

# Section 1

## Get Concept Clearance for Your Article

We recommend that you get concept clearance from your team lead before you start writing. This chapter will help you prepare. Planning ahead will save you time in the long run and make your article stronger.

### What is the purpose of your article?

**To get ready for concept clearance, explain the purpose of your article in one paragraph (4-6 sentences).**

**Sentence 1:** What is the major purpose of this study? Be sure to emphasize what is new and useful in this introduction.

**Example:** This is the first study to observe tomato-handling practices in restaurants.

**Insert sentence 1:**

**Describe the gap in literature that you are trying to fill with this article.**

Use the findings from your literature review to support your statement.

**Gap in literature:**

**Who needs to read your research findings? Define the audience.**

**Good:** Pediatricians treating children age 6 and younger in Massachusetts who may have been exposed to lead.

**Bad:** The general public.

**Who is your target audience?**

### Identify Your Priorities

Which of these key priorities does your article address? (Check all that apply.)

#### NCEH/ATSDR Priorities

- Reduce asthma morbidity and mortality
- Protect children from the health risks of harmful exposures and conditions
- Ensure safe drinking water
- Use innovative laboratory methods to detect, diagnose, and prevent environmental disease

#### CDC Priorities

- Improve health security at home and around the world
- Prevent the leading causes of illness, injury, disability, and death
- Strengthen public health and health care collaboration

#### CDC Winnable Battles

- Food safety
- Global immunization
- Health-care associated infections
- HIV in the United States
- Lymphatic filariasis in the Americas
- Motor vehicle injuries
- Nutrition, physical activity, and obesity
- Mother-to-child transmission of HIV and syphilis globally
- Teen pregnancy
- Tobacco

**Briefly describe how you address these priorities in your article:**

Once you've finished, share this worksheet with your team lead to get concept clearance. Set up a 30-minute meeting. See if your team lead has suggestions about refining your purpose, priorities, and audience before you start writing.

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### Next Steps

Use the Journal Match Tool in **Section 2** to help you find the best journal to publish your article in. The results will also link you to journal-specific requirements to help you plan for the writing stages.