

# **Distinguishing ‘predatory’ journals and separate articles: Upgrading standards of ethical editing, publishing and indexing**

**Armen Yuri Gasparyan, MD, PhD**

**Associate Professor of Medicine**

**Member, World Association of Medical Editors**

# Organizations concerned with 'predatory' publishing

**ICMJE** INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE of  
MEDICAL JOURNAL EDITORS



**CASPA**

Open Access Scholarly  
Publishers Association



# Interchangeable terms?

## Annals of Internal Medicine®

LATEST ISSUES CHANNELS CME/MOC IN THE CLINIC JOURNAL CLUB WEB EXC

[« PREV ARTICLE](#) | [THIS ISSUE](#) | [NEXT ARTICLE »](#)

IDEAS AND OPINIONS | 1 FEBRUARY 1986

### Irresponsible Authorship and Wasteful Publication

EDWARD J. HUTH, M.D.

### Publishing corruption discussion: Predatory journalism

James W. Jones, MD, PhD, MHA, and Laurence B. McCullough, PhD, *Houston, Tex*

## THE JOURNAL OF SEXUAL MEDICINE

### Predatory Journals: Illegitimate Publishing and Its Threat to All Readers and Authors

Jason Roberts, PhD

Journal of the  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners

EDITORIAL

### Predatory and deceptive publishing practices now target nurses



**WAME**  
world association of medical editors

A global nonprofit voluntary association of editors of peer-reviewed medical journals

### Identifying Predatory or Pseudo-Journals

Posted February 18, 2017

Christine Laine, Margaret A. Winker

- 1662 - Royal Society of London asked King Charles II to publish a journal
- Aim of the 1<sup>st</sup> scientific journal – to improve knowledge among fellows
- 1665 – 1<sup>st</sup> issue of *Philosophical Transactions* published

PHILOSOPHICAL  
TRANSACTIONS:  
GIVING SOME  
ACCOMPT  
OF THE PRESENT  
Undertakings, Studies, and Labours  
OF THE  
INGENIOUS  
IN MANY  
CONSIDERABLE PARTS  
OF THE  
WORLD.

Vol I.

For Anno 1665, and 1666.

In the SAVOY,  
Printed by T. N. for Iohn Moxon at the Bell, a little with-  
out Temple-Bar, and Iacob Allibry in Duck-Lane,  
Printers to the Royal Society.

*Presented by the Author May. 30<sup>th</sup> 1667.*

FIGURE 81: Title-page of *Philosophical transactions* of the Royal Society, vol one.

# Aim of publishing in our times

- Writing experience for students
- Credits for CPD
- PhD thesis
- Academic promotion
- Competition for research grants
- Service to profession (sharing knowledge, advancing patient care)
- Networking with peers
- Discovery (for *Nature, Science, Lancet*)



CHEST

Postgraduate Education Corner

WRITING TIP OF THE MONTH

**How To Choose the Right Journal for Your Manuscript\***

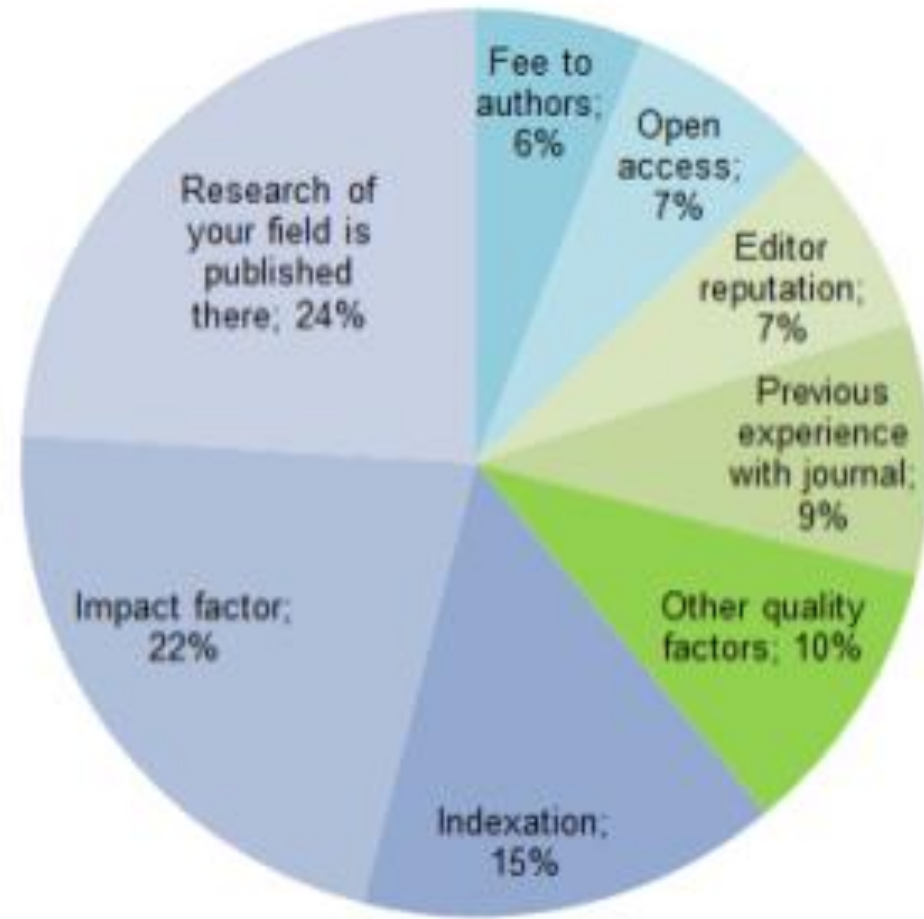
*Philip J. Thompson, MB BS, FCCP*

(CHEST 2007; 132:1073-1076)

WHY PUBLISH?

# Survey of 1000 scientists (2013)

- Peer review and other quality factors are no longer the main determinants of submission choice (?)
- **Relevance (24%), IFs (22%) and indexation (15%) are the top factors of choosing the right journals**



# Updated checklist for choosing the right journal

**Table 1.** Main factors affecting the authors' choices

Journal impact factor

Indexation

Journal prestige

Relevance of research topics

Acceptance/rejection rates

Size of print circulation

Manuscript turnaround time

Editors characteristics

Quality of reviewer comments

Previous experience with publishing in the journal

Colleagues' recommendations

International status

Open access

Publication charges

Promotion at social platforms (eg Facebook, Twitter)

Press attention to the journal

✓ **Additionally -  
clarify whether  
the open-access  
journal is  
blacklisted as  
'predatory'**

EDITORIAL  
Medicine General & Social Medicine

<http://dx.doi.org/10.3346/jkms.2013.28.8.1117> • J Korean Med Sci 2013; 28: 1117-1119

JKMS

Choosing the Target Journal: Do Authors Need a Comprehensive Approach?

Armen Yuri Gasparyan



Clarivate  
Analytics

WEB OF SCIENCE™

	Full Journal Title	Total Cites	Journal Impact Factor
1	ANNALS OF THE RHEUMATIC DISEASES	35,393	12.384
2	Nature Reviews Rheumatology	4,314	10.531
3	ARTHRITIS AND RHEUMATISM	45,624	8.955
4	Arthritis & Rheumatology	2,586	6.009
5	OSTEOARTHRITIS AND CARTILAGE	11,842	4.535
6	RHEUMATOLOGY	16,065	4.524
7	CURRENT OPINION IN RHEUMATOLOGY	4,036	4.227
8	ARTHRITIS RESEARCH & THERAPY	12,302	3.979
9	SEMINARS IN ARTHRITIS AND RHEUMATISM	4,022	3.946
10	BEST PRACTICE & RESEARCH IN CLINICAL RHEUMATOLOGY	2,750	3.267
11	JOURNAL OF RHEUMATOLOGY	21,354	3.236
12	ARTHRITIS CARE & RESEARCH	12,091	3.229
13	Current Rheumatology Reports	1,948	2.976
14	JOINT BONE SPINE	2,957	2.946
15	RHEUMATIC DISEASE CLINICS OF NORTH AMERICA	1,718	2.791
16	CLINICAL AND EXPERIMENTAL RHEUMATOLOGY	6,739	2.495
17	SCANDINAVIAN JOURNAL OF RHEUMATOLOGY	2,877	2.307

# Best rheumatology journals

18	Pediatric Rheumatology	493	2.144
19	LUPUS	5,674	2.118
20	CLINICAL RHEUMATOLOGY	5,720	2.042
21	International Journal of Rheumatic Diseases	1,002	1.914
22	Modern Rheumatology	2,098	1.843
23	RHEUMATOLOGY INTERNATIONAL	5,121	1.702
24	BMC MUSCULOSKELETAL DISORDERS	5,779	1.684
25	JCR-JOURNAL OF CLINICAL RHEUMATOLOGY	1,414	1.245
26	Revista Brasileira De Reumatologia	582	0.859
27	ZEITSCHRIFT FUR RHEUMATOLOGIE	582	0.569
28	Acta Reumatologica Portuguesa	311	0.553
29	JOURNAL OF MUSCULOSKELETAL PAIN	248	0.269
30	Archives of Rheumatology	12	0.220
31	Turkish Journal of Rheumatology	50	0.150
32	AKTUELLE RHEUMATOLOGIE	39	0.069



# Ranking by SCImago Journal & Country Rank

All subject areas ▾Rheumatology ▾All regions / countries ▾All types ▾2015 ▾

☐ Display only Open Access Journals☐ Display only SciELO Journals (In Progress)Display journals with at least 0Citable Docs. (3years) ▾Apply

Download data


1 - 50 of 54 >


	Title	Type	↓ SJR	H index
1	Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases	journal	4.537 Q1	171
2	Arthritis and Rheumatism 	journal	3.206 Q1	255
3	Nature Reviews Rheumatology	journal	2.728 Q1	78
4	Fibrogenesis and Tissue Repair 	journal	2.496 Q1	27
5	Arthritis Care and Research	journal	2.256 Q1	114

52 Aktuelle Rheumatologiejournal0.107  
Q49

53 Seminarios de la Fundacion Espanola de Reumatologiajournal0.107  
Q43

54 Revmatologiiajournal0.100  
Q413

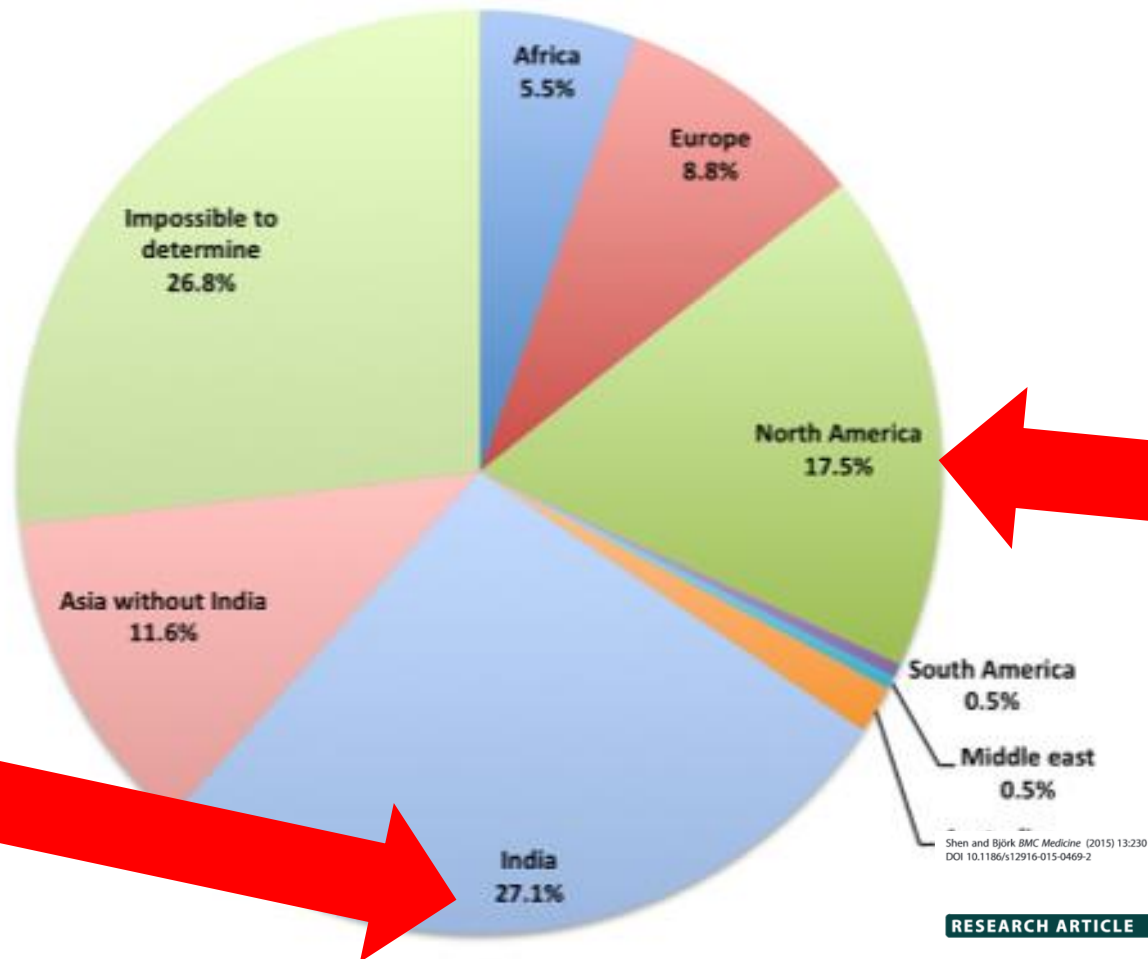
Developed by:  
 Scimago Lab

Powered by:  
 Scopus

<http://scimagojr.com/>

# Be aware of 'predatory' journals

- N of predatory articles - **53,000** in 2010, **420,000** in 2014
- Average charge - 178\$ per article



Predatory publishers are corrupting open access. - NCBI - NIH

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/22972258>

by J Beall - 2012 - Cited by 249 - Related articles

# WORLD VIEW

*A personal take on events*



## Predatory publishers are corrupting open access

*Journals that exploit the author – pays model damage scholarly publishing and promote unethical behaviour by scientists, argues Jeffrey Beall.*

*Jeffrey Beall is Scholarly Initiatives Librarian at the University of Colorado Denver.*

*e-mail: [jeffrey.beall@ucdenver.edu](mailto:jeffrey.beall@ucdenver.edu)*

**In this issue**

- Perspectives on Open Access
- More 2012 Annual Meeting Reports
- 2013 Annual Meeting Program and Short Course Previews

**Communicate Science Effectively:**  
**The World Depends On It**



# *Predatory Publishers Threaten to Erode Scholarly Communication*

**Jeffrey Beall**

might have a silver lining. It is probable that over time the editors and publish-

That means that Hindawi's profit at least for that period, was 52% higher than Reed Elsevier's 36%.<sup>3</sup>

Science editors and the scienti

Science Editor • January – March 2013 • Vol 36 • No 1 • 19

Predatory open-access (OA) publishers—the ones that exploit the gold (author-pays) publishing model for their own profit—threaten the reputation of rigorously peer-reviewed OA journals.

**The Editor-in-Chief:  
A Diminishing Presence?**



Hindawi

CMAJ November 1, 2016 vol. 188 no. 16 First published October 3, 2016, doi:  
10.1503/cmaj.109-5338



## *News*

# **Alleged predatory publisher buys medical journals**

Carolyn Brown

✓ In December 2015, Pulsus sold four journals to Hindawi, Cairo, Egypt.

✓ Pulsus journals are now owned by a newly created subsidiary of OMICS International, an alleged predatory publisher based in Hyderabad, India

# Predatory journals with “high impact”

## LIST OF PUBLISHERS

### Beall's List:

- o [Impact Journals](#) (New York State, USA)
- o [Impact Journals](#) (Tamil Nadu, India)

## LIST OF STANDALONE JOURNALS

- o [Oncotarget](#)

Year	Impact Factor (IF)	Total Articles	Total Cites
2014/2015	6.359	979	3908
2013	6.627	198	2217
2012	6.636	114	1450
2011	4.784	121	493
2010	-	-	-

## Oncotarget

**News:** Starting August 2015, *Oncotarget* goes weekly

*Oncotarget* is a multidisciplinary traditional journal with free-access. *Oncotarget* publishes papers online in weekly issues. Print issues will be available by subscription.

Our mission is to make scientific results rapidly and widely available. To maximize the impact of research via insightful review. To allow exceptional discoveries to be shared quickly. To eliminate the border between specialties. To link different fields of biomedical science. To foster applications of basic and clinical science to fight disease.

### Oncotarget

**NLM Title Abbreviation:** Oncotarget

**ISO Abbreviation:** Oncotarget

**Title(s):** Oncotarget [electronic resource]

**Publication Start Year:** 2009

**Country of Publication:** United States

**Publisher:** Albany, N.Y. : Impact Journals

**Language:** English

**ISSN:** 1949-2553 (Electronic)  
1949-2553 (Linking)

**Acid-Free:** No

**LCCN:** 2009203276

**Electronic Links:** <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/journals/1558/>  
<http://www.impactjournals.com/oncotarget/>

**In:** Index medicus: v1n1, 2010-

MEDLINE: v1n1, 2010-

PubMed: v1n1, 2010-  
PMC

**Current Format Status:** Electronic only

**Current Indexing Status:** Currently indexed for MEDLINE.

Publishers	
Year	Number of publishers
2011	18
2012	23
2013	225
2014	477
2015	693
2016	923
2017	1155

Standalone journals	
Year	Number of journals
2013	126
2014	303
2015	507
2016	882
2017	1294

Hijacked journals	
Year	Number of journals
2015	30
2016	101
2017	115

## Scholarly Open Access

Critical analysis of scholarly open-access publishing

[Home](#)
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[Disclaimer](#)
[LIST OF PUBLISHERS](#)
[LIST OF STANDALONE JOURNALS](#)

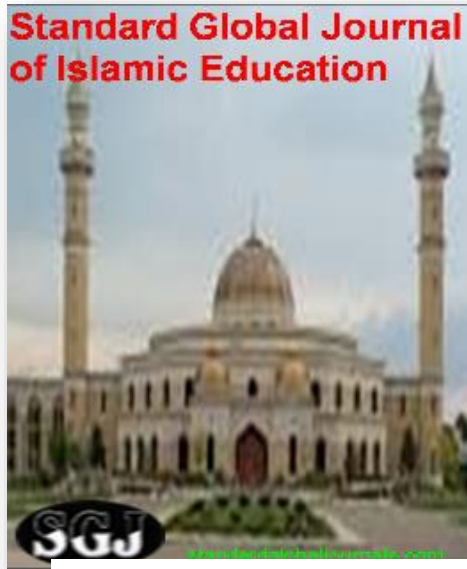
Misleading Metrics	
Year	Number of companies
2015	26
2016	38
2017	53

- o Advanced Science Index
- o African Quality Centre for Journals
- o American Standards for Journals and Research (ASJR)
- o CiteFactor
- o Directory of Indexing and Impact Factor (DIIF)
- o Directory of Journal Quality Factor
- o Einstein Institute for Scientific Information (EISI)
- o General Impact Factor
- o Global Impact Factor
- o IndexCopernicus
- o Institute for Science Information (ISI)
- o International Impact Factor Services
- o International Institute for Research
- o International Scientific Indexing (ISI)
- o International Scientific Institute (ISI) ([scijournal.org](http://scijournal.org))

**Misleading Metrics**

Year	Number of companies
2015	26
2016	38
2017	53

## Standard Global Journal of Islamic Education



# Journal titles?



**Standard Global Journals**

Research Publishing Company

*Thank you for your interest in our journals. Kindly Contact us @ the Standard Global Publishing House:*

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*E-mail: [infoeuro@standardglobaljournals.com](mailto:infoeuro@standardglobaljournals.com)*

**Standard Global Journals ,**

*Miango, Jos, Nigeria*

*E-mail: [infoafric@standardglobaljournals.com](mailto:infoafric@standardglobaljournals.com)*

## Standard Global Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences

July 2014 Vol. 1 No. 4



**SGJ**

[www.standardglobaljournals.com](http://www.standardglobaljournals.com)

**Current Issue: July  
Submit Article**

### ASSOCIATIONS

#### Indexing/Abstracting



**Universal Impact Factor**

**Cloud D**

**JournalTOCs**

# Journal titles??

- OMICS group publishes >700 open-access journals ([www.omicsonline.org](http://www.omicsonline.org))
- 3 rheumatology journals (*Journal of Vasculitis*; *Rheumatology: Current Research*; *Journal of Arthritis*).



ISSN: 2471-9544

Journal of Vasculitis



ISSN: 2161-1149

Rheumatology: Current Research



ISSN: 2167-7921

Journal of Arthritis



Editor in Chief  
David RW Jayne

Director of the Vasculitis and Lupus Clinic and Reader in Vasculitis  
University of Cambridge  
United Kingdom



Daniel Arthur Albert

Section Chief, Rheumatology  
Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center  
USA



David D'Cruz

St Mary's Hospital Medical School  
United Kingdom



Editor-in-Chief

Galina Bogatkevich  
Associate Professor  
College of Medicine  
Medical University of South Carolina  
USA



Charles J. Malemud

Professor  
School of Medicine  
Case Western Reserve University  
USA  
Read Interview session 1  
Malemud



Shinichi Kawai

Professor  
School of Medicine  
Toho University  
Japan  
Tel: 81-3-3762-4151  
Fax: 81-3-5753-8513



Editor-in-Chief

Andras Perl  
Director  
Upstate Medical University  
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University of Texas  
Southwestern Medical Center, Texas  
USA



Jon Russell

Director  
American College of Rheumatology  
Arthritis & Osteoporosis Center of South Texas  
USA

For more information on predatory publishers, including list of publishers and standalone journals that meet these criteria, please visit <http://scholarlyoa.com>

By Jeffrey Beall  
3rd edition / January 1, 2015

The criteria below are intended to provide a framework for identifying predatory open-access publishers and journals. The criteria were developed by the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#) (COPE) and are based on the [Code of Conduct for Journal Publishers](#) and [Principles of Transparency and Best Practice in Scholarly Publishing](#).

## Editor and Staff

- The publisher's owner is identified as the editor of each and every journal published by the organization.
- No single individual is identified as any specific journal's editor.
- The journal does not identify a formal editorial / review board.
- No academic information is provided regarding the editor, editorial staff, and/or review board members (e.g., institutional affiliation).
- Evidence exists showing that the editor and/or review board members do not possess academic expertise to reasonably qualify them to be publication gatekeepers in the journal's field.
- Two or more journals have duplicate editorial boards (i.e., same editorial board for more than one journal).
- The journals have an insufficient number of board members, (e.g., 2 or 3 members), have concocted editorial boards (made up names), name scholars on their editorial board without their knowledge or permission or have board members who are prominent researchers but exempt them from any contributions to the journal except the use of their names and/or photographs.
- There is little or no geographical diversity among the editorial board members, especially for journals that claim to be international in scope or coverage.
- The editorial board engages in gender bias (i.e., exclusion of any female members).

# What's the difference: Evidence on biomedical journals

Shamseer et al. *BMC Medicine* (2017) 15:28  
DOI 10.1186/s12916-017-0785-9


BMC Medicine

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access



## Potential predatory and legitimate biomedical journals: can you tell the difference? A cross-sectional comparison

Larissa Shamseer<sup>1,2\*</sup> , David Moher<sup>1,2</sup>, Onyi Maduekwe<sup>3</sup>, Lucy Turner<sup>4</sup>, Virginia Barbour<sup>5</sup>, Rebecca Burch<sup>6</sup>, Jocalyn Clark<sup>7</sup>, James Galipeau<sup>1</sup>, Jason Roberts<sup>8</sup> and Beverley J. Shea<sup>9</sup>

- **Cross-sectional study (July 2014)**
- **93 predatory vs. 99 legitimate open-access vs. 100 MEDLINE-indexed subscription journals**

# Features of predatory journals

- ✓ Wide scope of interests
- ✓ Recycled journal titles
- ✓ Unauthorized use of logos (Google, MEDLINE, CrossRef)
- ✓ Index Copernicus Value
- ✓ No Editor-in-Chief profiles
- ✓ No manuscript e-submission system
- ✓ No retraction, correction, plagiarism policies
- ✓ No adherence to the EQUATOR guidelines
- ✓ No transparency over publication model, fees, and copyright

Shamseer et al. *BMC Medicine* (2017) 15:28  
DOI 10.1186/s12916-017-0785-9

BMC Medicine

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Open Access

Potential predatory and legitimate biomedical journals: can you tell the difference? A cross-sectional comparison



**Table 8** Publication ethics and policies

		Predatory, N = 93, n (%)	Open Access, N = 99, n (%)	Subscription-based, N = 100, n (%)
COPE mentioned	Yes	13 (13.98)	77 (77.78)	33 (33.00)
Publication ethics technologies:	ORCID	2 (2.15)	9 (90.91)	3 (3.00)
	Crossref	10 (10.75)	23 (23.23)	7 (7.00)
	Crossmark	0 (0)	1 (1.01)	2 (2.00)
	Crosscheck/iThenticate	1 (1.08)	57 (57.58)	16 (16.00)
	none	81 (87.10)	40 (40.40)	77 (77.00)
Retraction policy	Yes	12 (12.90)	44 (44.44)	68 (68.00)
Corrections or errata policy	Yes	22 (23.66)	50 (50.51)	50 (50.00)
Plagiarism policy	Yes	44 (47.31)	70 (70.71)	49 (49.00)
Instructions to authors available	Yes	90 (96.77)	98 (98.99)	97 (97.00)
If yes, manuscript preparation guidance <sup>a</sup>	Yes	86/90 (95.56)	98/98 (100)	97/97 (100.00)
If yes, reporting guideline(s) mentioned <sup>a</sup>	EQUATOR	0/90 (0.00)	25/98 (25.25)	24/97 (24.00)

**Table 4** Homepage integrity (look and feel)

		Predatory, <i>N</i> = 93, <i>n</i> (%)	Open Access, <i>N</i> = 99, <i>n</i> (%)
Presence of spelling and grammatical errors	Yes	61 (65.59)	6 (6.06)
Colloquialisms/slang used	Yes	2 (2.15)	1 (1.01)
Presence of distorted/unauthorized images	Yes	59 (63.44)	5 (5.05)

# Ethical vs. unethical commercial editing services

- ✓ **Main criterion – Transparency and Adherence to Ethical Norms**



Editage Commitment to Ethical  
Scientific Publication  
to help authors publish ethically

### Publication Ethics

We at Editage are aware of the increasing pressure that members of the academic research and publishing community are under today. This can sometimes lead to academic authors falling short of industry standards for ethical publication. As a leading provider of editorial and publication support services for the past 12 years, we have on occasions been witness to potential cases of ethical



# Need help with scientific publishing?

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Fax No.: (02)-2657-0790



### We are working on Sundays!

This March, we are open on all Sundays in order to provide maximum support to authors and researchers during the peak period for journal submission.

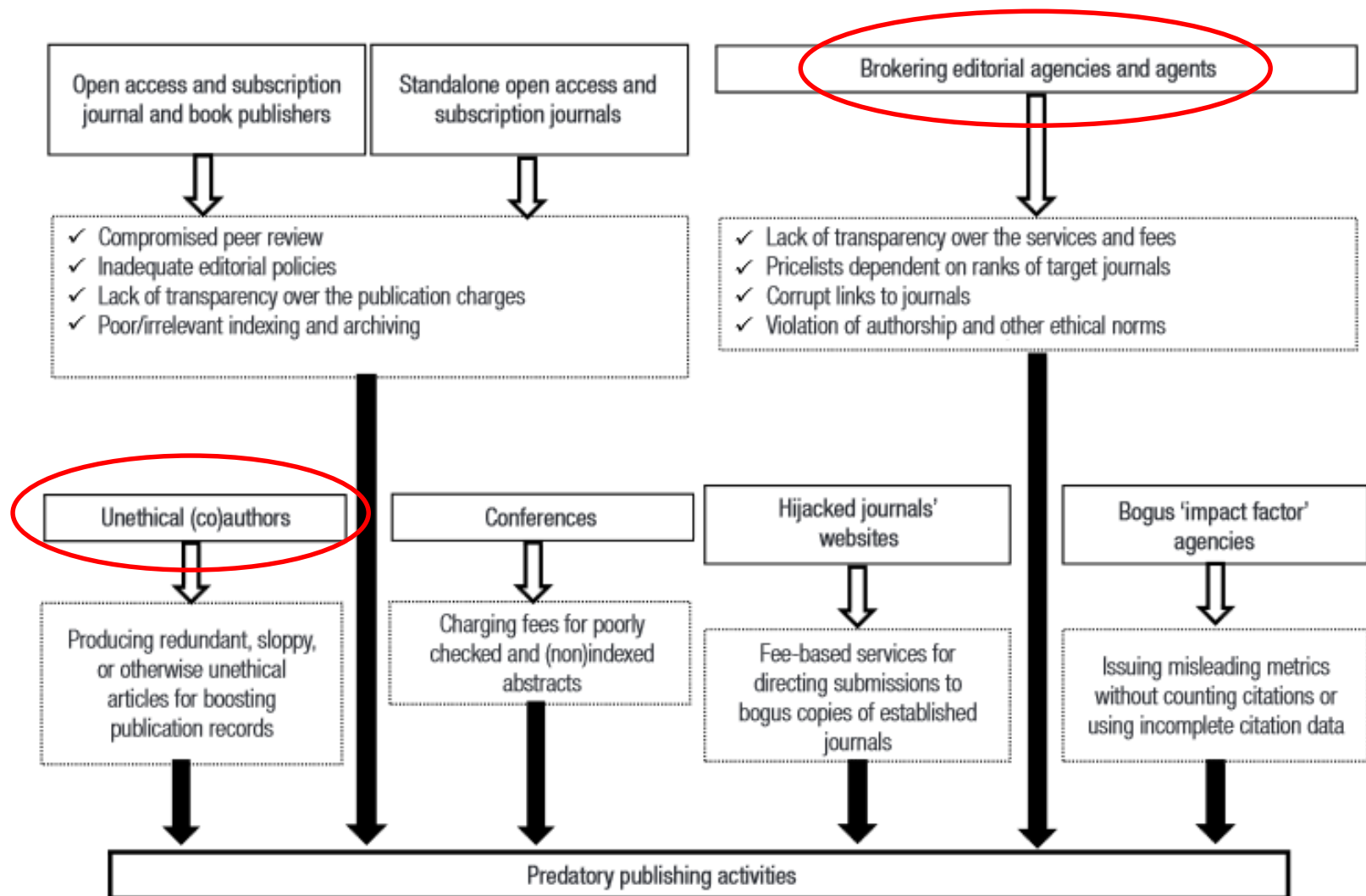


Fig. 1. Scope of predatory publishing activities.



**SPECIAL ARTICLE**  
Editing, Writing & Publishing

<https://doi.org/10.3346/jkms.2016.31.12.1874> • J Korean Med Sci 2016; 31: 1874-1878

**JKMS**

## The Pressure to Publish More and the Scope of Predatory Publishing Activities

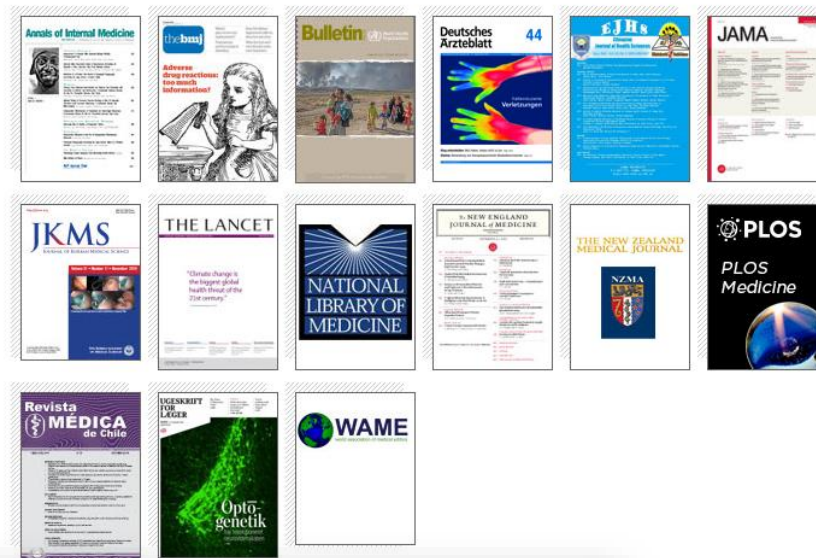
# Policy statements



## Recommendations for the Conduct, Reporting, Editing, and Publication of Scholarly Work in Medical Journals

Updated December 2016

### Member Publications & Organizations



### a. **Predatory Journals**

A growing number of entities are advertising themselves as “medical journals” yet do not function as such (“predatory journals”). Authors have a responsibility to evaluate the integrity, history, practices and reputation of the journals to which they submit manuscripts. Further guidance is available at <http://www.wame.org/about/principles-of-transparency-and-best-practice>.



**WAME**  
world association of medical editors

A global nonprofit voluntary association of  
editors of peer-reviewed medical journals

## Identifying Predatory or Pseudo-Journals

Posted February 18, 2017

Christine Laine, Margaret A. Winker

✓“Predatory” publishers prey on academicians for financial profit ... without meeting scholarly publishing standards.

✓**No external peer review, no adherence to policies** of the World Association of Medical Editors (WAME), the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE), the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE), and the Council of Science Editors (CSE) regarding **archiving, management of conflicts of interest, handling of errata, and transparency of journal processes and fees.**

<http://www.wame.org/identifying-predatory-or-pseudo-journals>

# Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) 'white' criteria

Table 2: Criteria for Receipt of the DOAJ Seal\*

To receive the DOAJ Seal, journals must meet all of the following criteria:

- provide permanent identifiers [eg, DOIs] in the papers published;
- provide DOAJ with article metadata;
- deposit content with a long term digital preservation or archiving program;
- embed machine-readable CC licensing information in articles;
- allow generous reuse and mixing of content, in accordance with a CC BY, CC BY-SA or CC BY-NC license;
- have a deposit policy registered with a deposit policy registry;
- allow the author to hold the copyright without restrictions.

\* <https://doaj.org/publishers#seal>



Are you submitting your research to a trusted journal?  
Is it the right journal for your work?



Use our [check list](#) to assess the journal



Only if you can answer 'yes' to the questions on our [check list](#)

Do you or your colleagues know the journal?

- Have you read any articles in the journal before?
- Is it easy to discover the latest papers in the journal?

Can you easily identify and contact the publisher?

- Is the publisher name clearly displayed on the journal website?
- Can you contact the publisher by telephone, email, and post?

Is the journal clear about the type of peer review it uses?

Are articles indexed in services that you use?

Is it clear what fees will be charged?

- Does the journal site explain what these fees are for and when they will be charged?

Do you recognise the editorial board?

- Have you heard of the editorial board members?
- Do the editorial board members mention the journal on their own websites?

Is the publisher a member of a recognized industry initiative?

- Do they belong to the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)?
- If the journal is open access, is it listed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ)?
- If the journal is open access, does the publisher belong to the Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA)?
- Is the publisher a member of another trade association?

<http://thinkchecksubmit.org/>

**Think. Check. Submit. is a campaign to help researchers identify trusted journals for their research. It is a simple checklist researchers can use to assess the credentials of a journal or publisher.**



Choose the right journal for your research

Supporting organizations include:

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## Principles of Transparency

**1. Peer review process:** All of a journal's content, apart from any editorial material that is clearly marked as such, shall be subjected to peer review. Peer review is defined as obtaining advice on individual manuscripts from reviewers expert in the field who are not part of the journal's editorial staff. This process, as well as any policies related to the journal's peer review procedures, shall be clearly described on the journal's Web site.

**2. Governing Body:** Journals shall have editorial boards or other governing bodies whose members are recognized experts in the subject areas included within the journal's scope. The full names and affiliations of the journal's editors shall be provided on the journal's Web site.

**3. Editorial team/contact information** Journals shall provide the full names and affiliations of the journal's editors on the journal's Web site.

**4. Author fees:** Any fees a journal shall be clearly stated on the journal's Web site for manuscripts for review.

**5. Copyright:** Copyright and licensing terms shall be clearly stated on the journal's Web site.

**12. Revenue sources:** Business models or revenue sources (eg, author fees, subscriptions, advertising, reprints, institutional support, and organizational support) shall be clearly stated or otherwise evident on the journal's Web site.

**13. Advertising:** Journals shall state their advertising policy if relevant, including what types of ads will be considered, who makes decisions regarding accepting ads and whether they are linked to content or reader behavior (online only) or are displayed at random.

**14. Publishing schedule:** The periodicity at which a journal publishes shall be clearly indicated.

**15. Archiving:** A journal's plan for electronic backup and preservation of access to the journal content (for example, access to main articles via CLOCKSS or PubMedCentral) in the event a journal is no longer published shall be clearly indicated.

**16. Direct marketing:** Any direct marketing activities, including solicitation of manuscripts that are conducted on behalf of the journal, shall be appropriate, well targeted, and unobtrusive.

## Sarajevo Declaration on Integrity and Visibility of Scholarly Publications

Izet Mašić<sup>1,2,\*</sup>, Edin Begić<sup>3,4</sup>, Doncho M. Donev<sup>5</sup>,  
Srećko Gajović<sup>6</sup>, Armen Yuri Gasparyan<sup>7</sup>, Miro  
Jakovljević<sup>8</sup>, Dejan B. Milošević<sup>9,10</sup>, Osman  
Sinanović<sup>2,11</sup>, Šekib Sokolović<sup>12</sup>, Selma Uzunović<sup>13</sup>,  
Enver Zaimović<sup>14,15</sup>

### Strategic points for action

- Transparency of in-house editorial procedures and external editing support
- Support of professional editorial teams
- Focus on regional and local scientific research problems defined in the journal aims and scope
- Promotion of ethical research and reviews

## Sarajevo Declaration on Integrity and Visibility of Scholarly Publications

communication should make effort to ensure the integrity and promote innovative and evidence-based sources of information.

2. *Scholarly papers* are final products of collective efforts of all stakeholders in science communication. It is increasingly important to promote these papers post-publication by indexing and archiving on relevant global digital platforms. Responsible editors and publishers alike are in the position to contribute to the post-publication communication. To improve visibility of their publications, authors can rely on reliable social media, sharing platforms, and individual and institutional repositories.

3. *Authors, reviewers, and editorial board members* can increase visibility of their scholarly activities by registering with the Open Researcher and Contributor ID (ORCID) and providing information on their own authoring, reviewing, and publishing activities via their permanent accounts. Publishers of scholarly journals can maintain the integrity of pre- and post-publication communication by joining the ORCID global initiative.

4. *Erroneous publications* are common, and take place because of the authors', editors', and publishers' oversights. Authors, reviewers, editors, and readers have the responsibility to notify publishers about any instances of known research misconduct and erroneous publications, necessitating corrections or retractions.

5. *Effective functioning of scholarly journals* is dependent on skilled individuals involved in the processing of manuscripts. Publishers encountering problems with erroneous

7. *Professional societies* can take the lead and contribute to the promotion of scholarly journals by taking responsibility for healthy flow of journal submissions from their memberships, quality checks, and publishing established and start-up periodicals and awarding the contributors with academic credits.

8. *Science editors* should adhere to the most recent recommendations of global editorial associations and incorporate relevant sections in their journal's instructions to improve the quality of pre- and post-publication communication.

9. *Websites and editorial management platforms* of scholarly journals should contain transparent information on the editorial management, peer review, open access or subscription models, and acceptable editing practices. Commercial editing services, which are offered by publishers and other organizations, may help improve the quality of journal submissions. However, all these services require transparency and acknowledgment in accordance with the recommendations of global editorial associations.

10. *Traditional and alternative impact indicators* are instrumental for assessing the scholarly journals in terms of distributing information, attracting readership, and facilitating science growth. Combined quantitative and qualitative approach to citations, downloads, and distributions of individual papers through social networking channels can reveal interest of readers toward certain topics and types of publication, but not necessarily the quality of scholarly journals. Editors and publishers can increase the impact of their journals by improving the functionality of their jour-

# Statements at level of articles

- ✓ Evaluate titles, methodology and conclusions



Original Investigation

## The Mass Production of Redundant, Misleading, and Conflicted Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses

JOHN P.A. IOANNIDIS 

First published: 13 September 2016 [Full publication history](#)

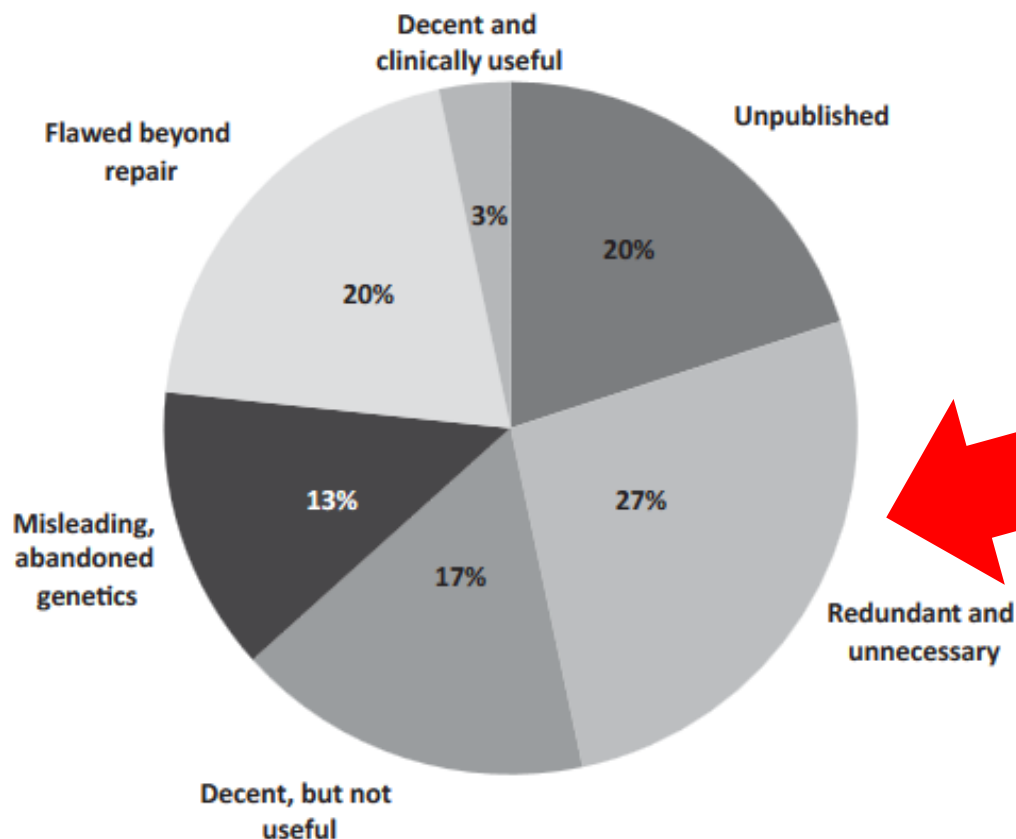
DOI: 10.1111/1468-0009.12210 [View/save citation](#)



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Volume 94, Issue 3  
September 2016  
Pages 485–514

- Currently, there is massive production of unnecessary, misleading, and conflicted systematic reviews and meta-analyses. Instead of promoting evidence-based medicine and health care, these instruments often serve mostly as easily produced publishable units or marketing tools.

Figure 4. A Summary Overview of Currently Produced Meta-analyses



# Chinese meta-analyses

- Most on polymorphisms, cancer
- No registration with PROSPERO
- Conclusions are either negative or vague

PubMed search results for "meta-analyses" and china

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**Search results**

Items: 1 to 20 of 1797

<< First < Prev Page 1 of 90 Next > Last >

☐ [Determinal disease: Synthesis of systematic reviews.](#)

1. Krewski D, Barakat-Haddad C, Donnan J, Martino R, Pringsheim T, Tremlett H, van Lieshout P, Walsh SJ, Birkett NJ, Gomes J, Little J, Bowen S, Candundo H, Chao TK, Collins K, Crispo JAG, Duggan T, Sherif RE, Farhat N, Fortin Y, Gaskin J, Gupta P, Hersi M, Hu J, Irvine B, Jahanfar S, MacDonald D, McKay K, Morrissey A, Quach P, Rashid R, Shin S, Sikora L, Tkachuk S, Taher MK, Wang MD, Darshan S, Cashman NR. Neurotoxicology. 2017 Apr 11. pii: S0161-813X(17)30061-X. doi: 10.1016/j.neuro.2017.04.002. [Epub ahead of print] PMID: 28410962 [Similar articles](#)

☐ [Use of acetaminophen and risk of endometrial cancer: evidence from observational studies.](#)

2. Ding YY, Yao P, Verma S, Han ZK, Hong T, Zhu YQ, Li HX. Oncotarget. 2017 Mar 29. doi: 10.18632/oncotarget.16663. [Epub ahead of print]

**Results by year**

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**PMC Images search for "meta-analyses" and china**

# The case of counties with poor research environment

- Poor justification of novelty
- Vague, negative redundant conclusions



fast during Ramadan every year. Previous studies have reported that fasting affects body physiology and daytime activities, and may increase the incidence of injuries.<sup>2</sup> An

## Conclusions

Contrary to several previous studies, this study found no evidence for an increased number of injuries among elderly people during Ramadan in Kazakhstan. This can be explained, in part, by ethnic, religious and cultural heterogeneity of the Kazakhstani population, and the older age of subjects in this study compared with other studies. However, the results should be interpreted with caution until they are replicated in larger cities in Central Asia.

# Evaluate statistics and conclusions

*Medicina (Kaunas) 2013;49(8):379–85*

---

## **Associations Between Air Temperature and Daily Suicide Counts in Astana, Kazakhstan**

*Results.* Altogether, there were 685 suicides in Astana in 2005–2010. A clear seasonal pattern with the peak in summer was observed. In crude analyses, significant associations between suicide counts and all 4 temperatures were found. After adjustment for other variables, only apparent temperatures remained significantly associated with the outcome. An increase in the mean apparent temperature by 1°C was associated with an increase in suicide counts by 2.1% (95% CI, 0.4–3.8). Similar results were obtained for the maximum apparent temperature (1.2%, 95% CI, 0.1–2.3).

*Conclusions.* The results suggest a linear relationship between apparent temperatures and daily suicide counts across the whole spectrum of temperatures. Factors behind this association need further research with a further going aim to develop mitigation strategies in the period of climate change.

# Preservation

DOI:10.22034/APJCP.2016.17.10.4549

Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention MEDLINE/PubMed Listing and Solution to the PRESERVATION Issue

## EDITORIAL

### Asia Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention MEDLINE/PubMed Listing and Solution to the PRESERVATION Issue

Alireza Mosavi Jarrahi<sup>1\*</sup>, Malcolm Antony Moore<sup>2</sup>, Xinen Huang<sup>3</sup>, David Roder<sup>4</sup>



Home > Indexing Databases

- MEDLINE/PubMed - (Medical Literature Analysis and Retrieval System Online, or MEDLARS Online) is a bibliographic database of life sciences and biomedical information
- SCOPUS -Scopus is a bibliographic database containing abstracts and citations for academic journal articles. It covers nearly 22,000 titles. APJCP has been index in SCOPUS since 2001.
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- SCIENCE CITATION INDEX EXPANDED (SCIE) - APJCP currently is not indexed in SCIE. It was Indexed in SCIE from 2009 to 2014. APJCP will be evaluated for being indexed in SCIE in 3rd Quarter of 2017.

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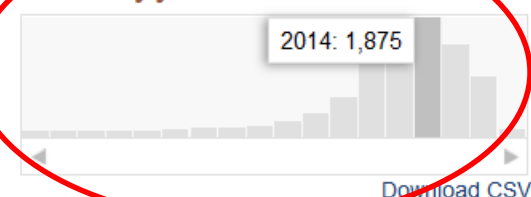
## Search results

Items: 1 to 20 of 8750

<< First < Prev Page 1 of 438 Next > Last >>

- ☐ [Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention and Challenges Facing in its 18th Year of Publishing](#)
1. Mosavi Jarrahi A.  
**Asian Pac J Cancer Prev.** 2017 Jan 1;18(1):1-2. No abstract available.

## Results by year



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- ☐ [Asian Pacific Journal of Cancer Prevention and Challenges Facing in its 18th Year of Publishing](#)
1. Mosavi Jarrahi A.  
**Asian Pac J Cancer Prev.** 2017 Jan 1;18(1):1-2. No abstract available.

## Results by year





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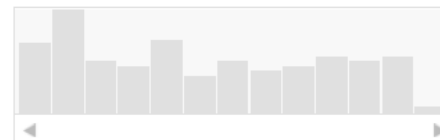
### Search results

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- ☐ [LATIN AS A LANGUAGE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIVE STATUS: MEDICINE OF THE 16TH-17TH CENTURIES.](#)  
1. [LATIN AS A LANGUAGE OF INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIVE STATUS: MEDICINE OF THE 16TH-17TH CENTURIES.](#)  
Bieliaieva O, Lysanets Y, Melaschenko M.  
**Georgian Med News.** 2017 Jan;(262):120-124.  
PMID: 28252442  
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### Results by year



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### Search results

Items: 1 to 20 of 32

# Check references

ESSAY

CMJ

Croat Med J. 2017;58:75-9  
<https://doi.org/10.3325/cmj.2017.58.75>

It may be easier to publish  
than correct or retract faulty  
biomedical literature

Jaime A. Teixeira da Silva

P. O. Box 7, Miki-cho post office, Ikenobe 3011-2, Kagawa-ken,  
761-0799, Japan  
[jaimetex@yahoo.com](mailto:jaimetex@yahoo.com)

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## Controversial website that lists 'predatory' publishers shuts down

Librarian Jeffrey Beall won't say why he has unpublished his widely read blog.

[Andrew Silver](#)

18 January 2017 | Corrected: 18 January 2017

A scholarly-services firm, Cabell's International in Beaumont, Texas, is creating its own blacklist of journals, which it says is launching this spring. It had hired Beall as a consultant, and its list will include some of the journals on Beall's list if they satisfy the firm's own criteria, a spokeswoman for Cabell's says. It had not been made aware of any changes regarding Beall being a consultant, the

Lacey Earle, vice-president of business development at Cabell's, [tweeted](#) that Beall was "forced to shut down blog due to threats & politics". She did not respond to a request to discuss this with *Nature* and the spokeswoman declined to comment further.

# Alternative sites to find blacklisted journals

- <https://web.archive.org/web/20170112125427/https://scholarlyoa.com/publishers/>

# Correspondence

## Ban predators from the scientific record

Predatory journals are threatening the credibility of science. By faking or neglecting peer review, they pollute the

demise of field (see K.-D. Dijk 172–174; 2016).

Top-tier journals favour large-sc answer big, ger (see J. M. Fitzsi



Scholarly databases such as Scopus and Thomson Reuters Web of Science need to raise the bar for acceptance, eliminating journals and publishers that use flawed peer-review practices. The US National Center for Biotechnology Information should do the same for PubMed and PubMed Central.

**WORKS**  
Jeffrey Beall *Auraria Library, University of Colorado Denver, USA.*  
[jeffrey.beall@ucdenver.edu](mailto:jeffrey.beall@ucdenver.edu)

## Hail local fieldwork, not just global models

We contend that science's 'publish-or-perish' culture, which selects for rapid publication in high-ranking journals, has contributed to the

### data on

As a long-to open-acces pandemic v of the Italia Brazil to ha current bio This would of vital Zik and inform called for b Organizati et al. *Natur* go.nature.c