Be iNFORMED!

Authors need to be iNFORMED when choosing where to publish. Predatory publishers do exist, and authors should protect their research by evaluating potential outlets for their scholarship.

Note: Publishers and journals may not meet all criteria! Use this checklist as a framework for determining the potential legitimacy of an unknown publisher or journal.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N umber</th>
<th>For journal articles, how many articles has the journal published? How many citations are there to those articles? For books, how many other books has that publisher produced?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Has already published high quality articles • Articles in this journal have been cited elsewhere</td>
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<tr>
<th>Fee</th>
<th>Is the fee reasonable?</th>
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<td></td>
<td>• Fees fall in the industry standard $1500 - $5000 range.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Ownership</th>
<th>What company owns and produces the journal or book? Can you tell who owns the company?</th>
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<td>• Smaller imprint of a bigger publisher • Owned by a society or recognized institution</td>
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### Review

Are articles and chapters peer reviewed before acceptance? How robust is the review process?

- Peer review process described in detail and is standard for the discipline.
- Information not available at all
- Fast review turnaround promised (e.g., 3 days or a week)
- No review process; all articles accepted
- No acceptance rate listed

### Membership

What associations or OA alliances does the journal or publisher have?

- Associations listed, such as ICJME, COPE, OASPA
- Indexing sites listed. Note: indexing in MEDLINE can take a couple of years for new journals.
- Preservation / archiving policies listed
- Acronyms may be listed on the website, but the publisher may not be a member
- Publisher recommends standards, but does not require them

### Editorial

Who is on their editorial board and staff?

- Experts in the field with institutional affiliations
- No information listed about editors or staff
- No information listed under about us
- Open calls for editorial boards and reviewers

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**Additional resource:** Consider checking Beall’s list of potentially predatory publishers.

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**More questions? Need assistance? Contact Duke Medical Center Library & Archives**

- 919.660.1100
- medical-librarian@duke.edu
- http://guides.mclibrary.duke.edu/authors