

Academic Writing Q&A Series:

7/“Do you choose the journal when you have all results or during the experiments?”

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About me

- Over 20 years working at the intersection of academic libraries, scholars, and technology
- Over 10 years on a STEM campus
- International career (US native now working/living in Europe)
- Editorial assistance (with formal acknowledgment) for over 40 peer-reviewed STEM articles
- On the editorial board of two journals, one based in Canada and one in Austria
- Independent consultant working mostly with doctoral candidates, postdoctoral researchers, and professors
 - All answers in this video reflect my experience in scholarly publishing to date (in the future, some things might change)

7/“Do you choose the journal when you have all results or during the experiments?”

Answer:

Ideally, you would choose target journals (at least two; see video three in this series) when designing your research project, before you conduct experiments

- I personally feel it's too late to choose a journal after you've already started doing a study

But reality sometimes means someone (e.g., a mentor, research group member) asks you to publish work already in progress without giving you advice about target journals

- In this case, I recommend that you work with the person who made this request to agree on two potential journals in which to publish

What we learned today

Ideally, you should choose 1-2 target journals before conducting any experiments or obtaining any results

But if someone asks you to publish after research has already started or is completed, you need to ask that person for help in picking publishing targets

If you don't know who to ask, I recommend scheduling an individual consultation with NTK specialists to discuss your issue