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Major monographs on peer review

Lock Stephen. *A Difficult Balance: Editorial Peer Review in Medicine*. Philadelphia, PA: ISI Press, 1986 [reprint of the 1985 edition published by the Nuffield Provincial Hospital Trust, London].

The study that gave major impetus to research about peer review and peer-reviewed journals in science. Stephen Lock was the long-time editor of the *British Medical Journal*.

Godlee, Fiona, and Tom Jefferson, eds. **Peer Review in Health Sciences**. London: BMJ Books, 1999.

The only monograph on this topic. Fiona Goodlee is now editor of the *British Medical Journal*.

Wager, Elizabeth, Fiona Godlee and Tom Jefferson. **How to Survive Peer Review**. London: BMJ Books, 2002.

The authors, all from the British Medical Journal, explain their purpose: "Although most people submit work for peer review before they are asked to act as reviewers, learning to think like a reviewer will help you understand the process."

Reports from the International Congresses on Peer Review, 1989, 1993, 1997, and 2005.

The congresses were organized by JAMA/AMA, joined in later years by BMJ Publishing Group. Each congress issued a call for research reports. Submissions were peer reviewed, with some chosen for presentation and ultimate publication as JAMA articles, others for poster presentations.

Guarding the guardians: research on editorial peer review: selected proceedings from the First International Congress on Peer Review in Biomedical Publication. JAMA. 1990;263(theme issue):1317–1441.

Papers from the First International Congress on Peer Review, 1989, organized by JAMA and the AMA.

Second International Congress on Peer Review in Biomedical Publication. JAMA. 1994(theme issue);272:91–173.

Third Congress on Biomedical Peer Review in Biomedical Publication. JAMA. 1998;280(theme issue):203–306. available online at: <https://jamanetwork.com>.

Fourth International Congress on Peer Review in Biomedical Publication. JAMA, 2002;287(theme issue)2759–2871. available online at: <https://jamanetwork.com>.

Articles from the Fifth International Congress on Peer Review in Biomedical Publication. JAMA. 2006;295.

Articles were not published as a collection but as individual articles throughout 2006.

Overviews of research on peer review

Armstrong, J. Scott. **Research on scientific journals: implications for editors and authors.** *J Forecasting*. 1982;1:83–104.

The author, from the Wharton School, suggests better policies for scientific journals, with emphasis on objectivity, replicability, importance, competence, intelligibility, and efficiency.

Lock Stephen. **A Difficult Balance: Editorial Peer Review in Medicine.** Philadelphia, PA: ISI Press, 1986 [[reprint of the 1985 edition published by the Nuffield Provincial Hospital Trust, London].

This study by the then editor of the *British Medical Journal*, gave major impetus to research about peer review. It covers all research to that date on peer review.

Overbeke J. **The state of evidence: what we know and what we don't know about journal peer review.** In: Godlee F, Jefferson T (eds). *Peer Review in the Health Sciences*. London, U.K.: BMJ Press, 1999:32–44.

This is still the most current overview, although additional studies were produced by the International Congress on Peer Review in Biomedical Publication in 2002 and 2005.