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QUICK START GUIDE

Writing for HIM-I

Welcome to HIM-Interchange

HIM-Interchange (HIM-I) is HIMAA's professional practice journal, providing the community a platform dedicated to sharing the latest innovations, experiences, and practical insights in Australia's health information management profession. Originally launched in 2011 as an insert in the print edition of the Health Information Management Journal (HIMJ), HIM-I was created to encourage greater contributions from Health Information Managers, Clinical Coders, Clinical Documentation Specialists and colleagues across the profession.

Now exclusively online and open access, HIM-I enables articles to be published progressively and shared widely through the dedicated HIM-I website. This means your published work can reach a broader audience, extending beyond HIMAA members to include peers and stakeholders across the health information profession. The new '*Writing for HIM-I: Quick Start Guide*' is designed to support and inspire new contributors, offering a simple and motivational starting point alongside the comprehensive '*Author Guidelines*'.

We invite you to explore, contribute, and engage with this vibrant and valuable resource for the health information management community.

Why should you write for HIM-I?

- Opportunity to be published
- Showcase your work or project
- Opportunity to share successes and learnings with colleagues
- Share your professional story
    - The health information management profession is evolving rapidly, with new skills and practices crossing traditional boundaries. This creates an abundance of insights and opportunities to share knowledge and an endless supply of information to write about.
- Reflect and recharge. Expression in any form can be a powerful way to relieve stress and work through tough problems
- Support your personal and career growth
- Enhance your CV
- Contribute to the Profession
- A chance to work collaboratively with colleagues by sharing the experience with co-authors

Types of Articles Published in HIM-I

Article types can include professional profiles, reports, letters to the editor and Q&A format. If you have something you want to write about, HIM-I offer flexibility for contributors to suit the message and audience.

Submission Process

Submitting to HIM-I is straightforward and supportive. Once you have an idea for an article, simply reach out to the HIM-I team. You'll be connected with a mentor who will guide you through the entire process.

Your mentor will:

- Help you begin by exploring your topic and considering your audience
- Provide feedback on your draft
- Support you through the review and editing process
- Assist with image inclusion (including your own photos or graphics)
- Help you complete copyright requirements
- Let you know when your article is published and ready to be shared with colleagues, employers, friends and family

Whether you're a first-time writer or an experienced contributor, we're here to help you succeed.

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Writing Tips

Not sure where to start? A great way to begin is to treat your article like you would a university assignment, business case, or executive report. Start by jotting down your ideas and consider structuring your article around the following prompts:

- What background information does the reader need?
- What are the key messages you want to convey?
- Are there any recommendations you would make?
- What does this mean for future practice?

You can also gain inspiration by reviewing previously published articles. Visit the HIM-I website to explore real examples: **https://him-i.himaa.org.au/**

Support Resources:

- Full author guidelines are available at: **https://him-i.himaa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/HIM-Interchange-Guidelines-for-Authors_V8.3_Feb-2022.pdf**
- Feel free to contact the Sub-Committee at **himinterchange@himaa.org.au** to talk through your ideas.
- Remember, all of our published authors were in the same position as you before they published – they had a story to tell but didn't know where to get started – we are here to help.