

Publishing

Publishing your change initiative is important as it contributes to the development of knowledge about healthcare improvement to benefit clinicians, patients and researchers across the world.

Sustainability

The purpose of this phase is to wrap up the project, embedding long term change into business as usual. This is where you can evaluate and share the benefits you have achieved and spread your project to other areas.

Key steps

1. Share success and failures

Regardless of whether your project has been fully successful, partly successful or has not achieved its goals, there will be benefits in sharing what you have learned. Publishing these learnings provides an opportunity for others to build on your work. This also increases the overall impact, as abstracts and full text publications are accessible online to a wide (global) audience.

2. Choose your platform

Once you have decided to publish your work, it will be important to identify where you wish to submit it for consideration. This will depend on your type of initiative and relevant audience. Publishing in a peer reviewed journal will gain more academic recognition (see Jane link below). There are also non-peer reviewed options available, including journals or websites such as the Innovation Exchange.

3. Consider templates and tools

Most journals or websites provide guidelines or a template to outline the appropriate information to include. It can be challenging to decide what information to omit to keep your submission concise. When editing your draft, consider the potential readers and the information that will be most relevant and useful for them.

4. Seek assistance

Writing for peer review journals can be daunting, as they require strict compliance with their submission requirements. If you are unfamiliar with this style of writing, seek the assistance of a research department. Your health service librarian or redesign leader should be able to assist you. Search engines can also provide access to papers and resources on this topic.

Considerations and tips

Publication is an important, but sometimes complex, step. There are some things you can do to make it easier. Don't let the process put you off, the achievement will be well worth it in the end

Start with the end in mind

Plan from the beginning of your project to publish what you have learned. This will assist you to collect and keep information in a format that will make it easier to collate later.

Information storage

Keep information and data collected throughout your project in a secure and useable format. File it accordingly for easy retrieval.

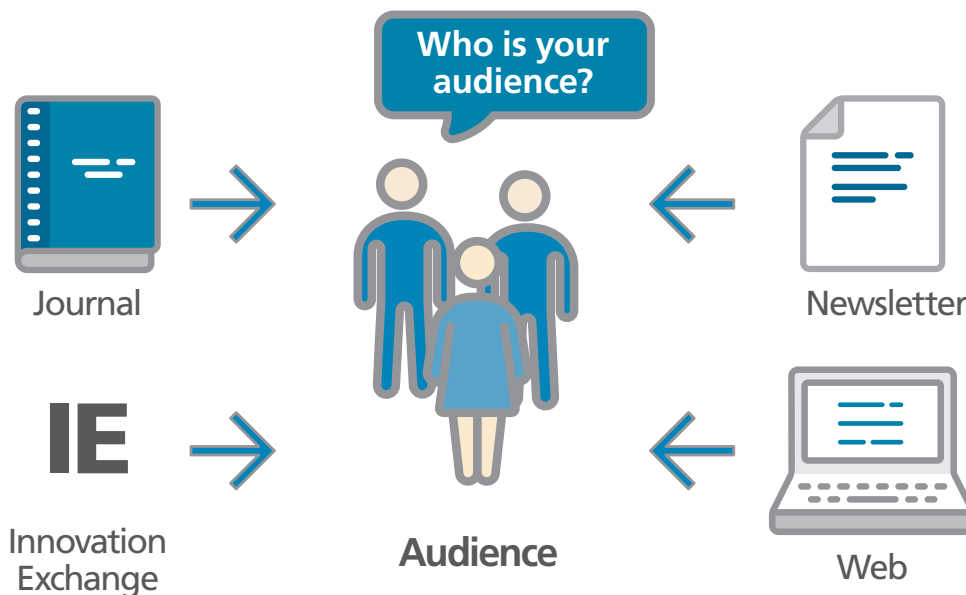
Ethics

While ethics approval should be considered for all projects, some journals require it for publication. Start the process at the beginning of your work – seeking approval retrospectively is not viable.

Review, edit, review

It's good practice to review and edit your draft several times to improve the quality. Seek feedback from colleagues with publishing experience before submission.

Consider different ways to publish



Further information

Journal/Author name estimator – <http://jane.biosemantics.org/>

How to publish in scholarly journals – www.elsevier.com/?a=91173

Next Steps

Once you have compiled your work into a well documented format, it will be much easier to use this information for other purposes, such as writing abstracts or applying for an award. There are many options which can further spread the word and share your learnings.