

Writing and Publishing: avoiding rejections and changing the game

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Outline

- Avoiding desk rejections
- Five questions to ask before you submit your paper
- The process from manuscript submission to publication
- Challenging the assumption of neutrality in academic publishing
- Three journals – BJM, EDI, AMLE
- Where do we go from here?

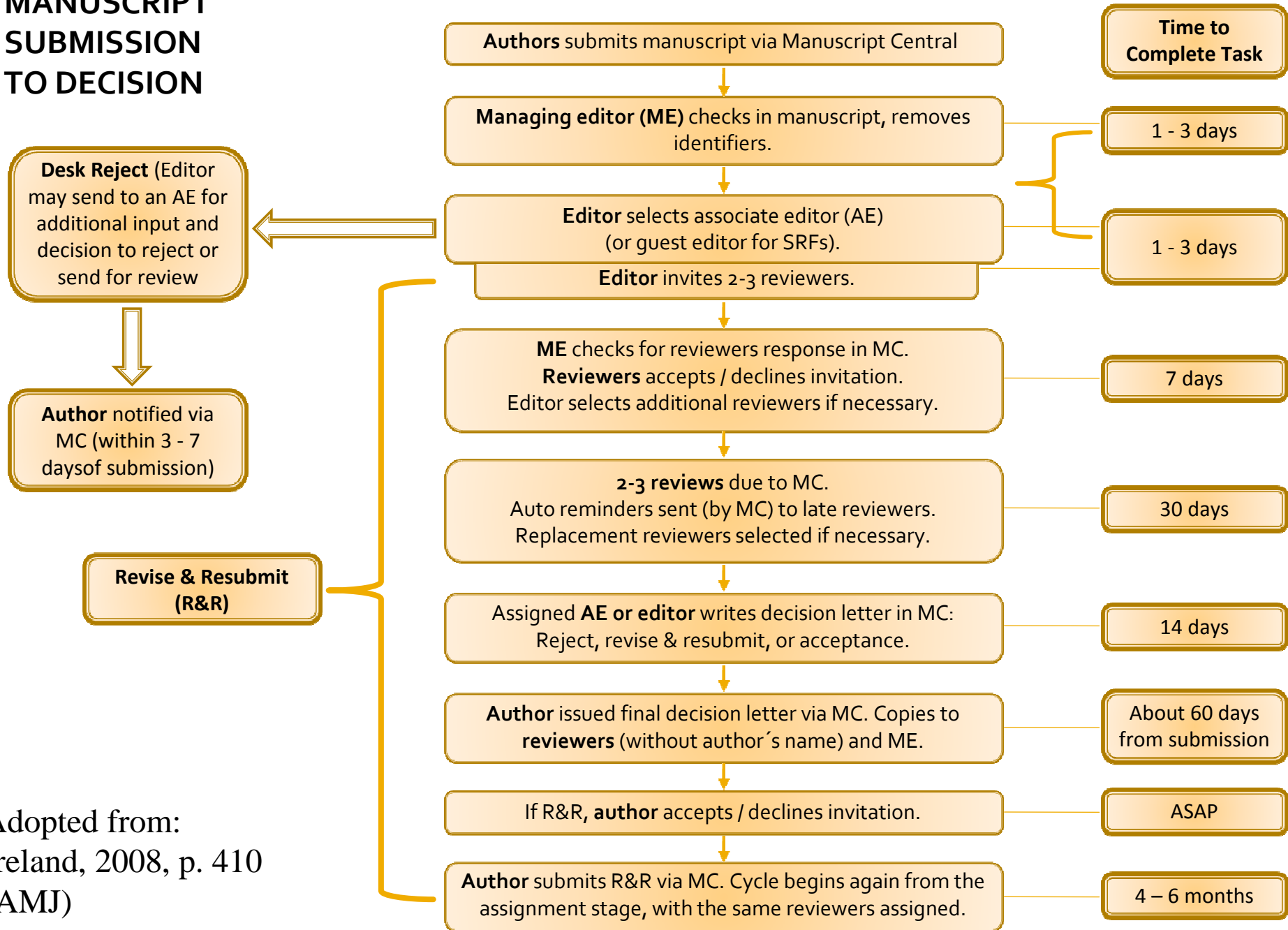
How to avoid desk rejections

- Target the right journal (audience) for your paper
- Make your contribution explicit in the abstract, introduction and conclusion
- Make sure that your methods are adequate for answering your research question
- Provide a rigorous review of key literature
- Ask 'so what': meaning, purpose, consequence
- Flag up connections between introduction, literature, method, findings and conclusions
- Think about engaging readers of the targeted journal, join in a dialogue with papers in back issues
- Obtain friendly reviews
- Collaborate for complementary expertise

Five important questions

1. How does your paper advance the ongoing debates in the journal?
2. What will the reader learn from your article that (s)he did not (or could not) have known before?
3. Why is that knowledge important?
4. What positive social impact does your paper propose and why is that important?
5. If published, what will this paper be cited for in the future?

MANUSCRIPT SUBMISSION TO DECISION



Adopted from:
Ireland, 2008, p. 410
(AMJ)

Challenging Assumptions of Neutrality in Academic Publishing

- Academic publishing reproduces inequalities in higher education
 - Intergenerational inequalities
 - Gender and ethnic penalties (Blattel-Mink, Kramer, Mischau 2009; Avery 2008)
 - Lack of transparency in editorial processes
 - Favouring of certain methodologies and epistemologies

Cases for Consideration: BJM, EDI and AMLE

- British Journal of Management
 - General management, recent special issue on Business Ethics – recent interest in CSR issues
 - ABS 4* rated with impact factor 1.88
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
 - Focuses on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
 - Strong interest in CSR issues as they relate to EDI
 - Not included in ABS list not included in SSCI
- Academy of Management Learning and Education (AMLE)
 - Focus on education and learning – CSR curriculum
 - ABS 3* rated with impact factor 2.88

Where can we go from here?

- Institutional and individual levels
 - Reasons behind publishing – careerist? scholarly? commercial?
 - Promotion of engaged scholarship
 - Necessity of passion, courage and conviction
- Editors
 - Transparency in review and publication policy
 - Allowing challenges to editorial judgment
- Journal ranking systems
 - Broad based systems relying on robust measures
 - Ombudsman system
- Business schools
 - Thoughtful leadership
 - Resisting methodological, epistemological and thematic closure