

PREDATORY JOURNALS: ACKNOWLEDGING TO AVOID

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Predatory publications look at experienced scholars, who contribute to building the credibility of the journal, and thus attract other unsuspecting authors who, by academic pressure from publications, do not realize the harmful nature of journals that publish in record time¹.

The advent of open access (OA) was a breakthrough to academia, unprecedented in world science history. It allowed rapid dissemination of knowledge and contributed to the international expansion of the latest scientific production². In the wake of the success of this model, predatory publishers grew by publishing biased journals to explore OA in which authors pay fees. Their articles are accepted and published in a short time, discrediting the peer review evaluation system and even the editing of the manuscript, which is apparently not reviewed, as they are published with spelling and grammatical errors.

Authors are seduced by invitations sent by e-mail, in which the journal's characteristics are presented, such as indexing, impact factor, and the journal's title — very similar to consecrated publications —, conveying reputability to the authors. The invitations are commendable, offering publishing facilities such as quick acceptance and promotion, and meet the researchers' need to publish, pressured by universities to have articles in good, high-impact journals. Thus, unsuspecting early-stage academics in developing

countries become vulnerable to the opportunities offered by predatory publishers and become targets of the malicious strategy of capturing articles.

On the other hand, the lack of a tactic for the recognition of predatory publications and discussion of the problematic of this genre of “scientific” literature increases the researchers' fragility to publication. If there was a more in-depth debate among researchers, the issue of the quality of articles could be clarified, since such work, if disclosed in doubtful ways, carries the stigma of its publication medium, even if it is good research.

In addition, predatory journals are not clear about their policy of digital preservation. The site exists for a short period, leaving authors unsure where to find their articles, which makes it very difficult to retrieve the information some time after publication. This fact can cause irreparable damage to the researchers, who lose the memory of their production³.

The International Academy of Nursing Editors (INANE) maintains a directory of trusted nursing journals, which is updated frequently, to assist researchers in our profession. It is an important search site to search for possible publication spaces⁴.

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