




AUSTRALIAN

EVALUATION

SOCIETY



Improving the theory, practice and
the use of evaluation





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**SHARING EVALUATION PRACTICE THROUGH PUBLICATION IN
THE EVALUATION JOURNAL OF AUSTRALASIA**

AIM

1. Provide a strategic update
2. How to prepare a really good article
3. What's required to submit an article

INTRODUCTIONS: EDITORIAL TEAM



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Responsibilities

Peer reviewing

Recommend other reviewers

Contribute to the Journal
Advise on potential special
issue themes and
collaborators

Adjudicate on review
conflicts

Recommend other EAB
members

Advise on improvements
Promote and advocate for
the Journal
Encourage potential authors

JOURNAL STRATEGIC UPDATE

1. Aim of EJA
2. Where have we come from
3. Where are we going
4. The demand for quality, academic scholarship
5. The right choice for evaluators in our region

AIM

“The purpose of the *Evaluation Journal of Australasia (EJA)* is to further the aims of the AES in promoting the theory, research and practice of evaluation”.

JOURNAL STRATEGIC UPDATE

1. Aim of EJA
2. Where have we come from
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4. The demand for quality, academic scholarship
5. The right choice for evaluators in our region

TYPES OF ARTICLES ACCEPTED

1. Academic articles
2. Review articles (e.g., systematic reviews)
3. Practice articles
4. Book reviews

TYPES OF ARTICLES ACCEPTED

Academic articles (5000 – 8000 words)

- Theory or philosophy-based and/or draws on empirical findings
- Contributes to literature on evaluative thinking and practice

Practice articles (3000 – 5000 words)

- Applies an evaluation theory, describes an evaluation, presents findings and disseminates practice
- Innovative methods welcomed

HOT TOPICS

Current policy issues	Theoretical and philosophical issues
Climate change	Critical theories
First Nations ‘Voice’	Neoliberalism and evaluation
Policy failures	Evaluation ethics
Crime and justice	Indigenous methodologies
Decolonising evaluation	Human, social, cultural capital
Immigration	
Economic issues	
Health and wellbeing	+ much more
Suicide prevention	

HOT TOPICS

What topic(s) would you like the EJA to address in a special issue?

WHO CAN PUBLISH

1. Evaluation practitioners
2. Policy and program professionals
3. Academic evaluation researchers
4. Higher degree students

WHAT MAKES AN ORDINARY ARTICLE?

- Reads like a report. Dot points. Diagrams galore.
- So what? Does it say anything we didn't already know?
- Opinion. Sales pitches. "Aren't we just great!"
- No limitations, no ethical issues, no theory
- The regurgitated article. Old literature, old data, fit for the 20th century.

What would make the article more interesting?

What would challenge them to think?

Is there anything controversial or contentious?

What about your positionality/bias?

Does what you say challenge conventional wisdom?

Is the article worth citing?

WHAT MAKES A REALLY GOOD ARTICLE

- 1. Rationale:** why is this important to write about? Who will read this and why? Are there policy or practice issues that it addresses? *Contributes to advancement of the evaluation knowledge-base.*
- 2. Writing style:** think about accessibility
- 3. Structure:** logical, conforms to usual academic conventions
- 4. Theory:** informs the methodology and the findings. It makes you think?
- 5. Ethics:** what are risks/benefits. Cultural considerations.

FOCUSING YOUR ARTICLE

All manuscripts (except book reviews) should include two sections.

Each section should include 2 to 3 short bullet point statements addressing:

- What we already know
- The original contribution the article makes to theory and/or practice

ETHICS

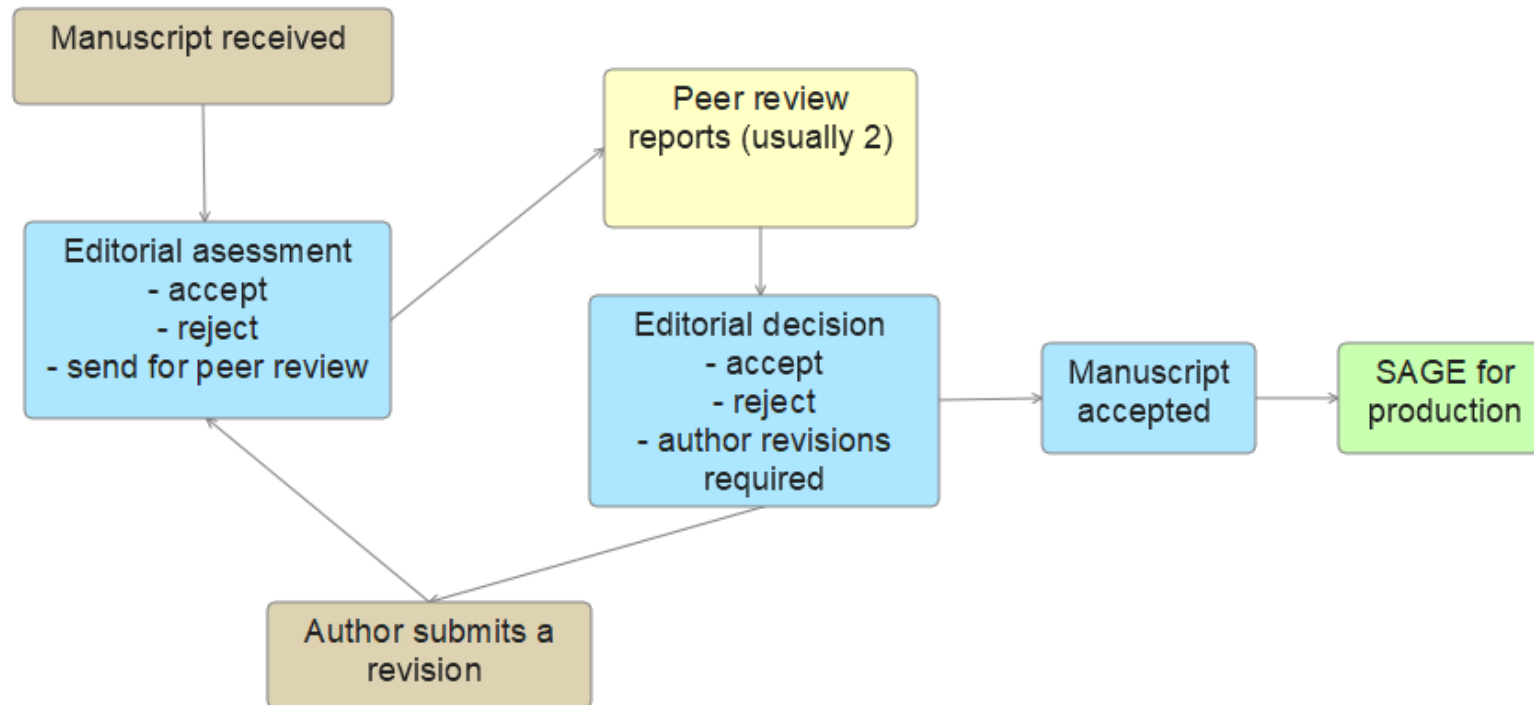
All manuscripts reporting the results of an evaluation that includes human participants must provide a **statement confirming ethical review** was undertaken (e.g., by an institutional ethics review committee) or otherwise provide a brief statement of how the evaluation was conducted in compliance with appropriate ethical standards. In Australia this might include reference to the [AES ethical guidelines](#) .

As appropriate manuscripts should report on how **cultural safety principles** informed the evaluation. In Australia Indigenous evaluations would normally be conducted in accordance with the Australian Evaluation Society First Nations Cultural Safety Framework (Gollan & Stacey, 2021).

MAXIMISING IMPACT

1. Write in a collaborative team
2. Share article on social media
3. Reference reputable articles (preferable Scopus listed)

SUBMISSION PROCESS



PEER REVIEW

1. Helps ensure articles are suitable for journal and readers
2. Authors can receive detailed and constructive feedback from other experts
3. Alert you to errors or gaps
4. Create a discussion between author, reviewers, and editor around a topic.

NEED GUIDANCE

Check the author guidelines

Talk to/email an editor

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ONLINE PUBLICATION WORKSHOP

18 October 2023

4:00pm – 5:00pm (AEST)

Look out for AES publicity

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

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