



EDITORIAL

Where Should You Share?

Ode Against Predatory Publication

Where should you share?

Oh, please beware!

There are so many traps out there.

You must take care!

The world's not fair.

You mustn't share just anywhere!

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Predatory publishing is such a large problem in nursing science that the International Association of Nurse Editors (INANE) has asked all editors to write their first editorial in 2015 about this threat. All of the editorials will be available on the INANE website at www.nursingeditors.com. As nurse editors, we want to warn you about some of the questionable and even unethical practices that are now occurring on an increasingly regular basis. We want to make sure that you know the dangers of sharing your research with publishers who do not have your best interests at heart.

What is predatory publication? Predatory publication is characterized by little to no peer review; large fees for publication that are often not made known to authors until after manuscripts are accepted; solicitation for manuscripts with promises of quick, almost immediate, publication (only possible with no peer review); poor production quality; and limited dissemination.

As new models for publishing arise, such as open access journals, there are new dangers for authors, such as predatory publication. Predatory publishers have exploited open access journals, with some "journals" being founded not to disseminate research but to make quick money with little expense. There are, of course, high-quality open access journals, but authors need to know what quality indicators they should look for before submitting a manuscript to any journal.

Predatory journals charge large fees for publication without the quality indicators we have come to expect in publishing. Much like vanity publishing, authors are paying to have their work disseminated, but they are finding that their work is not disseminated widely and that the quality of the journal is poor. Thus, in predatory publications the fees are not in line with the services being delivered.

Jeffrey Beall is a librarian who has been very involved in providing information about predatory publication (Beall, 2012) and you might wish to look at his website, Scholarly Access, to check his list of predatory publishers. You need to be informed because you have spent a lot of time doing research, and now you want as many people as possible to benefit from your research.

So how do you select a journal to disseminate your very important research? First, you need to look at the journal and the production values. Does the journal publish on a schedule? Is there a journal website and is it grammatically correct? When you look at articles published in the journal, have they been copyedited? What do you think about the quality of studies that are published?

Many of the predatory publications are deliberately given names that mimic well-established journals. So you can't rely on a name. You need to look at the content of a journal and assess quality. Some predatory publications list well-known scientists as editorial board members but have not asked permission to do so, and these well-known scientists actually have no contact with the journal.

If you don't rely on the name of a journal or the names of editors or editorial board members, what indicators should you consider before submitting a manuscript for publication? Please look at well-accepted quality indicators, such as the impact factors and eigenfactors of the journal. Check to see if a journal is indexed in Medline, the Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature (CINAHL), and other important databases. If a journal is not indexed, then fewer people will be able to access your work.

The *Journal of Nursing Scholarship* is read by over 130,000 nurses in 130 countries. It is indexed by all major health indices. It has an impact factor of 1.772 and is ranked 14/104 in nursing social science and 15/106 in nursing science by Journal Citation Reports. We are proud of the journal and we want you to be publishing your work in journals like the *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*, where both you and your work are treated with integrity.

Please do beware of editors and publishers who make it difficult for you to share your research. Please do beware of publications that publish science indiscriminately so that you cannot tell what studies have been conducted with rigor. Please do not share your name (as an editorial

board member or reviewer) with journals that are preying upon scientists. Thank you for your vigilance.

Susan Gennaro
Editor

Reference

Beall, J. (2012). Predatory publishers are corrupting open access. *Nature*, 489, 179.