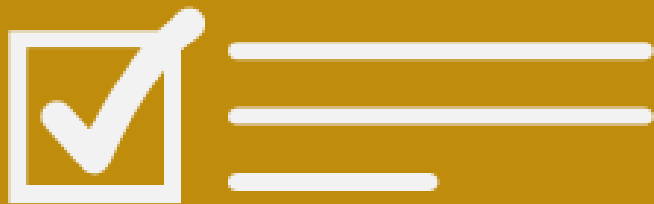
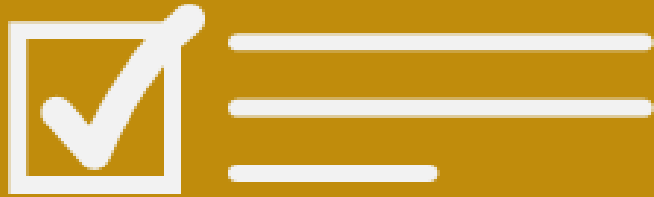


Beyond checklists:

Fostering scholarly publishing literacy
to avoid deceptive publishers

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In Today's Session...

- Getting in the door...
- Some thoughts on Scholarly Publication literacy (specific to article publishing in journals)
- Materials I share with the research community:
 - What is Open Access?
 - Paths to Open Access
 - What is a “predatory journal”?
 - Limitations of common understandings of predatory journals
 - Lists: white, black, check...
 - Making informed decisions by understanding terms and tools around academic publications

Preface: Getting in door...

- 1) Frame discussion in more palatable way – choosing good outlets for highest impact?
- 2) Look for champions
- 3) Segue from other conversations



Why talk about scholarly publishing literacy?

- Sometimes checklists aren't enough!
- Empower researchers to make informed assessments in a changing environment
- Who better to do it than us?



Zhao, L. (2014). Riding the wave of open access: Providing library research support for scholarly publishing literacy. *Australian Academic & Research Libraries*, 45(1), 3-18.



Let's dive in!

A crash course on academic journal publishing



What is OA, anyway?

Author submits article to journal

Journal initiates peer-review process

On acceptance, copyediting, proofreading, formatting, publication at no cost to authors

Author signs over rights to the work, which becomes the property of the publisher.

Authors may not share or post work without publisher's permission, just like everyone else.

Publisher's revenue comes from selling access to the content.

The traditional model

Author submits article to Open Access journal

Journal initiates peer review process

On acceptance, authors pay APC. The journal performs copyediting and proofreading, formatting, then publication.

Authors retains copyright of their works and may share and post without restriction

On publication, content available immediately for free to the widest possible audience

Journal revenue comes from the payment of the APC.

"Gold" Open Access

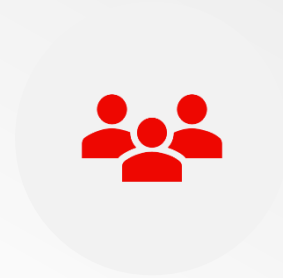


- Publications that are made openly available to anyone, anywhere – no paywall.
- Publishers' revenue comes from charging fees to authors
- Open Access publishers only publish works after they have undergone the same peer review offered by traditional academic publishers.
 - **The quality of the work published in an Open Access journal is the same as you would expect from a traditional journal.**

What is open access (OA) publishing?



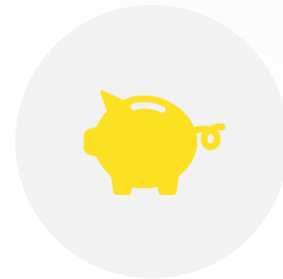
Promotes broader access to academic research by scholars, students, professionals, and the general public



Retaining copyright facilitates sharing and reuse to reach multiple audiences

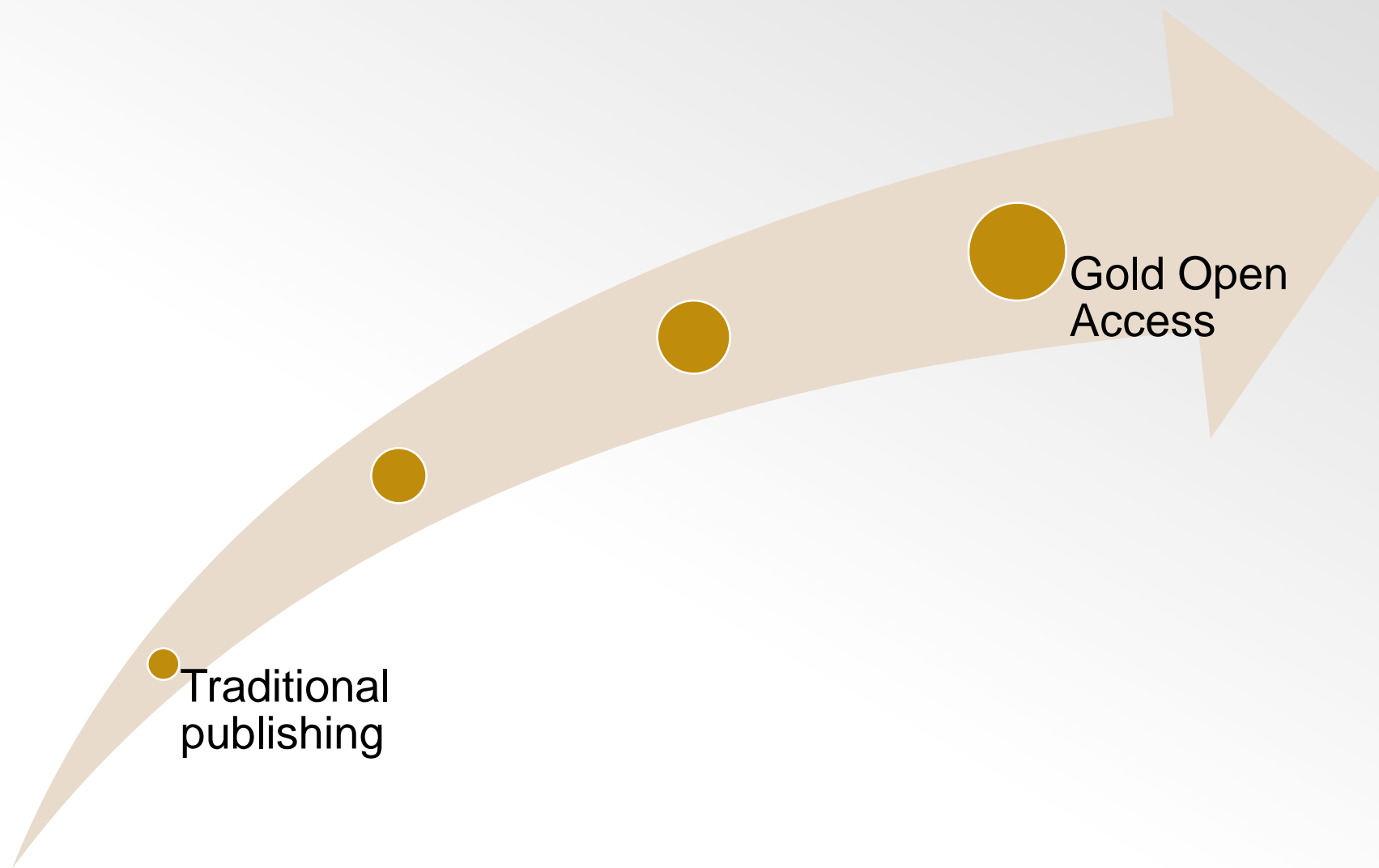


Broader exposure can lead to increased impact and citations



Some funding agencies require it!

Why publish OA?



How do I publish OA?

Hybrid Journals – OA and traditionally published articles side-by-side in same issue

Mirror Journals – OA versions of traditional journals with same title, editorial board, peer review policies, Impact Factor

Green OA – traditional model, with some limited rights retained

What are other OA options?

What version
can you share?

Publisher's final
version
Post-print
Pre-print

Where can you
share?

Institutional
repository?
Personal/departmen
tal websites?
Social media sites

When can you
share?

Is there an embargo
period?
If so, how long?

Green open access

- Consider your funder – is OA required and/or are APCs permitted expenses?
- What are the desirable venues for your work, are there Gold or Hybrid options?
 - If so, what are the APCs?
- Is Green OA an option and under what terms?
- Avoid Deceptive/Predatory Publications disguised as legit OA journals...



Tips for open access success



Deceptive or "predatory" journals or publishers

What are they?

For-profit businesses that present themselves as publishers of high-quality, peer-reviewed research.



Their only goal is to make money, so they will publish anything submitted with their required fee.

A common view of predatory publishing

Are all poor-quality journals deliberately dishonest? Are all authors in such journals naïve innocents?

The grey zone of low quality journals – sloppy or dishonest?

Shortcomings of "predatory" publishing concept

Association with a deceptive publisher casts aspersions on the quality of your work and your professional reputation.

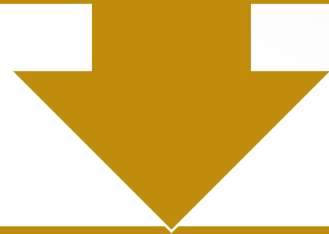
- Implications for collaboration, funding, promotion and tenure...
- This may have a ripple effect on your institution's reputation as well

Harm to the reliability and validity of the scholarly record

- Corrupts Open Access model
- Compromises the integrity of academic publications
 - The rise of "junk science" - poor methods, dubious results and conclusions given a legit-looking outlet
 - Voice to racists, anti-vaxxers, other ideological biases

What are the harms of deceptive publishing?

PERCEPTION: predatory journals are primarily as issue for under-resourced countries

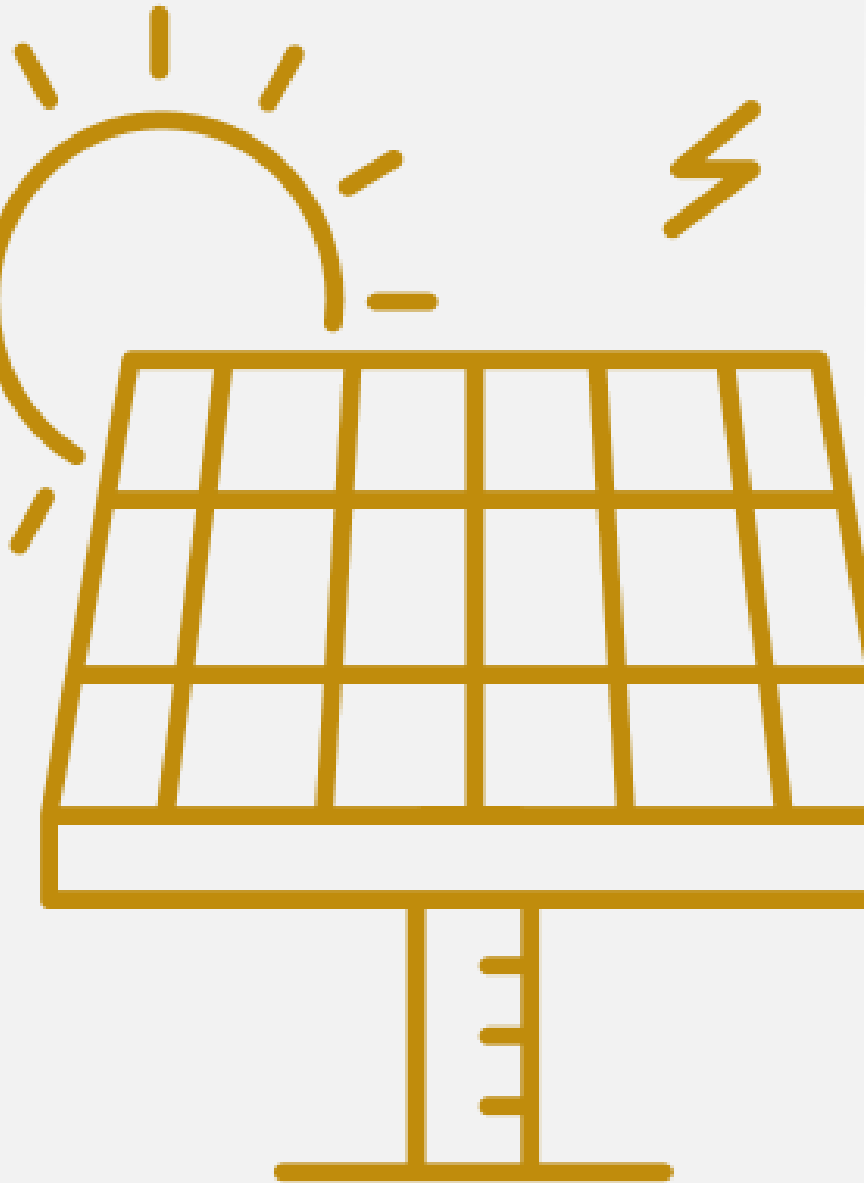


FACT: Predatory publishing is a significant issue worldwide.

A review of almost 2,000 biomedical articles in 200 journals believed to be predatory, more than half the authors came from high- and upper-middle-income countries

**A problem
uncomfortably
close to home**

Moher, D., Shamseer, L., Cobey, K. D., Lalu, M. M., Galipeau, J., Avey, M. T., ... & Daniel, R. (2017). Stop this waste of people, animals and money. *Nature News*, 549(7670), 23.



Knowledge is power

Basics of scholarly publication to better assess the integrity of a journal

DOI

- A DOI (Digital Object Identifier) - A persistent, standardized identifier at the article level, assigned through registration agencies
 - CrossRef



FAQs - Crossref

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Apps 📧 Inbox 🛡️ Dalhousie 🛡️ Libraries 🌐 LibApps 🛡️ Nursing 🌐 GOBI » | 📁 Other bookmarks

Am I eligible for membership?

If you publish scholarly content online or represent organizations who publish, you are eligible to [become a member](#). You also must be able to commit to our [member terms](#).

How do I get a DOI for my paper?

We don't supply DOIs ad-hoc. If the publisher of your paper is a member, they'll register your article on your behalf.



- International Standard Serial Number
- Used for "newspapers, journals, magazines and periodicals of all kinds..."

ISSN



The Centre and the Network

Understanding the ISSN

What is its role?

The ISSN role is to identify a publication.

It is a digital code without any intrinsic meaning:

- it does not include any information about the origin or contents of the publication,
- it does not guarantee the quality or validity of the contents.

The ISSN is associated with the title of the publication. If the publication is modified significantly, a new ISSN must be assigned.

Research databases and indexing

Research databases have *curated content*, selected according to subject or theme

- Examples: Academic Search Premier (Ebsco), Scopus (Elsevier)

Google Scholar is NOT a database; it is a search engine with a filter

Legitimate journals are "indexed" or included in the databases you search for your research

Key benefits

A trusted source: JSTOR is a starting point for researchers and one of the most trusted, highly-used platforms. It is why users conducted nearly 145 million searches, and viewed and downloaded more than 200 million journal articles in 2018 alone.

Quality: JSTOR collections are curated, and all journals must meet specific criteria and undergo a review process in order to join JSTOR. This includes journal rankings, in depth examination of research and citation data, and more.

JSTOR. (2020). *What's in JSTOR?* <https://about.jstor.org/whats-in-jstor/journals/>

An Extra Caution about PubMed

PubMed – a free search engine or access interface for several databases created by the National Library of Medicine in the US

Medline- a highly respected Biomedical database, ***strict inclusion criteria***

PubMed Central – an archive of full text materials, ***less strict criteria***

(some other content as well)



PubMed Central has become a "backdoor" into PubMed for predatory journals

Manca, A., Moher, D., Cugusi, L., Dvir, Z., & Deriu, F. (2018). How predatory journals leak into PubMed. *CMAJ: Canadian Medical Association Journal*, 190(35), E1042-E1045.

Journal Impact Factor (Clarivate)

- The Journal Impact Factor (JIF) found in Journal Citation Reports (JCR) (Clarivate) is a metric created for some (though far from all) legitimate journals.

The screenshot shows the InCites Journal Citation Reports website. At the top, there is a dark grey header with the text "InCites Journal Citation Reports" on the left and the "Clarivate Analytics" logo on the right. Below the header, a white rounded rectangle with a red border contains the text "Welcome to Journal Citation Reports" and a subtext "Search a journal title or select an option to get started". Underneath this is a search bar with the placeholder text "Enter a journal name" and a magnifying glass icon. At the bottom, there are three white boxes with rounded corners, each containing an icon and text: "Browse by Journal" (with a book icon), "Browse by Category" (with a list icon), and "Custom Reports" (with a clipboard icon).

Peer review

- A key quality control process whereby an article's quality is assessed by experts who research the subject area covered by the article.
- Identifying possible peer reviewers, obtaining their agreement, waiting for the reviews *takes time*.
- Guides editorial decisions.



White Lists

Directory of Open Access Journals (free)

Cabell's Whitelist (Cabell's Directory of Publishing Opportunities)

Black Lists

"Beall's List" – updated by anonymous @ beallslist.weebly.com

Cabell's Blacklist

Lists

Strinzel, M., Severin, A., Milzow, K., & Egger, M. (2019). Blacklists and whitelists to tackle predatory publishing: a cross-sectional comparison and thematic analysis. *MBio*, 10(3), e00411-19.

Checklists

- [Think.check.submit.org](https://think.check.submit.org)
- Keep in mind: the most useful checklists are those that require some investigation. Ones that focus on things like spam emails and misspelled websites create a false sense of security – you can spot those on your own.





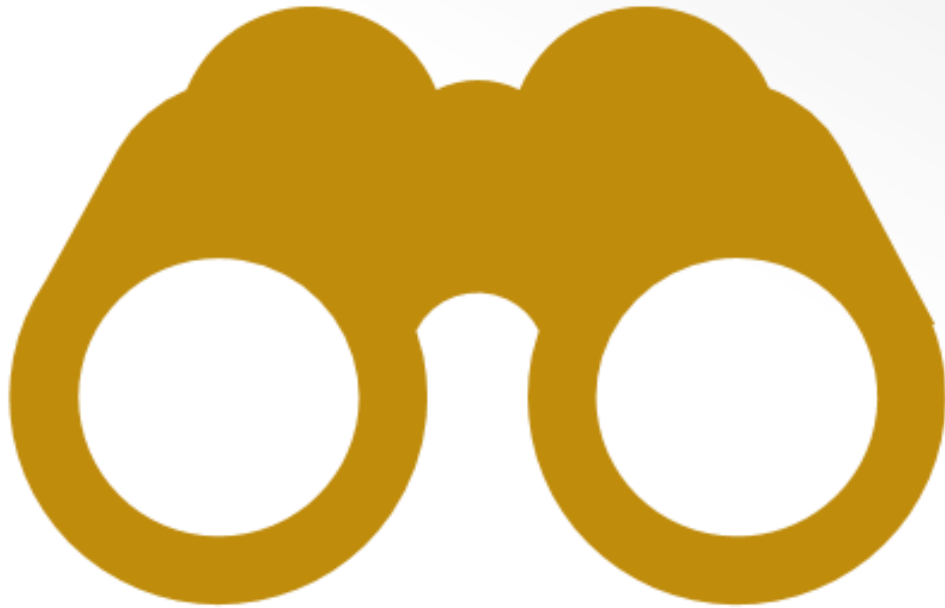
Okay, so is it predatory or not?

How do you tell?

Watch out for lies...

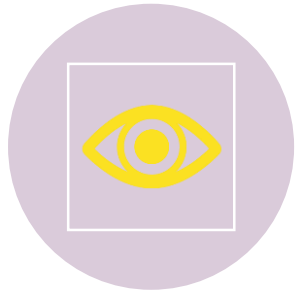
- Indexing
- Journal Impact Factor





**And watch out
for...**

- Indexing "Fluff" - resources that are NOT curated research databases
 - Google Scholar (a search engine)
 - Mendeley (a reference management/social networking tool by Elsevier)
 - Ulrich's Periodical's Directory (a comprehensive source of information on a wide range of publication types)
 - One of many lists of OA journals with no/limited/unclear criteria for inclusion
 - And many more...often legitimate tools, but not curated research databases
- Impact factors from unrecognized sources



Look at sample articles – not just one, for quality of content, copyediting, clarity of images



Google the title and the term "predatory" and see if anything comes up

Other tips...



It is possible for a legitimate journal to have a lousy website



It is possible for a predatory/deceptive/fraudulent/bad journal to exhibit few suspicious signs



In the absence of a clear indicator, engage in some critical thought – what is the quality of the work that appears in the journal?

Keep in mind...



How do I know where to submit my work?

Where is the right place to go?

Look

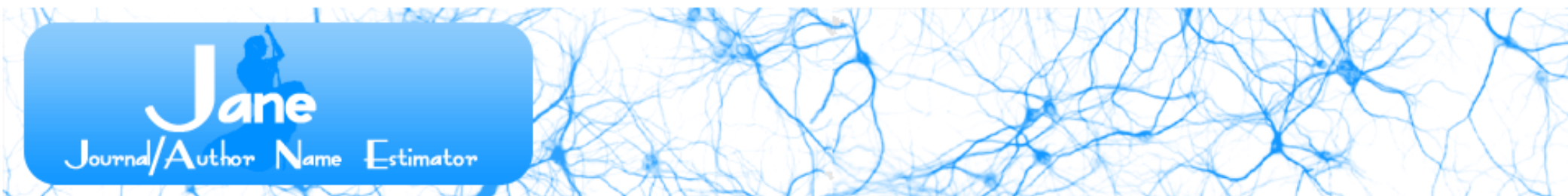
Look at where what you read is published

Search

Search databases for work similar to yours – what journals come up?

Consult

Consult peers and mentors in your field



Insert your title and/or abstract here: (or, click [here](#) to search using keywords)

Scramble Clear Show extra options

Find journals Find authors Find articles

Welcome to Jane

Have you recently written a paper, but you're not sure to which journal you should submit it? Or maybe you want to find relevant articles to cite in your paper? Or are you an editor, and do you need to find reviewers for a particular paper? Jane can help!

Just enter the title and/or abstract of the paper in the box, and click on 'Find journals', 'Find authors' or 'Find Articles'. Jane will then compare your document to millions of documents in *PubMed* to find the best matching journals, authors or articles.

Keyword search

Instead of using a title or abstract, you can also search using a keyword search, similar to popular web search engines. Click [here](#) to search using keywords.

Beware of predatory journals

JANE relies on the data in PubMed, which can contain papers from predatory journals, and therefore these journals can appear in JANE's results. To help identify high-quality journals, JANE now tags journals that are currently indexed in MEDLINE, and open access journals approved by the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ).

[Additional information about Jane](#)



Thank you!

Any questions?

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