

# How to Spot a Predatory Journal



## Always check the journal website thoroughly

Yes No

- Does the website have spelling and grammatical errors?
- Does the journal ask for a fee upon submission rather than after acceptance?

## Check if the journal is a member of DOAJ, COPE, OASPA or STM

Please state: \_\_\_\_\_

- Does the journal advertise membership to any of the following organisations? [DOAJ](#); [COPE](#); [OASPA](#); [STM](#).

If the journal is not listed, contact the organisations directly for further advice

## Check the journal's contact information

Yes No

- Does the contact information match the advertised nationality of the journal?
- Can their address be verified?
- Do emails arrive during the correct working hours for that region?

## Research the editorial board

Yes No

- Is the journal referenced in the editors professional institutional profile, LinkedIn page or Research Gate?
- Is there geographical diversity among the editorial board members?

## Do they have a peer review process and publication timelines?

Yes No

- Does the journal carry out peer review steps?
- Is it stated how long the peer review process will take?

## Read through past issues of the journal

Yes No

- Can you find past issues of the journal?
- Are the articles true to the journal's advertised speciality areas?
- Do articles have many errata?

## Additional Considerations

Yes No

- Is there an option for Open Access? (Not all journals have this option but is a good indicator of a reputable journal)
- Does the journal have a Facebook or Twitter page? If so check for posts