

BEST PRACTICES FOR GETTING PUBLISHED: NOTES FROM THE (FORMER) EDITOR IN CHIEF

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Why do we publish?

How do we publish?

Why?

- Share new knowledge in an academic forum
- Build/strengthen legitimacy of the field; self-regulation

How?

- Collegial/collaborative process of peer review
- Establish/verify meaningful contribution to knowledge/field

Where do we publish?

Where?

- In a relevant journal where contribution to new knowledge will get read, and will inform other research

What do you (think you) know
about publishing?

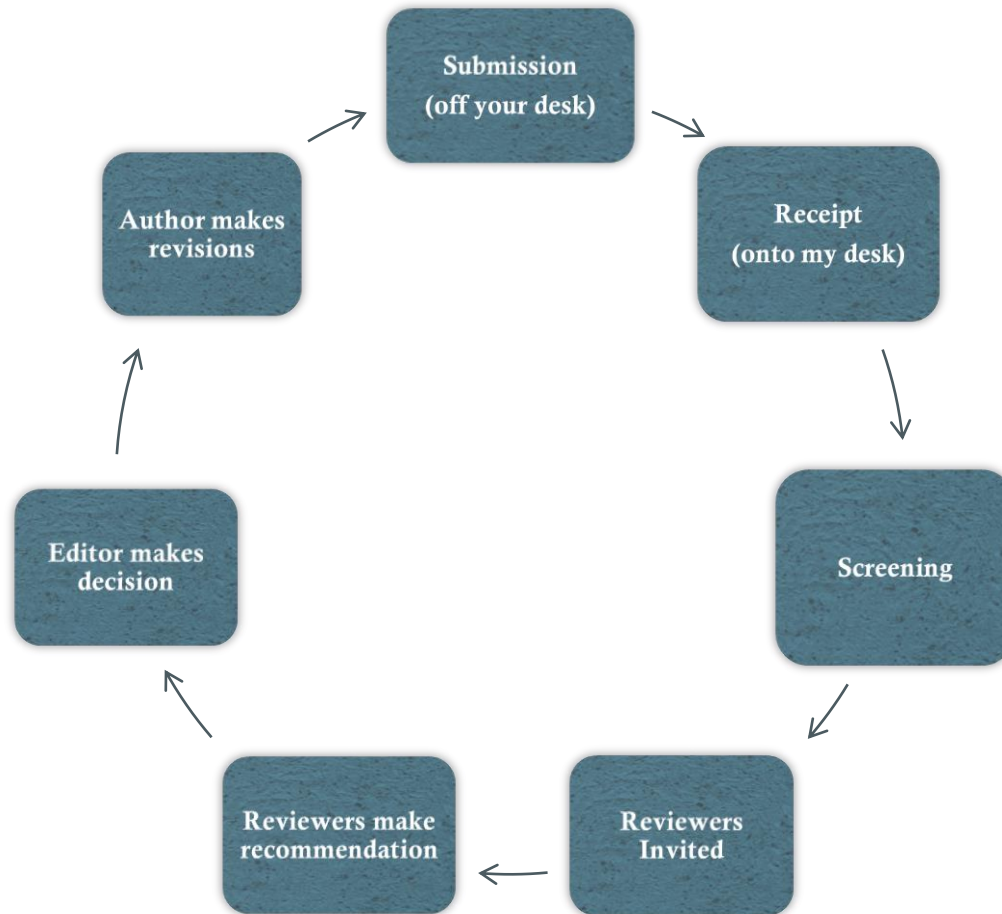
What do you want to know?

Beliefs

Myths

Questions

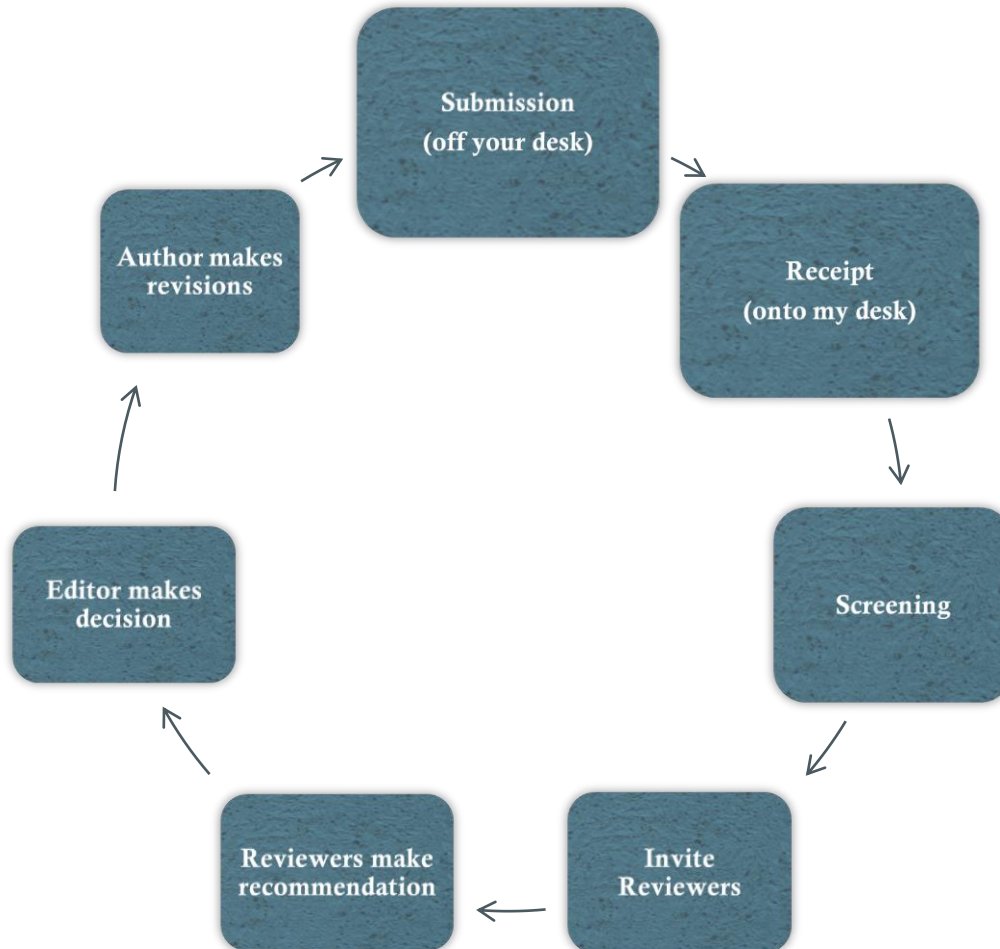
Your paper's journey through the publishing process



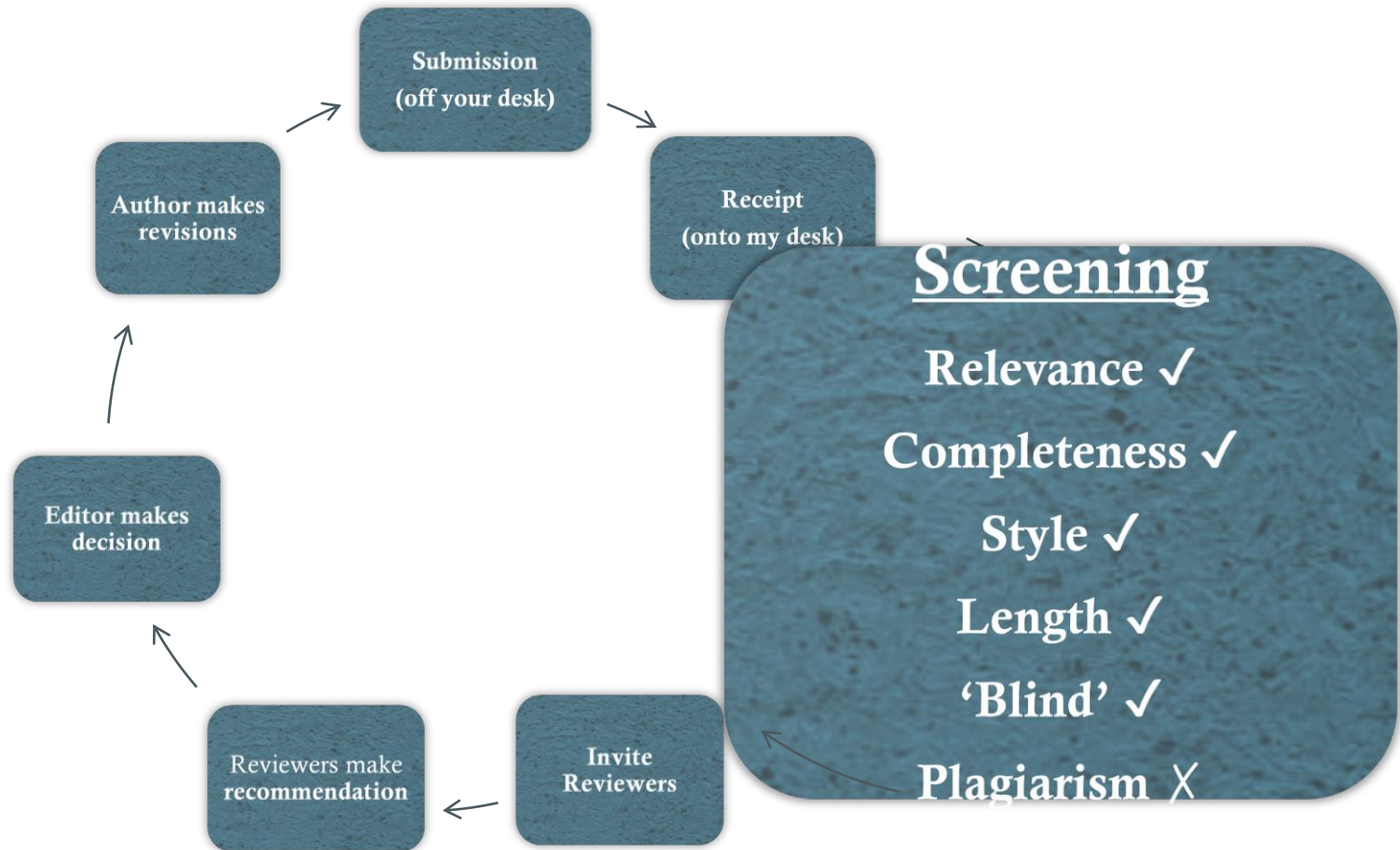
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- Do's ✓
- Don'ts ✗

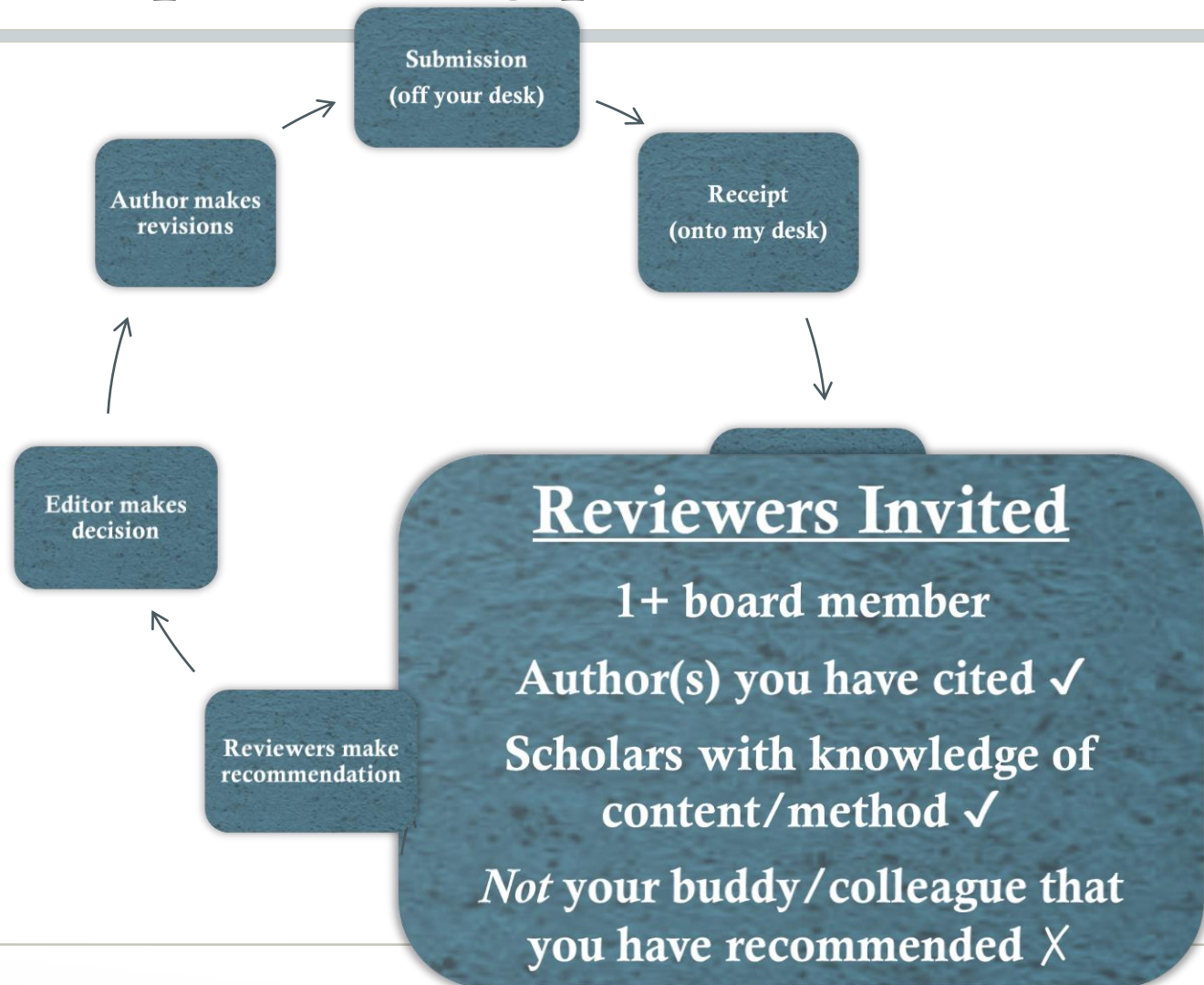
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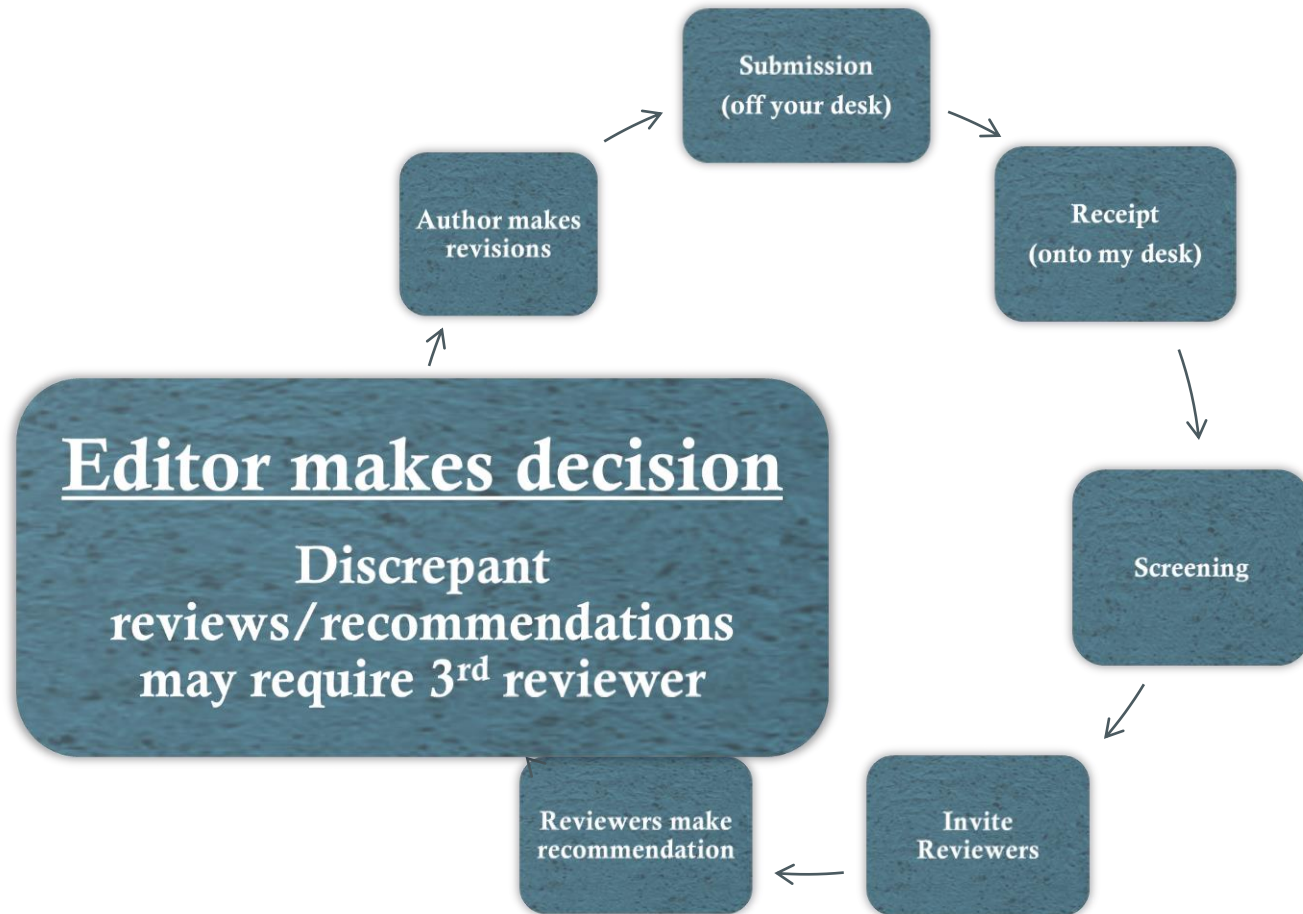
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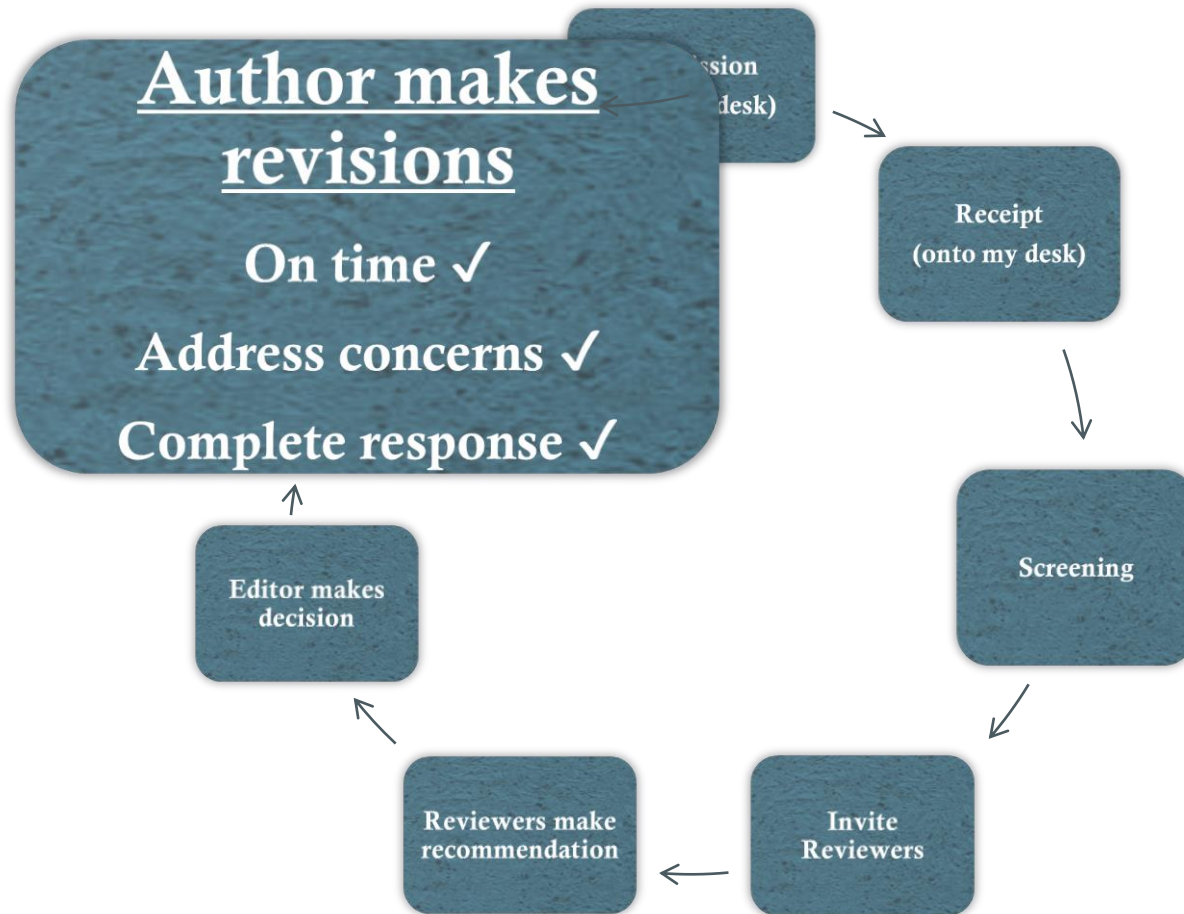
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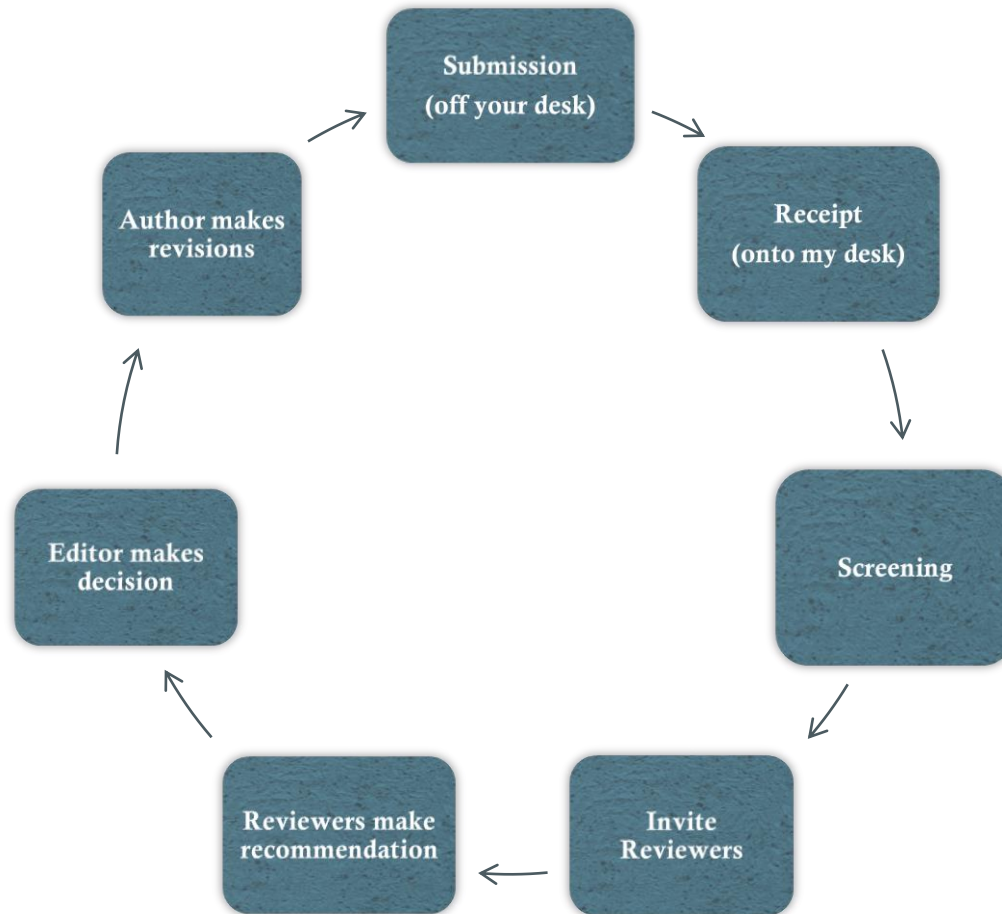
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Points to ponder

“You only get one chance to make a first impression”

- Do it right the first time; do your homework and make sure paper aligns with the focus and requirements of the particular journal

Factors in a positive decision – take it from the top

- Suitable journal (see mandate, articles, ask others)
- Relevant title (reflects paper, be strategic)
- Suitable abstract (see journal's guidelines)
- Suitable highlights (if required, see guidelines, examples)
- Clear purpose and need for study (contribution, what conversation are you in)
- Clear framework and background literature (ensure capture the relevant dialogue on the topic)
- Thorough methodology (and how it addresses purpose/RQ)
- Cont'd...

Factors in a positive decision – take it from the top

- Succinct results
- Meaningful discussion of results with indication of how the findings relate to/build on/extend existing research
- Limitations (there are always some!)
- Implications for practice if relevant to the field
- Directions for future research
- Complete references, in required style
- Relevant tables, figures

Why your paper does not get accepted...

- Not the right journal
- No clear purpose and need for study (contribution)
- No (clear) framework
- Insufficient, out of date background literature
- Weak methodology (unclear?)
- Meaningless results (b/c of methodology, RQ)
- Untenable interpretation; not linked to literature

What should I do?

- Include all the key elements (previous slides)
- Know and follow a particular journal's guidelines
- Do not submit your pared down thesis/dissertation
- Look at highly cited examples in the journal, in your area, in other areas
- Ask for another set of eyes before submission
- “Comb your paper”
- Do not rush your submission
- Be attentive to reviewers' and editor's comments

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