



Advice for writing

A journal article should be written in a different style from that of an academic essay. Aim for a clear, readable and accessible style. If this is the first time you have submitted an article to a journal it may help to ask a colleague or tutor to read it.

As you write, ask yourself:

- Is my article relevant to midwives, student midwives, Maternity Support Workers (MSWs) or any health professional caring for women during pregnancy, birth and the postnatal period?
- Does my article say something new?
- What question(s) am I trying to answer?
- Have I answered the question(s) accurately?
- Have I made clear what is personal opinion and what is evidence/research-based fact?
- Does the article flow in a logical progression?
- Could I improve it by rewriting or moving certain paragraphs?
- Have I helped the reader through the article with regular (short) subheadings?
- Is my language and level of argument appropriate for the broad readership?
- Are all the references complete and correct?

Please check your writing carefully for accuracy and ambiguity. A final edit, prior to submission, is essential to check spelling and remove any unnecessary words or phrases. You may find it helpful to look at past issues of MIDIRS to get an idea of the journal's overall style and focus. The editorial team reserves the right to edit any article. Your article will be sent to you to check in its final form shortly before publication.

For informal inquiries, questions or support with your submission please contact the MIDIRS Editor: Sara Webb at sara.webb@rcm.org.uk