

Writing for publication

International Journal of Orthopaedic & Trauma Nursing

Julie Santy-Tomlinson

Editor

Paul McLiesh

Associate Editor

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

- Driscoll, J. & Aquilina, R. (2011) Writing for publication: a practical six step approach. International Journal of Orthopaedic and Trauma Nursing. 15 (1) 41-48
- Holland, K. & Watson, R. (Eds) (2012) Writing for publication in nursing and healthcare; getting it right. Oxford: Wiley Blackwell.



REJECTION

It starts from an early age. Get used to it!

Reading

“If you don't have time to read, you don't have the time (or the tools) to write. Simple as that”

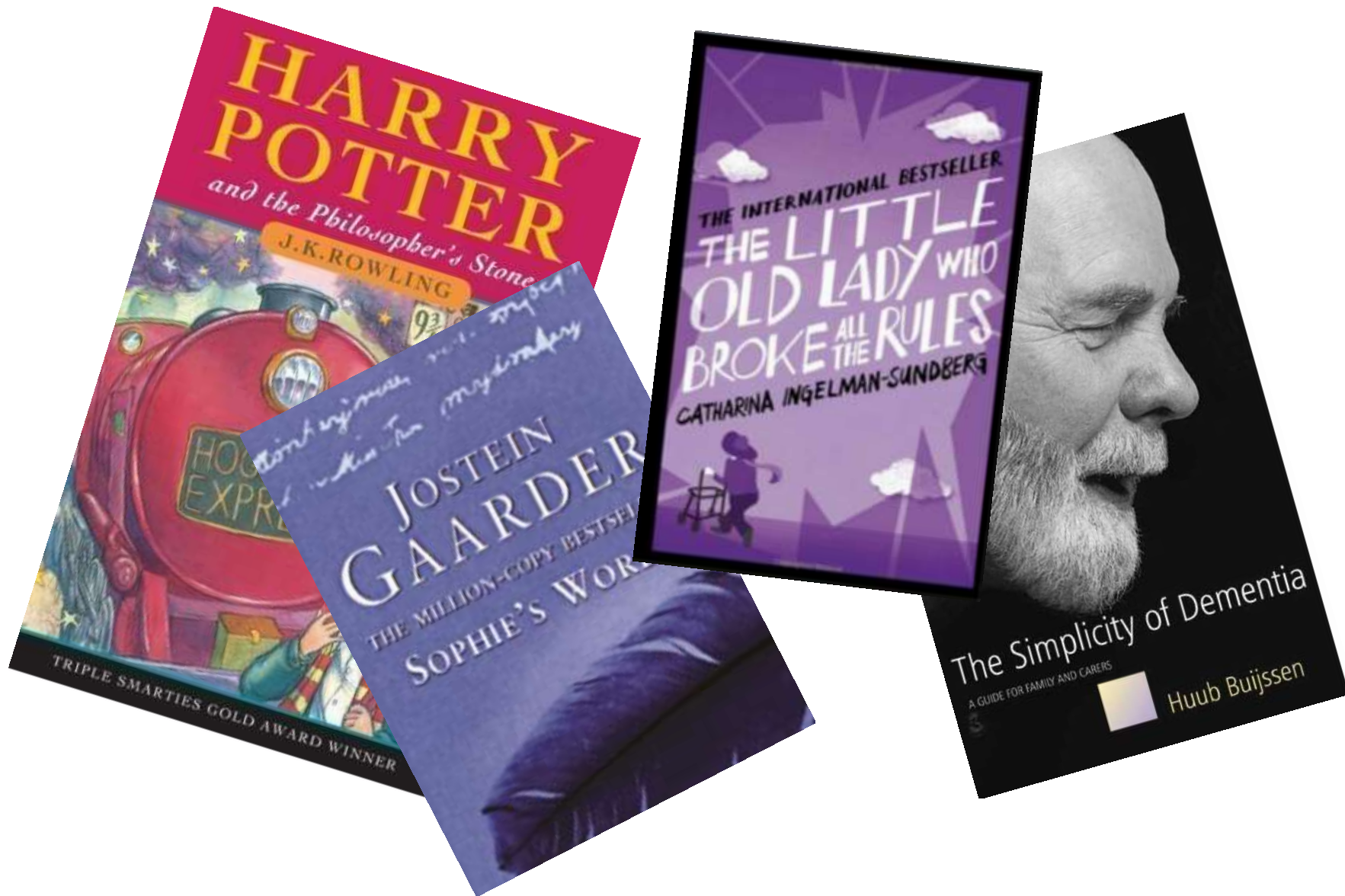
Stephen King

“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

Articles

Nurse staffing and education and hospital mortality in nine European countries: a retrospective observational study

Linda H Aiken, Douglas M Soane, Luk Bruynest, Koen Van den Heede, Peter Goffin, Reinhard Buzze, Marianna Dimitidou, Jutta Krenzien, Mario Kralin, Emmanuel Loeffler, Matthew D McHugh, M T Moreno Cabas, Anne Marie Roggiers, Rene Schwendemann, P Anne Scott, Carol Tishman, Theodor Adnerberg, Walter Semler, for the RN4CAST consortium*

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Summary
Background: Austerity measures and health-system redesign to minimise hospital expenditures risk adversely affecting patient outcomes. The RN4CAST study was designed to inform decision making about nursing, one of the largest components of hospital operating expenses. We aimed to assess whether differences in patient to nurse ratios and nurses' educational qualifications in nine of the 12 RN4CAST countries with similar patient discharge data were associated with variation in hospital mortality after common surgical procedures.

Methods
For this observational study, we obtained discharge data for 422 730 patients aged 50 years or older who underwent common surgeries in 300 hospitals in nine European countries. Administrative data were coded with a standard protocol (variants of the ninth or tenth versions of the International Classification of Diseases) to estimate components of hospital mortality by use of risk adjustment measures including age, sex, admission type, 43 dummy variables suggesting surgery type, and 17 dummy variables suggesting comorbidities present at admission. Surveys of 26 516 nurses practicing in study hospitals were used to measure nurse staffing and nurse education. We used generalised estimating equations to assess the effects of nursing factors on the likelihood of surgical patients dying within 30 days of admission, before and after adjusting for other hospital and patient characteristics.

Findings
An increase in a nurses' workload by one patient increased the likelihood of an inpatient dying within 30 days of admission by 7% (odds ratio 1.068, 95% CI 1.031-1.106), and every 10% increase in bachelor's degree nurses was associated with a decrease in this likelihood by 7% (0.929, 0.886-0.973). These associations imply that 26 516 nurses practising in study hospitals were used to measure nurse staffing and nurse education. We used generalised estimating equations to assess the effects of nursing factors on the likelihood of surgical patients dying within 30 days of admission, before and after adjusting for other hospital and patient characteristics.

Interpretation
Nurse staffing cuts to save money might adversely affect patient outcomes. An increased emphasis on bachelor's education for nurses could reduce preventable hospital deaths.

Funding
European Union's Seventh Framework Programme, National Institute of Nursing Research, National Institute of Health, the Norwegian Nurses Organisation and the Norwegian Knowledge Centre for the Health Services, Swedish Association of Health Professionals, the regional agreement on medical training and clinical research between Stockholm County Council and Karolinska Institutet, Committee for Health and Care Services and Strategic Research Program in Care Sciences at Karolinska Institutet, Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation.

Introduction
Constraint of health expenditure growth is an important policy objective in Europe despite concerns about adverse outcomes for quality and safety of health care.^{1,2} Hospitals are a target for spending reductions. Health-system reforms have shifted resources to provide more care in community settings while shortening hospital length of stay and reducing inpatient beds, resulting in increased care intensity for inpatients. The possible combination of fewer trained staff in hospitals about intensive patient interventions raises concerns about whether quality of care might worsen. Findings of the European Surgical Outcomes Study across 28 countries recently showed higher than expected hospital surgical mortality and substantial between country variation in hospital outcomes.

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Caring nurses hit by a quality storm

Low investment and excessive workloads, not uncaring attitudes, are damaging the image of research into Europe's nurse workforce

Nurses are getting a bad press in England for being 'uncaring' as a result of a quality storm. Supportive public perceptions, the largest and most talented pool of applicants to nursing schools in history.

Increasingly, both countries had nursing shortages in 2019. The US Institute of Medicine's report called for nurses' scope of practice to be broadened to meet the needs of an ageing population. In contrast, much of the media coverage has been negative, and recommendations to improve the profession are few.

Research by the authors shows that in the context of an EU-funded task force on the quality of care in hospitals, the authors' findings indicate that nurses in England are not uncaring. Their perceptions of the quality of care in hospitals are being eroded, and they would like to see more investment in the profession.

of the nurse workforce in 12 European countries. RN4CAST, we know much about the challenges faced by nurses working in NHS hospitals in England. We are also able to compare nurses' experience in NHS hospitals with European countries and the US (Aiken et al 2012). RN4CAST's findings show that 40% of 23 619 nurses practicing in 46 NHS hospitals in England, are working and performing above England's rank compared with the benchmark.

of Nurses and Midwifery accreditation are needed to secure the future of the profession. The annual Gallup public opinion poll in the US shows that the public's confidence in the NHS is at its lowest since the London Olympics. As a result, they may be needed to good cause and blamed when the NHS disappoints.

The context of caring
Instead of blaming nurses and expecting care to improve, it may be more productive to consider what steps can be taken to improve the quality of care in hospitals. As a result of an EU-funded task force on the quality of care in hospitals, the authors' findings indicate that nurses in England are not uncaring. Their perceptions of the quality of care in hospitals are being eroded, and they would like to see more investment in the profession.

SUMMARY
Research by the authors shows that in the context of an EU-funded task force on the quality of care in hospitals, the authors' findings indicate that nurses in England are not uncaring. Their perceptions of the quality of care in hospitals are being eroded, and they would like to see more investment in the profession.

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Nursing Standard

The four rules of writing

- Read the guidelines
- Set targets and count words
- Seek criticism
- Treat rejection as the beginning of the next submission – its not personal, Its an opportunity

Getting started - just do it

“There is nothing to writing. All you do is sit down at a typewriter and bleed.”

Ernest 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

Title

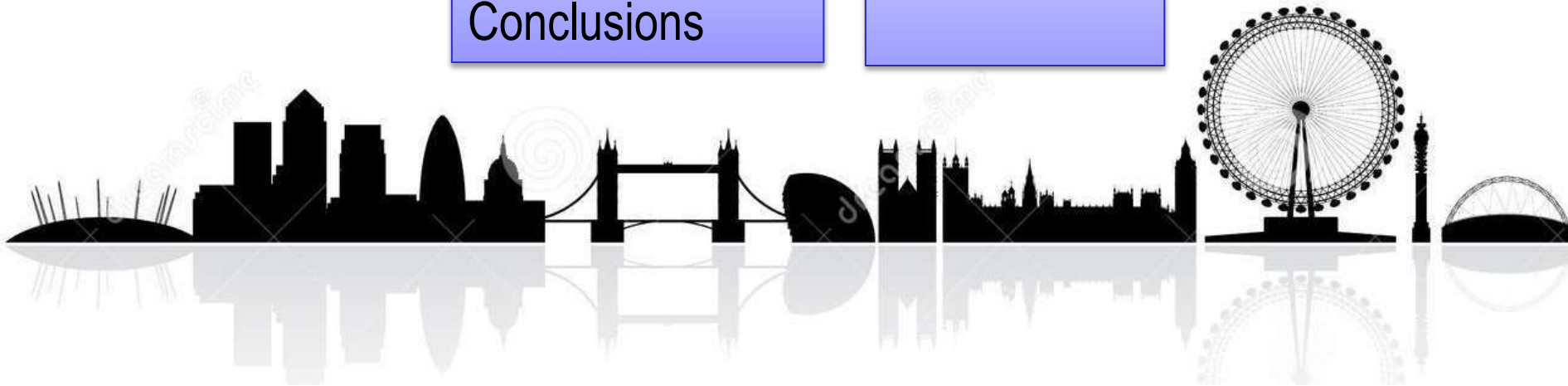
Introduction

Background

Acknowledgement
Contributions
References
Figures and tables

Study:
Methods
Findings
Conclusions

Review
Themes
Conclusions



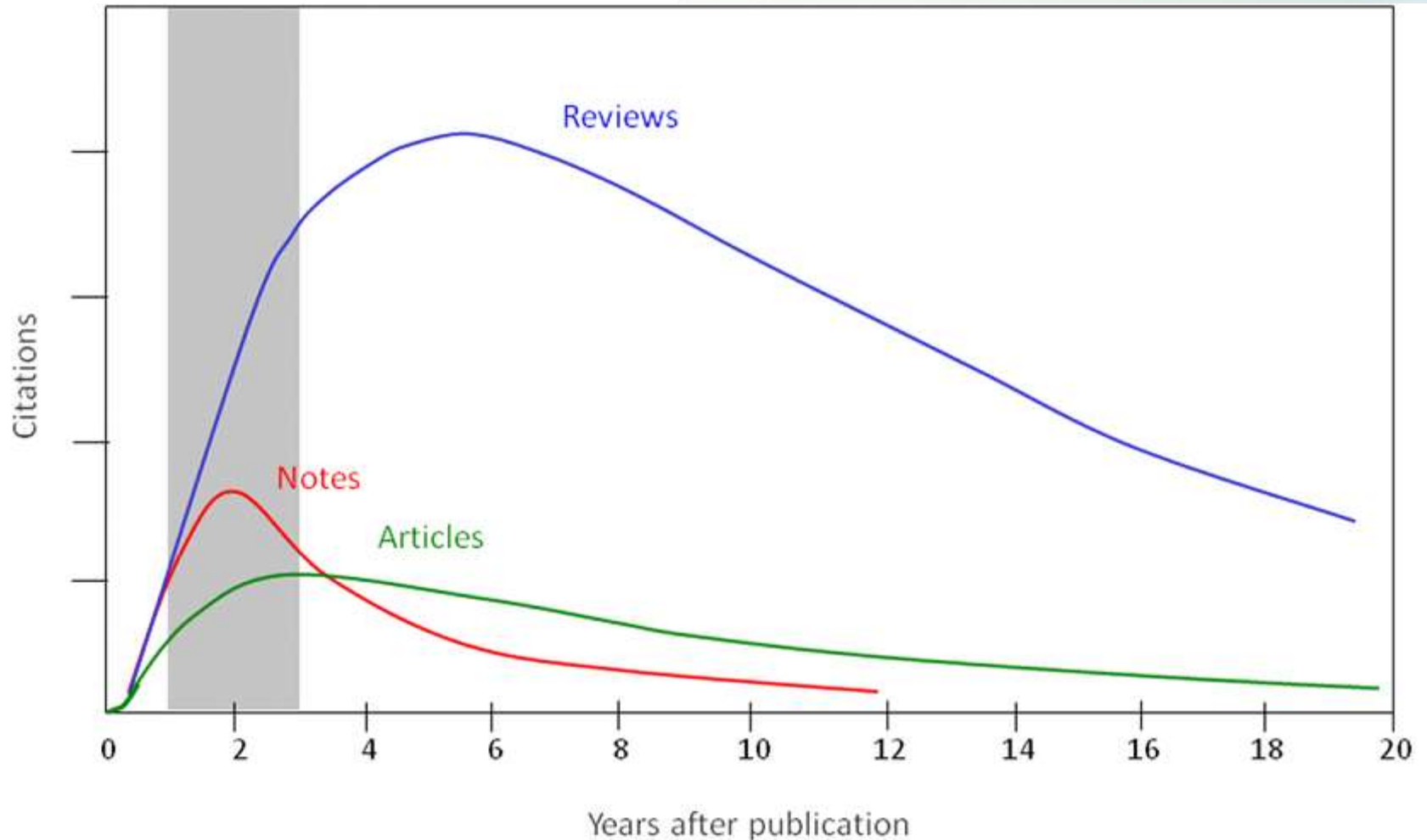
Turning assignments into something publishable

- 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



Simplicity

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

Jack Kerouac

American Novelist & Poet

Quality = simplicity

“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.....

Revision and proof reading

“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?

JUSTICE