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Demystifying Journal Selection for Medical Researchers: A Guide for Selecting and Evaluating Academic Journals, Avoiding Predatory Publishers, and Tracking your Influence.

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Cooper Medical School
of Rowan University

Demystifying Journal Selection for Medical Researchers

A guide for selecting and evaluating academic journals,
avoiding predatory publishers, and tracking your influence

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CMSRU Disclosure

- In accordance with the ACCME Essentials and Standards, everyone involved in planning and presenting this CMSRU educational lecture has no relevant commercial relationships or conflicts of interest.
- There is no commercial support for this program.



Learning objectives

- Review different manuscript matching software tools
- Review the history, definition, and current issues regarding Open Access publishing
- Appraise academic journals to see if they may be “predatory”
- Learn how to utilize databases to identify and evaluate the bibliometrics of academic journals.
- Discover available tools used to track your scholarship and sign up for ORCID



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Manuscript writing and preparation

Before you begin to write a paper for publication:

Use standardized formats from the beginning for certain paper/study types. More available at:

<https://www.equator-network.org/>

Original basic science or clinical Studies	Typically journals use IMRad format: (INTRODUCTION, METHODS, RESULTS, and DISCUSSION).
Studies involving clinical trials	Typically journals use CONSORT guidelines
Improvement or Innovation Studies	Typically journals use SQUIRE 2.0 guidelines
Case Reports	Many journals now use the CARE case report format
Systematic Reviews	Commonly use the PRISMA Checklist and guidelines and



Tip: Check Author Guidelines

- Check out the author guidelines of some of the journals that publish in your field
 - Some publish “unique” publication types and have differing requirements.
 - Not all journals accept all study types! Case reports and quality improvement studies can be tricky to get published sometimes.
 - If the journal is a Gold Open Access journal (more on this later) you may need to pay a publication charge ranging from \$100 to \$4000 upon acceptance

A tip: Consider Authorship

Considering appropriate authorship credit for your paper.

- Resources to consult:
 - A Graduate Student's Guide to Determining Authorship Credit and Authorship Order APA Science Student Council 2006
 - <https://www.apa.org/science/leadership/students/authorship-paper.pdf>
 - Having trouble? Consider using an authorship worksheet:
 - <https://www.apa.org/science/leadership/students/authorship-determination.pdf>
 - How to handle authorship disputes: A guide for new researchers by the Coalition on Publication Ethics
 - <https://doi.org/10.24318/cope.2018.1.1>
- Expect to share authorship with biostatisticians if they assist in your statistical analysis or even librarians :) if they are assisting in Systematic and/or Scoping Reviews.

A tip: Use Reference Management Software

- Have a reference management software installed before you begin writing!
 - EndNote is free of charge to all Rowan and Cooper affiliates.
 - The librarians can provide you one-on-one or group training
 - How-to guide available at:
<https://rowanmed.libguides.com/EndNote>

Resources for Paper Writing

- A selection of Rowan University eBook titles on scientific writing:
 - [How not to write a medical paper : a practical guide](#)
 - [How to write better medical papers](#)
 - [How to write and publish a scientific paper](#)
 - [Reporting and Publishing Research in the Biomedical Sciences](#)
- Elsevier Researcher Academy - learning modules on aspects of the publishing process
<https://researcheracademy.elsevier.com/>



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Journal Selection

Journal Selection Resources

1. JANE Journal Match
2. Scopus, Cabell's, and Journal Guide
3. Journal Selection Reports

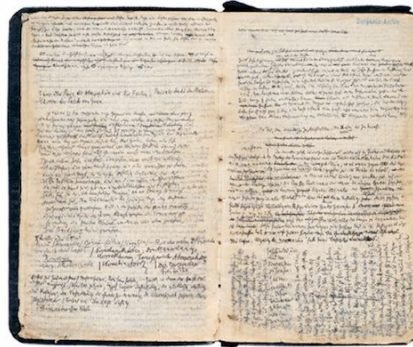
Remember, most of these resources are featured on the:

[CMSRU Publication Hub Research Guide](#)

Additional manuscript matching software options:



What is manuscript matching software?




- Software designed for authors to compare their paper to millions of documents in Medline and other indices to find the best matching journals.
- Some tools require only a title and abstract while others require the full text and bibliography.
- Some are offered by large publishers such as Elsevier, Springer, and Thomson Reuters. Be aware that these companies' tools may favor their journals. It is best to use a combination of the tools.

Who benefits from manuscript matching software?



- The first-time author looking for where to publish with no prior experience
- An author of a unique paper type or topic that may be unsure of what type of journal might accept it
- Someone with only an abstract and title of a paper interested in getting an early idea of the types of journals the eventual paper might be a good fit for.

Please follow along as I use JANE, the Journal Author Name Estimator manuscript matching software.



Insert your title and/or abstract here: (or, click [here](#) to search using keywords)

Scramble Clear Show extra options

Find journals Find authors Find articles

Welcome to Jane

Have you recently written a paper, but you're not sure to which journal you should submit it? Or maybe you want to find relevant articles to cite in your paper? Or are you an editor, and do you need to find reviewers for a particular paper? Jane can help!

Just enter the title and/or abstract of the paper in the box, and click on 'Find journals', 'Find authors' or 'Find Articles'. Jane will then compare your document to millions of documents in *PubMed* to find the best matching journals, authors or articles.

Keyword search

Instead of using a title or abstract, you can also search using a keyword search, similar to popular web search engines. Click [here](#) to search using keywords.

Beware of predatory journals

JANE relies on the data in PubMed, which can contain papers from predatory journals, and therefore these journals can appear in JANE's results. To help identify high-quality journals, JANE now tags journals that are currently indexed in MEDLINE, and open access journals approved by the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).

[Additional information about Jane](#)

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Hosting provided by the [Observational Health Data Science and Informatics](#)

A question we get very often...

Is it OK to submit the same manuscript to multiple journals for publication?



Please don't do this! It called duplicate submission and is not allowed by the vast majority of reputable journals!



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Open Access Primer

The history, definition, and current issues regarding Open Access publishing

What is Open Access?

“Open Access is the free, immediate, online availability of research articles coupled with the rights to use these articles fully in the digital environment. Open Access ensures that anyone can access and use these results—to turn ideas into industries and breakthroughs into better lives.”

Definition from: <https://sparcopen.org/who-we-are/>



Open Access Publishing truth or fiction? Quick quiz!



POLL TIME.

**Are the following
statements all true or all
false?**

Open Access Publishing truth or fiction?



Most Open Access journals are predatory!

Open Access journals charge a huge amount to publish in!

Open Access journals are not as prestigious as traditional paid journals!

Open Access Publishing truth or fiction?

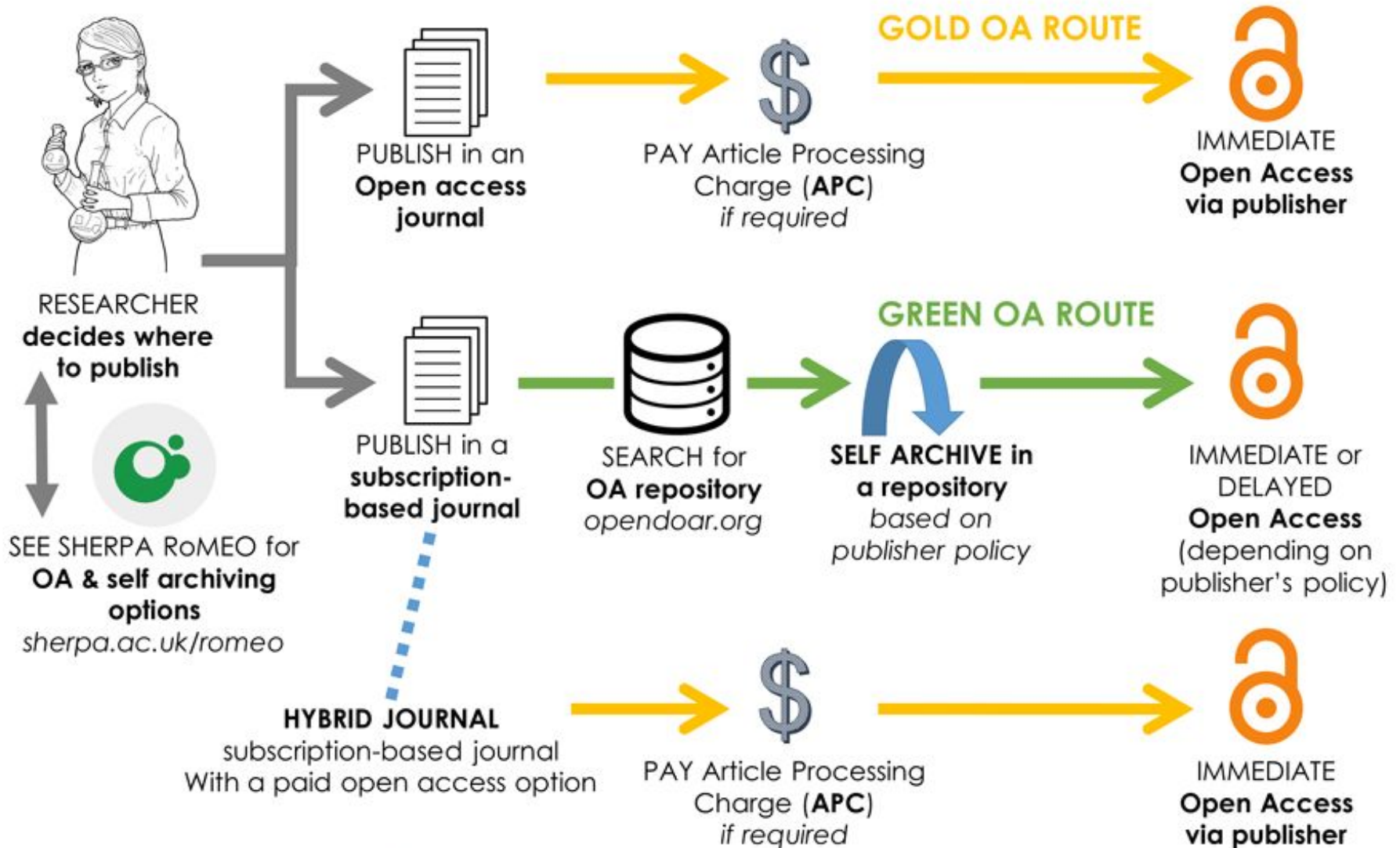


<p>Most Open Access journals are predatory!</p>	<p>False, while there are many predatory Open Access journals the vast majority are reputable and safe to publish in.</p>
<p>Open Access journals charge a huge amount to publish in!</p>	<p>True and False, Many Open Access journals charge an article processing charge (APC) the majority (60-70%) charge no fee at all. See: https://doaj.org/</p>
<p>Open Access journals are not as prestigious as traditional paid journals!</p>	<p>False, while traditional journals may have more brand name recognition, when comparing the journal impact factor of established Open Access journals vs traditional journals. Open Access journals are comparable. Also, have a higher chance of your work being read if it is published Open Access.</p>

Types of Open Access:

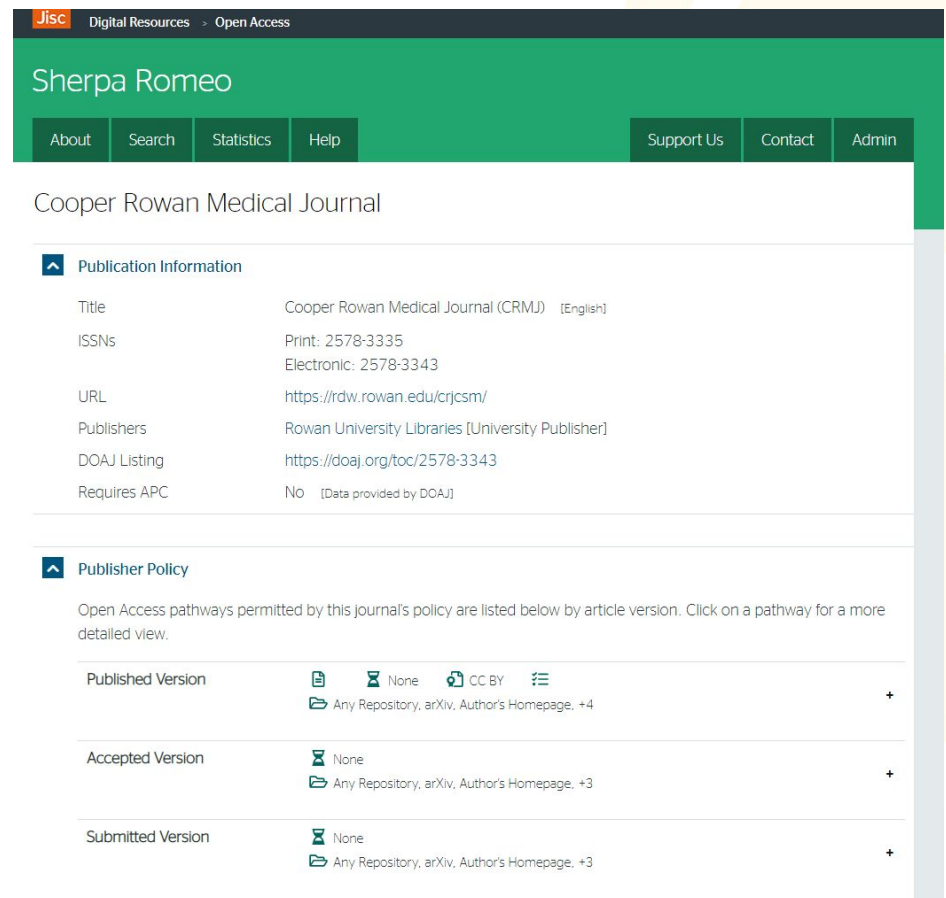
- **Gold** - Author publishes their article in an OA journal that allows free access to articles immediately upon publication
- **Green** - Author and publisher negotiate to allow a version of the article made publicly available through a personal archive, website or institutional repository
- **Hybrid** - An article from a subscription journal becomes Open Access by a payment of a publication fee

Open Access Publishing



Sherpa Romeo is an online resource that aggregates and analyses publisher open access policies from around the world and provides summaries of publisher copyright and open access archiving policies on a journal-by-journal basis.

<https://v2.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>



The screenshot shows the Sherpa Romeo website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the Jisc logo and the text "Digital Resources > Open Access". Below this is the "Sherpa Romeo" title and a secondary navigation bar with links for "About", "Search", "Statistics", "Help", "Support Us", "Contact", and "Admin".

The main content area displays the entry for "Cooper Rowan Medical Journal". It is organized into two main sections: "Publication Information" and "Publisher Policy".

Publication Information

Title	Cooper Rowan Medical Journal (CRMJ) [English]
ISSNs	Print: 2578-3335 Electronic: 2578-3343
URL	https://rdw.rowan.edu/crjcsml/
Publishers	Rowan University Libraries [University Publisher]
DOAJ Listing	https://doaj.org/toc/2578-3343
Requires APC	No [Data provided by DOAJ]

Publisher Policy

Open Access pathways permitted by this journal's policy are listed below by article version. Click on a pathway for a more detailed view.

Article Version	Open Access Pathways	Count
Published Version	None, CC BY, Any Repository, arXiv, Author's Homepage	+4
Accepted Version	None, Any Repository, arXiv, Author's Homepage	+3
Submitted Version	None, Any Repository, arXiv, Author's Homepage	+3



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Predatory Publishing

Appraise academic journals to see if they may be “predatory” and learn to analyze and evaluate the web pages of academic journal websites

Predatory

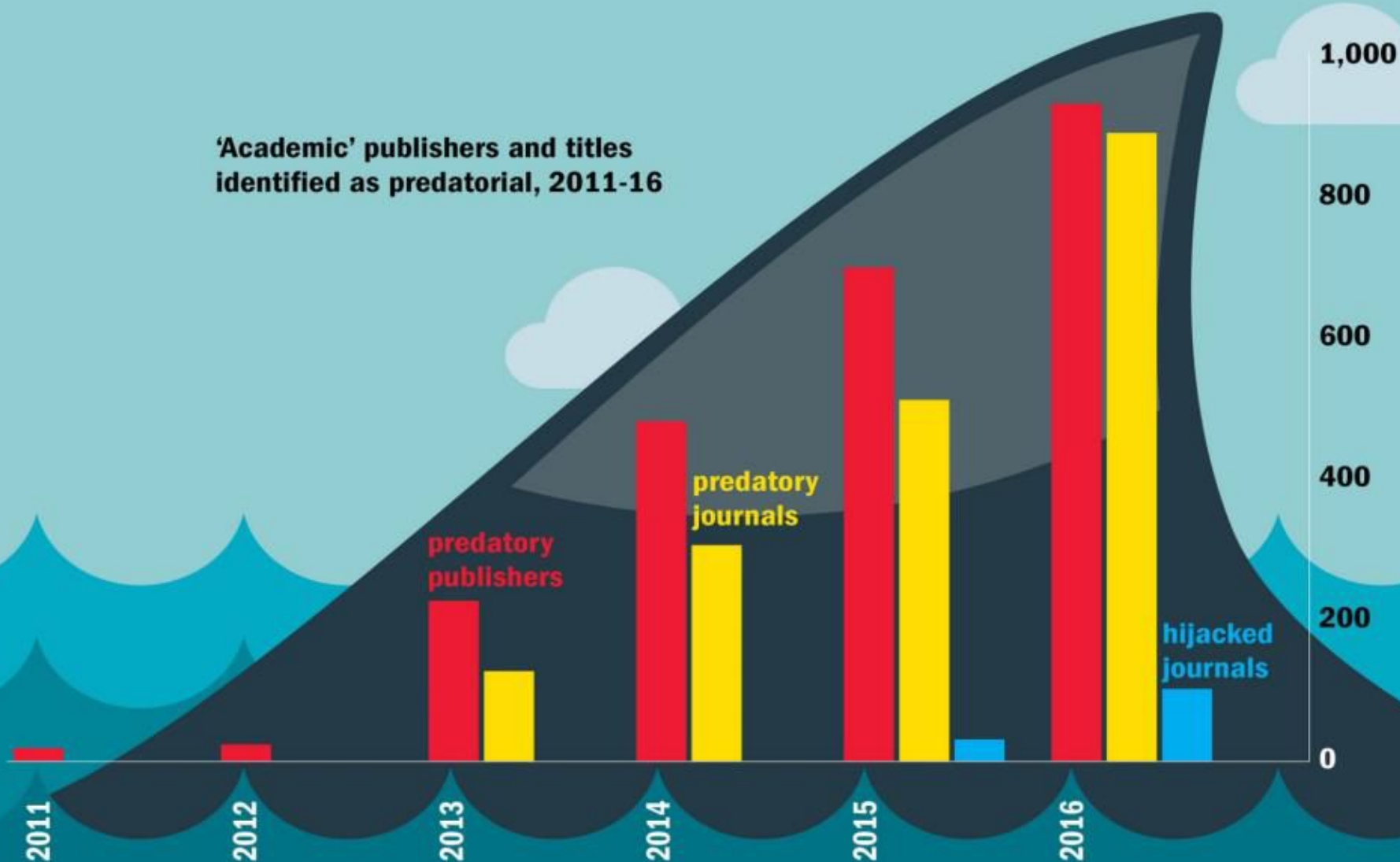
Journals



Image source: <https://www.enago.com/academy/identifying-predatory-journals-using-evidence-based-characteristics/>

Predatory journals attempt to appear as legitimate by using fake impact factors, deceiving names mimicking legitimate journals and by offering promises of fast publication. Sometimes they even hack or hijack a defunct journal’s website. Predatory journals typically charge article processing fees and trap authors into submitting their work to them.

'Academic' publishers and titles identified as predatory, 2011-16





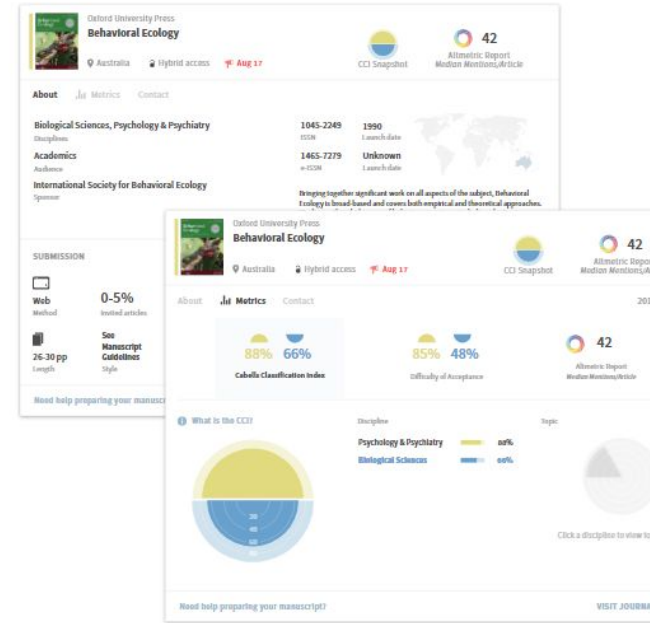
PREDATORY PUBLISHING

Additional ways to avoid publishing in a predatory journal

Check the database called Cabell's, available through the CMSRU library. It maintains a lists of potentially predatory journals, and safe, reputable journals.

Forget the guesswork, get the data

Cabells is the complete source for journal info, evaluation metrics, and submission details-for universities of any size. Real impact starts with finding the right audience.



KNOW BETTER JOURNALS

Journalytics

Explore more than 11,000 qualified academic journals to discover the perfect outlet for your research. Filter your results using our advanced search options and suite of citation-backed metrics.

[Get the details](#)

KNOW THE THREATS

Predatory Reports

In response to the growing number of predatory publishers, Predatory Reports aims to shine a light on the deceptive practices that threaten to undermine quality research.

[Get the details](#)

Additional ways to avoid publishing in a predatory journal

- Check to see if the journal is indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals.

The screenshot shows the DOAJ website homepage. At the top left is the DOAJ logo and the text "DIRECTORY OF OPEN ACCESS JOURNALS". To the right is a "SUPPORT DOAJ" button. Below the logo is a navigation bar with links: Home, Search, Browse Subjects, Apply, News, About, For Publishers, API, and a Login link. The main content area features a search box with the text "Search DOAJ" and a search icon. Below the search box are checkboxes for "journals" and "articles", and a link for "[Advanced Search]". To the right of the search box is a statistics box showing: 11,022 Journals, 7,991 searchable at Article level, 123 Countries, and 2,868,233 Articles. Below the search box is a section titled "Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)" with a brief description of the directory and its funding. Below that is a "Latest News" section with a headline "DOAJ launches the DOAJ Best Practice Guide" and a short article snippet. To the right of the main content area is a sidebar with several boxes: "FAQs" with links to "OAI-PMH, XML, Widgets", "Open Access Resources", "Best Practice", "Download metadata", and "New Journals Feed"; "SCOSS: facilitating funding for sustainable OA"; "Our members" with links to "Our publisher members", "Our sponsors", and "Our volunteers"; and a social media section with icons for Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, and YouTube, followed by another "SUPPORT DOAJ" button.

Five Minute Breakout Session

Choose three criterion from the Journal Evaluation Rubric and evaluate the following journal's website for quality:

https://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1041&context=librarian_pubs

Journal Name: **4D International Journal of Medical and Research**

Website available at:

<http://4dinternationaljournal.com/4d-international-journal-of-medical-and-research/>

Or visit: <https://go.rowan.edu/journal>



What is the verdict?

Is this journal possibly predatory?

Is it reputable?

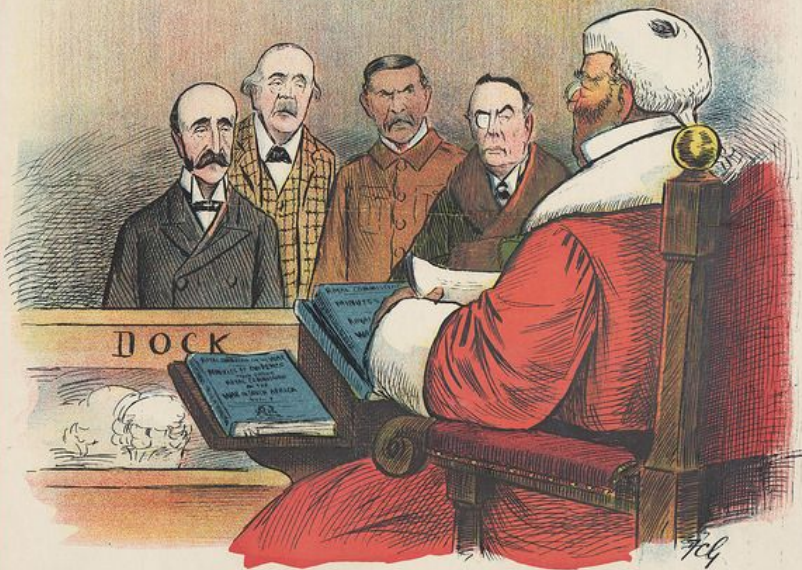
GUILTY!

E R

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR.

Charges Against Tory Government.

1. Unpreparedness.
 2. Bluffing.
 3. Neglect of Warnings by Soldiers.
 4. Lack of Stores.
 5. Defective Equipment.
- Generally:- Muddle, Mess, and Miscalculation.*



JUDGE JOHN BULL: You have been tried by a Royal Commission of your own appointment for your conduct of the South African War. The verdict is a unanimous one, you are found

GUILTY !!!

What is the verdict?

Is this journal possibly predatory?

Is it reputable?



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Bibliometrics

**Different types of
bibliometrics**



What does the term
bibliometrics mean?

“Bibliometrics is, simply put, the study and measurement of the publication patterns of all forms of written communication and their authors.”

- William Gray Potter

(Former University Librarian and
Associate Provost Georgia University)

RESEARCHER@LIBRARY
THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Bibliometrics

In under 2 minutes



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Learn more about bibliometrics: Visit:
go.rowan.edu/biblio

How do we find information about journal-level bibliometrics?

Scopus®

WEB OF SCIENCE



THOMSON REUTERS



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Please follow along as I go over how to use Scopus and Web of Science to look up journal specific bibliometrics.

Sources

CiteScore metrics for serials

CiteScore metrics from Scopus are comprehensive, transparent, current and free metrics for serial titles in Scopus. Search or browse below to find a source and see associated metrics. Use the annual metrics for reporting, and track the progress of 2017 metrics with CiteScore Tracker 2017. Be sure to use qualitative as well as the below quantitative inputs when presenting your research impact, and always use more than one metric for the quantitative part.

2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017

Documents from 3 years Citations in 2016

Search for a source Browse sources Download Scopus Source List

Search

Title ISSN Publisher Display only Open Access journals

37,956 results

Source title CiteScore SJR SNIP Type

Ca-A Cancer Journal for Clinicians	89.23	39.285	67.564	Journal
Chemical Reviews	42.79	19.282	10.369	Journal

InCites Journal Citation Reports

Home

Go to Journal Profile Master Search

Journals By Rank Categories By Rank

Journal Titles Ranked by Impact Factor Show Visualization

Compare Selected Journals Add Journals to New or Existing List Customize Indicators

	Full Journal Title	Total Cites	Journal Impact Factor	Eigenfactor Score
1	CA-A CANCER JOURNAL FOR CLINICIANS	24,539	187.040	0.06452
2	NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE	315,143	72.406	0.69989
3	NATURE REVIEWS DRUG DISCOVERY	28,750	57.000	0.06077
4	CHEMICAL REVIEWS	159,155	47.928	0.24655
5	LANCET	214,732	47.831	0.40423
6	NATURE REVIEWS MOLECULAR CELL BIOLOGY	40,565	46.602	0.09573
7	JAMA-JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION	141,015	44.405	0.28035
8	NATURE BIOTECHNOLOGY	53,992	41.667	0.16973

Select JCR Year: 2016

Select Edition: SCIE SSCI

Open Access: Open Access

Category Schema: Web of Science

What about Altmetrics?

What are altmetrics?

Brought to you by  Altmetric



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Track your publications and scholarship



DISTINGUISH YOURSELF IN THREE EASY STEPS

- 1 REGISTER
- 2 ADD YOUR INFO
- 3 USE YOUR ORCID ID



Create your biosketch here!

SciENCv

Science Experts Network Curriculum Vitae



There are several free services that authors can use to track their publications and also make sure their research is correctly attributed to them. This ensures their research is attributed to them no matter if they change institution, name, or title.

One such service that is the most popular and recommended is call ORCID, (pronounced like the flower, "orchid"). **Please consider creating an ORCID account ASAP if you publish an article or have published in the past.**



SOFIA MARIA
HERNANDEZ
GARCIA



There are other options for tracking your research such as Google Scholar profiles, Scopus, Thomson and Reuters researcherID, and more

HOWEVER...

If you only have the time and desire to set up one of these services, we recommend using ORCID as the service is operated by a non-profit organization and is quickly becoming the standard for tracking and identifying researchers. To create Orcid IDs go to: <https://orcid.org/register>.

QUESTIONS?