Summary: The advice for first-time authors is to start with a familiar topic or area of expertise. Do your homework regarding selecting a journal for manuscript submission. Pay close attention to the author guidelines. Use current references and be sure your citations match the reference list.

Nursing Implications:
• Clinical experiences may be the best starting point for a manuscript, and should be supplemented with evidence-based literature.
• First-time authors often can begin by writing a column or a case study.
• Ask one or two colleagues to review your manuscript for clarity and accuracy.
• Authors should be aware of and submit manuscripts based on journal guidelines, which are typically available on the journal web site.

Key Takeaways:
• Identify the most appropriate journal for your submission and research the manuscript submission requirements.
• Use a query letter to introduce your topic to the editor, describing its significance to clinical nurses.
• Dialog with the editor to clarify any of his or her comments as needed during the editorial process.
• Address all queries and contact the editor immediately if you encounter problems in meeting a deadline.

Link: http://www.prolibraries.com/amsn/?select=session&sessionID=1236

References:
