









# 8 Reasons Why Journals Reject Manuscripts

Check out these top reasons for manuscript rejection and make sure you avoid them when submitting your next paper to the journal.

## WHAT GOES WRONG

## WHAT YOU SHOULD DO

-  Mismatch with the journal's scope
  -  Lack of originality, novelty, or significance
  -  Flaws in study design, poorly formulated research question
  -  Poor writing and organization
  -  Language and spelling issues
  -  Poorly presented visual elements
  -  Unintentional ethical issues, e.g., plagiarism
  -  Lack of adherence to journal submission guidelines
- 1 Find a suitable target journal for your manuscript!
  - 2 Ensure your results are generalizable and/or have practical, clinical, or theoretical implications
  - 3 Do a thorough literature review to choose the best research methodology
  - 4 Follow the IMRAD format to prepare a well-structured manuscript
  - 5 Avoid jargon, write simply and clearly, run a spell check
  - 6 Ensure the figures, tables, images, and graphs are accurate and clearly labelled
  - 7 Avoid plagiarism - follow all ethical publishing guidelines
  - 8 Read, understand, and follow ALL manuscript submission guidelines

### Note

*Manuscripts could also be rejected for reasons not related to quality, e.g., space constraints; quality, experience, and availability of peer reviewers; volume of submissions; journal decision-making policy; or multiple submissions on the same topic.*

**For more resources and tips on publication, visit**

**[www.editage.com/insights](http://www.editage.com/insights)**

**ed/tage Insights™**  
Resources for authors and journals