

# Choosing a Journal to Publish Your Research

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# The Ideal Journal



- Widely consulted
- High quality
- Peer-reviewed
- Rigorously edited
  
- Will publish your work



# Journal Reputation

- Consult colleagues/mentors
- Examine publisher policies
- Pay attention to bibliographies
- Read critically
- Skim new journals for content



# Citation Metrics

- Measure the use of the journal
- Actual numbers may vary by discipline
- Can be manipulated
- Existence of Fake Metrics



# Citation Metrics

- ▶ Measure recent citations
- ▶ HEAVILY dependent on data source
- ▶ Actual numbers may vary by discipline
- ▶ Can be manipulated
- ▶ Existence of Fake Metrics



# Citation Metrics: Impact Factor

- ▶ *Journal of Citation Reports*
  - ▶ Journals from specific databases of content
  - ▶ Average citations for previous 2 years
- 
- ▶  $2018 \text{ IF}(X) = \frac{\text{total citations in other journals in 2016 and 2017}}{\text{total citable items published in 2016 and 2017}}$



# Citation Metrics: h-5 index

- ▶ The largest number  $h$  such that  $h$  articles published in previous 5 years have at least  $h$  citations each
- ▶ Uses Google Scholar as the data set
  - ▶ (Fun fact: we've seen 959 ways to refer to PNAS.)
- ▶ July 2018 index covers 2013-2017
- ▶ Nature:  $h_5=362$ 
  - ▶ 362 articles (2013-2017) have received at least 362 citations each



# Citation Metrics: Questions to Ask

- Is the metric verifiable?
- Is the data source disclosed?
- Is the formula shared?
- How does the metric compare to other journals  
IN THIS DISCIPLINE?

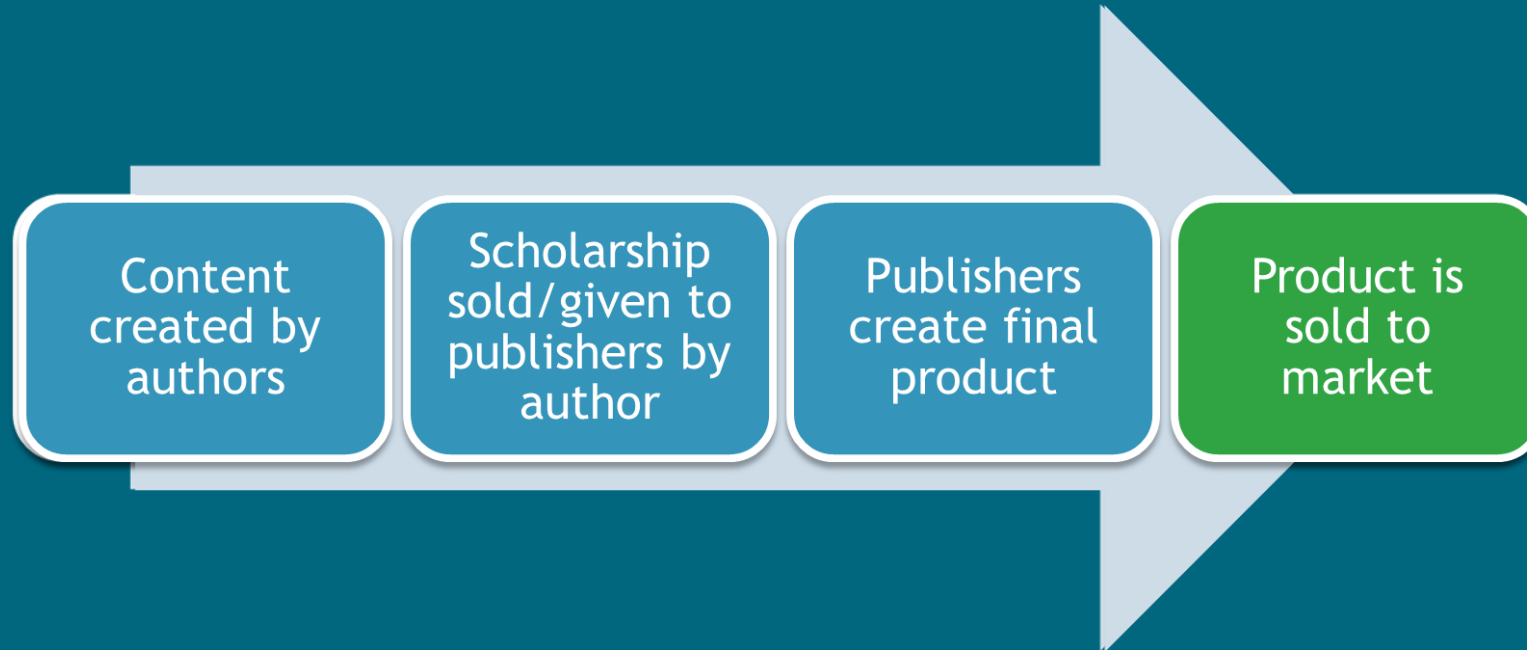


# Citation Metrics: Resources

- Google Scholar Metrics
- Scimago SJR
- Elsevier Journal Finder
- Eigenfactorizer
- Beall's Fake Metrics



# Open Access



Traditional Publication Model



# Open Access: Flavors

## Open Access “Gold”

- Charges authors a processing charge (APC)
- Allows them to not charge for access
- Final published version is available as open access immediately

## Open Access “Green”

- Publisher still charges for final content when released
- Allows authors to self-archive for open access
- Content often embargoed

# Open Access: Questions to Ask

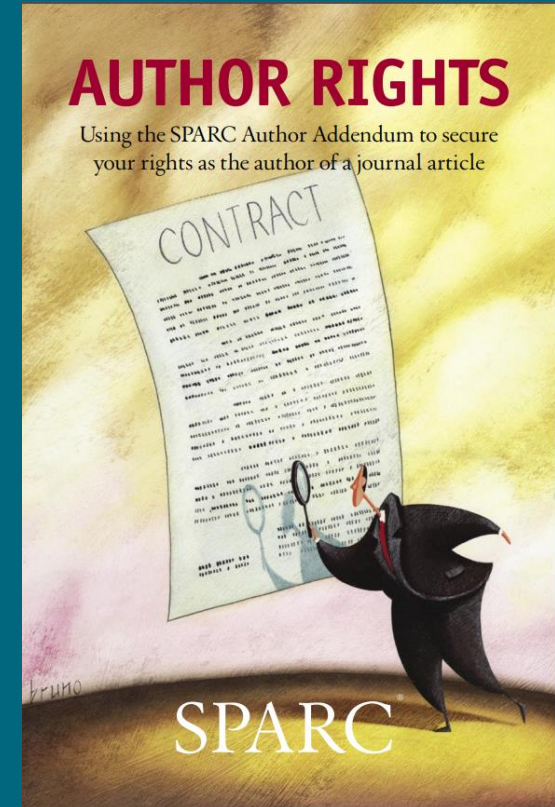
- Is OA important to you?
- Is OA required by any supporting grant funding?
- Does the publisher allow OA archiving:
  - Pre-prints
  - Post-prints
  - Final versions



# Author Rights

You as the author have the following exclusive rights unless and until you transfer the copyright in a signed agreement:

- Reproduction
- Distribution
- Public performance
- Public display
- Modification of the original work



# Author Rights: Negotiation

- Understand the basics of copyright
- Make a list of the things you want and the things you need.
- Have in-person or telephone discussions
- Frame your requests in a way that explains your needs
- Understand the publishers needs and offer to work with them
- Make sure all agreements made are explicitly stated and in writing before closing



# Author Rights: Resources

- ▶ USA Library Guides
  - ▶ <https://library.usa.edu/copyright>
- ▶ US Copyright Office *Circular 1: Copyright Basics*
  - ▶ <https://www.copyright.gov/circs/circ01.pdf>
- ▶ SPARC Author Rights
  - ▶ <https://sparcopen.org/our-work/author-rights/>
  - ▶ Author Rights Addendum



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# Predatory Journals

## Profit-Driven

Primarily profit motivated  
Charge hefty publishing fees

## Deceptive

False promise of quality  
Deceptive/Unethical  
Do not follow best practices of research

## Volume-Driven

Accept articles that may not be rigorous or accurate  
Often solicit inclusion  
Exploit academics' need to publish



# Predatory Journals

## Beall's Criteria

01

May not adhere to broadly accepted standards of scholarly publication

02

Same editorial board listed from multiple journals

03

True center of operations is opaque

04

Journals seem designed to deceive about institutional affiliation

05

Contributions solicited with mass messaging

Beall, J. (2016). Best practices for scholarly authors in the age of predatory journals. *The Annals of The Royal College of Surgeons of England*, 98(2), 77-79.



# Predatory Journals: Questions to Ask

- ISSN
- Back issues available
- Clearly communicated fee structure
- Appropriate scope
- Editors can be verified
- Peer-review process clearly laid out



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# Feedback Poll

Q1: Was this presentation useful/new information for you

➤ Yes

➤ No

Q2: What specifically was new/useful?

(Enter in private chat)

Q1: Is there something you wish had been covered but wasn't?

(Enter in private chat)

