Introducing Registered Reports
How to Submit your Report to BMC Medicine
Preparing your submission – Stage 1

Stage 1 manuscripts will be considered for in-principle acceptance and should include all sections described in the following slides.
Title page

- Present a title that includes, if appropriate, the research design
- Indicate corresponding author and contact information
- List full names, institutional addresses and email addresses for all authors
  - if a collaboration group should be listed as an author, please list the group name as one author and include the names of the individual members of the group in the “Acknowledgements” section
Abstract

- Briefly summarize the aim, or purpose of the study
- Minimize the use of abbreviations
- Do not cite references in the abstract
- Include information on the potential significance of the study for future research, policy, and/or clinical or global health practice
Keywords

- Include three to ten keywords representing the main content of the article
- Make sure that at least three keywords are from the MESH database
Background

- Background information on the health issue the study seeks to address
- The study’s aims
- A brief summary of existing literature
  - Why this study is necessary/its potential significance
Methods

This section should include:

- A description of the study population
- Projected sample size
- All of the variables, both independent and dependent in the study
- Statement on ethics approval and consent
- Specify a clear rule for terminating data collection
- Data analysis procedures, including rules for data elimination
Introducing Registered Reports

- Clear rules for terminating data collection (e.g., number of observers, number of trials, data saturation, etc.)
- A detailed plan for making the raw data publicly available
- All studies involving human subjects should include statements on ethics approval and consent

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<th>For Quantitative Studies</th>
<th>For Qualitative Studies</th>
<th>For Systematic Reviews</th>
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<td>• Address the issue of statistical power, although we recognize that classic power analysis may not be appropriate for all designs</td>
<td>• Methods for thematic analysis (highlighting, examining and recording patterns within the data)</td>
<td>• Search strategy</td>
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<td>• Methods for assessing and reporting on data saturation</td>
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Availability of Data Statement

Include a detailed plan/statement on data availability on the following requirements:

• After the study completion, datasets will need to be either:
  • Deposited in publicly available repositories (where available and appropriate) or
  • Presented in the main manuscript or additional supporting files, in machine-readable format (such as spreadsheet rather than PDFs)

• For more information see our editorial policies
Submitting your manuscript – Stage 2

Stage 2 manuscripts will be considered for publication and should include the additional sections in the slides that follow.
If your article reports the results of a health care intervention on human participants, it must be registered in an appropriate registry. Authors are encouraged to register the study following the in-principle acceptance and before initiating the study. The registration number and date of registration should be provided.

Please refer to our editorial policies for more information on trial registration.
Results

- A detailed report on the findings of all registered analyses
- Include, if appropriate, results of statistical analysis either in the text or as tables and figures

The completed experiment(s) must have been executed and analysed in the manner originally approved with any unforeseen changes in those approved methods and analyses clearly noted. Any unregistered (post hoc) analyses should be clearly identified and reported in a separate section of the results titled “Exploratory analyses”.
Discussion

• Discuss key implications of your findings in the context of existing research
• Highlight all limitations of the study, including study-specific limitations as well as limitations that may be commonly find in your field and may contribute to the significance of your findings
Conclusions

• Clearly state the study’s main conclusions
• Provide detailed explanation on the importance and relevance of the study to the field, and more specifically its implications for future research, policy, and/or clinical or global health practice
• Include a statement of purpose, highlighting who would most benefit (e.g., specific groups of professionals, patients, populations, etc.) from the findings of the study