Journals:

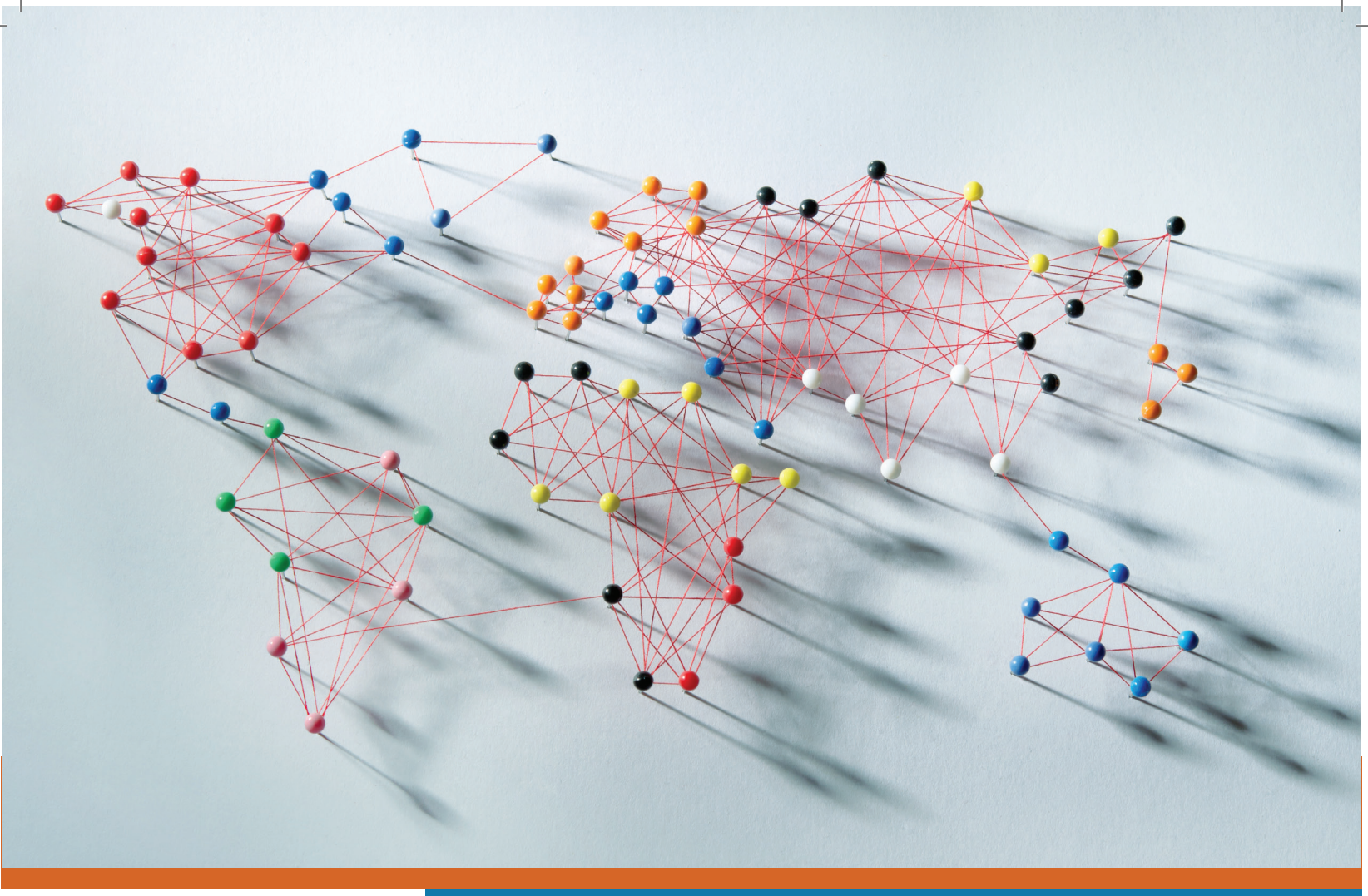# How to get your research published

Which journal?

- Read the Aims and Scope and look at recent issues – ensure your article fits with the expectations of the journal
- Who do you want to read your article and does this fit with the readership of the journal?
- Do you want your article to be published Open Access? If so, what are the charges and policies of the journal you are thinking of submitting to?
- Do a search on recent issues – if they have recently published an article on a very similar topic to your article they may be dis-inclined to accept your article

Preparing your article

- Read and follow the 'Instructions to Authors', which will be available online – many articles are rejected simply for not following the instructions or required format!
- Title – keep it short and simple to help readers find your article online
- Abstract – this must accurately reflect the content of your article, but it is also your 'shop window' and should make readers want to read the full article
- If necessary, get help with your English before submitting **(e.g. http://www.oxfordlanguageediting.com/)**
- Research methodology – ensure your conclusions are valid and objective

The process

- Most journals require online submission
- You will need to select an online license or copyright assignment depending on the journal – ensure you select the right one and are able to pay any charges that this commits you to
- Peer review:
  - The peer review process selects articles for specific journals, but also provides you with information to improve your article and future research
  - Many journals reject over 50% of all articles submitted!
  - **Editorial rejection**
    - Articles rejected before formal peer review
    - Usually due to being out of scope or not original enough
    - Faster reply
  - **Formal peer review process**
    - Usually to 2 or 3 experts in the field
    - Editor does not have to accept what the reviewers say
  - **Outcomes**
    - Outright rejection – try somewhere else
    - Some revisions needed, either major or minor: respond to or comply with reviewer's comments. See this as a good opportunity to improve your article
    - Accept with no changes – very rare!

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Publishing ethics

- Avoid plagiarism: articles must be your own work and must cite anyone else's work that you rely on

- Avoid duplicate publication: an article can only be published in one journal, even if it is in another language, unless you have the express permission of both journals and the first publication is acknowledged in the second

- Avoid duplicate submission: only submit your article to one journal at a time

- Ensure you have adopted the appropriate research ethics required by your institution and the journal you want to publish in

- Ensure none of your data, including that provided by your co-authors, is falsified or fabricated

- Acknowledge any potential Conflict of Interest

- For more information visit:
  www.publicationethics.org

If you get accepted, promote your work

- Why?
  - Influence policy
  - Raise your profile
  - Attract collaborators and funding
  - New opportunities e.g. in consulting, the media
- How?
  - Use your network: listservs, blogs, FaceBook, Twitter,
  - A press release (liaise with the Publisher)
  - Link to the article in your email signature
  - Contact the authors in your reference list