

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