Online Registries for Researchers: Using ORCID and SciENcv

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The Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) registry helps resolve name ambiguity by assigning persistent unique identifiers that automatically link to a researcher’s publications, grants, and other activities. This article provides an overview of ORCID and its benefits, citing several examples of its use in cancer and nursing journals. The article also briefly describes My NCBI and the Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae (SciENcv) and its connection to ORCID.

At a Glance

- Nurses are often asked by employers and funders to document publications, grants, and other scholarly activities.
- The Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) is beneficial and convenient for documenting these activities.
- The Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae can be linked to ORCID and used as part of the grant application process.

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Attempting to identify all of an author’s publications can be problematic given all the potential name variations. Middle names and initials may or may not be present, hyphenated surnames may be presented inconsistently, and married and maiden names may vary. The Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) was created to help resolve such name ambiguity by assigning unique identifiers (akin to social security numbers for authors) for individual researchers and authors, as well as institutions, such as universities, publishers, and funders. ORCID (2016b) is an open, not-for-profit organization that provides a registry of persistent unique identifiers for researchers and scholars that links to publications, grants, and patents. ORCIDs are free to obtain and use and can be included on manuscripts submitted for publication and on grant applications or any online professional profiles. The IDs facilitate data exchange with other identification systems, such as Scopus.

The Scopus database allows searching by an author’s ORCID, ResearcherID, VIVO, and CrossRef, and can ease the grant submission process and increase efficiency for clinicians and their patients for other uses, like digital repositories and data sharing (Leopold, 2016). PubMed includes ORCIDs within citations; on November 9, 2016, a search of “orcid[auid]” retrieved 79,091 citations, and that number continues to grow. ORCID seamlessly integrates with various online tools that display scholarly activities, publications, and social media mentions; for example, Altmetric (www.altmetric.com) has an ORCID search field, and Impactstory (www.impactstory.org) includes the ORCID as part of the URL. Benefits of this are helping to solve problems with name ambiguity, being free to register for and use, having user-controlled privacy settings, facilitating the research discovery process, and having auto-update functionality.

Use of ORCID

ORCID use is increasing across multiple journals. Clinical Journal of Oncology Nursing (CJON) authors are already using ORCIDs. For example, as of November 2016, a nurse at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center includes the CJON article “Increasing Certification Through Unit-Based Education” (http://orcid.org/0000-0003-3940-2368), an associate professor at Keio University includes the CJON article “The Need for a Nursing Presence in Oral Chemotherapy” (http://orcid.org/0000-0002-6814-9894), and the current author’s page includes the CJON article “Is Ondansetron More Effective Than Granisetron for Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting? A Review of Comparative Trials” (http://orcid.org/0000-0001-7371-4483). The Canadian Oncology Nursing Journal registration form for subscribers, authors, and peer reviewers (http://bit.ly/2eRVsYD) states that ORCIDs can only be assigned by the ORCID Registry and that their standards must be followed for expressing ORCIDs and the full URL must be included. A list of publishers that began requiring ORCIDs for authors in 2016 can...