

Getting Started With Publishing

Grad Success Week 2023

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May 1, 2023



Agenda

- Develop strategies for choosing a suitable publication venue
- Assess the credibility and characteristics of publication venues
- Describe different publication models and their implications for authors
- Discuss the characteristics and limitations of journal level metrics

But first... introductions!

What are your goals/questions?

Share using a sticky note

Choosing a journal

- Look at your own reference list/citation manager
- Talk to your advisor, mentors, peers
- Think about what audience you want to reach
- Consider your needs/goals
- Keep timeline in mind

When in doubt, do some investigation

- Search a database using your keywords
- Use an online tool

Choosing a journal - exercise

<https://bit.ly/41At04S>



Evaluating a journal

- Are the submission guidelines clear and easy to follow?
- Does the journal have an ISSN?
- Is the journal indexed in databases you're familiar with?
- Check the history of the journal
- Read abstracts and skim a few articles
 - Are papers in line with journal's stated aims and scope?
 - Is there evidence of copyediting and formatting?
- When in doubt, ask
 - Editorial board about suitability of your piece
 - Mentors and peers about reputability

About “predatory” journals

"Predatory journals and publishers are entities that prioritize self-interest at the expense of scholarship and are characterized by false or misleading information, deviation from best editorial and publication practices, a lack of transparency, and/or the use of aggressive and indiscriminate solicitation practices."

(Grudniewicz et al., 2019)

Typical characteristics of predators

- Often solicit authors to submit/apply
- Always charge article processing charges (APCs)
- Do not offer comprehensive editorial or peer review processes
- Often tout bogus metrics or indexing practices

Trying to withdraw materials after they've been submitted is very difficult! Do your evaluation *before* you submit.

Publishing models



Flanary, W. [Dr. Glaucomflecken]. (2022, Feb 16). *Academic Publishing*. [Video file]. Retrieved from https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ukAkG6c_N4M&t=3s

The Dream of Open Access

- “the world-wide electronic distribution of the peer-reviewed literature and completely free and unrestricted access to it by all scientists, scholars, teachers, students, and other curious minds” ([Budapest Open Access Initiative, 2001](#))
- Leverage the power of the internet to cheaply distribute scholarship
- Remove barriers between creators and users of scholarship
- Two main characteristics
 - Free to access
 - Free to use and re-use

The OA Landscape Today

- “Gold” Open Access journals – all content is free to read
 - May involve an article processing charge (APC)
- “Hybrid” OA journals – content behind a paywall by default
 - Authors can pay to make an individual article OA
 - Authors can often self-archive a version of their paper
- “Green” Open Access
 - Publisher’s version is behind a paywall
 - Author has self-archived some version of the paper

Differences between OA and Subscription

	Open Access Journal	Subscription Access Journal
Access	Anyone can read	Must have a subscription to read
Copyright and licensing	Allows author(s) to keep copyright	Asks author(s) to transfer copyright to journal/publisher
Cost to publish	May charge a fee (article processing charge)	None, unless author wants to pay to make their article open
	<i>Some discounts and waivers available for UCalgary authors.</i>	

Evaluating a journal - exercise

<https://bit.ly/41At04S>

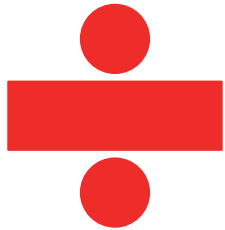


Journal Metrics – The Impact Factor

- Attempts to quantify the impact of the “average article” in a given journal
- Powered by citations from articles indexed in the Web of Science
 - Reported in Journal Citation Reports database
- Not all journals have one
- May reflect the importance of a journal in its field
- Some disciplines pay more attention to it than others
- Has many, well-documented flaws

How it's calculated

Total number of times its articles were cited during the two previous years



A journal's impact factor for a particular year

Total number of citable articles in the journal during those two years

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

VOL. 366 NO. 2

ESTABLISHED IN 1812

JANUARY 12, 2012

NEJM.ORG



20¹⁸¹²2012 NEJM

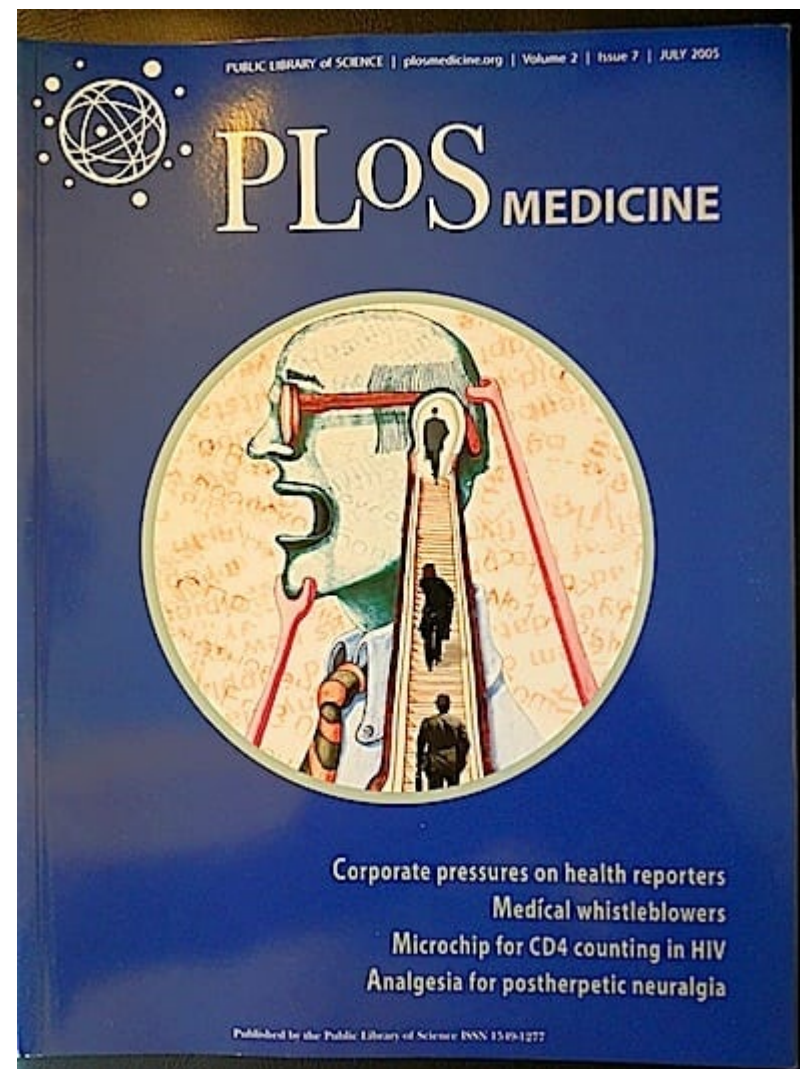
108 THIS WEEK AT NEJM.ORG

PERSPECTIVE

- 101** The Politics of Emergency Contraception
A.J.J. Wood, J.M. Drazen, and M.F. Greene
- 103** The Constitutionality of the ACA's Medicaid-
Expansion Mandate I.G. Cohen and J.F. Blumstein
- 105** Expanding Eligibility, Cutting Costs — A Medicaid
Update J.K. Iglehart
- e4** Achieving Accountable Care — “It’s Not About
the Bike” J. Walker and A. McKethan

CLINICAL PRACTICE

- 158** Hidradenitis Suppurativa
G.B.E. Jemec
- IMAGES IN CLINICAL MEDICINE**
- 165** Paragonimiasis
M.A. Barrientos and A.U. Carrasco
- e5** Jugular Venous C-V Wave in Severe Tricuspid
Regurgitation
N.B. Senguttuvan and G. Karthikeyan



2021 Impact factor 176.082

2021 Impact factor 11.613

Many, many criticisms of the impact factor

- Citation distributions within journals are highly skewed
 - “blockbuster” papers
- Journal impact factor is very field specific
 - Different disciplines have varied publication trends and citation patterns
- Impact factor can be “gamed”
 - E.g. editors ask authors to cite recently published works from the same journal

Declaration on Research Assessment

“Do not use journal-based metrics, such as Journal Impact Factors, as a surrogate measure of the quality of individual research articles, to assess an individual scientist’s contributions, or in hiring, promotion, or funding decisions.”

Declaration on Research Assessment, 2012

Find an impact factor

1. Use the library's discovery tool to find the Journal Citation Reports database
2. Search for a particular journal – or browse by category
3. Report back

For more on this topic

- Attend May 3 GSW session on “Introduction to Peer Review”
- Visit the Demystifying Academic Publishing Guide
<https://libguides.ucalgary.ca/publishing>

Thank you!

Questions?

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Some content in this session adapted from *Introduction to Peer Review: Authors* by Kate Cawthorn, licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution Share Alike 4.0 International License.



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References

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<https://www.budapestopenaccessinitiative.org/read>

Declaration on Research Assessment (2012). Read the Declaration on Research Assessment. <https://sfdora.org/read/>

Grudniewicz, A., Moher, D., Cobey, K. D., Bryson, G. L., Cukier, S., Allen, K., ... & Lalu, M. M. (2019). Predatory journals: no definition, no defence. *Nature*.

<https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-019-03759-y>