



Predatory Journals

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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.

<https://sparcopen.org/open-access/>



Open Access Myths

- Open Access (OA) journals are of low quality, are not peer-reviewed, and are the equivalent of self-publishing, and thus will be looked down upon by peers
- OA is a pay-to-publish model, so anyone can do it
- OA means giving up all my copyrights in my work

MYTH BUSTED!

Predatory Journals

Defined



Characteristics of **Predatory** Journals

- False claims about services provided
- Exploits the need of academics to publish
- Driven by money
- Little regard for quality of work published
- Does not follow accepted scholarly best practices
- Deception to appear legitimate



Impact of **Predatory** Publishing

- Lack of peer review
- Corrupts the literature
- Work could disappear
- Work is difficult to find in indexes
- Harmful to your reputation



How to Spot a **Predatory** Journal

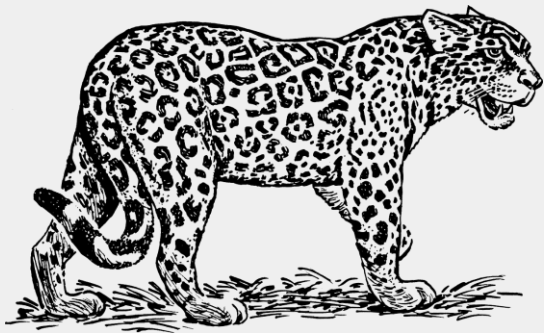
- Email invitation
- Unprofessional website
- Questionable peer-review process
- Rapid publication
- Similar journal title
 - International Journal **FOR** Quality in Health Care (Oxford)
 - International Journal **OF** Quality in Health Care

If It Looks Suspicious, It Probably Is!



How to Spot a **Predatory** Journal

- Hidden processing fees
- False indexing claims
- Lack of contact information
- Use of “fake” metrics
- Broad titles and scope
- Unclear policies
- Article submission by email
- Lack of or questionable editorial board



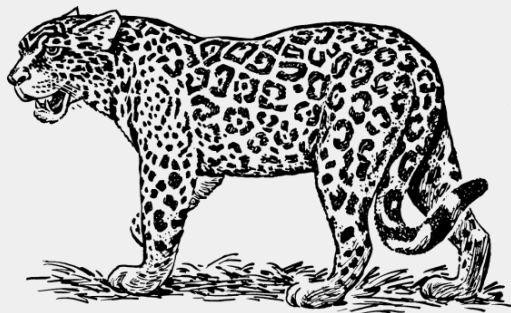
Tools for Avoiding **Predatory** Journals

Library Resources

- Ulrich's Global Serials Directory
- Cabell's Directories
- Web of Science

Internet Resources

- Whitelists and Blacklists
- Google
- [Think. Check. Submit.](#)





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Tame the Predators

Examples of **Predatory** Journals

- Epidemiology International Journal
 - <https://medwinpublishers.com/EIJ/>
- American International Journal of Contemporary Research
 - <http://www.ajcrnet.com/>

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