

The need for free format clinical writing.....

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I am a clinician and an academician, I am lazy, I procrastinate, and I have many excuses for not writing case reports, review articles or original articles based on some studies done in the department. Even though once in a while if I write something I don't send it for publication because for any journal there is a list of instructions (instructions for contributors) one is expected to follow. The article or a case report must be written as per the prescribed format. Starting right from the covering letter, the title page, the abstract and keywords to the references, tables and figures there is a need of a particular format. There are restrictions on number of words and for any sentence there should be an authentic reference. The review article should be evidence based and not based on your personal opinion or some armchair speculations. Thank God, at times my friends and colleagues help me out with all these formalities and there I am ready with an article for a journal in a required format. I expectantly submit it to a journal and wait and wait and wait..... for months together there may not be any reply; not even an acknowledgement. If you are lucky, you may get a letter telling the short comings of your article as comments from referees and why your article can not be accepted for publication. Select another journal and modify the article as per the required style and repeat the procedure Soon you lose interest in writing and stop thinking about publications.

So here is some good news for lazy persons like me. Here is a journal where you can express your opinion or an armchair speculation, write about an unusual case which you have treated or report about some unusual unreported side effect of a medicine or for that matter anything under the sun related or even remotely associated with psychiatry. You don't have to follow any 'Instructions to contributors'. You can write in your own monotonous or creative style and of course you don't have to give any references or so called 'evidence' for what you write.

So any time if you wish to share anything, pick up your mobile and text it to this free format journal and be sure that it would be published and read by a large number of like-minded and even by many not so like-minded people who are a bit vary of such views.