

To Which Journal Should I Submit My Paper?



Eric E. Klein, Senior
Physics Editor

AAPM Annual Meeting
July 22, 2014

General Journal Philosophy

- The *International Journal of Radiation Oncology • Biology • Physics (IJROBP)*, offers authoritative articles linking new research and technologies to clinical applications.
- Original contributions by leading scientists and researchers include experimental studies of combined modality treatment and relevant innovations in tumor sensitization, especially at the molecular level, normal tissue protection, including both precision avoidance and biochemical means, brachytherapy, particle irradiation, and tumor imaging.
- Technical advances related to dosimetry and conformal radiation treatment planning are also included.

Article Types and Guidelines

- **Physics receives between 4 and 8 papers per week, which includes revisions**
- Scientific Articles
Original laboratory and clinical investigations related to radiation oncology, radiation biology, and medical physics.
- Word (not including references) and Reference count: **3500/35**
- Editorials
- Critical Reviews
Invited contributions from experts in the field exploring interesting topics.
- Brief Reports and Opinion
Opinion on scientific, educational, or policy issues

SITEMAN CANCER CENTER

Publishing Today: Blind/Double Blind

IJROBP is maintaining Double-Blind Process
Editorial office redacts any hint that gives away Authors and Institution.....
But a few (almost) get through

From accepted paper:

A multi-criteria optimization (MCO)[4] in-house treatment planning system (TPS), XXXX,.....

Barnes-Jewish Hospital • Washington University School of Medicine • National Cancer Institute • National Comprehensive Cancer Network

SITEMAN CANCER CENTER

Publishing Today: Blind/Double Blind

IJROBP is maintaining Double-Blind Process
Editorial office redacts any hint that gives away Authors and Institution.....
But a few (almost) get through

From accepted paper:

A multi-criteria optimization (MCO)[4] in-house treatment planning system (TPS), XXXX,.....

4) D. Craft, T. Halabi, H.A. Shih and T. Bortfeld, "An approach for practical multiobjective IMRT treatment planning." Int. J. Radiat. Oncol. Biol. Phys. 69(5): 1600-7 (2012).

Barnes-Jewish Hospital • Washington University School of Medicine • National Cancer Institute • National Comprehensive Cancer Network

SITEMAN CANCER CENTER

Sequence of Review Process for IJORBP

- Paper submitted
- Editorial Office (Editor) Assigns to 1 of 9 Senior Editor, i.e. DeWees for GU, Klein for Physics
- Senior Editor assigns Associate Senior Editor (8 for Physics)
- Associate Senior Editor assigns 3 reviewers (though 2 is often sufficient), or may Decline paper
- Reviewers are nudged @ 2 weeks, 3 weeks, at 4 weeks direct contact with decision to wait, replace

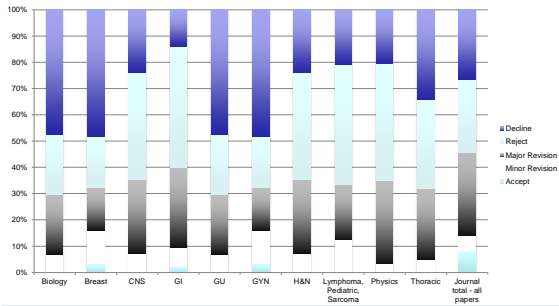
Barnes-Jewish Hospital • Washington University School of Medicine • National Cancer Institute • National Comprehensive Cancer Network

Decision Options

- Accept CME –
 - Questions written and reviewed by ASTRO committee
- Accept
- Minor Revision
- Major Revision
- Reject
- Decline

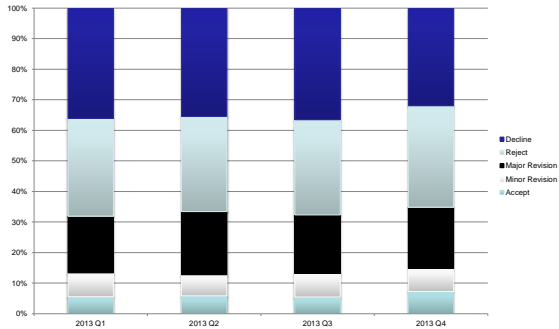
Publishing Today: IJORBP

2014 Q1 Decisions (N=490)



Publishing Today: IJORBP

Overall Decisions (2013)



Sequence of Review Process for IJORBP

- Reviews accumulated, along with review and recommendation by ASE
- Senior Editor concurs or overrides ASE decision, and adds review if needed
- Editor makes final decision and sends letter to Author
- A Rejection moves paper out of system, hence revised paper comes back as 'new' paper, though flagged and often sent to same review team
- A minor or major revision gives authors 30 or 60 days to send revised paper.

Impact Factor

A = the number of times articles published in 2011-2012 were cited in indexed journals during 2013

B = the number of articles, reviews, proceedings or notes published in 2011-2012

Impact factor 2013 = A/B

IJROBP Currently has IF of 4.6

Papers IJORBP would like to get

- Clinical treatment techniques and strategy
- Physics- and technology-driven clinical trials
- Management of treatment uncertainties
- Accurate dose accumulation
- Image-based assessment of normal tissue changes
- Real time imaging and it's impact
- Systems radiobiology
- *Big* data for radiation therapy
- Novel studies in safety/quality in radiation oncology

Papers IJORBP would NOT like to get papers with the following issues:

- Weak methods of data collection, absence of statistics
- Conclusions, which mimic findings of a higher quality, published work;
- Articles unlikely to be cited;
- Manuscript needing English language editing;
- Low quality data, such as single institution experience or treatment planning comparisons
- A single case study illustrating various situations and general conclusions.
