Abstract

Objective: Publication professionals should have broad and current knowledge of publication guidelines. Guideline knowledge has been significantly associated with working in professional organizations and membership in professional organizations. This study aimed to evaluate the knowledge, education, and training of the CMPP, a professional credential, and non-CMPPs.

Methods: Post-hoc exploratory analysis of data from the Global Publication Survey (GPS) (2015). GPS data subset from the Global Publication Survey (Wager et al., 2015). The CMPP credential may provide employers and clients with an independent and objective indicator of the knowledge breadth and currency of that individual’s knowledge. Could the CMPP be this indicator?

Results: More CMPPs than non-CMPPs had broader knowledge of publication guidelines, including those relevant to industry (Figure 1) and to editors and peer reviewers (Figure 2). More CMPPs than non-CMPPs had significantly more experience with peer-reviewed publications (P<0.001), but no difference in education. CMPPs were significantly more likely to be involved in literature guideline knowledge (CMPPs:33%, non-CMPPs:19%, χ^2=10.06, P=0.001). Knowledge of guidelines was assessed before the literature review. Results: Compared with non-CMPPs (n=308), CMPPs (n=161) had significantly more publication experience (P<0.001). CMPPs were significantly more likely to be involved in literature guideline knowledge (CMPPs:33%, non-CMPPs:19%, χ^2=10.06, P=0.001). Knowledge of guidelines was assessed before the literature review.

Conclusions: The CMPP credential may provide employers and clients with an independent and objective indicator of the knowledge breadth and currency of publication professionals.

Background

"Knowledge has to be improved, challenged, and increased constantly, or it vanishes."  
Peter F. Drucker

Knowledge of publication guidelines is significantly associated with ethical publication practices.

The 5-year CMPP credential certifies a person’s knowledge of publication guidelines at the time point at which the credential is awarded.

Given the frequency at which guidelines are updated or created now, there is a risk that guideline knowledge could weaken during a 5-year period.

Those directly or indirectly involved with a professional organization (eg, clients, employers, authors, editors, peer-reviewers) may appreciate an independent and objective indicator of the breadth and currency of that individual’s knowledge.

Could the CMPP be this indicator?

Purpose: To investigate whether knowledge breadth and currency varied between CMPP-qualified (CMPPs) and non-CMPP-qualified (nonCMPPs) individuals.

Methods

Post-hoc exploratory analysis of data from the Global Publication Survey (GPS).1

CMPPs vs nonCMPP comparison on specified knowledge outcomes.

Results

More CMPPs than non-CMPPs had many years of publication experience (Table 1).

Table 1. Characteristics of CMPPs and nonCMPPs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>CMPPs (n=161)</th>
<th>NonCMPPs (n=308)</th>
<th>P value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Experience</td>
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<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5-10 yrs</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>29.8</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>&gt;10 yrs</td>
<td>510</td>
<td>61.5</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Industry</td>
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<td>60.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Conclusions

This post-hoc analysis suggests that, compared with nonCMPPs, CMPPs may have:

- More publication experience.
- Broader knowledge of publication guidelines.
- More current knowledge of publication guidelines and issues.
- The CMPP credential may be more than a knowledge test; it appears to provide an independent and objective indicator of the breadth and currency of knowledge of publication professionals.

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