

Postgraduate Medical Journal Blog

The Postgraduate Medical Journal Blog is the blog for the Postgraduate Medical Journal to discuss, debate and share thoughts and ideas on a wide range of topics relevant to junior doctors and the continued professional development of all doctors.

We welcome submissions for consideration. Your article should be clear, compelling, and appeal to our readership of practising clinicians and teachers. The best pieces make a single topical point. They are well argued with current or new insights. The word limit is a maximum of 800 words.

Please note that the writing style of opinion pieces is different from the journal or academic style of writing. We bear this in mind when considering whether to accept an article and as such overtly technical or dry language should be avoided.

We recommend considering the following questions when selecting content for your blog:

- Is this scientific research?
 - Does it include presentation of primary data (research by the back door)?
- If not, could it be misinterpreted by readers to be scientific research due to the nature or formatting of the post?
 - e.g. reviews of evidence which are likely to benefit from a formal methodology and peer review
- Does this opinion represent judgements or statements about individuals, products or organisations?
 - These may constitute written defamation (libel). If in doubt, seek advice from the publishing team at BMJ.
- Are any opinions stated without reference to factual evidence?
- Does this article describe patients?
 - Pieces which describe patients (unless they are co-authored by patients) are unlikely to be suitable. Blogs are subject to the same strict policies on patient confidentiality as all other BMJ content.
- Is this content of a controversial nature that is likely to invite negative comment via social media or alternative channels?

References can be included where appropriate. If possible it is best to include the references as hyperlinks in the text. But where a url cannot be provided then a traditional reference is fine.

We have to be careful not to libel anyone. Any potentially contentious articles are checked by our lawyer.

Please read our policy on competing interests and add the appropriate statement from this document to your manuscript. For more information see <http://bit.ly/1nwvs0Q>

Submitting to the PMJ blog

Please submit your blog to Alisdair McNeill (a.mcneill@sheffield.ac.uk). Please include a high quality photo of yourself, a brief biography (no more than 1 or 2 sentences) and your institutional details to add to the blog.

The submissions will be reviewed and a decision will be made on whether to accept, reject or modify the submission.