



Journal article writing 1

Helen Sissons
Toroa Talks 3.1

What will talk about today

- Why should I publish?
- Where to publish?
 - Should I choose an open access journal?
 - How do I recognize a predatory publisher?



The academic workload



Academic staff in the grades of Lecturer, Senior Lecturer, Associate Professor and Professor are employed to:

- (i) engage in research and publication within the field of their appointment;
- (ii) conduct research-informed teaching in accordance with their share of the department, school or centre's teaching programme;
- (iii) engage in service to the department, faculty, University, discipline and/or community which is related to the employee's employment.

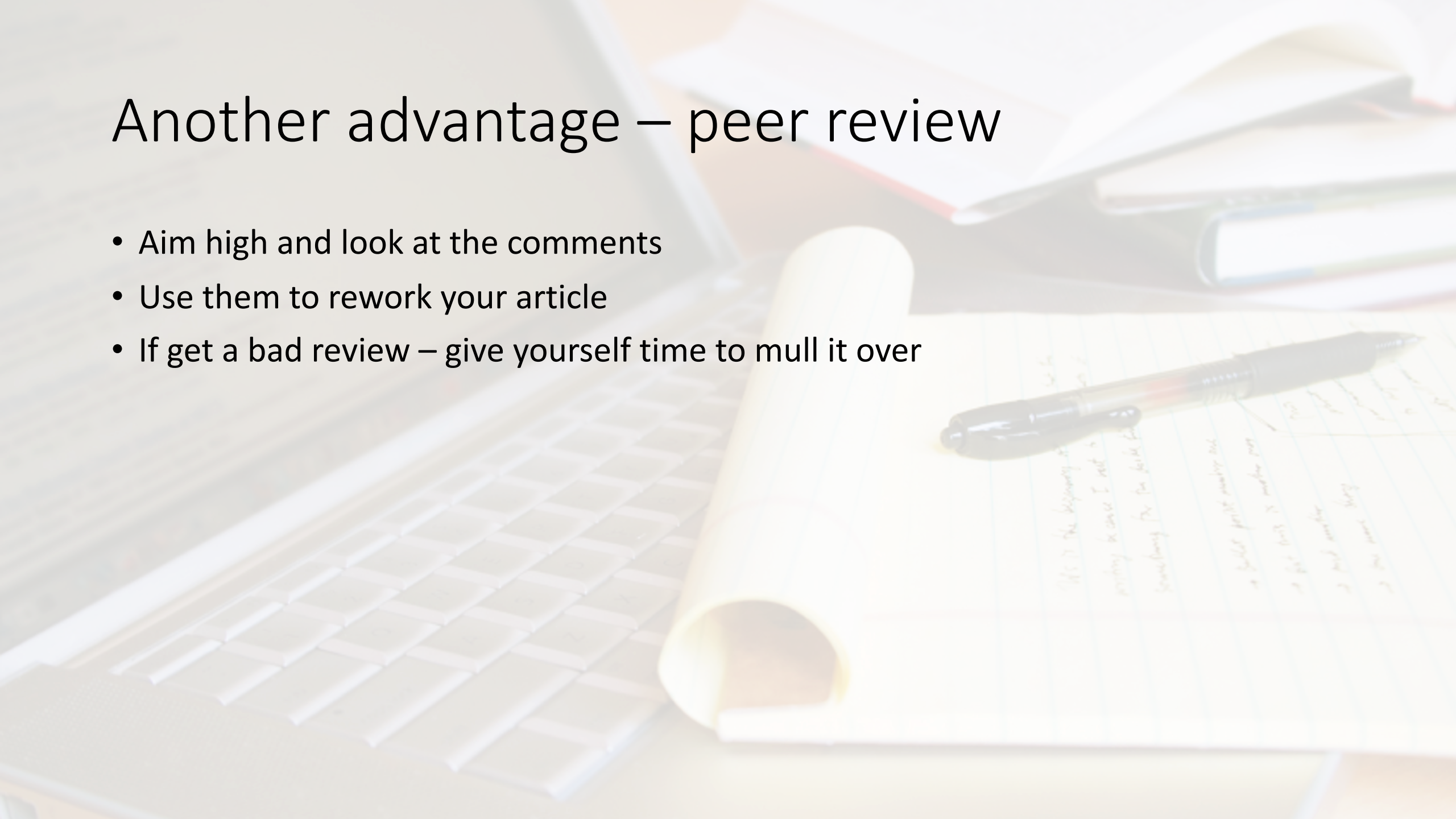


So why do it?

1. Shows others in the field – outside of our immediate colleagues – what we're doing
2. It adds our work to the record of research in our field
3. Expands our professional network
4. Helps others to learn and adds to the knowledge in our subject
5. The peer review process helps improve both that individual article and our writing in general.

Another advantage – peer review

- Aim high and look at the comments
- Use them to rework your article
- If get a bad review – give yourself time to mull it over





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6. Publishing in the right journals can be essential to advancing our career.



Career advancement

- The Performance-Based Research Fund (PBRF)
 - Money allocated on the number and quality of scholarly, peer-reviewed outputs
- Because of COVID we have an extra year
 - Includes research publications from January 2018 to December 2024
- AUT mock
 - First draft at the end of May



Most common reasons

1. the professional drive to communicate one's research
2. the desire to contribute to our field and move knowledge on



Which journal?

- Well respected, and read by scholars in our field
- Online first rather than print only
- Open access – more widely read but ...

Journal rank and impact factor

- Journals vary in rank
- Journals vary in the impact they have on the research community
- These measures are controversial and different

[Journal citation report](#)

InCites Journal Citation Reports

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<input type="checkbox"/>	4	Communication Methods and Measures	953	5.281	0.00160
<input type="checkbox"/>	5	JOURNAL OF COMMUNICATION	8,180	4.846	0.00839
<input type="checkbox"/>	6	NEW MEDIA & SOCIETY	6,429	4.577	0.01346
<input type="checkbox"/>	7	Information Communication & Society	4,141	4.559	0.00873
<input type="checkbox"/>	8	Digital Journalism	1,784	4.476	0.00402
<input type="checkbox"/>	9	COMMUNICATION MONOGRAPHS	2,962	3.843	0.00197
<input type="checkbox"/>	10	COMMUNICATION RESEARCH	4,690	3.758	0.00529

InCites Journal Citation Reports dataset updated Oct 20, 2020

Scimago Journal and Country Rank

1	Political Communication	journal	3.434 Q1	77	49	132	2238	585	87	6.51	45.67	
2	Journal of Advertising	journal	3.373 Q1	101	45	122	2849	902	116	9.29	63.31	
3	Journal of Communication	journal	3.259 Q1	122	25	175	1501	902	158	5.37	60.04	
4	Big Data and Society 	journal	3.249 Q1	30	48	149	2517	1076	123	6.58	52.44	
5	Applied Linguistics	journal	3.148 Q1	89	44	123	2293	511	120	4.63	52.11	
6	Communication Methods and Measures	journal	3.082 Q1	23	25	54	1536	314	51	6.61	61.44	
7	New Media and Society	journal	2.964 Q1	99	185	487	10395	2960	476	6.00	56.19	
8	Human Communication Research	journal	2.926 Q1	85	19	79	1272	434	78	4.68	66.95	
9	Public Opinion Quarterly	journal	2.836 Q1	100	34	141	1270	536	126	2.77	37.35	
10	Digital Journalism	journal	2.686 Q1	39	84	221	4581	1192	203	6.06	54.54	
11	Information Communication and Society	journal	2.579 Q1	70	202	333	9944	1808	296	6.57	49.23	
12	Communication Research	journal	2.410 Q1	100	80	159	4868	645	130	5.12	60.85	
13	Mass Communication and Society	journal	2.252 Q1	32	42	116	2454	397	107	2.74	58.43	
14	Communication Theory	journal	2.185 Q1	76	25	71	1504	268	67	2.55	60.16	
15	International Journal of Advertising	journal	2.096 Q1	57	88	160	5434	785	145	5.22	61.75	
16	International Journal of Press/Politics	journal	2.041 Q1	59	26	74	1352	316	73	4.48	52.00	
17	Social Media and Society 	journal	1.993 Q1	23	73	250	3550	1003	247	3.85	48.63	

Google Scholar

Metrics

Top publications

Categories > Humanities, Literature & Arts > Communication ▾

	Publication	<u>h5-index</u>	<u>h5-median</u>
1.	New Media & Society	<u>79</u>	123
2.	Digital Journalism	<u>51</u>	90
3.	Journal of Communication	<u>49</u>	87
4.	Social Media+ Society	<u>48</u>	73
5.	International Journal of Communication	<u>48</u>	72
6.	Public Relations Review	<u>44</u>	69
7.	Journal of Computer-Mediated Communication	<u>43</u>	79
8.	Journalism Studies	<u>42</u>	57
9.	Journalism	<u>41</u>	57
10.	Communication Research	<u>40</u>	61
11.	Political Communication	<u>40</u>	56
12.	Journal of Advertising	<u>39</u>	68
13.	Media, Culture & Society	<u>38</u>	54
14.	Public Opinion Quarterly	<u>36</u>	54
15.	Journalism Practice	<u>35</u>	54
16.	International Journal of Advertising	<u>35</u>	49
17.	Journal of Pragmatics	<u>35</u>	44
18.	Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly	<u>33</u>	52
19.	Human Communication Research	<u>32</u>	61
20.	Convergence	<u>32</u>	42

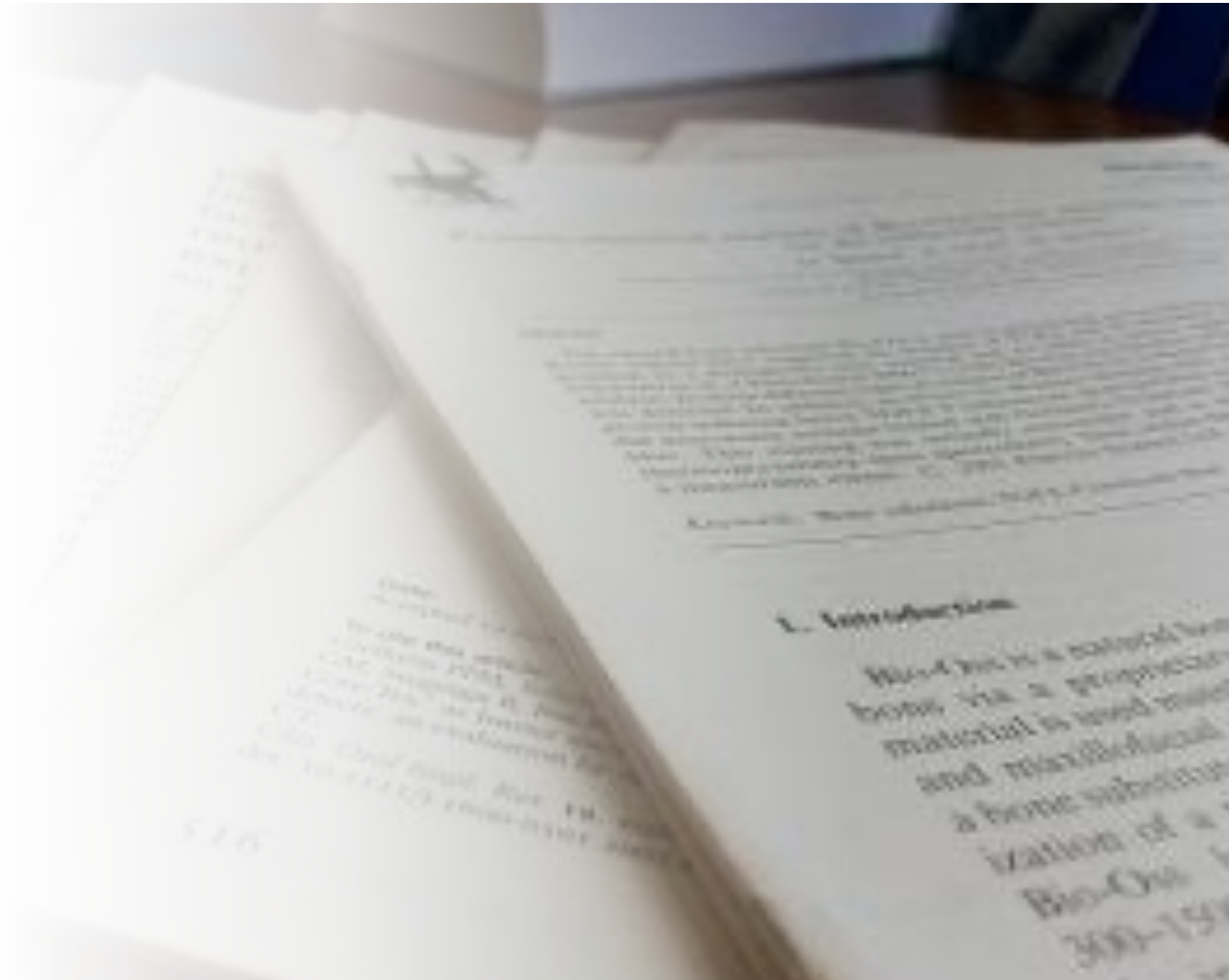
Dates and citation counts are estimated and are determined automatically by a computer program.

Other ways to assess the quality of a journal

By asking the following questions:

- Is the journal associated with a major research institution or professional body?
- Are editorial board members significant figures within the research community?
- Are the standards for manuscript acceptance high?
- Is the refereeing system robust?
- Are articles in the journal cited frequently and/or by well-regarded academics?
- Are they archived by a reputable platform such as JSTOR and do they give articles a DOI or ISSN number?

[AUT library advice](#)

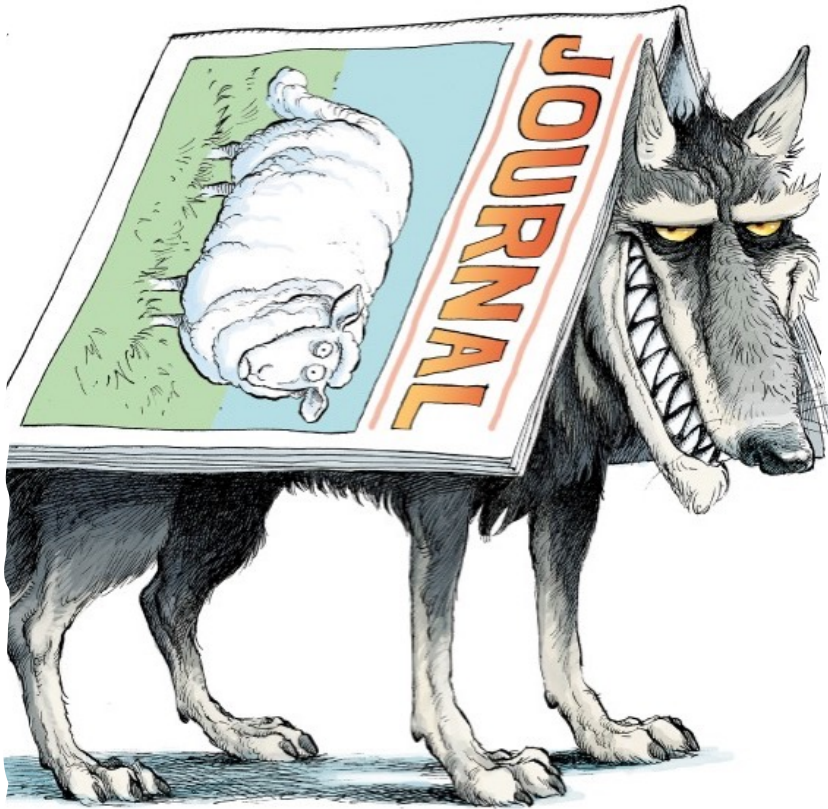




Open Access or traditional?

- Visibility
- Cost
- Prestige
 - [DOAJ](#) [ROAD](#) [BASE](#) [OAJE](#)
- Speed

Predatory journals



These journals (predatory or pseudo-journals) accept and publish almost all submissions and charge article processing (or publication) fees, often informing authors about this after a paper's acceptance for publication. They often claim to perform peer review but do not and may purposefully use names similar to well established journals.

International Committee of Medical Journal Editors

- [Useful advice](#)

Predatory Journals

- <https://predatoryjournals.com/journals/>

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Summary

- We tend to publish because we wish to communicate our research and contribute to the field
- It's important to look for journals of higher rank and impact factors
- They can be OA or traditional publisher
- We should avoid predatory publishers