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❖ **“Authors’ Submission Toolkit: A Practical Guide to Getting Your Research Published”** summarizes best practices in areas that have “traditionally been seen as mysterious to authors,” such as selecting a journal, conducting a pre-submission inquiry, adhering to journal guidelines, writing a cover letter, and responding to reviewers. The Toolkit also aims to increase authors’ confidence about acknowledging professional medical writers. It was created by the Medical Publication Practices and Insights Initiative, a project of 4 pharmaceutical companies and the International Society for Medical Publication Professionals. According to AMWA President Tom Gegeny, the Toolkit differs from GPP2 (www.gpp-guidelines.org) in that it is a more “hands-on” description of various practices, applies to non-industry-sponsored research, and was developed with input from journal editors. It was published in the August issue of *Current Medical Research & Opinion*; the e-pub version is free at <http://digbig.com/5bbxcb>.

❖ **Speaking of journal selection**, every year *The New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM) hires an independent company to survey physicians in 12 specialties about what journals they consider essential to their practice. Publication planners should be aware that primary care journals rank high among physicians in nearly every specialty. For example, among the top 10 journals read by cardiologists are NEJM, *The Journal of the American Medical Association*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *Mayo Clinic Proceedings*, and *American Journal of Medicine*. The 2009 survey report is at <http://digbig.com/5bbxje>.

❖ **Brief tutorials about searching ClinicalTrials.gov** (including one about how to set up an RSS feed for a search) are now available at <http://digbig.com/5bbwbn> (scroll to the Cs). Wisely, the creators broke the instruction into 1- to 4-minute segments. At the same site (top of the page), check out the tutorials about searching PubMed for details.

❖ **“Genomic Medicine—An Updated Primer”** is free online in the May 27 issue of NEJM (<http://digbig.com/5bbxjg>). Genomic medicine assumes knowledge of “interactions

between the entire genome and nongenomic factors that result in health and disease,” say the authors, Dr. Francis Collins among them. “Regardless of where medicine is practiced, genomics is inexorably changing our understanding of the biology of nearly all medical conditions.” Use this review and its glossary to better understand the new tests and therapeutics being incorporated into routine care.

❖ **Four pharmaceutical manufacturer associations** around the world, including the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America, have issued a joint position statement on publication of clinical trial results (<http://digbig.com/5bbxht>). All industry-sponsored interventional trials should be considered for publication, according to the statement, regardless of whether the results are positive. At a minimum, results from all phase 3 trials and “any clinical trial results of significant medical importance” should be submitted, even if the development program has been discontinued. For products already being marketed, submission should take place within 12 to 18 months of trial completion; for investigational products, submission should occur 12 to 18 months after regulatory approval or the decision to discontinue development. Regarding the content of manuscripts, nothing in the statement will be new to experienced medical writers, except the associations are now promising that industry will, on request, provide journals with copies of study protocols and amendments. The position statement recommends acknowledging medical writers along with their affiliations, source of funding, and “any other potential competing interests.”

❖ **ARRIVE (Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments)** is a new set of guidelines intended to improve the reporting of bioscience research in which laboratory animals were used. Already adopted by more than a dozen journals, the 20-point checklist reminds authors to say how the study was designed, conducted, and analyzed. See <http://digbig.com/5bbxjh> for the guidelines and an associated editorial. Funding came from the National (UK) Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research.

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