How to Choose the Right Journal? Navigating today's Scientific Publishing Environment

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SELECTING THE RIGHT JOURNAL DEPENDS ON YOUR GOAL

To be published in the highest possible impact factor journal:

- Check the journal website for its impact factor score and compare it to others in your field.
- Compare journals' impact factors using Scopus or Incites (available on the library website)

To get published quickly:

 Check the journal website for average peer review time, average speed of publication and whether they offer online pre-publication option. <u>http://www.thelancet.com/laneur/about</u>

To reach the largest possible audience:

 Check the open access options available, promotional tools offered and the readership and circulation statistics if available. <u>https://www.publishingcampus.elsevier.com/websites/elsevier_publishingcampus/files/Guid</u> <u>es/Brochure_%20Get%20Noticed_1_web.pdf</u>

TIPS & TOOLS TO HELP YOU SELECT A JOURNAL

Tips for selecting a journal:

- Look at the references you used these journals are the closest to your area of study.
- Examine the citations these articles received.
- Perform a search on scientific databases using keywords that describe your study and examine the journals they are published in

Tools to help you select a journal:

- Journal Article Name Estimator (JANE) = <u>http://jane.biosemantics.org/</u>
 - Edanz Journal Selector = <u>http://www.edanzediting.com/journal selector</u>
 - Cofactor Journal selector = <u>http://cofactorscience.com/journal-selector</u>
 - PubMed ReMiner = <u>http://hgserver2.amc.nl/cgi-bin/miner/miner2.cgi</u>

PROPOSED WORKFLOW

Use one or more tools (e.g. JANE) to generate a list of potential publication targets

Look up your target journals in Journal Citation Reports to hone in on 3-5 realistic options.

> Consult the each journal's website to ensure your article fits within the journal's Scope & Aims the journal accepts the type of article you plan to submit.

> > Select the highest impact option among the journals you've identified which publish the type of article you've written.

Check out the library information guides about open access <u>http://libguides.mssm.edu/open access</u>

OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

- Open access (OA) publishing is a model wherein content is free to **readers**, no paid subscription is required in order to access articles. This model first came into existence in the late 1990's and has been growing in prominence ever since.
- OA journals, rather than operating based on subscription revenue, they operate based on author fees. When your article is accepted in an OA journal, you pay a fee to cover the production costs.

Journal	Fee	
PLoS One	\$	1,495
PLoS Medicine	\$	2,900
PLoS Biology	\$	2,900
BMC Health Services Research	\$	2,145
BMC Medical Education	\$	2,145
BMC Medicine	\$	2,785

TYPES OF OPEN ACCESS PUBLISHING

- **Green** refers to self-archiving generally of the pre or post-print in repositories. There are three basic version types that can be self-archived in repositories:
- 1. Pre-Prints The author's copy of article before it's been reviewed by the publisher, or pre-reviewed
- 2. Post-Prints The author's copy of article after it's been reviewed and corrected, but before the publisher has formatted it for publication, or post-reviewed.
- **Gold** refers to articles in fully accessible open access journals
- Hybrid some times called Paid Open Access, refers to subscription journals with open access to individual articles usually when a fee is paid to the publisher or journal by the author, the author's organization, or the research funder.
 **Adapted from:

http://research.library.gsu.edu/c.php?g=115588&p=754380

HTTPS://BLOGS.NTU.EDU.SG/LIB-SCHOLARLYCOMM/?CAT=115

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PREDATORY JOURNALS

BE CAREFUL OF PREDATORY PUBLISHING



www.cdnsciencepub.com

HOW TO IDENTIFY A PREDATORY JOURNAL OR PUBLISHER?

- The journal asks for a submission fee instead of a publication fee or tries to keep the copyright to authors' work.
- The editorial board is very small or "coming soon".
- A single publisher releases an overwhelmingly large suite of new journals all at one time.
- The journal says an issue will be available at a certain time, but the issue never appears.
- The website is not professional in quality.
- There are fundamental errors in the titles and abstracts.

***Adapted from: <u>https://www.aje.com/en/arc/8-ways-identify-</u> <u>questionable-open-access-journal/</u>

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LISTS AND SERVICES

Tools to help you search for predatory journals

- https://beallslist.weebly.com/
- <u>https://doaj.org/</u>
- https://predatoryjournals.com/journals/
- Search Scopus, web of science and PubMed for index listing of the journal you are reviewing.

You need to be confident your chosen journal will have a suitable profile among your peers to enhance your reputation and your chance of gaining citations.





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