

37 - Title: What is Accepted? An Analysis of Publications from The Journal of Urology

Author(s): H. Lasugas, A. Shorey, P. Kothari, M. Hung.

Faculty Mentor(s): Dr. Michael Hung.

Background: This study was performed to identify the qualities of published data in the Journal of Urology, specifically in relationship to the categories, affiliations, and sponsorship. This research allows us to identify patterns in article funding, affiliations, and content that may impact the likelihood of being published.

Methods/Research Design. All articles published from 2020-2023 by the Journal of Urology under Adult Urology were reviewed and included. Articles were accessed from the Journal of Urology website as well as PubMed to collect all the variables, which included category, primary affiliation, number of affiliations, status of primary affiliation as nonprofit, if the publication had international affiliations, whether the article was sponsored, and if an author had conflicts of interest. Averages between group were compared by unpaired t-test analysis.

Results (or Preliminary Results, as applicable for a project in progress): 720 articles were included in analysis. Of the article subject categories, the greatest number of articles were published in Oncology: prostate/testis/penis (288, 40.0%) while the category Physiology/Medical Disease had the least number of articles (2, 0.28%). A majority of published articles were sponsored (387, 53.8%). Of the 387 sponsored articles, 87 of those were for-profit sponsored, making 22.5% of all sponsorship for-profit sourced. Across subject categories, the highest percentage of overall sponsorship was in the infection/inflammation category (22, 64.7%). The highest percentage of for-profit sponsorship was in the sexual function/infertility category (8, 17.4%). The average number of affiliations was slightly greater for for-profit sponsored articles compared to all sponsored articles, although not significantly (7.56 vs 6.97, $p=0.3915$).

Conclusion (or Preliminary Conclusion, as applicable for a project in progress): Overall, the majority of sponsored articles were not sponsored by for-profit organizations. Oncology: prostate/testis/penis accounted for the greatest number of articles, although its percentage of overall and for-profit sponsorship was not significantly higher, signifying a potential greater need in the urologic oncologic field of research, and that publication in that field is less related to funding. It is important to consider where the majority of funding for sponsored articles originates from, because of possible biases that may occur due to funding source.