

Proposal for a Special Issue of CJBS:  
Best Practices in Doing and Presenting Research in Psychology

Deadline for submissions: 15 June 2016

Editors: William Roberts and Julie Gosselin

Although there have been a number of books and articles in recent years on the topic of best practices, it appears that many researchers remain unaware of these advances and indeed often engage in practices that are clearly poor practice. For example, the psychometric properties of questionnaire scales (such as their unidimensionality) are often assumed, not examined; and some authors actively assert that it is unnecessary to assess the psychometric properties of established instruments in new samples, as if sampling error didn't exist and the modern view of reliability as a property of the data and sample, not the scale or instrument, was irrelevant. Other basic misconceptions and problems are often seen in the areas of research design, statistical analysis, and the presentation of results.

Examples of possible topics of interest include:

- Over-reliance on, and misinterpretation of, questionnaire data. The need for converging measures.
- Controlling false positives when making multiple comparisons.
- Issues in evaluating scales with factor analysis and IRT
- Guidelines for evaluating normed and standardized assessment instruments
- Issues in sampling
- Alternatives to traditional significance testing
- Issues in the use (and misuse) of SEM and Confirmatory Factor Analysis
- Effect sizes: issues and implications
- Issues in style and presentation
- Issues in causal language and inferences

This list is meant to be suggestive, not exhaustive. Topics may be considered singly or in combination.

Articles need not say anything new about the issues themselves, which in some cases have been widely known and discussed for decades. Rather, by bringing together a group of related but wide-ranging articles, the Special Issue seeks to remind readers about these enduring realities and to provide practical suggestions for coping with them. Thus, in contrast to articles normally published in CJBS, the focus of these articles will be conceptual rather than

empirical: How should we do research and write research articles? Which common practices clearly constitute poor practice, which constitute acceptable practice, and which constitute best practice under normal circumstances?

Submissions should conform to APA and Journal standards (see [www.apa.org/pubs/journals/cbs](http://www.apa.org/pubs/journals/cbs) ). Authors must indicate clearly in their cover letter that their submission is intended for this special issue.

For questions or further information please contact either William Roberts (wroberts@tru.ca), or, for submissions in French, Julie Gosselin (jgosselin@mun.ca).