

From Presentation to Press: Tips for Publication

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Disclosures

I have no financial conflicts of interest to disclose.

Congrats on Calgary! What Next?

Japanese Biological Warfare and Human Experimentation: An Investigation into Japanese Medical Experiments during World War II and the Subsequent American Cover-Up

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A Scientific Method to the Madness of Unit 731's Human Experimentation and Biological Warfare Program

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ABSTRACT

The Japanese Imperial Army Unit 731's Biological Warfare (BW) research program committed atrocious crimes against humanity in their pursuit of biological weapons development during the Second World War. Due to an American cover-up, the details behind Unit 731's human experimentation were slow to be revealed. The recent literature discloses the gruesome details of the experiments but characterizes the human trials as crude in nature. Further, there is a lack of clarity as to how human trial results were extrapolated for use in real world missions.

Through an examination of testimony from the Soviet Union's Khabarovsk War Crime Trials, this paper argues that Unit 731's inoculation and airborne warfare experiments on prisoners of war were scientifically rigorous. The scientific method is used as the basis against which the scientific rigor of the experiments is tested. The paper reveals that the successes and failures of the human trials were extrapolated to BW missions during the Sino-Japanese war. American researchers' expectations of BW data were fulfilled, thus paving the way for an immunity deal. Ethical standards in medicine before WWII were not well established, but wartime medical practices and experimentation reveal the context in which the pursuit of scientific knowledge has no boundaries.

KEYWORDS: Unit 731, Human Experimentation, Biological Warfare, American Immunity Deal, Shiro, Ishii, Research Ethics

Unit 731 was a Japanese biological warfare research unit that covertly conducted human experimentation during the Second World War for the purpose of biological weapons development. The secret Kwantung Army Unit was based in Harbin, Manchuria and officially titled the Epidemic Prevention and Water Supply

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1) Content Differences

1) Build a Team

1) Submission and Timelines



1) Content Differences

1) Build a Team

1) Submission and Timelines



1. Content Differences

- By finishing your Calgary presentation, you likely already have a solid framework with a thesis and supporting arguments
- The most important question to answer to yourself: “Where does my research fit into the literature?”
- This took the largest portion of my time on the path to publication



Abbreviated Thesis for my paper: Unit 731 utilized the scientific method for their biological warfare and human experimentation program



- What is the scientific method?
- What have others said about Unit 731 and the scientific method?
- How is my thesis going to advance the literature surrounding Unit 731...**So what** if they used the scientific method?



- **Dig deep** for a literature review. Read journals, use research databases, check out books at the library
- Reflect on the questions you were asked at the conference; reviewers will likely have similar questions
- The more you read about your topic and what has already been done, the sooner you will realize **what else you will need to frame** about your topic

Examples from the publication

- 9/24 pages were used to frame my topic
- I didn't know what I didn't know
- Despite the effort put into framing, this is where I still had to do the most work for my revisions

Obvious questions to answer	Not so obvious questions to answer
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- What is the scientific method?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- What were the contemporary research ethics surrounding consent to human experimentation?
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- What have others said about Unit 731 and the scientific method?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Why were Unit 731 research subjects chosen? Explain the geopolitics...

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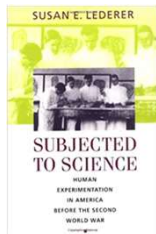
2. Build a Team

- Important for everyone when embarking on such a large project, but particularly important for those who don't have formal education or experience related to history of medicine
 - Reflect on networking connections from Calgary and other conferences along the way
 - **Dr. Devine and Dr. McKellar** are fantastic mentors who can help you guide you and help you assemble your team...**the connections you make may be closer than you think**
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Dr. Devine

Dr. Susan Lederer



Dr. Dale Smith

Dr. Neville Thompson

Dr. Paul Weindling



1) Content Differences

1) Build a Team

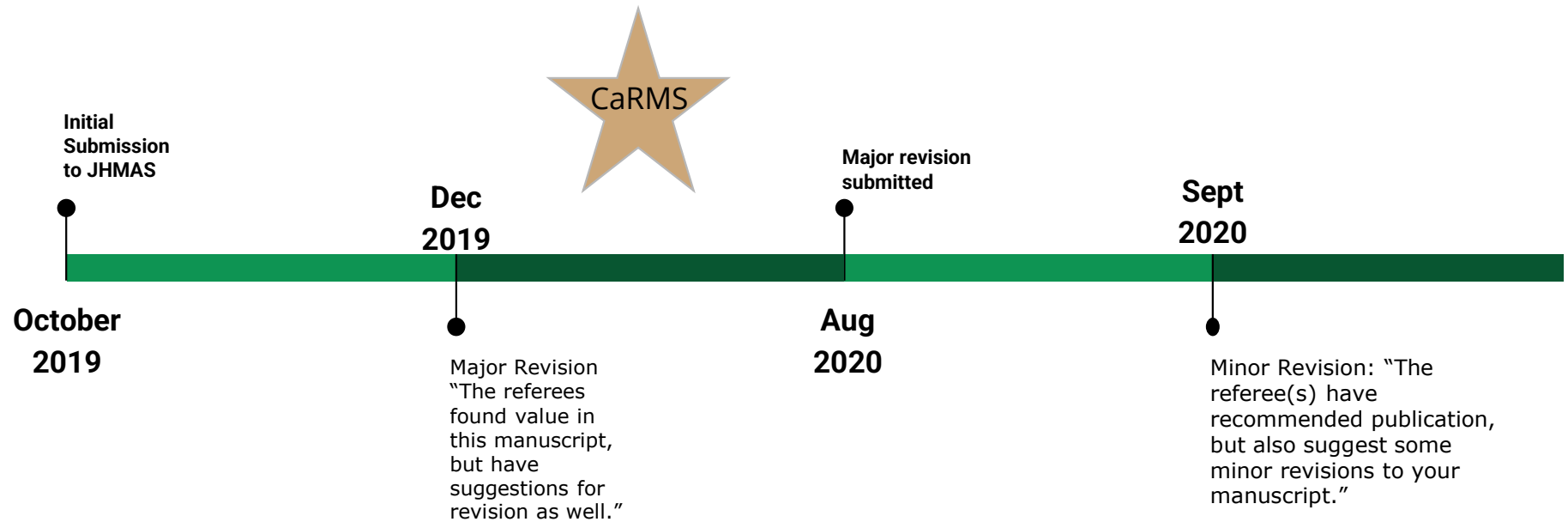
1) Path to Submission and Publication



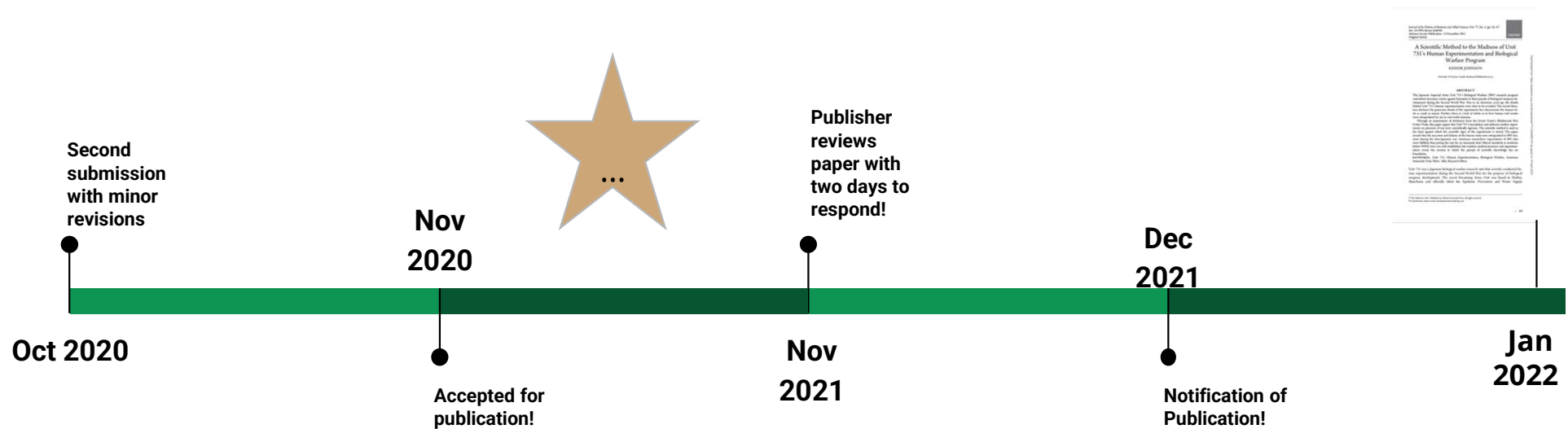
3. Path to Submission and Publication

- The publication process is a long process especially given you will be working on this part time, enjoy the process along the way!
 - I worked on my paper for roughly two years before it was ready for submission. During this time I also worked on other topics and presented at different conferences
 - Amount I worked on the paper per day varied dramatically depending on preclerkship and clerkship schedule
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Path to Submission to Publication



Path to Submission and Publication



Path to Submission and Publication

- Sometimes you will get requests for revisions with a quick turnaround time. Consider asking the editor in chief for an extension as they may accommodate you
 - Your first submission may look significantly different from the final product. Consider the suggestions as points of learning
 - Be confident in your paper. If you disagree with a reviewer's suggestion, this is okay! Just ensure you communicate and back up your argument
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1) Content Differences

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Thank you for your time!
Questions?

References

1. Image 1 (Frame)- <https://shorturl.at/juvW1>
 2. Image 2 (Shovel)- <https://shorturl.at/ruNV4>
 3. Image 3 (Schulich)- <https://shorturl.at/axRWY>
 4. Image 4 (Subjected to Science)- <https://shorturl.at/jpqN0>
 5. Image 5 (History of Medicine Days) - <https://shorturl.at/hikmL>
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