

Overview of the review process of Medline-listed journals

| Review process | Australian Journal of Physiotherapy | Journal of Neurologic Physical Therapy | Journal of Orthopaedic and Sports Physiotherapy | Manual Therapy | Physiotherapy Research International | Physiotherapy Theory and Practice |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|--|
| Who (how many people) decides whether manuscripts go out to review? | Editor - ask Editorial Board if uncertain | 1 or 2 Editors depending on the manuscript type | Editor | Editor – ask Co-Editor sometimes | 2 Editors - ask 2 other Deputy Editors sometimes | Editor – ask Editorial Board if uncertain |
| How many reviewers are manuscripts sent to? | 2 | 2 reviewers and an Associate Editor | 2 reviewers and an Associate Editor | 2 reviewers, sometimes three | 2 | 2 |
| How long does the reviewer have to submit their 1st round review? | 4 weeks | 3 weeks | 2 weeks | 4 weeks | 4-6 weeks | 6-8 weeks |
| Do revised manuscripts go out to the reviewers again or does the Editor make the decision? | Goes out to reviewers again unless only minor revisions then Editor makes decision | Goes out to reviewers again unless only minor revisions then Associate Editor makes decision | Goes out to reviewers again | Goes out to reviewers again unless only minor revisions | Goes out to one reviewer again unless only minor revisions then Editor makes decision | Goes out to reviewers again |
| How long does the reviewer have to submit their 2nd round review? | 2 weeks | 2 weeks | 2 weeks | 4 weeks | 2-3 weeks | 6-8 weeks |
| Are manuscripts reviewed separately by a statistician? | Yes for systematic reviews and RCTs, others if complex | If necessary | If necessary | if necessary because statistics are complex | If necessary | No |
| Who (how many) makes the final decision on manuscripts? | Editor | Editor and Associate Editor | Editor | Handling Editor and Executive Editor | Editor | Editor |
| Are reviewers blind to the authors of manuscripts? | No | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Are reviewers asked to consult checklists for specific designs, eg, CONSORT for RCTs? | Yes | No, but will be in future | No | No | No, but will be in future | Yes, but not CONSORT |
| What are the decision categories used? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept • Revise with guarantee • Revise with no guarantee • Reject | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept with minor, mod or major • Revise with no guarantee • Reject and revise • Reject | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept • Minor revision • Moderate revision • Major revision • Reject-resubmit • Reject | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept • Minor revisions • Major revisions • Reject | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept • Minor Changes • Major Changes • Reject | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accept • Accept with Amendments • Revise and Resubmit • Reject - resubmit • Reject |
| Any other aspects of the review process | | 3 rd reviewers opinion if disagreement between reviewers | | | 3 rd reviewers opinion if disagreement between reviewers | Associate Editor handles Case Reports |