Why write?

“There is no greater agony than bearing an untold story inside you.”

Maya Angelou
American Author, Poet & Civil Rights Activist,
Nurses and Writing

Nurses are doers,
We spend our days making decisions
We communicate a lot
We talk to doctors, to physios, to patients to relatives, to each other.
Nurses and Writing

There is value in stopping
Taking time to consider what we do
Tell others about it-
Not just in our area but more broadly

Writing about our practice and experience is valuable-
for us, for others & for patient care
A responsibility for writing

- Thinking and ordering your thoughts to make your practice effective
- Sharing thoughts, ideas and philosophies with others
- Sharing findings of reviews, research and projects
- ‘Speaking’ to your patients
Not forgetting...

- Local journal/newsletters
- Facebook and social media
- Society pages and groups
- Patient information
- Blogs
- Web pages
- Opinion
Recommended reading


REJECTION

It starts from an early age. Get used to it!
“If you don't have time to read, you don't have the time (or the tools) to write. Simple as that”

Stephen King
“Read, read, read. Read everything - trash, classics, good and bad, and see how they do it. Just like a carpenter who works as an apprentice and studies the master. Read! You'll absorb it. Then write. If it's good, you'll find out. If it's not, throw it out of the window.”

William Faulkner
American Writer & Nobel Laureate
What to read
What makes a good read

“What really knocks me out is a book that, when you're all done reading it, you wish the author that wrote it was a terrific friend of yours and you could call him up on the phone whenever you felt like it. That doesn't happen much, though.”

J D Salinger
Know your audience
The four rules of writing

- Read the guidelines
- Set targets and count words
- Seek criticism
- Treat rejection as the beginning of the next submission – it's not personal, it's an opportunity
“There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed.”

Earnest Hemmingway
“I love deadlines. I love the whooshing noise they make as they go by.”

Douglas Adams
English Writer- Hitchhikers guide to the galaxy
Architecture of a journal article

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Background
- Study: Methods
  - Findings
  - Conclusions
- Review: Themes
  - Conclusions
- Title
- Acknowledgement
- Contributions
- References
- Figures and tables
Turning assignments into something publishable

- Essays
- Concept analysis
- Theoretical paper
- Literature review
- Systematic review
- Research study

- Fit the source
- Seek advice
- Role of others
- Editing
Citations impact varies by publication type

The graph shows the citation impact over time for different types of publications: Reviews, Notes, and Articles. The x-axis represents the years after publication, ranging from 0 to 20. The y-axis represents the citations. The graph illustrates how citations for Reviews reach a peak around 8 years after publication, followed by a decline. Notes show a similar pattern but at a lower peak, while Articles have a lower overall citation rate but continue to receive citations for a longer period.
Simplicity

“One day I will find the right words, and they will be simple.”

Jack Kerouac
American Novelist & Poet
“Sometimes choosing the correct word to express exactly what you have to say is very difficult to do. Word choice errors can be the result of not paying attention to the word or trying too hard to come up with a fancier word when a simple one is appropriate.

A thesaurus can be a handy tool when you're trying to find a word that's similar to, but more accurate than, the one you're looking up. However, it can often introduce more problems if you use a word thinking it has exactly the same meaning.”
A mentor/supervisor/critical friend

Someone who ........

Be aware of choosing that ‘friend’ who will tell you everything is great.... when maybe it it isn’t.....
“I was working on the proof of one of my poems all the morning, and took out a comma. In the afternoon I put it back again.”

Oscar Wilde
...and back to getting started

“Start writing, no matter what. The water does not flow until the faucet is turned on.”

Louis L’Amour
American Author
“If you want to be a writer, you must do two things above all others: read a lot and write a lot.”

Stephen King
- What are you going to write about?

- Who are you going to write it for?
just do it