dragocjena pomoć kako studentima dodiplomske i poslijediplomske nastave tako i svim mladim znanstvenicima na početku njihove znanstveno-istraživačke karijere.

Objavljeno je i treće izdanje knjige (*koje, nažalost, nisam imala priliku pročitati*). U pisanju tog izdanja sudjelovali su i neki drugi autori, a dodano je i novo poglavlje *Electronic submissions* koje je napisala Natalie Davies, pomoćnica urednika web stranice Sveučilišta u Walesu.

troductions deals with the art and importance of making the Introduction brief, but informative and stating clearly the principal question answered by the study. The main message of the chapter is – keep it short! Throughout the chapter, the author stresses main principles and gives *how to* and *how not to* examples.

Following chapters are devoted to some other forms of publications such as *Letter*, *Abstract for a scientific meeting*, *Case report* and *Review* and describe the main features of each specific form.

The last part of the book deals with some specific issues such as editorship, authorship, style and ethics of publication. The chapter *The role of the editor* gives many direct considerations to the major role of the editor himself, editorial policy in general and organisation of the editorial team. It also describes the way manuscripts are processed, what may help the unexperienced author to better comprehend what happens with his paper once it has been submitted.

I would warmly recommend this worthwhile book, to all those looking to have their paper published. It could be equally helpful resource to undergraduate and postgraduate students and young scientists in the beginning of their scientific and research career.

The third edition (*which I did not unfortunately have the opportunity to read*) of this book with some new contributing authors is also published. In that 3rd edition, one additional chapter has been added: *Electronic submissions* written by Natalie Davies, Assistant web editor at the University of Wales.