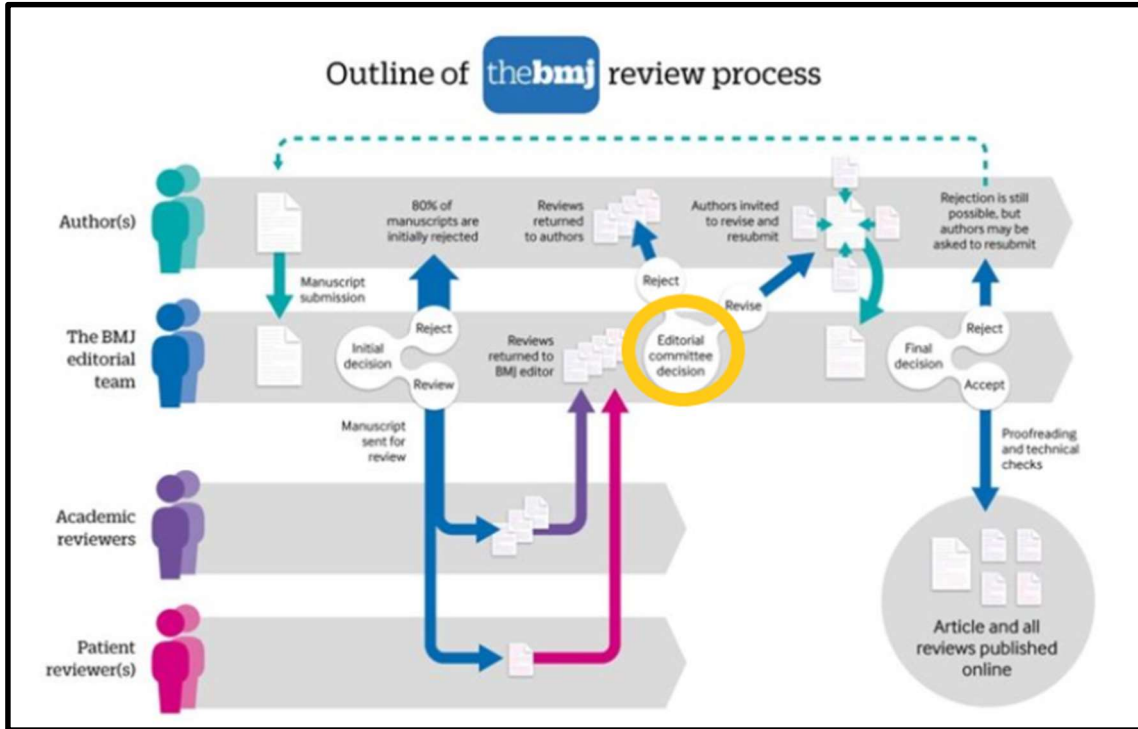


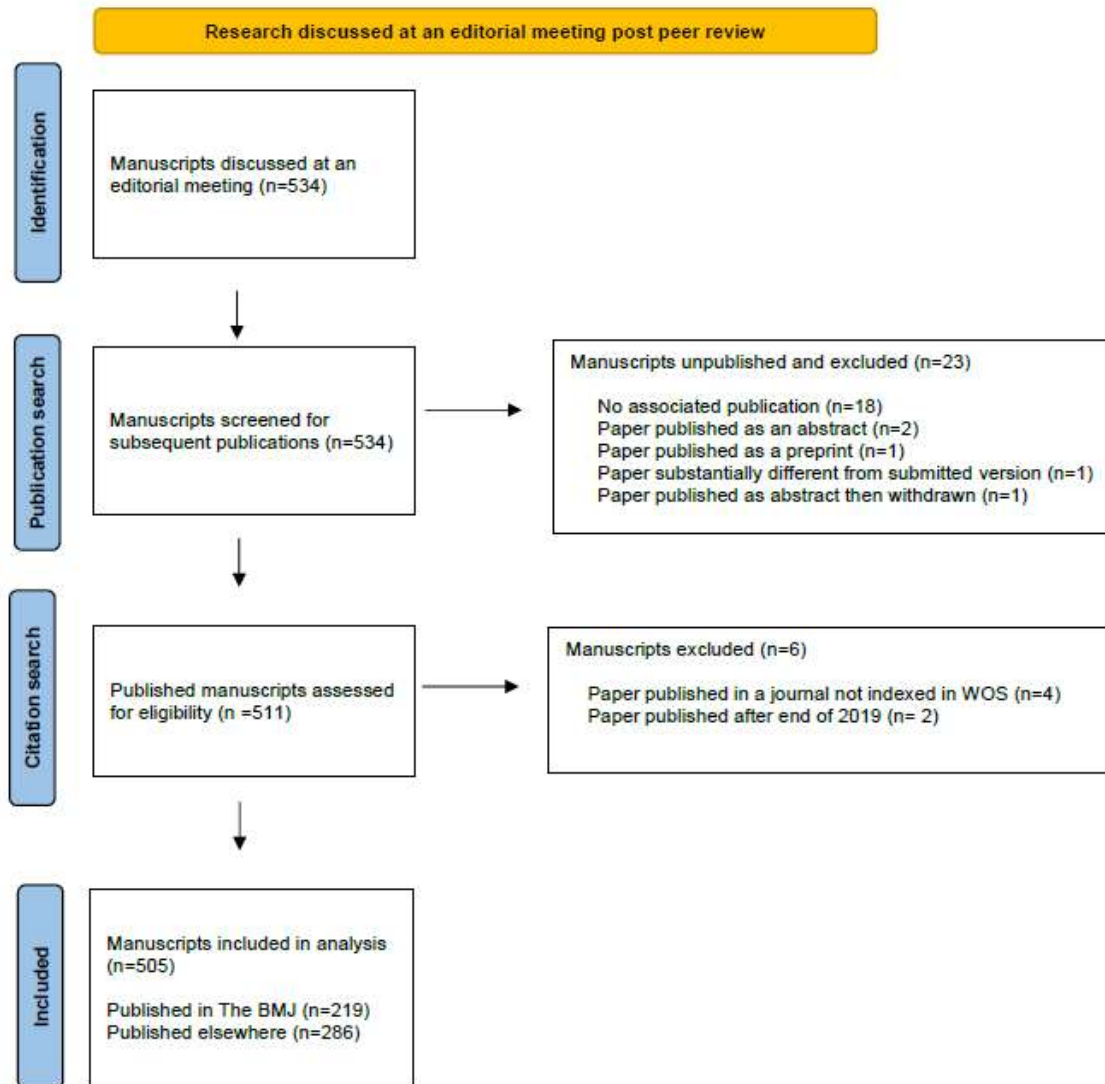
Supplementary material

Supplementary Figure 1: The BMJ review process



In the above figure we have indicated (circled in yellow) where in the review process the manuscript editorial meeting takes place.

Supplementary Figure 2: Flow diagram



WOS: Web of Science

Analysis of RMR manuscripts

Thirty-two (6%) of the submissions were RMR articles. The median number of citations for RMR articles was 14 [IQR, 4.75 to 29.5], with 14 (44%) receiving fewer than 10 citations, 4 (13%) receiving 10-17 citations, and 14 (44%) receiving more than 17 citations. In contrast, the median for research papers was 9 [IQR 4 to 16], with 263 (56%) receiving fewer than 10 citations, 101 (21%) receiving 10-17 citations, and 109 (23%) receiving more than 17.

Kappa analysis for the accuracy of for RMR articles ranged between $k=0.64$ and 0.65 (62% and 67% correctly categorised) for two editors but ranged between $k=0$ to 0.28 (25 to 55% correctly categorised) for the other 8 editors. By contrast, editors' accuracy for estimating citation potential of non-RMR articles was worse (kappa statistics ranged from 0.01 to 0.22 (between 33 and 51% correctly categorised)).

Secondary analysis using the outcome of citations in the first two full calendar years following the year of publication

When the analysis was repeated using the outcome of citations in the first two full calendar years following the year of publication, the results were similar. Median (IQR, range) citations for the two years following publication year were 16 (8 to 28, 0 to 447). Using the same categories to classify the papers as was used for the primary analysis, there were 159 (31%) manuscripts with <10 citations, 121 with 10-17 citations (24%), and 225 (44%) with >17 citations. Predicted categories did not coincide with actual categories for as many as 50% of manuscripts for any editor (range 31% to 44%). Kappas ranged from 0.02 to 0.25.

Supplementary Table 1: Analysis of the extreme disagreements for the 10 editors.

Editor	No. of papers with low citations rated ^a	Papers with low citations rated as having high citation potential, No. (%) ^a	No. of highly cited papers rated ^b	Highly cited papers rated as having low citation potential, No. (%) ^b
A	204	3 (1)	83	43 (52)
B	41	5 (12)	13	6 (46)
C	272	76 (28)	121	30 (25)
D	139	27 (19)	67	23 (34)
E	209	23 (11)	104	35 (34)
F	223	2 (1)	91	56 (62)
G	47	11 (23)	27	10 (37)
H	115	5 (4)	48	20 (42)
I	27	3 (11)	13	7 (54)
J	19	3 (16)	5	1 (20)

^a Manuscripts that generated fewer than 10 citations in the Web of Science Core Collection in the year of publication plus the following year.

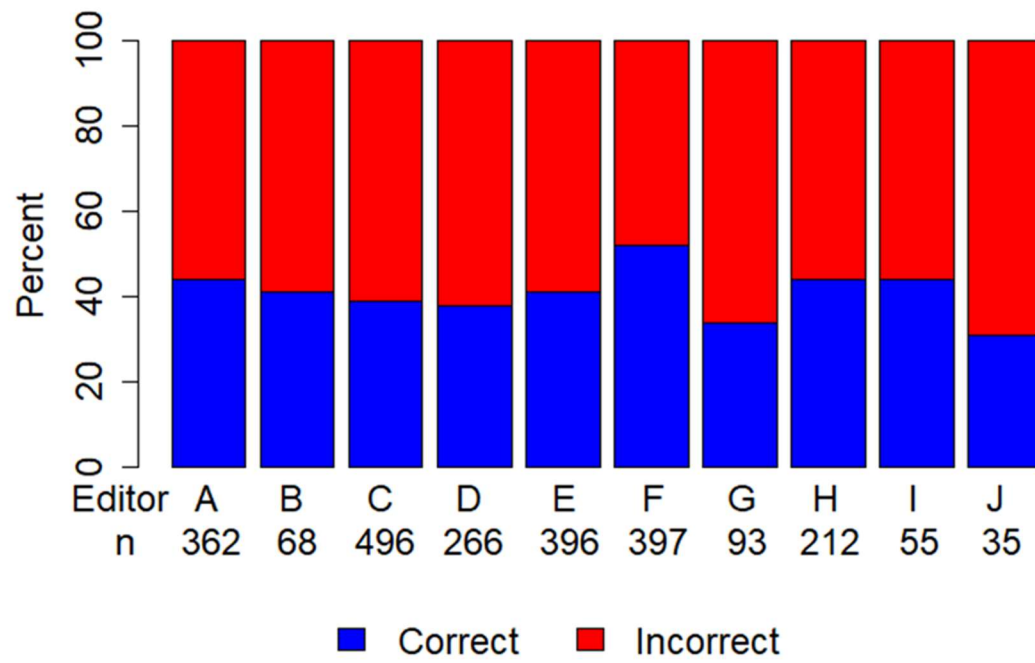
^b Manuscripts that generated more than 17 citations in the Web of Science Core Collection in the year of publication plus the following year.

Supplementary Table 2: Analysis of the accuracy of predicting superstar manuscripts (n=20)

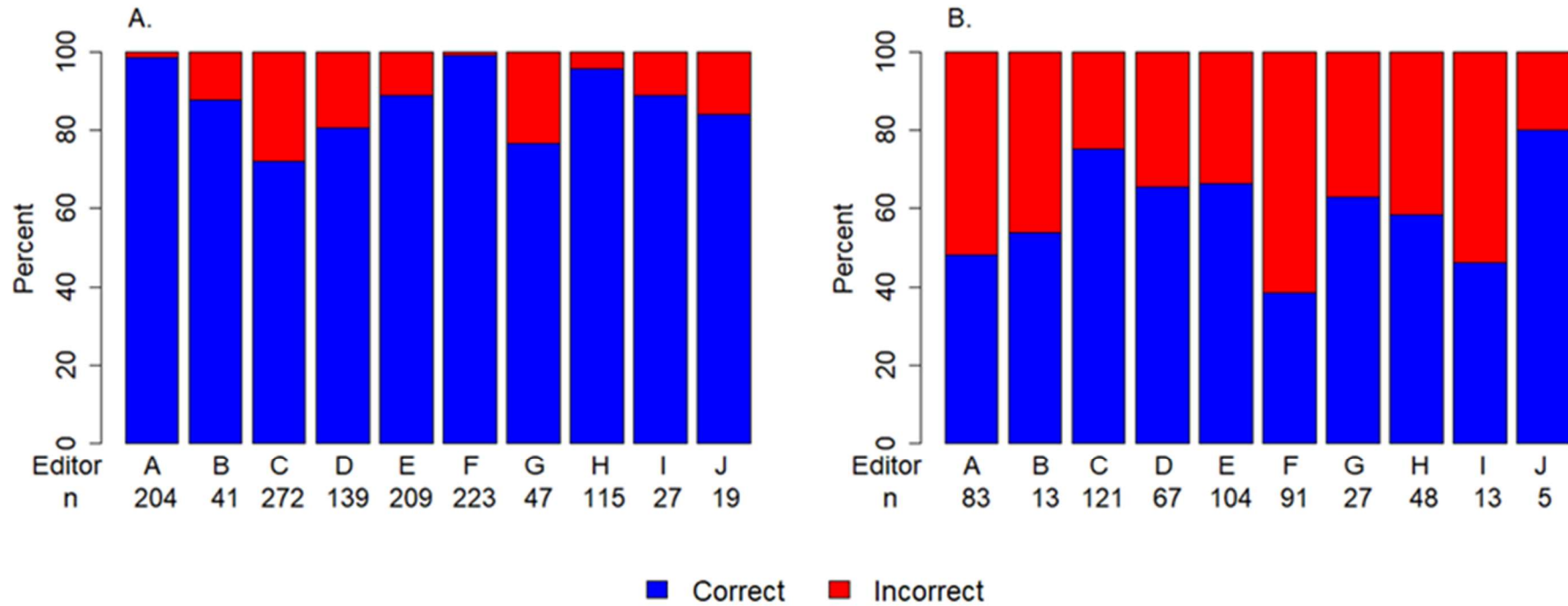
Editor	Number of papers with > 50 actual citations rated	N (%) incorrectly rated	N (%) rated as having low citation potential
A	14	13 (93)	6 (43)
B	3	2 (67)	0 (0)
C	20	6 (30)	1 (5)
D	11	6 (55)	5 (45)
E	18	14 (78)	4 (22)
F	14	9 (64)	6 (43)
G	6	4 (67)	1 (17)
H	7	6 (86)	2 (29)
I	2	1 (50)	1 (50)
J	2	1 (50)	1 (50)

Note: These 20 papers included 10 systematic reviews/ meta-analyses/ umbrella reviews, 3 non-randomised studies of an exposure, 5 RMRs, 1 non-randomised study of an intervention, and 1 retrospective case series study on Zika.

Supplementary Figure 3: The proportion of articles with incorrect and correct ratings by editor



Supplementary Figure 4: The proportion of articles with extreme disagreements



- A) The proportion of articles with low actual citations that were rated as having high citation potential by each editor.
- B) The proportion of articles with high actual citations that were rated as having low citation potential by each editor.