



## Integrity in Science Communication

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### **How AuthorAID in the Eastern Mediterranean supports publication of high-quality manuscripts and enhances the quality of national and regional journals**

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#### **Abstract**

AuthorAID supports the publication of important health science research information through a consortium of independent projects. One such project is AuthorAID in the Eastern Mediterranean (AAEM), which operates on a combination of personal funds, work donated by volunteer author's editors, and infrastructure provided by the local host institution Shiraz University of Medical Sciences (Shiraz, Iran). During the first on-site phase of AAEM from January to June 2009, 72 research manuscripts were edited; the outcome of manuscript submittal will be monitored to quantify the program's effectiveness in improving publication success. According to verbal feedback from researchers, the 3 most important outcomes of live editing sessions were: 1) manuscripts more likely to satisfy gatekeeper's expectations for quality, 2) acquisition of writing and editing skills, and 3) increased confidence in the value of their scientific work. Manuscript-editing sessions were observed by local author's editors, who thereby increased their own skills. Five medical journals published by the host institution received manuscript editing, guidance on best editorial practices, and advice on becoming indexed by PubMed and Thomson Reuters' Web of Science. More than a dozen presentations and workshops for medical students, researchers, and different types of editors were given at universities and scientific conferences.

More information about AuthorAID: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AuthorAID>

A full report on AAEM will appear in the November 2009 issue of *European Science Editing*.

#### **All PowerPoint presentations for AAEM are available on request.**

Please consult the list overleaf, then leave your card (or name and e-mail) and write on the back the number of each title you'd like to have.

If you'd like to be a **volunteer manuscript editor for AAEM**, please leave your card (or name and e-mail) and write "volunteer" on the back. Thank-you very much!

If your organization would like to investigate ways to **help make the AAEM project sustainable**, please contact me or leave your card and write "support" on the back. Thank-you very much!