Author selects an alternative journal on submission

1. You have started the submission process for your article to a journal of your choice.

2. During the submission process, you will be given a choice to select an alternative journal. This is where your article will be transferred if you are unsuccessful at your first journal.

3. After you have completed your submission, your article will undergo the editorial and/or peer review processes.

4. If you are unsuccessful with your submission, your article will be automatically transferred to your pre-selected alternative journal within 5 days of your initial decision.

5. Once your article has been transferred, you will be prompted via email to complete your submission at your alternative journal. Your article will remain in draft until this has been completed.

6. Once your submission is complete, all your files, metadata and any peer reviews will be automatically transferred across to your “alternative journal”.

Editor suggested transfer - with or without review

1. You have started the submission process for your article to a journal of your choice.

2. An editor may think that your article is more suitable for another BMJ journal. In this case, you will receive a decision letter that contains a link to transfer your article.

3. If your paper was sent to review, any peer review comments will be included in this decision letter.

4. You will be able to transfer to your suggested journal via the link in your decision letter. After 21 days, this transfer offer will expire. Please make sure to click through if you would like to transfer.

5. If your article has received peer review comments, you will be able to spend time revising your paper after accepting the transfer. You will be able to upload any new files at this stage.

6. Once your submission is complete, all your files, metadata and any peer reviews will be automatically transferred across to your “alternative journal”.

BMJ's Article Transfer Service