Getting Published in Nature Neuroscience

Summary

What happens to your manuscript when you send it to Nature Neuroscience? How do the editors think, work and decide? This presentation will briefly cover some general basics of scientific publishing, then focus on the editorial workflow at Nature Neuroscience. The journal invites papers from all areas of neuroscience. The editors read all new manuscripts, but will peer-review only those that offer a truly new idea, an advance in the field beyond the obvious next step. After peer review, about half of manuscripts are simply rejected, and most of the other half are rejected with an invitation to revise. The quality of the revision is crucial, as the editors usually do not invite a second major revision if the referees are unhappy with the first revision. There will be some discussion of how to write a good manuscript and a good revision; furthermore I will attempt to explain the presubmission inquiry and appeals processes.