Predatory publishers: How to recognise them and why we should avoid them

Dr Cheryl Tosh
cheryl.tosh@up.ac.za
• What are predatory publishers?

• How do we recognise them?

• Why we shouldn’t publish in them!
Scientific literacy must include the ability to recognize publishing fraud.
What are predatory publishers?

- Dark side of open access publishing
- First red flag:
  - Unsolicited emails or invitations
- “Open Journal of Marine Science”
What are predatory publishers?

- Second red flag
  - Fast turn around time!
  - Poor language!

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**A Study on the Role of Human Element (Staffs) in Marine Accidents**

Reza Karimpour¹, Zahra Karimpour²

¹LR of Iran Shipping Line (IRISL), Tehran, Iran
²Shahid Bahonar University, Kerman, Iran

Email: rezakarimpour61@gmail.com, zarakarimpour@gmail.com

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Abstract

Ships usually operate in the vibrant and dynamic environment; a majority of crews work and have a rest in a stressful space and have daily job displacements that working in it and moving from port disrupt as soon as reaching to port. Such conditions which require living at work place for a long time raises a unique job life which causes increase in risks of human mistakes. Huge marine accidents occur per year in country in which human element plays a major role. Identification and analysis of the components affect individuals as the staffs in ships, so that such component raises the conditions due to inattention which result in rise of severe and more severe marine accidents. Evaluation of each component has been taken into account in the present research. The present research seeks to examine and identify factors affecting human elements in marine accidents.

Keywords
What are predatory publishers?

- Website – impressive!
- Google based IF
- They even have an Open Access logo
What are predatory publishers?

- No evidence of the journal on Scopus
What are predatory publishers?

- No evidence of Directory of Open Access Journals
What are predatory publishers?

- No evidence in Web of Science
What are predatory publishers?

- Scholarly Open Access
- Jeff Beall
- Scientific Research Publishing
  - 244 open access journals
- $999 - $1800 per article
What are predatory publishers?

- Oncotarget
- IF = 6.63
- Solicitation emails
- $2800 per publication
- Reviews based on general opinion ~ no in-depth review!

There are many questionable aspects of the cancer journal Oncotarget, its peer review process chief among them. Somehow the journal has managed to get a high impact factor.

The journal’s publisher is a big name dropper, openly exploiting the reputations of the top cancer researchers and Nobel laureates who have been connected to this questionable journal. I think it’s just a matter
How did they do it!


Despite the number of “citable items” increasing: 121 – 114 – 198 – 979

- Few good quality articles in the first couple of years = many citations = good impact factor
- Once the IF increases = accept all articles
- Set to publish 1000’s of article this year
- Millions made!
How do we recognise them?

Poor websites
How do we recognise them?

Similar titles to known journals
Predatory publishers

- Unethical authors or unethical publishers
- Scholarly misconduct is increasing
- Plagiarism, salami publishing, self plagiarism, image manipulation


Unethical authors

• Salami slicing
• Articles cut up and submitted to different journals at the same time!
• 212 articles since 2011
• Open-access
• Easy acceptance
The solution!

KEEP CALM AND DO REAL AUTHOR STUFF