



Review Process

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## Editor's Suggestions for Magnetic Resonance in Medicine: Journal Status and Overview of the Review Process

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Magnetic Resonance in Medicine (MRM) is one of the two official journals of the ISMRM, along with its sister journal, Journal of Magnetic Resonance Imaging (JMRI). While JMRI focuses on clinical applications, MRM publishes clinical and preclinical MRI research papers with emphasis on methodology. According to the journal's status report covering Oct 2018 to Sep 2019, the journal received 1044 new submissions and maintained its acceptance rate at about 44%. This relatively high rate of acceptance does not necessarily reflect a lenient review process, but rather speaks to the high initial quality of the submitted papers to this journal with much renown and history in the field. In 2018 ~ 2019 the manuscript production time, especially the time between on-line publication (Early View, without volume and page numbers) and paginated publication (with volume and page numbers assigned), was reduced to under 3 months, compared to nearly 12 months a few years ago. This was achieved by temporary increase of the number of papers published in 2018, and adopting a practice of assigning volume/page numbers 4 month before actual print publication. The journal's latest (2018) 2-yr impact factor is 3.86, dipping somewhat from its record 4.08 a year before (2017), but is still within top 18% of the related field of research. One of the challenges in 2020, as shared by many traditional academic journals, is to respond to a widening move towards open-access (allowing free on-line download by the public) publication by some funding agencies. In order to accommodate authors who are thus required to submit to open-access journals only, the journal is currently considering steps to possibly broaden the open-access publication options for the authors.

This presentation will outline the journal's status and its general manuscript review process to aid graduate students, postdocs, and principal investigators in their decision and process of preparing manuscript publication in MRM. The talk will hopefully answer questions such as: (1) What happens after my MRM submission until a decision letter is produced? (2) What are the submission statistics and common reasons for rejection? (3) What does the journal look for from the authors?

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