6.4 NEW INNOVATIONS IN PEER REVIEW:

IMPROVING THE AUTHOR SUBMISSION PROCESS

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JBJS, INC. JOURNALS PORTFOLIO

- The Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery
- JBJS Case Connector
- JBJS Essential Surgical Techniques
- JBJS Reviews
- JBJS Open Access
- JBJS Journal of Orthopaedics for Physician Assistants

2,200+ submissions each year

THE JOURNAL OF BONE & JOINT SURGERY

- 1,600 submissions last year
- Original scientific study acceptance rate = 18%
- Double-blinded peer review process:
  - Authors do not know reviewers' identities
  - Reviewers do not know authors' identities
  - Editors know everyone's identities
BASIC PEER REVIEW PROCESS
(NEW SUBMISSIONS)

1. Manuscript submission
2. Editorial office screening
3. Editor-in-Chief assignment
4. Deputy Editor assignment
5. Reviewers invited
6. Reviewers submitted
7. Statistical review (optional)
8. Deputy Editor decision
9. Editor-in-Chief approval
10. Decision sent by Editorial office

STEPS TAKEN TO DATE: EDITORS

-Weekly automated editor reminder emails
  -Personal editor emails as necessary
-Weekly stats editor queue emails
  -Editor-in-Chief follow-up as necessary
-Monthly acceptance rate and transfer rate emails

EDITOR REMINDER EMAILS
STEPS TAKEN TO DATE: REVIEWERS

- Shortened reviewer deadlines (14 days for new submissions, 10 for revised submissions)
- Weekly reviewer prodding
- Annual reviewer maintenance

REVIEWERS: POSITIVE REINFORCEMENT

- Annual Reviewer Appreciation List
- Elite Reviewers Program
- Thank-you emails for excellent reviews

BASIC PEER REVIEW PROCESS (NEW SUBMISSIONS)
FOCUS ON AUTHORS

• Reduced author deadlines (21 days first revisions, 14 days subsequent revisions)
• Author Resource Center (2016)
• Streamlined Instructions for Authors page

FOCUS ON AUTHORS CONT.

• Improvements to the author submission system
  • Updated Editorial Manager submission interface
    with manuscript Xtract
  • Optional starting with version 14.1
  • Mandatory starting with version 15.0 (mid-2018)

• Started with JBJS submission site

SUBMISSION INTERFACE: BEFORE
SUBMISSION INTERFACE: AFTER

QUICK WALKTHROUGH:
UPLOAD TITLE PAGE

QUICK WALKTHROUGH:
UPLOAD FILES
AUTOMATIC TRANSFER OF DATA

MANUSCRIPT XTRACT FEATURE

Will pull following fields from designated Word file:
- Title
- Authors
- Affiliations
- Abstract

(Double-blind review process maintained by using Title Page as designated file)

OVERALL BENEFITS

- Cleaner interface
- Reduced manual data entry
- More intuitive
CONSIDERATIONS

• Buttons may be confusing
• Title page does not always “catch”
• Learning curve for configuration

EXAMPLE

“Article Type Selection”
“Select Article Type”

SET-UP ADVICE

• Budget at least 1 hour for set-up
• Use two separate browsers (not windows)
ADVICE CONT.

- Have staff (especially outside department) test
- Walk through revision process as well (proxy)
- Gather feedback from authors
  - 113 unique authors
  - Link in confirmation email; reminder email
  - 36 responses (32%)

AUTHOR FEEDBACK SURVEY

- The submission interface instructions were easy to understand
- The submission interface saved me time
- The submission interface was easy to use

OVERALL GOAL

Shortening the peer review process while maintaining its high quality