

---

## Editorial

---

### How Do You Use AAPS PharmSciTech?

Robert O. (Bill) Williams III<sup>1,2</sup>

Received 8 December 2014; accepted 9 December 2014; published online 6 January 2015

---

As pharmaceutical scientists and engineers, we are more often than not confronted with questions and unexpected results during development of pharmaceutical dosage forms, in both industry and academic laboratories. This happens frequently, right? For instance, graduate students in pharmaceuticals, biomedical engineering, and other disciplines would strongly argue that these major bumps in the road happen at each step of their research project. Questions are answered and problems are solved, in part, by diligently searching the literature to learn from one another's experiences. It is vital to have dependable, peer-reviewed literature sources readily available. So why look any further than the AAPS journals? If you are searching literature in the areas of research, development, and evaluation of pharmaceutical dosage forms and drug delivery systems, including small molecules and biotechnology-derived drugs, and manufacturing science pertaining to the commercialization of dosage forms, you must include *AAPS PharmSciTech* in your selection of trusted reference resources. In 2014, *AAPS PharmSciTech* surpassed 200,000 full-text downloads of articles for the fourth straight year. Topics of particular importance to pharmaceutical scientists and engineers based on article downloads include floating drug delivery systems, use of cyclodextrins in drug delivery, pharmaceutical impurities, and fast-dissolving buccal films. The 2013 impact factor continued its upward trend to 1.776. The breadth of topics published in *AAPS PharmSciTech* is based on input from our readers, including theme issues on pulmonary drug delivery, nanodelivery systems, process analytical technology, oral controlled-release development and technology, and advances in pharmaceutical excipients. The papers published in *AAPS PharmSciTech* are well written, are well cited, and directly contribute knowledge that can help solve pharmaceutical development problems.

---

This editorial was also published in the January 2015 *AAPS Newsmagazine*.

<sup>1</sup> University of Texas at Austin, Austin, Texas, USA.

<sup>2</sup> To whom correspondence should be addressed. (e-mail: bill.williams@austin.utexas.edu )

Considering this background, I am so pleased to assume the editor-in-chief duties of *AAPS PharmSciTech* from Lee Kirsch, Ph.D. As the voice of the editorial board, my objective is to continue the growth trajectory of the journal and to further improve the journal's achievements and impact with its key constituents, pharmaceutical scientists, and engineers who rely on the journal for factual information to solve problems and to disseminate knowledge through publication. *AAPS PharmSciTech* reaches academic and industrial pharmaceutical scientists and engineers around the globe.

I am pleased to appoint the following associate editors: Chuanbin Wu, Ph.D., from Sun Yat-sen University (editorial focus area includes China and Taiwan); Sanyog Jain, Ph.D., from the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (editorial focus area includes India, Egypt, and Near East); Claudio Salomon, Ph.D., from University of Rosario, Santa Fe, Argentina (editorial focus area includes Central and South America); Paul Myrdal, Ph.D., from the University of Arizona (editorial focus area includes Europe, Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, and Japan); and Michael Repka, Ph.D., from the University of Mississippi (editorial focus area is review papers). My editorial area of focus will be North America.

#### For Authors

An important note to authors: The editorial advisory board is focused on ensuring the quality of the papers published in *AAPS PharmSciTech*, and as such, is closely considering the structure and organization of each submitted paper to ensure that it is proper. Also, we are diligent in our efforts to assess each submitted paper for plagiarism. All papers submitted to *AAPS PharmSciTech* are analyzed for the magnitude of similarity by comparison to a massive database of documents and files. Submitted papers deemed too similar in verbiage are rejected before peer review. Lastly, we are looking for a clear portrayal of the paper's novelty and significance to the field; many authors fail to inform the reader of their paper's importance. Improper organization, plagiarism, and lack of expression of significance all reduce the chance that your paper will be published.

To improve your paper's chance of being peer reviewed and published, consider the following writing guidance:

**Abstract:** In about 250 words, summarize your study, its significance, the question you are addressing, what you found (include key data numbers), and what you conclude.

**Introduction:** Define the scope of your paper, articulate the question or hypothesis, summarize work relevant to the study being reported, and inform the reader of your rationale and significance of the study.

**Methods:** Clearly define how you conducted the study in great detail. Colleagues reading your paper must be able to replicate your experiments and determine whether your conclusions are warranted.

**Results:** Report what you found.

**Discussion:** Explain what your findings mean comparing and contrasting your data with existing literature; use the literature as evidence to support your assertion.

**Conclusion:** Ask whether your findings support your hypothesis.

Having a strong alliance with AAPS and its members gives *AAPS PharmSciTech* a significant and distinct advantage to becoming one of the preeminent journals dedicated to pharmaceuticals, drug delivery, pharmaceutical technology, and engineering in the world, and it continues on track to achieve this goal. The editorial advisory board has been, and will continue to be, composed of recognized thought leaders from around the globe. We as a board will proactively solicit authors to publish their potentially high-impact, highly citable papers in the journal. I will continue to build upon Kirsch's successes to further strengthen the journal's global reputation. I believe that a journal like *AAPS PharmSciTech* is an invaluable resource to industrial and academic scientists and is, in many respects, why scientists join an organization like AAPS: to get complete access to first-tier journal articles to help them in their endeavors.

*AAPS PharmSciTech* is a wonderful resource for all of us!