

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library, The George Washington University

Health Sciences Research Commons

Himmelfarb Library Liaison Letters

Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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Himmelfarb Library Liaison Letter - November 2022

George Washington University, Himmelfarb Health Sciences Library

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Do you have a research article that is close to being ready to submit for publication? You'll want to make sure you are publishing your research in a reputable journal. With questionable or predatory publishers becoming more and more prolific, it's important to know what to look for so you can avoid being caught in a predatory publishing scam. Predatory journals are characterized by false or misleading information, such as falsified editorial boards, fake impact factors, false indexing claims, and unclear fee structures. In addition, these journals do not follow scholarly publishing best practices, often publishing articles without providing any peer review. Himmelfarb Library has resources that can help you identify and avoid predatory and questionable journals.

Cabells Predatory Reports

GW's access to Cabells includes access to [Cabells Predatory Reports](#). This portion of Cabells tracks journal titles that have been associated with predatory journal publishers based on specific violations of scholarly publishing standards and best practices. Cabells has established criteria for identifying deceptive, fraudulent, and/or predatory journals and provides a complete list of their [Predatory Reports Criteria](#). Each journal listed on Predatory Reports includes a list of violations, including things such as false qualifications or credential claims; fake ISSNs; fake, non-existent, or deceased editors; publications of pseudo-science papers; lack of publisher articles or archives; misleading metrics; and misleading or false fee information.

Predatory Publishing Guide

Himmelfarb's [predatory publishing guide](#) provides a comprehensive overview of predatory publishing practices. Learn how predatory journals operate and the red flags that will help you identify a questionable journal. View sample emails from predatory publishers that illustrate the tactics used by these publishers to lure authors into submitting manuscripts for publication. Tools to help you evaluate journals are also available in this guide.

Predatory Publishing Videos

Are you more of a visual learner? Check out Himmelfarb's [Introduction to Predatory](#)

[Publishing webinar](#) for an in-depth review of preparatory publishing. Only have a few minutes? Learn [How to Spot a Predatory Journal](#) in less than five minutes. Perhaps you'd like to hear an author's perspective on predatory publishing. View our [Predatory Publishing: What You Don't Know, Can Hurt You](#) discussion from our 2017 event.

Predatory Publishing Check-Up Service

If you've been approached by a publisher and are concerned that they might be questionable or predatory in nature, Himmelfarb is happy to help! Contact Ruth Bueter, Serials Librarian, at rbueter@gwu.edu to take advantage of our predatory publishing check-up service! We'll investigate the journal in question and get back to you with a detailed examination of the journal that can help you decide if you'd like to publish your research with that publisher.

New E-Books:

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- Reference questions? Call 202-994-2850 or email us at himmelfarb@gwu.edu
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