Publishing in e-publications and in open access journals

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Credentials & Disclosures

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☐ Associate Professor Emerita

☐ Nothing to disclose re COI
  - HOWEVER

☐ My spouse is Chip Reynolds and (as a result) I have lived vicariously through at least 25 years of the ARI and the SRI...
Agenda for today

- Why?
- Definitions
- Open Access Journals
- Open Access Repositories
- Resources for more information
- “Predatory Publishing”
Why now?

- Increasing acceptability of e-journals with and without print versions
  
  Positive aspects:
  - rapid response capability
  - recent push to make federally funded research freely available

- Is publishing in an e-format equivalent to a print journal in the “publish-or-perish” scenario??
Bethesda definition

An open access publication is one that meets the following criteria:

- Author(s) and copyright holder(s) grant(s) to users a free, irrevocable, worldwide, perpetual right of access to copy, use, distribute, transmit and display the work publicly and to distribute derivative works in any digital medium for any responsible purpose, subject to proper attribution as well as the right to make printed copies.

A complete version of the work and all supplemental materials, including a copy of the permission as stated above, in a suitable standard electronic format is deposited immediately upon publication in at least one online repository that is supported by an academic institution, scholarly society, government agency, or other well established organization that seeks to enable open access, unrestricted distribution, interoperability, and long term archiving*

2003 Bethesda Statement on Open Access

*for the biomedical sciences, PubMed Central is such a repository.
What is Open Access (OA)?

The purest form of open access advocates unimpeded access to scholarly research in digital format that is free from most copyright and licensing restrictions. This means that the material is available without a subscription charge for anyone to read, download, copy, distribute, print, display and modify.

From a practical standpoint this means that anyone with access to the Internet can find and use, to the fullest capacity, any open access publication.
Open access (OA) journals are scholarly journals that are available online to the reader "without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself.” They remove price barriers (e.g. subscription, licensing fees, pay-per-view fees) and most permission barriers (e.g. copyright and licensing restrictions).

While open access journals are freely available to the reader, there are still costs associated with the publication and production of such journals. Some are subsidized, and some require payment on behalf of the author.

Some open access journals are subsidized and are financed by an academic institution, learned society or a government information center. Others are financed by payment of article processing charges by submitting authors, money typically made available to researchers by their institution or funding agency.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_access_journal
PETER SUBER : Open Access

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https://mitpress.mit.edu/sites/default/files/titles/content/9780262517638_Open_Access_PDF_Version.pdf

http://legacy.earlham.edu/~peters/fos/brief.htm
Open-access (OA) literature is digital, online, free of charge, and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions. What makes it possible is the internet and the consent of the author or copyright-holder.

- In most fields, scholarly journals do not pay authors, who can therefore consent to OA without losing revenue.
- OA is entirely compatible with peer review, and all the major OA initiatives for scientific and scholarly literature insist on its importance. Just as authors of journal articles donate their labor, so do most journal editors and referees participating in peer review.
Suber definition

- OA literature is not free to produce, even if it is less expensive to produce than conventionally published literature.
  - The question is not whether scholarly literature can be made costless, but whether there are better ways to pay the bills than by charging readers and creating access barriers.
  - There are two primary vehicles for delivering OA to research articles: OA journals and OA archives or repositories.
OA journals

- **OA journals** perform peer review and then make the approved contents freely available to the world. Their expenses consist of peer review, manuscript preparation, and server space.
  - [Some] journals have a subsidy from the hosting university or professional society.
  - [Some] journals charge a processing fee on accepted articles, to be paid by the author or the author’s sponsor (employer, funding agency).

from Suber
OA journals

- OA journals that charge processing fees usually waive them in cases of economic hardship.
- OA journals with institutional subsidies tend to charge no processing fees.
- OA journals can get by on lower subsidies or fees if they have income from other publications, advertising, priced add-ons, or auxiliary services.
- Some institutions and consortia arrange fee discounts. Some OA publishers waive the fee for all researchers affiliated with institutions that have purchased an annual membership.
Hybrid OA

- Some publishers allow authors, for a fee, to make their individual articles open access within a subscription journal.
- This approach is called “hybrid” open access.

- The *AJGP* is a hybrid model journal, via Elsevier
Green or Gold Journals

- GOLD journals provide OA to their articles either by charging the author-institution for refereeing/publishing outgoing articles instead of charging the user-institution for accessing incoming articles, or by simply making their online edition free for all.

- GREEN journals are self-archiving, where authors provide OA to their own published articles, by making their own eprints free for all.

- These two roads to OA should not be confused or conflated; they are complementary.
**DOAJ : Directory of Open Access Journals**

- “The Directory aims to be comprehensive and cover all open access scientific and scholarly journals that use a quality control system to guarantee the content...a one stop shop for users to Open Access Journals.” from Lund University Libraries in Sweden

- DOAJ is a community-curated list of open access journals and aims to be the starting point for all information searches for quality, peer reviewed open access material.

- [https://doaj.org/](https://doaj.org/)
SHERPA RoMEO
http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/index.php

- SHERPA RoMEO is an online resource that aggregates and analyses publisher open access policies from around the world and provides summaries of self-archiving permissions and conditions of rights given to authors on a journal-by-journal basis.

- What does RoMEO contain?
RoMEO contains publishers' general policies on self-archiving of journal articles and certain conference series. Each entry provides a summary of the publisher's policy, including what version of an article can be deposited, where it can be deposited, and any conditions that are attached to that deposit.

SHERPA: Securing a Hybrid Environment for Research Preservation and Access
RoMEO: Rights MEtadata for Open archiving
BioMed Central

- an **independent publishing house**
  committed to providing immediate open access to peer-reviewed biomedical research

- [https://www.biomedcentral.com](https://www.biomedcentral.com)
OA archives or repositories

- **OA archives or repositories** do not perform peer review, but simply make their contents freely available to the world. They may contain unrefereed preprints, refereed postprints, or both.

- Archives may belong to institutions, such as universities and laboratories, or disciplines, such as physics and economics. Authors may archive their preprints without anyone else's permission, and a majority of journals already permit authors to archive their postprints.
Open Access is now mandated by NIH for research funded by the Feds...

- The NIH Public Access Policy ensures that the public has access to the published results of NIH funded research.
- It requires scientists to submit final peer-reviewed journal manuscripts that arise from NIH funds to the digital archive PubMed Central upon acceptance for publication. To help advance science and improve human health, the Policy requires that these papers are accessible to the public on PubMed Central no later than 12 months after publication.

The NIH Public Access Policy applies to any paper that...
- Is peer-reviewed;
- And, is accepted for publication in a journal on or after April 7, 2008;
- And, arises from:
  - Any direct funding from an NIH grant or cooperative
  - Any direct funding from an NIH contract signed on or after April 7, 2008, or;
  - Any direct funding from the NIH Intramural Program, or;
  - An NIH employee.

http://publicaccess.nih.gov/
Bill Gates says, “Ditto”

- "The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation now requires all its grant recipients to make their published, peer-reviewed work immediately available to the public, the latest development in a larger push to make research more accessible.

- ....anyone who receives some funding from the foundation must make their research and underlying data available, for example by publishing it in an open-access journal or depositing it in a public repository.”
PubMedCentral

PubMed Central (PMC) is a free full-text archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature at the National Library of Medicine

- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/
- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/about/submission-methods

You may need to cut’n’paste these links into your favorite browser in order to open ‘em...
https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/
PubMed

- PubMed has more than 27 million citations for biomedical literature from MEDLINE, life science journals, and some online books.

- Citations may include links to full-text content from PubMed Central and publisher web sites.
  - Not all links are to FREE materials
  - Your access is determined by your institutional affiliations!


- You may need to cut’n’paste this link into your favorite browser in order to open ‘it...
Why do I get different search results in PubMed and PMC?

- Although they are interrelated, PubMed and PMC are two separate and unique resources.

- **PubMed** is a database of **citations and abstracts** for more than 26 million articles.

- **PMC** is an archive of **full-text journal articles**. PMC contains over 3 million articles, most of which have a corresponding citation in PubMed.

- For a comprehensive search, it is advisable to search PubMed and PMC separately.
Library guides to Open Access

- From the HSLS at Pitt
  - http://hsls.libguides.com/scholarlycommunication/openaccess

- From Galter Library at Northwestern University
  - https://galter.northwestern.edu/lists/Open-Access-Resources
Academic resources

- University of California repository statements
  - http://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/2015/12/a-social-networking-site-is-not-an-open-access-repository/
  - http://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/scholarly-publishing/open-access/author-archived/
  - http://osc.universityofcalifornia.edu/scholarly-publishing/open-access/publisher-hosted/

- Simmons College acronym list
  - http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Acronyms
The Dark Side...

- **Predatory publishers** abuse the open access model for their own profit, causing problems for academic researchers who are anxious to publish.
Complaints about predatory open-access publishing

- Accepting articles quickly with little or no peer review or quality control, including hoax and non-existent papers
- Notifying academics of article fees only after papers are accepted.
- Aggressively campaigning for academics to submit articles or serve on editorial boards.
- Listing academics as members of editorial boards without their permission / not allowing academics to resign from editorial boards.
- Appointing fake academics to editorial boards.
- Mimicking the name or web site style of more established journals.
- Misleading claims about the publishing operation, such as a false location.
- Improper use of ISSNs
- Fake or non-existent impact factors
The editorial dog...

- http://www.atlasobscura.com/articles/olivia-doll-predatory-journals

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This Dog Sits on Seven Editorial Boards

Meet Dr. Olivia Doll. BY KELSEY KENNEDY MAY 25, 2017

by Kelsey Kennedy • May 25, 2017

An associate editor for the Global Journal of Addiction & Rehabilitation Medicine, Olivia Doll, lists some very unusual research interests, such as “avian propinquity to canines in metropolitan suburbs” and “the benefits of abdominal massage for medium-sized canines.” That’s probably because Olivia Doll is a Staffordshire terrier named Ollie who enjoys chasing birds and getting belly rubs. In all her spare time, Ollie also has sat on the editorial boards of not one, but seven, medical journals.

Ollie’s owner, Mike Daube, is a professor of health policy at Australia’s Curtin University. He initially signed his dog up for the positions as a joke, with credentials such as an affiliation at the Subiaco College of Veterinary Science. But soon, he told Perth Now in a video, he realized it was a chance to show just how predatory some journals can be.
Our totally bogus case report swiftly passed muster, with only minor revisions requested.

By John H. McCool | April 6, 2017

Earlier this year, I was invited to submit a paper to a dubious urology journal. I’m not a physician, much less a urologist. But I am an editor of scientific writing who has a strong antipathy for predatory journals. I’m also a Seinfeld fanatic.

So I decided to troll this publication, the MedCrave Group’s Urology & Nephrology Open Access Journal, to see whether they would agree to publish a totally made-up, Seinfeld-themed “case report” about a man who develops “uromycitis poisoning.” This was inspired by the classic 1991 episode, “The Parking Garage,” in which Jerry
Recent coverage from the *New Yorker* and The *New York Times*…


- [https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/22/science/open-access-journals.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2017/03/22/science/open-access-journals.html)
Questions to ask yourself?

- **Does the journal charge excessive fees for publication?** Excessive fees raise conflict of interest concerns. Furthermore, all fees or charges associated with publication should be made clear to potential authors, but predatory publishers may hide their fees or charges until after they receive your manuscript.

- **Is the scholarship peer-reviewed?** Predatory journals tend to provide little to no peer review or editorial oversight.

- **Have your colleagues published with the journal?** If not, ask around to find out why not.

- **Is the journal included in a reputable index**, such as MEDLINE, CINAHL, or psycINFO? Predatory publishers usually are not. They may try to distract or confuse you by listing a fake impact factor or creating false metrics to rank their journal.

- **Does the journal clearly outline its publishing process?** Legitimate journals do make their publishing process readily available.

Think. Check. Submit.

- Check out their website!
- **Think. Check. Submit.** is a campaign to help researchers identify trusted journals for their research. It is a simple checklist researchers can use to assess the credentials of a journal or publisher.
- [http://thinkchecksubmit.org](http://thinkchecksubmit.org)
What’s the bottom line?

☐ Make friends with a medical librarian*!  ☐ Use the links from these slides…

☐ Locate your institutional OA guru*!

AND

☐ Don’t reply to those weird invitations from journals that you cannot vet…

*if you have trouble finding a local colleague, email me and I’ll try to get you a name…