



Mid career and publishing: A perspective from scientific research in academia

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My career pathway

2000 - 2003

- BSc Bioarchaeology

2004 - 2010

- Covance Laboratories
- Drug safety testing

2008 - 2010

- MSc Biomedical basis of disease

2011 - 2015

- PhD Microbiology
- Campylobacter biofilms

2015 - 2016

- Post Doc
- Biofilms and honey

2016 - 2018

- Post Doc
- Biofilms and prosthetic joint infections

2018 +

- Post Doc
- Salmonella and gut microbiota

Training for new senior authors

- Process training
 - Cover letters
 - What does a senior author actually do?
 - What are my responsibilities
 - What's the process and when/who should I chase?
- Mentoring
 - Editors and experienced authors

Importance of impact

- Early/Mid career authors NEED to demonstrate impact

“Emerging record of excellence”

“independent, cutting edge research programme”

“excellent publication record”

“high-quality research profile”

“demonstrate an active research background”

“potential to develop an externally funded research programme”

Cost of publishing

- Mid career research is often not RCUK funded
 - Funding is limited to consumables
 - No publication funding built in
- University's sometimes fund publication internally
 - Grants are competitive
 - Specific criteria need to be met



Thoughts on open access

- I like it
- I spend much less time now trying to access research
- I also have access to a wider range of research now (which would have been considered niche and not a purchasing priority)