Medicine flips to an open access mega journal

On March 31, 2014 Medicine was rebranded from a subscription based journal to an open access multi-disciplinary mega journal.

Medicine fully open access mega journal publishing original research across a broad spectrum of medical scientific specialties and sub-specialties.

The mission of Medicine is to provide free access to published content that utilizes an Article Publishing Fee to cover costs.

Authorship concerns journals may face

Journals face a number of challenges when handling submissions especially with submissions increasing from developing countries.

- Providing additional services - How do we continue to improve the journal and provide additional services to increase our submissions?
- Authors changing authorship lists mid-review process - Adding authors is okay during revision stages
- Adding authors after acceptance - Authors may sometimes try to add additional authors after acceptance
  - This could be due to the corresponding authors actually forgetting an author, which is rare
  - The authors could potentially be selling authorship after acceptance
- "Ghost Authorship" - Authors adding additional authors who may not have worked on the article being submitted
What is CRediT?

CRediT is a high-level classification of the diverse roles performed in the work leading up to a published research output in the sciences. Its purpose is to provide transparency to contributions to scholarly published work, and to enable improved systems of attribution, credit and accountability.

How CRediT works

How it works: During submission when a corresponding author adds additional authors to the author list they can select each author’s contribution roles from a list of 14 selections. More than one contribution can be selected for each author.

- CRediT is already available in Editorial Manager for all journals in the system
- CRediT can be set up to be voluntary or mandatory

Note: Medicine uses Editorial Manager as its submission site.

Publishing the CRediT contributions

After the corresponding author selects the author contributions the journal has the option to publish these in the final manuscript.
Benefits of CRediT

CRediT offers a number of unique benefits to both authors and the journal. It can be used as a tool for providing transparency to the published work as well as give additional rewards to secondary authors.

- **Accuracy & transparency** - Granular and standardized capture of contributor roles
- **Impact** - Improved and more accurate measurement of individual impact
- **Enables better reviewer selection** - Editors can better select appropriate reviewers

Concerns and Experience Implementing CRediT

**Concerns**

- Will this be an additional hurdle for authors during submission?
- Do we make it mandatory or voluntary?
- What kind of feedback will we receive?

**Experience**

- We have not received any negative feedback on implementing CRediT in our submission process.
- We assume that authors are used to this process now.
- They find it to be a benefit for them - so they do not mind filling it out.
- However, when it was voluntary no authors used CRediT.

Questions?

Thank You!