



How do Predatory Medical Journals Try to Seduce and Fool Potential Authors? Analysis of an 18-Months Monitoring Survey

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Abstract

Background/Aim: Predatory medical publishers have developed – and still continue to develop – ‘tricks’ that are intended to fool potential authors with the objective to attract manuscripts. They do so because authors have to pay them article processing charges and these are commonly their exclusive business model. Authors become ever more reluctant to publish in predatory journals because such journals are not considered as scientifically reliable and the articles in such journals are commonly not or hardly read (and even more rarely cited). Particularly young scientists can nevertheless be relatively easily seduced by the promises of predatory journals, which tend to approach potential authors in an aggressive way. This study aimed to analyse how often aggressive advertising is synonym for predatory.

Methods: The 322 medical journals and their 105 publishers that approached us from 1 January 2023 to 1 July 2024 period with the request to contribute a manuscript were analysed. The analysis dealt with several aspects that may give insight into the trustworthiness of these journals and their publishers, viz the International Standard Serial Number (ISSN), the Editor-in-Chief, the publishing history, the publisher’s location and the journal title.

Results: Only 85 (26.3 %) of the journals under study had an Editor-in-Chief and 47 (14.6 %) of the journals had no ISSN. The great majority of the journals started after 2010; the journal titles seem aimed at raising confusion with established journals and many publishers were not housed where they pretend to be.

Conclusions: Checking the above aspects of journals is an important tool helping recognise the predatory character of a journal.

Key words: Predatory publishers; Medical journals; Scientific-information transfer; Misinformation; Science ethics.

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Introduction

It is commonly recognised nowadays that it is in particular the publish-or-perish culture,¹ introduced by managers at almost all universities and many other science-related institutes, that has triggered in the recent past a tsunami of new journals that have only one objective: earning

money. Although earning money is not a reprehensible purpose in itself, predatory journals have become a problem because scientific quality and reliability are, as a rule, not considered of any importance by these journals.^{2, 3} Although most predatory publishers claim that manuscripts

submitted to their journals undergo critical peer review, such reviews tend not to take place or they do not lead to serious revision of the submitted manuscript. A consequence is that the scientific community is overflowed with articles of low quality, often hardly reliable and occasionally even fraudulent.

Since these practices have become more widely recognised in the scientific community, ever more scientists become – fortunately – reluctant to publish in such journals, but they are confronted with a fundamental problem: it is not easily possible to decide whether a publisher or a journal is predatory. Publishers of predatory journals, in turn, have recognised the increasing criticism of scientists with respect to predatory journals and therefore develop tricky methods to hide the predatory character of their journals. This makes it ever more difficult for potential authors to recognise the predatory character of a journal. It seems therefore appropriate to pay attention to the most common tricks used by predatory publishers. Obviously, the question of how to become involved in predatory journals has been asked for a long time. A final solution might be if a recognised organisation could make a continuously updated site accessible for the entire scientific community with a list of predatory publishers and journals.

A first step

A first step taken in this direction was made by Jeffrey Beall, who was the first to notice the threat of predatory publications.⁴⁻⁶ His profession as a university librarian convinced him that he should warn the scientific community and eventually he published in a blog a list with numerous names of – what he presumed to be – predatory publishers and journals, including journals without a distinct publisher. After his list had suddenly been removed from the internet in 2017, probably because of the threat of legal suing, several comments were published mentioning that the list was really important for the scientific community.^{7,8} Although some criticism on Beall's list certainly is possible,⁹ it is commonly considered fortunate that the list can be found again on the internet, being occasionally updated by an, unfortunately, not defined group of scientists. A significant disadvantage of this list is, by definition, that it is always outdated: the last update dates from 2021.

Fairly recently, but without much attention, a comparable new step was taken (probably Beall-based but extended and updated) by *Predatory Reports*.¹⁰ The organisation was run, unfortunat-

ly but understandably, by a group of anonymous scientists who stated in this context: “*We decided to remain anonymous so as not to be sued by companies whose practices are quite aggressive.*” They took care of regular updates of both their list of predatory publishers and their list of predatory journals. Although the ongoing publishing of new predatory journals made up-to-date revisions of the lists impossible, these lists were probably the best available. Unfortunately, the site of *Predatory Reports* was suddenly removed in 2024, without any notice. This suggests that the scientists behind these lists have, like Beall, been threatened to be sued.

Recent recognised databases

The initiative by Beall has, fortunately, also led to comparable steps by widely recognised organisations that may easily face the threat of being sued. These organisations have prepared databases in which journals can be checked for their predatory nature. The most important of these organisations are the *Web of Science*, *Scopus* and *Medline*. However trustworthy these three organisations may be, they fail, unfortunately, in providing a definite answer; this is not only shown clearly by the numerous discrepancies between their judgements, but also by their own frequent revisions.

As an example, on 23 March 2023, the *Web of Science* delisted 82 journals, including some of recognised publishers such as *Taylor and Francis*, the *BMJ Publishing Group*, *Sage Publications*, *Springer* and *Wiley*.¹¹ The de-listing of journals from high-reputation publishers is worrying, because it shows that even these recognised publishers gradually seem to take over predatory characteristics; it seems unlikely that the *Web of Science* has not thought over the de-listing of journals from these publishers very thoroughly.

Also, *Scopus* is known to have been infiltrated by numerous predatory journals and several hundreds of thousands (!) articles have been traced in *Scopus* that were considered by *Geoffrey Beall* to be predatory.¹² This was recently updated in another study.¹³ Like the *Web of Science*, *Scopus* delists journals continuously. The *Scopus Journals De-Listing 2009-2023* contains far over 800 journal titles.¹⁴ *Medline* is, like *PubMed* and *PubMed Central*, funded by the (US) National Library of Medicine. As shown already in 2018, all these NLM-funded databases have been infiltrated by predatory journals.¹⁵

These findings are supported by numerous other studies. The reasons are that publishers (with

their journals) may be taken over by other journals, that recognised journals can be taken over by predatory publishers (and the reverse occurs also), that changes in the ownership or editorship of journals can change the scientific attitude fundamentally and – last but not least – that it takes years to evaluate the predatory or scholarly nature of a new journal accurately. Consequently, the inclusion of a journal in the databases of *Web of Science*, *Scopus* or *Medline* is not a reliable criterion.

On the basis of the above considerations, in combination with our analysis of the journals that invited us to submit a manuscript or to become an editor, we have come to the conclusion that each scientist should check the journal himself. Some clues, based on authors' own experience are provided here. Before doing so, we want to state explicitly that the data presented here are based on our own experience, that we use examples collected by us from journals' and publishers' websites and that our interpretations have been made to the best of our expertise. This does, obviously, not imply that no newer data became available in the meantime; nor does it imply that the data presented here might not be interpreted in another way.

Methods

Analysis of the inviting journals and publishers

Several severe errors in a recent medical publication¹⁶ caused us to write some critical comments. This comment apparently made us visible for predatory publishers, resulting in a sudden flow of requests from predatory medical journals to contribute. This flow of incoming emails turned into a tsunami after we had published some more contributions (on editorial/publishing aspects of scientific-information transfer) in the same medical journal. We deleted such requests initially, but when the flow did not stop, we started monitoring them from the beginning of 2023 till halfway 2024 (18 months). Numerous medicine-oriented journals approached us (commonly repeatedly) and we have now analysed the most relevant characteristics of these 322 journals and 105 publishers (Table 1). We publish this Table here in order to help fellow-researchers recognise more easily predatory characteristics, but we will re-

strict ourselves to the most interesting conclusions that can be drawn from this table.

Readers can analyse the details themselves and draw additional conclusions. We will not go into such details, considering the possible legal consequences, taking into account the experience of the librarian Geoffrey Beall who became confronted with threats of legal actions and who finally lost his job after he had published a blog with a list about potential predatory journals and publishers, which still represents – though removed from the internet by Beall but handled and infrequently updated now by some anonymous scientists¹⁷ – as a commonly used tool to find out easily whether a publisher or journal is predatory.

It was checked whether the journals that had approached us were included in one or more predatory lists, what was the year in which the journal was launched, whether the journal had an Editor-in-Chief, whether it had an ISSN, where the publisher was located and whether the name of the journal may raise confusion.

Obviously, several other 'criteria' might also give an impression about the predatory or scholarly character of a journal, such as the ratio of accepted/rejected manuscripts, the average time between submission and publication (and between acceptance and publication). The problem with these 'criteria' is that they can be obtained only from the journal (or publisher). Predatory journals are not inclined to make such data public, and if they do, these data tend to be incorrect.^{3,18} The only clear criterion proving without any doubt a predatory nature is the announcement by numerous journals that they will publish a manuscript within a week (or even 3 days; see, for instance *Resaim Publishing*),¹⁹ though always after the author has paid the article processing charges. Considering the above, we will restrict ourselves here to the above-mentioned six 'criteria'.

Results

The results of the analysis of the journals that had approached us - are these journals included in predatory list, year in which a journal was launched, presence of an Editor-in-Chief, presence of an ISSN, address of the publisher and name of the journals are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Some characteristics of the publishers and their medical journals that invited the present authors from 1 January 2023 to 30 June 2024 to contribute to the indicated journal

| Publisher ¹ | City/town and country ² | Journal title | ISSN ³ | Volume 1 ⁴ | Editor in Chief* or 'first editor' |
|------------------------|--|---|-------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Academia Publishing* | Leeds LS1 2HQ 35 094 UK | Academia Journal of Medicinal Plants | 2315-7720 | 2013 (volumes 1-3 are lacking on the journal website) | Juei-Tang Cheng* (Japan) |
| | | Journal of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology | None | 2014 (no archive; no later volumes) | No editors indicated |
| | | Medicine and Medical Sciences | 2682-5759 | 2013 | Srikar R Adhikar* (USA) |
| ACAD-WISE | Vanastilipuram Hyderabad 500070 India | Asian Journal of Complementary and Alternative Medicine | 2347-3894 | 2013 | Naif Alenzi (Saudi Arabia) |
| | | Journal of Clinical Medicine: Current Research | 2832-7551 | 2021 | Cristian Ramos-Vera (Peru) |
| | | Journal of Immunology Research and Infectious Diseases | 2771-4691 | 2021 | Bogdan-Ioan Coculescu (Romania) |
| | | Journal of Pediatric Research and Neonatal Care | 2996-5071 | 2022 | Mario Ciampolini (Italy) |
| | | Neurodegenerative Diseases: Current Research | 2832-9422 | 2021 | Lu Lu (USA) |
| AD Publications* | MP Colony Bikaner India | International Journal of Environmental and Agriculture Research | 2454-1850 | 2015 | Bhagawan Bharali* (India) |
| Acquaint Publications | Newark, DE 19713 USA | Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health Reports | 2692-9899 | 2020 | Abhijit Mitra (India) |
| | | Journal of Medical Case Reports and Case Series | 2692-9880 | 2020 | Abhijit Mitra (India) |
| Acquire Publications | Newark, DE 19713 USA | Journal of Case Reports and Medical History | 2831-7410 | 2021 | A.C. Matin (USA) |
| Allied Academies* | London WC1A 2SE UK | Journal of Child and Adolescent Health | None | 2017 | Chung-Yi Chen (Tawan) |
| Annex Publishers* | Manassas, VA 20110 USA | Journal of Case Reports and Studies | 2348-9820 | 2013 | Richard J. Cure* (England) |
| | | Journal of Genetic and Hereditary Research | None | None | Nikhil A. Sangle (Canada) |
| | | Journal of Genetic Mutation Disorders | None | 2022 | Mahmudul H. Khan (Bangladesh) |
| | | Journal of Medicine and Biological Studies | None | 2018 (nothing later) | Change Tan (USA) |
| | | Journal of Palliative Medical Care & Research | None | 2012 (5 articles); no 2022-2023 volumes | Alfio Ferlito (Italy) |
| | | Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation Studies | 2767-4584 | 2021 (no volumes in 2022-2023) | Abdoulaye Diallo (USA) |
| | | Journal of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry | 2348-9790 | 2013 | Sherman W. Jack* (USA) |
| ARC Publications* | Ongole, AP 523001 India | ARC Journal of Cancer Science | 2455-6009 | 2015 | Ming Wei (Australia) |

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|--|---------------------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|------------------------------|
| Asia Pacific Academy of Science | Singapore 534818 | Environment and Social Psychology | (p) 2424-7979 (o) 2424-8975 | 2016 | Paola Magnano* (Italy) |
| Auctores* | Lewes DE 19958 USA | Clinical Research and Clinical Trials | 2693-4779 | 2019 | Igor Grachev* (USA) |
| | | Clinical Research Notes | 2834-5142 | 2020 | Adel Ekladius* (Australia) |
| | | General Medicine and Clinical Practice | 2639-4162 | 2018 | Dan Jiang* (UK) |
| | | International Journal of Clinical Case Reports and Reviews | 2690-4861 | 2019 (2 articles) | Martin Steinhoff* (USA) |
| | | Journal of Surgical Case Reports and Images | 2690-1897 | 2018 | John W. Harmon* (USA) |
| Austin Publishing Group* | Irving TX 75039 USA | Annals of Depression and Anxiety | 2381-8883 | 2014 | Thomas Frodl (Germany) |
| | | Annals of Yoga and Physical Therapy | 2573-8585 | 2016 | Linda May (USA) |
| | | Austin Critical Care Journal | 2379-8017 | 2014 | Ali El Soth (USA) |
| | | Austin Internal Medicine | 2690-313X | 2016 | Frederick N Lobati (USA) |
| | | Austin Journal of Musculoskeletal Disorders | 2381-8948 | 2014 | Shuanhu Zhou (USA) |
| | | Austin Journal of Orthopedics and Rheumatology | 2472-369X | 2014 | Rajiv Rajani (USA) |
| | | Austin Journal of Public Health and Epidemiology | 2381-9014 | 2014 | Shuji Ogino (USA) |
| | | Austin Medical Sciences | 2689-8454 | 2016 | Ankur Sethi (USA) |
| | | Austin Sports Medicine | 2690-1765 | 2016 | Ashgar Abbasi (USA) |
| | | Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation International | 2471-0377 | 2014 | Duncan Reid (USA) |
| Journal of Psychiatry & Mental Disorders | 2768-590X | 2016 | Constanza Colombi (USA) | | |
| Avestia Publishing* | Orléans ON K1C 1G1 Canada | Journal of Biomedical Engineering & Biosciences | 2564-4998 | 2014 | Anthony mcgoron* (USA) |
| Bentham Open* | Sharja UAE | The Open Public Health Journal | 1874-9445 | 2008 | Matthias Beck (Ireland) |
| Austin Publishing Group* | Sharja UAE | Ani-Infective Agents | (p) 2211-3525 (o) 2211-3533 | 2003? (vol. 1-9 lacking on website) | Giovanni Gherardi* (Italy) |
| | | Current Alzheimer Research | (p) 1567-2050 (e) 1875-5828 | 2004 | Juan M. Górriz Sáez* (Spain) |
| | | Current Drug Delivery | (p) 1567-2018 (o) 1875-5704 | 2004 | Deng-Guang Yu (China) |
| | | Current Drug Therapy | (p) 1574-8855 (e) 2212-3903 | 2006 | Stefano Palomba* (Italy) |
| | | Current Enzyme Inhibition | (p) 1573-4080 (o) 1875-6662 | 2005 | Claudiu T. Supuran* (Italy) |
| | | Current Traditional Medicine | (p) 2215-0838 (o) 2215-0846 | 2015 | Duan-Fang Liao* (China) |
| | | New Emirates Medical Journal | 0250-6882 | 2020 | Abdullah Shehab* (UAE) |
| | | Reviews on Recent Clinical Trials | (p) 1574-8871 (o) 1876-1038 | 2006 | Ludovico Abensvoli* (Italy) |

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|--|--|--|--------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Biomedgrid* | Orange CA 92868 USA | American Journal of Biomedical Science and Research | 2642-1747 | 2019 (2023: vol. 20) | Ian J. Martins*(Australia) |
| Biomedical Research Network LLC* | Westchester IL 60154 USA | Biomedical Journal of Scientific & Technical Research | 2574-1241 | 2017 (2023: vol. 53) | Rubén Rodríguez Elizalde (Spain) |
| Blue Pen Journals* | Southport Merseyside PR9 0EZ UK | International Journal of Modern and Alternative Medicine Research | 2053-1834 | 2013 | Kofi E. Aidoo (Scotland) |
| | | Journal of Medicinal Plant and Herbal Therapy Research | 2053-1826 | 2013 | Akah Peter Achunike (Nigeria) |
| CEOS Publishers | Sheridan WY 82810 USA | CEOS Obstetrics and Gynecology | None | None | Zhu Lixia (China) |
| | | CEOS Sports Medicine and Research | None | None | Wei-Chih Lien (Taiwan) |
| Clinisearch Publications | Austin TX 78702 USA | Clinical Research and Clinical Reports | 2835-8325 | 2022 | Gang Zhang* (USA) |
| Clinmed International Library* | Wilmington DE 19810 USA | Clinical Medical Reviews and Case Reports | 2378-3656 | 2014 | Wei Wang (Australia) |
| CMJ Publishers | New Kingston DE 12459 USA | American Journal of Clinical and Medical Research | 2835-9496 | 2022 | Mohammed Elfamarawi (USA) |
| Crimson Publishers* | New York NY 10022 USA | Advances in Complementary & Alternative Medicine | 2637-7802 | 2017 | Maria Kuman (Bulgaria) |
| | | COJ Nursing & Healthcare | 2577-2007 | 2017 | James Stoxen (USA) |
| | | Examines in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation | 2637-7934 | 2017-2018 | Emmanuel Andres (France) |
| | | Journal of Biotechnology and Bioresearch | 2643-704X | 2018 | Peter Blas (UK) |
| Directive Publications | Chesterton IN 46304 USA | Journal of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology Research | 2766-2756 | 2019 (3 articles) | Takuma Hayashi, (Japan) |
| | | The Journal of Clinical Medicine | 2995-6315 | 2023 | Weifen Li, (China) |
| Direct Research Journals Publisher* | No postal or visiting address provided | Direct Research Journal of Health and Pharmacology | 3449-0814 | 2013 | Amgad Rabie, (Egypt) |
| | | Direct Research Journal of Public Health and Environmentl Technology | 2734-2182 | 2016 | Godfried Owusu-Bosteng (Ghana) |
| | | Direct research Journal of Veterinary Medicine and Animal Science | 2734-2166 | 2016 (4 articles) | Abdulrahman Bello (Nigeria) |
| Elsevier | Amsterdam 1043 NX Netherlands | Advances in Medical Sciences | 1896-1126 | 1956? (vol. 1-54 are lacking on jour- nal website) | Jacek Niklinski* (Poland) |
| | | Archives of Medical Research | 0188-4409 | 1971? (vol. 1-35 are lacking on jour- nal website) | Mardia López-Alarcón* (Mexico) |
| | | Journal of Cardiology | 0914-5087 | 1983? (vol. 1-50 are lacking on jour- nal website) | Tohru Minamino (Japan) |
| | | The American Journal of Medicine | (p) 0002-9343 (o) 1555-7162 | 1946 | Joseph Alpert* (USA) |

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|---|--|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| EMRES Publishers | London EC1N 3AX UK | Ehealth Sciences | None | None | No editors mentioned; request to apply |
| Escires Publications* | Mississauga ON L5L 1H8 Canada | Frontiers in Medicine and Health Research | 2817-2108 | 2017 | Roy R. Marzo* (Malaysia) |
| European- American Journals (EAJ)* | London EC1V 2NX UK | International Journal of Cancer, Clinical Inventions and Experi- mental Oncology | (p) 2059-1160 (o) 2059-1179 | 2015 | Maxwell Johnson (Canada)* |
| | | International Journal of Nurs- ing, Midwife and Health Related Cases | (p) 2397-0758 (o) 2397-0766 | 2015 | Paul Simon* (not traceable) |
| Fortune Journals | Houston TX 77082 USA | Anesthesia and Critical Care | 2687-7996 | 2019 | Ian J. Martins (Australia) |
| | | Archives of Clinical and Medical Research | 2572-5017 | 2017 | Fernando A Boreau (Spain) |
| | | Journal of Biotechnology and Biomedicine | 2642-9128 | 2018 (3 articles) | L.M. Birsa (Romania) |
| | | Journal of Orthopaedics and Sports Medicine | 2688-5115 | 2019 | Hamid Ferdosi (USA) |
| | | Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmacology Research | 2578-1553 | 2017 | Marco Milanese (Italy) |
| | | Journal of Women's Health and Development | 2644-2884 | 2018 | Chung-Yi Chen (Taiwan) |
| Frontiers* | 1005 Lausanne Switzerland | Archives of Clinical and Medical Case Reports | 2575-9655 | 2017 | Yasuo Iwasaki (Japan) |
| | | Frontiers in Pain Research | (p) 1264-241X (o) 2673-561X | No volumes; first article: 2020 | Tony L. Yaksh* (USA) |
| | | Frontiers in Rehabilitation Sciences | 2673-6861 | No volumes; first article: 2021 | Gerold Stucki* (Switzerland) |
| | | Frontiers in Surgery | 2296-875X | No volumes; first article: 2021 | Dennis P. Orgill* (USA) |
| Gavin Publishers* | Keillor Downs Vic 3038 Australia | Advances in Preventive Medicine and Health Care | 2688-996X | 2018 (4 articles) | Jerome A. Ecker (USA) |
| | | Annals of Case Reports | 2574-7754 | 2016 | Benjamin R. Doolittle (USA) |
| | | Current Trends in Internal Medicine | 2638-003X | 2017 | Sorush Namian,(England) |
| | | Current Research in Comple- mentary & Alternative Medicine | 2577-2201 | 2017 | Laura J.Kruskall (USA) |
| | | International Journal of Nursing and Health Care Research | 2688-9501 | 2018 | Catherine Olubummo (USA) |
| | | Journal of Community Medicine & Public Health | 2577-2228 | 2017 | Richard Garland (USA) |
| | | Journal of Orthopedic Research and Therapy | 2575-8241 | 2016 | Jenevieve Roper (USA) |
| Reports on Global Health Research | 2690-9480 | 2018 | Miku Sodhi (USA) | | |
| Gexin Online Publications* | Bhubaneswar Odisha 752101 India | Journal of CAM Research Progress | None | 2022 | Yuan Shiun Chang (Taiwan) |
| | | Journal of Rehabilitation Practices and Research | 2583-1593 | 2020 | Chih Wei Peng (Taiwan) |
| Heighten Science Publications Inc. (HSPi)* | East Windsor CT 06088-9767 USA | Annals of Biomedical Science and Engineering | 2833-518X | 2017 | Feng Fang (USA) |
| | | Annals of Promiotics and Bioinformatics | 2640-2831 | 2017 (3 articles) | Xin Zhang (China) |

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| Heighten Science Publications Inc. (HSPI)* | East Windsor CT 06088-9767 USA | Annals of Biomedical Science and Engineering | 2833-518X | 2017 | Feng Fang, (USA) |
| | | Annals of Promiotics and Bioinformatics | 2640-2831 | 2017 (3 articles) | Xin Zhang (China) |
| | | Archives of Psychiatry and Mental Health | 2766-2721 | 2017 (1 article) | Mayra Lopez-Humphreys (USA) |
| | | Archives of Surgery and Clinical Research | 2576-9537 | 2017 | Konstantinos Zorba (USA) |
| | | Insights on the Depression and Anxiety | 2640-2882 | 2017 | Carlo Pruneti* (Italy) |
| | | Journal of Clinical, Medical and Experimental Images | 2573-7708 | 2017 | J.F.C. Teijeiro (Spain) |
| | | Journal of Novel Physiotherapy and Rehabilitation | 2573-6264 | 2017 | Alberto Concu* (Italy) |
| | | Journal of Pulmonology and Respiratory Research | 2639-9954 | 2017 | Giuseppe Murdaca* (Italy) |
| | | Journal of Sports Medicine and Therapy | 2573-1726 | 2016 | Yaodong Gu* (China) |
| Herald Scholarly Open Acces* | Herndon VA 20171 USA | Current Research in Alternative, Complementary & Integrative Medicine | 2470-7562 | 2015 | Brandy Brown (USA) |
| | | HSA Journal of Medicine | 2639-5657 | 2018 | Athanasios Bramos (USA) |
| | | International Journal of Case Reports and Therapeutic Studies | 2689-310X | 2019 | Alexander Birbrair (Brazil) |
| | | Journal of Alternative, Complementary & Integrative Medicine | 2470-7562 | 2015 | Brandy Brown (USA) |
| | | Journal of Case Reports and Therapeutic Studies | 2689-310X | 2019 | Alexander Birbrair (Brazil) |
| Hilaris* | Brussels Belgium | Journal of Clinical Immunology and Immunotherapy | 2378-8844 | 2014 | Anita Franczak (Poland) |
| | | Journal of Clinical Studies and Medical Case Reports | 2378-8801 | 2014 | Angel A. Velard (USA) |
| | | Journal of Clinical Case Reports | 2165-7920 | 2011 | Arnon Blum* (Israel) |
| Igmin Research | East Windsor, CT USA | STEM – Medical Education | 2995-8067 | 2023 | Mariangela Palladino (Italy) |
| International Organization of Scientific Research (IOSR)* | Gurugram Haryana 122001 India | IOSR Journal of Dental and Medical Sciences | (p) 2279-0861 (o) 2279-0853 | 2012 | Shubham Shukla (India) |
| | | IOSR Journal of Nursing and Health Sciences | (p) 2320-1940 (o) 2320-1959 | 2012 | Hadeel Fadhil (Iraq) |
| | | IOSR Journal of Pharmacy | (p) 2319-4219 (o) 2250-3013 | 2011 | Gary Robinson (Australia) |
| | | IOSR Journal of Pharmacy and Biological Science | (p) 2319-7676 (o) 2278-3008 | 2012 | Rashmi Sharma (India) |
| | | IOSR Journal of Sports and Physical Education | (p) 2347-6745 (o) 2347-6737 | 2014 | Sayed M. T. Subroto (Iran) |
| Invention Journals* | India | International Journal of Pharmaceutical Science Invention | (p) 2319-670X (o) 2319-6718 | 2012 | Hazim J. Al-Daraji (Iraq) |
| Iris Publishers* | San Francisco CA 94104 USA | Annals of Public Health & Epidemiology | 2832-7942 | 2019-2022 (2019: 2 articles) | Jao C.G. Martins Macedo (Portugal) |
| | | Archives of Rheumatology & Arthritis Research | 2694-1724 | 2020 | Khaled Hamlaoui (Algeria) |
| | | Online Journal of Complementary & Alternative Medicine | 2644-2957 | 2019 | Jianqing Zhang* (China) |
| | | World Journal of Yoga, Physical Therapy and Rehabilitation | 2694-1767 | 2019 | Huei-Chu Cheng (Taiwan) |

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|---------------------------------|---|--|--|--|------------------------------|
| | Annals of Community Medicine and Practice | 2475-9465 | 2015 | Hicham Khayat (Spain) | |
| | Annals of Men's Health and Wellness | 2641-7707 | 2017 2019-2021: no volumes 2023: no volume | Jue Wang (USA) | |
| | Annals of Nursing and Practice / JSM Nursing and Practice | 2379-9501 | 2014 Only vol. 5 issue 2 (2019) present on the website | Michael B. Blank (USA) | |
| | Annals of Public Health and Research | 2378-9328 | 2014 | Weng Kee Wong (USA) | |
| | Annals of Sports Medicine and Research / JSM Sports Medicine and Research | 2379-0571 | 2014 Only vol. 3 issue 1 (2019) present on the website | Christian C. Evans (USA) | |
| | Archives of Paediatric and Developmental Pathology | 2641-774X | 2017 | Hosein Heydari (Iran) | |
| | Journal of Addiction Medicine and Therapy | 2333-665X | 2013 (4 articles) | Billy T. Chen (USA) | |
| | Journal of Autism and Epilepsy | 2641-7774 | 2016 | Meral Huri (Turkiye) | |
| | Journal of Behavior | 2576-0076 | 2014 Volumes 1, 4 and 5 lacking on the website 2018-2019: no volumes | Linda Lagasse (USA) | |
| JSciMed Central/ JSMCentral* | Not indicated on the journal websites; In email messages sometimes indicated as: Middletown, DE 19709 USA; ISSN portal: India | Journal of Fractures and Sprains | 2578-3831 | 2017 | Harvey Manes (USA) |
| | | Journal of Neurological Disorders and Stroke | 2334-2307 | 2013 Volumes 4-6 (2020-2022) 1 article per year | Allan Siegel (USA) |
| | | Journal of Neurology and Translational Neuroscience | 2333-7087 | 2013 No archive on website | Joe Iewanaga* (Japan) |
| | | Journal of Trauma and Care | 2573-1246 | 2015 | Paul R. Sanberg (USA) |
| | | JSM Anxiety and Depression | 2475-9139 | 2016 | Nancy L. Beckerman (USA) |
| | | JSM Bioavailability and Bioequivalence | 2641-7812 | 2017 No archive on website | Sitaram P. Velaga (Sweden) |
| | | JSM Foot & Ankle | 2475-9112 | 2016 | J. Monde Laborde,(USA) |
| | | JSM Health Education & Primary Health Care | 2578-3777 | 2016 (no volumes for 2019-2021) | Baraket Oussama (Tunesia) |
| | | JSM Medical Case Reports | None | 2016 (no volume for 2022: 2021: 1 article) | Amit D. Amin USA) |
| | | JSM Microbiology | 2333-6455 | 2013 (volumes 2021-2024 lacking) | Yan Ping Lin (USA) |
| | | JSM Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (also indicated as: SM Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation) | 2578-3572 | 2017 Last published volume: 6 (2022: 4 articles) | Kenichi Ito (Japan) |
| | | JSM Thyroid Disorders and Management | None | 2016 (1 article) Last volume: 2023 (1 article) | Carlos Pernambuco (Portugal) |
| | | SM Journal of Biomedical Engineering | 2573-3702 | 2015 (4 articles) | No editors indicated |
| | | SM Journal of Case Reports | 2473-0688 | 2019 | No editors indicated |
| | | SM Journal of Environmental Toxicology | None | No archive | No editors indicated |

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|--|-----------------------------|---|-----------|--|---------------------------------------|
| | | SM Journal of Family Medicine | 2576-0262 | 2017 | No editors indicated |
| | | SM Journal of Nursing | 2573-3249 | 2015 | Ahmad S. Salehi (Afghanistan) |
| | | SM Journal of Public Health and Epidemiology | 2473-0661 | Vol. 1-2 lacking; No volumes for 2019-2022 | No editors indicated |
| Jscholar Publishers \ Jscholar Journals* | Sunnyvale CA 94087 USA | Journal of Bioinformatics and Comparative Genomics | 2694-037X | 2018 | Xin Li (USA) |
| | | Journal of Food and Nutrition | 2375-6829 | 2014 | Elane M. De Lira (Brazil) |
| | | Journal of Genetic Disorders and Therapy | None | 2022 | Biqing Chen (China) |
| | | Journal of Osteology and Arthrology | None | 2022 | Xinyong Li (Australia) |
| | | Journal of Women's Health and Gynecology | 2379-6715 | 2014 | Joanne Milios (Australia) |
| Juniper Publishers* | Irvine CA 92612 USA | Annals of reviews and Research Current Trends in Biomedical Engineering and Biosciences | 2641-8320 | 2017-2018 (2017: 1 article) | Raul H. Morales Borges* (Puerto Rico) |
| | | Global Journal of Addiction & Rehabilitation Medicine | 2572-1151 | 2016 | Zhengjun Liu (China) |
| | | Global Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities | 2573-2447 | 2017 | Sam Vaknin (Russia) |
| | | Journal of Complementary Medicine & Alternative Healthcare | 2575-8586 | 2017 | Manual Ojea Rua (Spain) |
| | | Journal of Gynecology and Women's Health | 2572-1232 | 2016 | Yemeng Chen* (USA) |
| | | Journal of Tumor Medicine & Prevention | 2474-7602 | 2016 | Pietro V. Foti (Italy) |
| | | Journal of Yoga and Physiotherapy | 2575-890X | 2017 | Shi-Yong Sun (USA) |
| | | Open Access Journal of Toxicology | 2476-1303 | 2016 | Feilong Wu,(USA) |
| | | Palliative Medicine and Care International Journal | 2474-7599 | 2015 | Ayman Noreddin (United Arab Emirates) |
| | | | 2688-3821 | 2018 | Giovanna L. Costa (Italy) |
| Lidsen Publishing* | Beachwood OH44122 USA | OBM Integrative and Complementary Medicine | 2573-4393 | 2016 (3 articles) | Gerhard Litscher* (Austria) |
| Longdom Publishing* | 1150 Brussels Belgium | Autism-Open Access | 2165-7890 | 2011 (4 articles) | Dario Siniscalco (Italy) |
| | | Emergency Medicine: Open Access | 2165-7548 | 2011 | Eiichi Suehiro (Japan) |
| | | Internal Medicine: Open Access | 2165-8048 | 2011 | Fabio Angeli* (Italy) |
| Lupine Publishers* | New York NY 10019 USA | Open Access Journal of Complementary & Alternative Medicine | 2644-1217 | 2018 | Adel W. Ekladios, (Australia) |
| | | Orthopedics and Sports Medicine Open Access Journal | 2638-6003 | 2018 | Alfio Ferlito (Italy) |
| Maples Scientific Publishers | Mohali Punjab 160070 India | Journal of Internal Medicine and Emergency Research | 2582-7367 | 2018 | Josef Eldor* (Israel) |
| McMed International* | T-Naga Chennai 600017 India | International Journal of Veterinary Science and Research | None | 2015 (nothing later) | R. Srivastava* (France) |
| MDPI | 4020 Basel Switzerland | Healthcare | 2227-9032 | 2013 | Tin-Chih T. Chen (Taiwan) |

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|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|-----------|--|--------------------------------------|
| Medclinics | Cheyenne WY 82001 USA | CMJ Clinical Medicine | None | 2024 | A.A. Altintas* (Germany) |
| | | CMJ Medicine | None | None | Mirza Kovacevic (Bosnia Herzegovina) |
| | | CMJ Open Journal | None | None | Senthil S. Balasubramanian (USA) |
| | | Global Clinical and Medical Care Reports Journal | None | None | Cao Qiang (China) |
| | | Journal of Case Reports in Clinical Medicine | None | None | Celeste Y.-C. Wu (USA) |
| | | Journal of Surgery and Perioperative Care | None | None | Giovanni Dapri (Italy) |
| Meddocs Publishers | Reno NV 89502 USA | International Journal of Innovative Surgery | 2639-9229 | 2018 | Binyun Ma (USA) |
| | | Journal of Orthopedics and Muscular System | 2640-4389 | 2018 | Jianwei He (China) |
| Medires Publishing | New York NY 10013 USA | International Journal of Pulmonology and Disorders | None | 2023 | Pavel A. Solopov* (USA) |
| Mediterranean Journals | Lewes DE 19958 USA | Annals of Public Health | 2831-6193 | 2022 (no archive) | Khalid Bouti (Morocco) |
| Medpress Publications | Dover DE 19901 USA | Medpress Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation | None | Indicated: 2022 (no volume was ever published) | Jawal Al-Mosawi* (Iraq) |
| | | Medpress Psychiatry and Behavioral Science | 2834-7552 | 2016 | Amir J. Al-Mosawi* (Iraq) |
| Medtext Publications* | Chicago IL 60659 USA | American Journal of Clinical Case Reports | 2766-5844 | 2020 | Arens Taga (USA) |
| | | American Journal of Surgery Case Reports | 2766-8304 | 2020 | Shigeo Masuda (Japan) |
| | | American Journal of Surgical Techniques and Case Reports | 2694-4901 | 2020 | John A. St. Cyr (Canada) |
| | | Annals of Clinical Case Studies | 2688-1241 | 2018 | James P. Dworkin-Valenti* (USA) |
| | | Annals of Short Reports and Clinical Images | 2688-5506 | 2018 (archive incomplete) | Toru Ishikawa (Japan) |
| | | Journal of Medicine and Public Health | 2766-8355 | 2020 | Rogério Oliveira Rodrigues (Brazil) |
| | | Medlife Clinics | 2689-5943 | 2019 | Lin Lin (China) |
| | | Neurology Current Research | 2687-6981 | 2018-2019 | Yanfei Deng (China) |
| MK Science Set Publishers | Buffalo NY 14226 USA | Journal of Clinical Surgery Care Research | None | 2022 | Brandon P. Lucke-Wold (USA) |
| | | Journal of Psychiatry and Neurochemistry Research | None | 2023 | Photios Anninos (Greece) |
| | | Science Set Journal of Medical and Clinical Case Studies | None | Indicated: 2022 (no archive) | Mahaveer Mehta (UAE) |
| Negah Scientific Communication | Tehran Iran | Archives of Rehabilitation | 2538-6247 | 2022 | Mohammad A.M. Bandpe* (Iran) |
| Ocean Visionary Publications | Newcastle DE 19709 USA | Medical and Clinical Case Reports International | None | 2023 (1 article) | Varikoti Triveni (India) |
| OMICS International | Constanta 900720 Romania | Journal of Alzheimers Disease and Parkinsonisml | 2161-0460 | 2011 | Aleksandar Videnovic (USA) |

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|---|----------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| OAT (Open Access Text / OA Text)* | London W4 5YA UK | Archives of Epidemiology and Public Health | 2633-1411 | 2019 | Bingling Wang (China) |
| | | Biomedical Genetics and Genomics | 2398-5399 | 2016 | Hieronim Jakubowski* (USA) |
| | | Biomedical Research and Reviews | 2515-9186 | 2017 | Jin-Wen Xu* (China) |
| | | Clinical and Medical Investigations | 2398-5763 | 2016 | John D. Rozich* (USA) |
| | | Clinical Case Reports and Reviews | 2059-0393 | 2015 | Andy Goren* (Italy) |
| | | Clinical Obstetrics, Gynecology and Reproductive Medicine | 2059-4828 | 2015 | John L. Powell* (USA) |
| | | Clinical Sciences Research and Reports | 2516-709X | 2018 | Wataru Hatakeyama (Japan) |
| | | Frontiers in Women's Health | 2398-2799 | 2016 | Beverly J.N. Vollernhoven (Australia) |
| | | Global Medicine and Therapeutics | 2516-7065 | 2016 | Simon C. Robson (USA) |
| | | Health Education and Care | 2398-8517 | 2016 | Fadi Alkhateeb (USA) |
| | | Internal Medicine and Care | 2515-1061 | 2017 | Alessandra Vari (Italy) |
| | | Journal of Clinical Investigation and Studies | 2631-4002 | 2018 | Tomoko Hasunuma* (Japan) |
| | | Medical Case reports and Reviews | 2517-7214 | 2018 | Hamid Y. Husain* (UAE) |
| | | Medical Devices and Diagnostic Engineering | 2390-6854 | 2016 (6 articles) | Jui-Teng Lin, (USA) |
| | | Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Research | 2398-3353 | 2016 | Martin Grabois* (USA) |
| Trauma and Emergency Care | 2398-3345 | 2016 | Guo-Gang Xin* (China) | | |
| Trends in Medicine | 1594-2848 | 2001 | Ying-Fu Chen* (Taiwan) | | |
| Opast Publishers* | Overland Park KS 66221 USA | Advances in Bioengineering and Biomedical Science Research | 2640-4133 | 2018 | Yong Lian, (China) |
| | | Dermatology Journal of Cosmetic and Laser Therapy | 2835-7329 | 2022 | Mahaveer Mehta (India) |
| | | International Journal of Clinical and Medical Education Research | 2832-7705 | 2022 | Gurdeep Singh (USA) |
| | | International Journal of Alzheimer's Disease Research | None | 2023 | James Stoxen (USA) |
| | | New Advances in Brain & Critical Care | 2771-7887 | 2020 | Iswariya Venkataraman (USA) |
| | | World Journal of Clinical & Medical Images | 2833-9312 | 2022 | Raffaella Pilla (Italy) |
| Open Journal Systems* | Phoenix AZ 85032 USA | Journal of Medical Case Reports and Reviews | (p) 2589-8647 (e) 2589-8655 | 2018 | Andrii Puzyrenko* (USA) |
| Oxford University Press | Oxford OX2 6DP UK | Journal of the National Cancer Center | (p) 2096-8603 (o) 2667-0054 | 2021 | Jie He* (USA) |
| Pagepress Publications | 2700 Pavia Italy | European Journal of Translational Myology | 2037-7460 | 1990 ? (Volumes 1-19 are lacking on the website) | Ugo Carraroi (Italy) |
| Pakistan Home Economics Association | Lahore 54782 Pakistan | Nurture | (p) 1994-1625 (o) 1994-1633 | 2007 | Guillaume F. Lopez-Sánchez (Spain) |

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|-------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Peertechz Publications* | Los Angeles CA 90024 USA | Annals of Environmental Science and Toxicology | 2641-2969 | 2016 | Miklas Scholz* (Sweden) |
| | | Annals of Musculoskeletal Medicine | 2640-8139 | 2012 | Maria Plagkou (Greece) |
| | | Archives of Preventive Medicine | 2640-7868 | 2016 | Pengcheng (China) |
| | | Archives of Sports Medicine and Physiotherapy | 2641-3108 | 2016 (2 articles) | Redha Tajar* (France) |
| | | Journal of Addiction Medicine and Therapeutic Science | 2455-3484 | 2015 | Carl N. Edwards (USA) |
| | | Journal of HIV for Clinical and Scientific Research | 2455-3786 | 2020 | Abu-Hussein Muhamad* (Greece) |
| Prime Scholars* | London UB8 1QG UK | Quality in Primary Care | 1479-1064 | Volumes 1-12 are lacking; Vol. 13: 2003 | Hassaan Tohid (USA) |
| Probe Publisher | Waltham Cros EN8 UK | Journal of Clinical Trials and Case Studies | None | 2023 | Abu-Hussein Muhamad* (Greece) |
| Probiologists | Middletown DE 19709 USA | Journal of Rehabilitation Research and Practice | 2694-0388 | 2020 | Leslie A. Tive (USA) |
| | | Archives of Clinical Toxicology | 2692-8280 | 2019 | Kartoosh Heidari (USA) |
| Quest Journals Inc.* | New Delhi India | Journal of Medical and Dental Science Research | (p) 2394-076X (o) 2394-0791 | 2014 | Saparov Bobur (Uzbekistan) |
| | | Journal of Research in Pharmaceutical Science | 2347-2995 | 2013 | Saparov Bobur (Uzbekistan) |
| Remedy Publications* | Indicated as: Cheyenne WY 82001 USA Actually: Hyderabad, Telangana-500081 India | American Journal of Medicine and Public Health | 2771-943X | 2020 | Kristine M. Demarco (USA) |
| | | Annals of Clinical Case Reports | 2474-1655 | 2016 | Yoshihiro Abiko* (Japan) |
| | | Annals of Clinical Toxicology | 2641-905X | 2018 | Takaki Ishikawa (Japan) |
| | | Annals of Orthopedics and Muskuloskeletal Disorders | 2638-3586 | 2017 | Al-min Wu (China) |
| | | Annals of Short Reports | 2640-6691 | 2018 | Andreas Scorilas (Greece) |
| | | Clinical Case Reports International | 2638-4558 | 2017 | Kinner M. Patel (USA) |
| | | Clinics in Surgery | 2474-1647 | 2016 | Robert J. Buchanan* (USA) |
| | | Journal of Clinical Ophthalmology & Eye Disorders | 2644-0385 | 2017 | Zhijie Li (China) |
| | | Journal of Plastic Surgery | 2771-9456 | 2021 | Naohiri Ishii, (Japan) |
| | | Open Journal of Public Health | 2689-9388 | 2019 | Dazhi Fan (China) |
| | | World Journal of Clinical and Medical Case Reports | 2996-4350 | 2023 (5 articles) | Shansheng Zhang (China) |
| | | World Journal of Surgery and Surgical Research | 2637-4625 | 2018 | Yukihiko Tokunaga (Japan) |
| Research & Reviews* | Dubai UAE | Journal of Veterinary Sciences | 2581-3897 | 2015 | Rahul M. Nandre (USA) |
| Sage Publications | London EC1Y 1SP0 UK | Asia Pacific Journal of Public Health | (p) 1010-5395 (o) 1941-2479 | 1987 | Wah Yun Low* (Malaysia) |
| | | Clinical Medicine Insights: Arthritis and musculoskeletal Disorders | 1179-5441 | 2008 | Chuanju Liu (USA) |
| | | Health: An Interdisciplinary Journal for the Social Study of Health, Illness and Medicine | 1363-4593 | 1997 | Michael Ttraynor (UK) |
| | | Journal of Patient Safety and Risk Management | (p) 2516-0435 (o) 2516-0443 | 1995 | Albert W. Wu (USA) |
| | | Scandinavian Journal of Public Health | (p) 1403-4948 (o) 1651-1905 | 1973 | Terje A. Elkemo* (Norway) |

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|---|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|---|---|
| Salient Visionary Publications | Casper WY 82609 USA | Annals of Case Reports and Clinical Studies | 2834-5673 | 2022 | Nick Bakalis (Greece) |
| | | Annals of Clinical Oncology and Cancer Research | None | 2023 (1 article) | Takaaki Musha* (Japan) |
| | | Clinics in Medicine and Medical Research | None | 2023 | Emmanuel Andres* (USA) |
| | | International Clinical and Medical Case Reports | 2832-5788 | 2022 | Adel W. Ekladios (Australia) |
| | | International Journal of Alternative, Complementary and Integrative Medicine | None | None | Hossein Husseinkhani (USA) |
| Scholarena* | Warrensburg MO 64093 USA | Journal of Genetic and Hereditary Case Studies | None | None | Emmanuel I. Obeagu (Nigeria) |
| | | Journal of Human Genetics and Genomic Medicine | 2768-1521 | 2018-2019 | Nikolsay I. Modyanov (USA) |
| | | Journal of Palliative and Medical Care | None | 2021 (1 article) No later volumes | Hossein Sarmast (Syria) |
| Scholars Literature | Hampshire IL 60140 USA | Journal of Womens Health Care and Management | 2692-0948 | 2020 | Alberto Falchetti (Italy) |
| Scibase Journals | Las Vegas NV 89107 USA | Scibase Critical Care & Emergency Medicine | None | 2023 | Massimo Meco (Italy) |
| | | Scibase Oncology | 2996-3826 | 2023 | Valeria Delgado Taveres (Portugal) |
| Science Excel | Wilmington DE 19801 USA | Archives of Clinical Trials | 2768-4598 | 2021 | Ning Li* (China) |
| | | Biomedical and Translational Science | 2768-4911 | 2020-2021 | Jin-Ichi Sasaki* (Japan) |
| | | Medicine and Clinical Science | 2690-5191 | 2019 | Satoshi Kashiwagi* (USA) |
| | | Neurology and Neuroscience | 2692-7918 | 2020 | Xue-Bin Qu* (China) |
| | | Surgery Research Journal | 2768-0428 | 2020-2021 | John A. St. Cyr* (USA) |
| Science Publications* | Dubai UAE | Current Research in Medicine | (p) 2524-2199 (o) 2524-2202 | 2010 | No editors indicated; Request to apply |
| Science Publishing Group* | New York, NY 10020 USA | American Journal of Clinical and Experimental Medicine | 2330-8133 | 2013 | Fiorella Colasuonno (Italy) |
| | | American Journal of Health Research | 2330-8796 | 2013 | Samuel S. Akpan (Nigeria) |
| | | International Journal of Biomedical Engineering and Clinical Science | (p) 2472-1298 (o) 1472-1301 | 2015 | Swee Lu Lim (Australia) |
| | | Clinical Medicine: Research | (p) 2326-9049 (o) 2326-9057 | 2012 | Hongjian Pu (USA) |
| Science Scholar / Universidad Technica de Manabi | Portoviejo 130105 Ecuador | International Journal of Health Sciences | (p) 2550-6978 (o) 2550-696X | 2017 | Maria Rodríguez Gaméz* |
| Scieniq Publishers | Chandler AZ 85286 USA | Journal of Neurology and Neuroscience Research | None | No archive | Linnie M. Golightly (USA) |
| Scientific and Academic Publishing (Sapub/SAP)* | Rosemead CA 91731 USA | American Journal of Medicine and Medical Sciences | (p)2165-901X (e)2165-9036 | 2011 | Eduardo Spinedi* (Argentina) |
| Scientific Archives LLC | Wilmington DE 19804 USA | Journal of Cellular Immunology | 2689-2812 | 2019 | Patrice P. Deneffe* (France) |
| | | Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation | 2690-0297 | 2019 | Wan X. Yao* (USA) |

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|---|---|--|-----------|--|--|
| Scientific Eminence Group | New York NY 535022 / Tracy CA 95377 USA | Journal of Genetic Diseases and Therapeutics | None | 2022 (1 article) (no later volumes) | “will be updated soon” (for several months) |
| | | Journal of Physical Rehabilitation and Physiotherapy | None | 2021-2022 (2021: 1 article; no later volume) | Philippe Gorce (France) |
| | | Journal of Women Health Care and Reproductive Medicine | None | 2021 (no 2023 volume) | Nicolaos Papadopoulos (Greece) |
| Scientific Literature* | Wilmington DE 19801 USA | Annals of Orthopaedics, Trauma and Rehabilitation | 2833-2431 | 2017 | Gavin Mills (USA) |
| | | Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Journal | 2834-3247 | 2017 | Martin Katzman (Canada) |
| Scientific Research and Community (SRC) | Coventry CV5 6GF UK | Journal of Neurology Research Reviews & Reports | 2754-4737 | 2019 | Brandon P. Lucke-Wold* (USA) |
| | | Journal of Spine Research & Reports | 2755-9890 | 2022 | Giuseppe Ianza* (Italy) |
| Scientize Publishers | Auburn 2144 NSW Australia | Annals of Case Reports & Reviews | 2574-5747 | 2018 | Adel W. Ekladios* (Australia) |
| | | Annals of Surgery and Surgical Care Reports | 2575-9670 | 2018 (3 articles) | A.K. Venyo (UK) |
| Scimed Press | Sheridan WY 82810 USA | SMP Sports Science and Medicine | None | None | Mark Váczi (Hungary) |
| SCIREA | Hong Kong | Scirea Journal of Clinical Medicine | 2706-8870 | 2016 | Grzegorz Cieslar (Poland) |
| Scires Literature* | Middletown DE 19709 USA | Journal of Biomedical Research & Environmental Sciences | 2766-2278 | 2020 | Mark S. Kindy (USA) |
| Scitech Journals* | Hyderabad 500072 India | Journal of Alternative Medicine and Therapies | None | 2014 | Fazlollah Ghofranipour (Iran) |
| Series Science International | Minneapolis MN 55402 USA | Series of Medical Science | 2771-0629 | 2020 (2 articles) | Yasuo Iwasaki (Japan) |
| Society for Advance Healthcare Research | K.M. Girhepunje Maharashtra India | European Journal of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences | 2349-8870 | 2014 | Valentina Petkova* (Bulgaria) |
| Stechnolock* | No address provided | Annals of Sports and Exercise Medicine | None | None | Carlo Pruneti (Italy) |
| Stephy Publishers | Irvine CA 92614 USA | SOJ Complementary and Emergency Medicine | 2833-3357 | 2021 | Roy G. Beran (Australia), |
| STM Journals | Noida Uttar Pradesh 201301 India | International Journal of Brain Sciences | None | 2024 | Podolsky I. Mykolayovich* (Ukraina) |
| Sunandan Divatia School of Science, NMIMS | Mumbai Maharashtra 400056 India | Biomedical Research Journal | 2349-3674 | 2014 | Neetin Desai* (India) |

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|---|---|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| Symbiosis* | Normal IL 61761 USA | Journal of Exercise, Sports & Orthopedics | 2372-0972 | 2014 | Andre Nicolas Gay* (USA) |
| | | Nursing and Health Care | 2471-6529 | 2015 | Danita R. Potter* (USA) |
| Universitas Airlangga | Surabaya 60132 Indonesia | Surabaya Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Journal | 2656-0895 | 2019 | Martha K. Kusumawardani* (Indonesia) |
| Universitat Sebelas Maret | Surakarta 57126 Indonesia | Epidemiology and Public Health | 2549-0273 | 2016 | Bhisma Murti (Indonesia) |
| URF Publishers | Hyderabad, Telangana, 502303 India | Journal of Integrated Health | 2583-5386 | 2022 | Erica Edfort* (USA) |
| | | Medical & Clinical Case Reports Journal | 2584-0355 | 2023 | Amgad M. Rabie* (Egypt) |
| VIBGYOR epress* | Hemel Hempstead HP1 1AU UK | International Journal of Healthcare Systems Engineering | 2633-8939 | 2019 | Ronald T. Brown (USA) |
| Walsh Medical Media | London UB8 1QG UK (ISSN portal: India) | Journal of Bioequivalence & Bioavailability | 0975-0851 | 2009 | Sinerik Ayrapetyan* (Armenia) |
| World Science Publishing Co.* | Singapore 596422 | Journal of Mechanics In Medicine and Biology | (p) 0219-5194 (o) 1793-6810 | 2001 | Y.-K. Eddie (Singapore) |
| World Scientific and Engineering Academy and Societ (WSEAS)* | Athens 15773 Greece | WSEAS Transactions on Biology and Biomedicine | (p) 1109-9518 (o) 2224-2902 | 2004 | Charles A. Long (USA) |
| Journals without a traceable publisher (stand-alone journals) | Santa Rosa CA 95404 USA | American Journal of Surgery and Clinical Case Reports | 2689-8268 | 2019-2020 | Deborah J. Verran* (New Zealand) |
| | Franklin Park NJ 08823 USA | Annals of Case Reports and Medical Images | None | No archive | No editors indicated |
| | Jodhpur Rajasthan 342001 India | Biomedical Research | (p) 0970-938X (e) 0976-1683 | Volumes 1-13 lacking in archive | Ken-ichiro Inoue* (Japan) |
| | Bhopal Madhya Pradesh India | Innovative Journal of Medical and Health Sciences | (p) 2589-9341 (o) 2277-4939 | 2011 | Daniel Vivek (India) |
| | Sundargarh Odisha 769003 India | International Journal Dental and Medical Sciences Research | 2582-6018 | 2019 | Sebastain Wilson* (USA) (Note: spelling following website) |
| | Sundargarh Odisha 769003 India | International Journal of Pharmaceutical Research and Applications* | 2249-7781 | 2016 | Manohar Deshmukh* (India) |
| | Hooghly, West Bengal India | Journal of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research | 2456-6276 | 2016 | Nawal K. Dubey (India) |
| | Telangana, Hyderabad 508252 India | Frontiers in Medical Case Reports* | 2582-8142 | 2020 | Amandeep Goyal* (USA) |
| Mandsaur Mandhya Pradesh India | Journal of Medical Care Research and Review | (p) 2589-8930 (o) 2589-8949 | 2018 | Shariful Islam* (Trinidad and Tobago) | |

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|--|----------------------------------|--|-----------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Lewes DE 16192 USA | Insights of Clinical and Medical Images | 2834-0825 | 2019 | Spoorthi R. Banavar (Malaysia) |
| | Lewes DE 16192 USA | Insights Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology | 2834-0752 | 2019 | Muhammad Irfan, (China) |
| | Beverly Hills CA 90212 USA | International Journal of Clinical Studies and Medical Case Reports | 2692-5877 | 2020 | Emmanuel Andres* (France) |
| | Chandler, AZ 85286 USA | International Journal on Biomedical Research and Technology | None | 2023 | No editors indicated |
| | Frisco TX 75070 USA | Journal of Clinical Case Reports, Medical Images and Health Sciences | 2832-1286 | 2022 | Shesnia Salim (China) |
| Journals without a traceable publisher (stand-alone journals) | Frisco TX 75070 USA | Journal of Clinical Studies and Medical Images, Case Reports | 2837-7567 | 2023 | Shesnia Salim (China) |
| | Las Vegas NV 89107 USA | Journal on Surgery | 2691-7785 | 2020 | Narjis Youssef (Morocco) |
| | Las Vegas NV 89107 USA | Epidemiology and Public Health | None | 2023 | Casey Fiske (USA) |
| | Franklin Park NJ 08823 USA | Med Discoveries | 2993-1142 | 2022 | Enrico Heffler (Italy) |
| | Phoenix AZ 85024 USA | Journal of Clinical and Medical Images, Case Reports | 2771-019X | 2021 | Haruto Nishida* (Japan) |
| | Chesterton IN 46304 USA | World Journal of Clinical Surgery | 2766-6182 | 2019 (2 articles) | Haruto Nishida* (Japan) |

1. An asterisk (*) in this column indicates that the publisher is included in Beall's list of potential predatory publishers (accessed 23 May 2023). Inclusion in these lists does not necessarily imply that these are predatory publishers. On the other hand, publishers not included in these lists might be predatory, particularly since many journals are so recent that inclusion in a list of predatory publishers was not feasible. Moreover, it should be kept in mind that numerous publishes ad journals do not indicate the actual address where they are housed (see also Table 2).
2. Not all addresses are indicated on the publisher's or journal's website. When absent, the address could occasionally be traced elsewhere. Where only a country is indicated, this information was retrieved from the ISSN portal.
3. Note that the journal's website does not always indicate an ISSN. If the journal's website does not indicate an ISSN, the existence of an ISSN was checked through the ISSN portal (last check: 15 July 2024). It appears that several publishers indicate for more than half a year that the application for an ISSN is in progress (which does actually never take that long!). If both a printed and an online version are published, both ISSN numbers - (p) and (o), respectively - are indicated.
4. Volume 1 cannot always be traced in the archive on the journal's website (occasionally because no volume 1 has been published yet).
5. An asterisk in this column indicates an Editor-in-Chief. Other names indicate the first mentioned member of the Editorial Board/Team/Panel.

Some journals and publishers mentioned in Table 1 have exactly the same address eg Lewes, DE (16192 Coastal Highway) without mentioning any

relationship. Characteristics of publishers and journals housed at mentioned address is detailed in Table 2.

Table 2: Characteristics of publishers and (pretended?) stand-alone journals housed at 16192 Coastal Highway, Lewes, DE 19958, USA (the internet searched August 2023-July 2024)

| Publishers | | | |
|-----------------------|--|------------------------|--|
| Publisher's name | Additional contact possibilities | Number of all journals | Titles of medical journals |
| Acquaint Publications | tel. +1-(302)-597-9112 info@acquaintjournals.info | 9 | Journal of Cancer and Cancer Screening Journal of Community Medicine and Public Health Reports Journal of Dental Research and Dental Prospects Journal of Gynaecology, Andrology and Reproductive Medicine Journal of Heart and Cardiovascular Imaging Journal of Medical Case Reports and case Series Journal of Neurosurgery and Clinical Neurology Journal of Nutrition and Diet Care Journal of Surgery and Surgical Outcomes |
| Aditum Publishing | tel. +1-(205)-633-4424 info@aditum.org | 50 | Aditum Journal of Clinical and Biomedical Research Anesthesia and Pain Management Archives Of Clinical Surgery Case Reports International Journal Clinical Cardiology Interventions Clinical Case Reports and Clinical Study Clinical Medical Case Reports and Case Series Clinical Psychology and Mental Health Care Clinical Research and Clinical Case Reports Dental Science and Innovative Research Environmental Pollution and Health Gastroenterology and Hepatology Research Immunity Inflammation and Infection Diseases International Clinical Research and Clinical Trials International Journal of Addiction Research International Journal of Clinical Cardiology and Cardiovascular International Journal of Clinical Gynaecology and Obstetrics International Journal of Clinical Otorhinolaryngology International Journal of Epidemiology and Public Health Research International Journal of Hematology Research and Reports International Journal of Intensive Care Medicine International Journal of Interventional Radiology and Imaging International Journal of Medical Case Reports and Medical Research International Journal of Public Health Nutrition and Food Processing International Journal of Toxicology Research International Pathology and Laboratory Medicine International Surgery Case Reports Journal of Biomed Research International Journal of Brain Research and Human Behavior Journal of Clinical Oncology and Cancer Research Journal of Dermatology and Venereology Journal of International Endocrinology and Diabetes Journal of Pulmonary Medicine and Respiratory Sciences Journal of Rehabilitation Research Journal of Urology and Nephrology Research Journal of Veterinary Medicine and Science Journal of Women Health Care and Analysis Neurosurgery and Neurology Research Nursing and Healthcare Research Oncology and Cancer Screening Ophthalmology and Vision Care Orthopaedic Research and Surgery Orthopaedics and Traumatology Journal Pediatrics and Child Health Issues |

| | | | |
|---------------------|--|----|---|
| AJPO Journals | WhatsApp: +1-(985)-283-6478 journals@aipojournals.org Bhulabhai Desai Road, Mumbai, India | 55 | American Journal of Health, Medicine and Nursing Practice European Journal of Animal Health European Journal of Health Sciences |
| Auctores Publishing | tel. +1-(302)-520-2644 info@auctorespublishing.com | 80 | Addiction Research and Adolescent Behaviour Archives of Medical Case Reports and Case Study Biomedical and Clinical Research Biomedical Research and Clinical Reviews Brain and Neurological Disorders Cancer Research and Cellular Therapeutics Carcinogenesis and Chemotherapy Cardiology Research and Reports Chinese Clinical Research and Trials Clinical Abdominal Diseases and Research Clinical and Interventional Cardiology Clinical Cancer and Oncology Research Clinical Cardiology and Cardiovascular Interventions Clinical Heart Research Clinical Imaging and Interventional Radiology Clinical Medical Reviews and Reports Clinical Obesity and Bariatric surgery Clinical Oncology Research and Reports Clinical Oral Health Clinical Orthopaedics and Trauma Care Clinical Pediatrics and Mother Health Clinical Research and Clinical Trials Clinical Research Notes Clinics in Radiology Dentistry and Oral Maxillofacial Surgery Dermatology and Dermatitis Diabetes and Islet Biology Emergency Medicine and Emergency Nursing Endocrinology and Disorders Experimental and Clinical Ophthalmology Gastroenterology Pancreatology and Hepatobiliary Disorders General Medicine and Clinical Practice Immunology and Inflammation Diseases Therapy International Journal of Cardiovascular Medicine International Journal of Clinical Case Reports and Reviews International Journal of Clinical Nephrology International Journal of Clinical Psychology International Journal of Mediators of Inflammation International Journal of Oxidative Medicine and Cellular Longevity Journal of Clinical Anatomy Journal of Clinical and Laboratory Research Journal of Clinical Case Reports and Studies Journal of Clinical Otorhinolaryngology Journal of Clinical Research and Reports Journal of Clinical Surgery and Research Journal of Clinical Virology and Microbiology Journal of Heart and Vasculature Journal of Scientific Research and Biomedical Informatics Journal of Surgical Case Reports and Images Journal of Thoracic Disease and Cardiothoracic Surgery Neural Plasticity and Clinical Practice Neurodegeneration and Neurorehabilitation Neuroscience and Neurological Surgery New Medical Innovations and Research Obstetrics Gynecology and Reproductive Sciences Orthopaedics and Surgical Sports Medicine Pharmaceutics and Pharmacology Research Pollution and Public Health Reproductive Health and Issues Sleep Disorders and Therapeutics Spinal Diseases and Research Stem cell Research and Therapeutics International Vascular Neurology and Stroke Women Health Care and Issues |

| | | | |
|---|--|----|---|
| Cari Journals | tel. +1-(908)-891-6192 journals@carijournals.org Washington, DC 20007, USA | 46 | Animal Health International Journal of Health, Medicine and Nursing Practice International Journal of Health Sciences |
| Infact Publications | info@infactpublications.com | 25 | Annals of Family Medicine and Primary Care Annals of Neurological Research and Studies Annals of Pharmacology Archives of Advanced Biomedical Research Clinical Case Reports Journal Clinical Oncology Journal Clinical Studies in Gastroenterology and Hepatology Clinical Surgery Journal Clinics in Orthopedics and Sports Medicine Global Journal of Dental Medicine Global Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics Research Global Journal of Ophthalmology Global journal of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Global Journal of Pediatrics Journal of Food Science, Nutrition and Metabolism Journal of Heart Disorders Journal of Internal Medicine and Clinical Research Journal of Otorhinolaryngology – ENT Research Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Therapy World Journal of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine World Journal of Dermatological Research World Journal of Emergency Medicine and Critical Care World Journal of Endocrinology and Diabetes World Journal of Public Health and Epidemiology World Journal of Radiology and Medical Imaging |
| International Peer Reviewed Journals and Books (IPRJB) | WhatsApp: +1-(763)-230-2394 journals@iprjb.org | 44 | Global Journal of Health Sciences Journal of Animal Health Journal of Health, Medicine and Nursing |
| Mediterranean Journals | none | 12 | Advances in Pharmaceutical Sciences Annals of Dental Sciences Annals of Public Health Current Medicine Infectious Diseases Reviews Nursing Archives Oncology Insights Surgery Insights Veterinary Medicine Reports |
| Medvix Publications | tel. +1-(302)-990-8444 info@medvixpublications.org | 10 | Journal of Cancer and Oncology Care Journal of Cardiology Preventive and Heart Disease Journal of Dentistry and Oral Health Journal of Dermo Cosmetics Surgery and Skinology Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics Journal of Medical & Clinical Case Reports & Studies Journal of Medicine Care and Health Review Journal of Neurology Medicine and Neurosurgery Journal of Nutrition Methodology and Diabetic Care Journal of Surgery Research |
| SciDoc Publishers | tel. +1-(302)-703-1005 | 54 | Anatomy and Applied Physiology Anesthesiology and Research Bone and Rheumatology Research Cancer Studies and Research Cardiology and Research Chronic Diseases and Therapy Clinical Dermatology and Research Clinical and Experimental Otorhinolaryngology Clinical and Medical Allergy Clinical Pharmacology and Toxicology Clinical Therapeutics and Diagnosis Clinical Trials and Case Studies |

Dentistry and Oral Science
 Diabetology and Vascular Disease Research
 Food Science, Nutrition and Dietetics
 Forensic Science and Pathology
 HIV/AIDS and Research
 JBR Journal of Translational Biomarkers & Diagnosis
 JBR Journal of Translational Clinical Case Reports and Family Physician
 JBR Journal of Translational Diagnostics and Technology
 JBR Journal of Translational Space Dentistry, Medicine and Exploration
 Medical Biotechnology and Genetics
 Microbiology and Advanced Immunology
 Natural Disasters and Health Security
 Ophthalmology and Eye Science
 Pediatric Health Care and Advancements
 Renal and Urinary System
 Reproduction, Fertility and Sexual Health
 Respiratory Disease, Care & Medicine
 Stem Cell Research and Transplantation
 Surgery and Research
 Translation and Community Medicine
 Vaccines and Research
 Veterinary Health Science and Research
 Virology Studies and Research

Total: 11 publishers Total: 447 journals Total: 236 medical journals

| (Pretended?) stand-alone journals | | | | | |
|--|--------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Title | ISSN | Volume 1 | Editor ² | APC [#] | Additional contact |
| International Journal of Research in Agriculture and Forestry | (p) 2094-5907 (o) 2094-5915 | 2014 | Wu Ma (USA) | 100-300 | editor@ijraf.org |
| International Journal of Research in Agriculture and Forestry | (p) 2094-5907 (o) 2094-5915 | 2014 | Wu Ma (USA) | 100-300 | editor@ijraf.org |
| International Journal of Research in Business Studies and Management | (p) 2394-5923 (o) 2394-5931 | 2014 | Steven V. Cates (USA) | 100-300 | editor@ijsbsm.org |
| International Journal of Research Studies in Medical and Health Sciences | 2456-6373 | 2016 | Saju Joseph (USA) | 99-999 | editor@ijrsmhs.org |
| World Journal of Hematology and Oncology | 2834-118X | 2019 | Veenesh Selvaratnam (Malaysia) | not indicated on website | contact@wjoho.com |
| Insights of Clinical and Medical Image | 2834-0825 | 2019 | Spoorthi R. Banavar (Malaysia) | not indicated on website | contact@iocami.com |
| Insight Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology | 2834-0752 | 2019 | Muhammad Ifan (China) | not indicated on website | contact@joag.com |
| Insights Journal of Surgery and Clinical Case Reports | 2834-1163 | 2019 | Jinwei Zhang (UK) | not indicated on website | contact@ijsccr.com |
| Advances in Thoracic Diseases | 2550-6048 | 2019 | Mohamed Bouchikh* (Morocco) | not indicated on website | Contact Mediterranean Journals' + Rabat (Morocco) |
| International Journal of Clinical and Medical Case Reports | 2517-7346 | 2018 | Yuri E. Razodovsky* (Belarussia) | not indicated on website | T: +1-(502)-268-7483 info@ijclinmedcasereports.com |
| International Journal of Surgery | 1743-9159 | no archive | Ranjana Bhattacharjee (India) | GBP 1899 | info@ijsopen.org |
| Total: 10 journals, of which 8 medical journals | | | | | |

Year in which the journals under study published their first volume (or article) is presented in Figure 1.

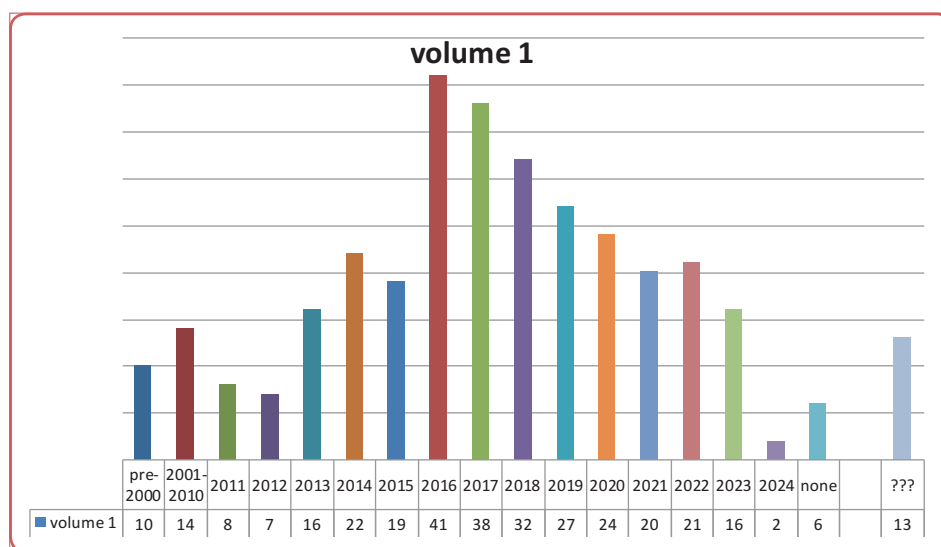


Figure 1: Years in which the journals under study published their first volume (or article)

Discussion

As mentioned in the Results section, the findings of our investigation need more details and also interpretation. Consequently, the next sub-sections deal, respectively, with the six earlier mentioned 'criteria': (1) the inclusion in predatory lists, (2) the year in which the journal was launched, (3) the presence of an Editor-in-Chief, (4) the presence of an ISSN, (5), the place where the publisher is located, and (6) the journals' names.

Inclusion in a predatory publishers list

Interestingly, 54 of the 105 publishers included in Table 1 (51.4 %) were present in Beall's list (although many publishers started quite recently), whereas 51 of the (then) 89 publishers (~57 %) were present on the list of Predatory Reports before it was removed from the internet. This implies that the majority of publishers that approached us with the request to contribute have been recognised already much earlier as (probably) predatory. It seems only logical to presume that this holds also (if not more) for the more recently started publishers.

The lesson to be learned: before submitting a manuscript to a journal is that it is useful to check whether the publisher or the journal is included in Beall's list (or one of the many other 'informal' lists. If so, it might be wise to reconsider the submission to the intended journal.

Most obvious: a recent start

The most obvious feature in Table 1 is that the overwhelming majority of the journals have been launched quite recently: 262 of the 322 journals (81.4 %) started in the past ten years (2014-2023), whereas only 10 journals (3.1 %) started before 2001 (13 journals – 4.0 % - had not yet published any issue, not rarely even more than half a year after the request to contribute, whereas the websites of 4 journals – 1.2 % - did not show an archive from which the year of launching could be reconstructed). Although the rapid progress of science and the numerous innovative developments result necessarily in new journals, it is remarkable that most new journals are not published by recognised science publishers, but by publishers that have started recently commonly dozens of new journals.

It should be mentioned in this context that the journals in Table 1, which may be presumed for a great majority as most likely predatory (even though some established publishers like Elsevier are included), are published commonly only in electronic form (only 35 journals = 11.1 % could be traced to have a printed version). Unfortunately, the year in which the first volume was published is not always traceable on the journal's website (see the remarks in the pertinent column of Table 1). This implies that the articles published in the older volumes are no longer accessible or retrievable, which is – obviously – against the

principles of science. Another remarkable finding is that some journals, asking recently for a manuscript, seem not to publish volumes anymore (see the *Journal of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology*: no volumes since 2014; the *Journal of Medicine and Biological Studies*: no volumes since 2018; the *International Journal of Veterinary Science and Research*: no volume since 2015; *JSM Microbiology*: no volumes since 2020; the *Journal of Palliative and Medical Care*: no volumes after the one-article 2021 volume); and the *Journal of Genetic Diseases and Therapeutics* (no volumes after the one-article 2022 volume). It can even be worse: the *MedPress Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation* indicated on its website that a one-article volume had been launched in 2022, but this article is now no longer present on the site; the site still mentions, however, that it was started in 2022, but no volume has ever been published. One might really wonder why such journals ask potential authors to submit a manuscript: do they hope that “fresh authors” will wake up again a hibernating journal?

It is not exceptional that a new journal approaches specialists in the topic of the new journal with the request to contribute a manuscript for a first volume, mentioning when it will be launched. It is not well understandable, however, why probably predatory publishers ask to submit a manuscript even without mentioning that it is for a new journal and without providing any clue when it will be launched. The publishers in Table 1 with such a strange practice (the lack of any published volume was checked on the journals’ websites in July, 2024, in many cases more than 6 months after the request to contribute) are: Annex Publishers (*Journal of Genetic and Hereditary Research*), CEOS Publishers (*CEOS Obstetrics and Gynecology*; *CEOS Sports Medicine and Research*), EMRES Publishers (*eHealth Sciences*), MedClinics (*CMJ Medicine*, *CMJ Open Journal*, *Global Clinical and Medical Care Reports Journal*, *Journal of Case Reports in Clinical Medicine*, *Journal of Surgery and Perioperative Care*), Medpress Publishers (*Medpress Journal of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation*), Probe Publisher (*Journal of Clinical Trials and Case Studies*), Salient Visionary Publications (*International Journal of Alternative, Complementary and Integrative Medicine*), Scholarena (*Journal of Genetic and Hereditary Case Studies*), ScieniQ Publishers (*Journal of Neurology and Neuroscience Research*), SciMed Press (*SMP Sports Science and Medicine*) and Stechnolock (*Annals of Sports and Exercise Medicine*).

A special trick aimed at suggesting that a relatively new journal has already a long (and successful) history is the publication of numerous volumes within one year. For a long time, it was the rule that a journal published one volume per year. The reason was that the printed(!) issues of a single year could be bound together. In the past few decades, some journals became so large that it was practically impossible to bind all issues of one year together. The solution was found in dividing the issues of a single year over a number of volumes that still allowed to be bound. This historically understandable development has changed fundamentally whenever more journals stopped to publish printed issues, but instead published only electronic versions. Still, however, serious journals do so in such a way that issues within a volume jointly form an entity that might allow being bound.

Several predatory journals have taken the opportunity to publish numerous volumes in a year, even if the number of included articles does not give any reason to do so. It is always tricky to pick out a single example, but doing so may make this clearer for the reader. The *Journal of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research*, for instance, started with volume 1 in 2016, but publishes volume 25 in 2024. Even worse are some non-medical journals such as the *Technium Social Sciences Journal* that started in 2020 and publishes mid-2024 volume 60!

In this context it is also interesting that several journals in Table 1 do not indicate the year when the first issue was published. This year cannot always be checked either, because some journals do not show all earlier volumes on their website; this implies that the only valuable reason to make interesting findings known to the scientific community is not realised when publishing in such a journal.

The lesson to be learned: before submitting a manuscript to a journal, check its archive. If the journal was started less than 15 years ago, if some years are lacking in the archive, or if some of the volumes of the past five years contain less than some 25 research articles, it might be reasonable to check the journal for more predatory characteristics.

The Editor-in-Chief

The quality of a good scientific journal should be guaranteed by the Editor-in-Chief, who should be an expert in the field, with a good helicopter view,

enabling him/her not only to attract specialist reviewers, but also to judge the quality of the reviews. Consequently, truly scholarly journals therefore always mention the Editor-in-Chief in a prominent place, on the journal's cover and/or on the journal's website.

It is therefore interesting that predatory journals fairly rarely have an Editor-in-Chief (or they keep them hidden). Only 85 (26.3 %) of the journals mentioned in Table 1 mention an Editor-in-Chief. Several of them seem not or hardly known among scientists of the pertinent discipline. Moreover, some of these Editors-in-Chief cannot spend the time required for such an activity, considering their activities for several journals.

Remarkable is that numerous scientists agree to become editor of several journals, even if most of these journals have hardly any history, if at all. It remains an enigma why so many serious scientists risk their scientific reputation by lending their name to predatory journals. Analysis of the 'collection' of editorial functions (sometimes several dozens, including several positions as Editor-in-Chief!) is the subject of a separate study.

The lesson to be learned: checking whether a journal has an Editor-in-Chief and, if so, whether it is a recognised scientist in the discipline and whether the editor can find sufficient time for his editorial activities, may help to decide about the predatory nature of a journal.

ISSN

Journals have an ISSN (or two, in the case of a printed and an online version) in order to have an unambiguous code to recognise them. An ISSN guarantees that there is no other established journal with the same ISSN. This does not imply, however, that no other journal with the same name can exist: a publisher may, unfortunately, start a new journal with the same title as another journal. Most countries do, however, not allow publishing a book or a journal with the same name as a book/journal published earlier in the same country. Predatory publishers therefore often give new journals names that are very much alike already existing recognised journals. An interesting example is the *Journal of Infectious Diseases and Microbiology*: this title is used by two publishers that are indicated on Beall's list of potential predatory publishers,¹⁷ namely Maples (India) and Academia Publishing (UK). Neither of these journals has an ISSN. It is not amazing

that also a somewhat older journal (volume 1 in 2011) exists with the comparable name *Journal of Microbiology and Infectious Diseases*; this journal is published in Tripoli (Libya) by Eldaghayes with ISSN 2146-3158 (printed) and 2146-2369 (online).

If a journal has no ISSN, there may be three reasons: (1) the publisher does not want to pay the (comparatively small) fee for the ISSN (but no serious publisher will thus deliberately show that he is some kind of outcast-publisher), (2) the publisher may have applied for an ISSN but not yet have received it (which can last for only a short time and certainly not for half a year or more); and (3) the publisher did not apply for an ISSN or the ISSN has not been provided because already a journal with the same title exists.

The lesson to be learned: if a journal does not clearly show its ISSN on the website and certainly if a publisher has several journals without an ISSN (see, for instance, Annex Publishers in Table 1), it may be worthwhile to check whether the journal and/or publisher show more characteristics that are more common for predatory than for other journals/publishers.

Publisher's address

Many scientific journals have started in the past as small, often one-person, companies. This time is over, however, because of the ever-larger complexity of publishing. Searching for and corresponding with reviewers, investing in ever more sophisticated printing machinery, etc is so time-consuming and requires such large investments that only somebody with sufficient expertise in both the scientific discipline and insight into the technical and financial aspects of publishing might satisfactorily carry out such a job (which would be a hell of a job).

There are, indeed, stand-alone journals (20 in Table 1), but these show some remarkable characteristics: 7 are located in India and 13 are located in the USA. One might wonder about the Indian journals (the country is, unfortunately but justifiably, known for its numerous predatory publishers and journals), but there is also something strange about the American stand-alone journals. We found, for instance, that some journals and publishers mentioned in Table 1 have exactly the same address in Lewes, DE (16192 Coastal Highway) without mentioning any relationship. This made us dig somewhat deeper into this enigma

and our findings are astonishing (see next section). We also found that some dozens of Indian 'stand-alone' journals have the same telephone number. This puzzling feature is dealt with after the next section.

A labyrinth within a jungle

A search on the internet shows that the just-mentioned address (16192 Coastal Highway in Lewes, DE) is a fairly small building where Journal Capital Partners LLC is housed. This company has an agent, Harvard Business Services Inc, housed at the same address.

They apparently offer companies and persons who do not want to reveal their true identities, the opportunity to mention this address as their place of office (it seems that the Delaware authorities make such so-called virtual offices easy and attractive). We found that, apart from at least several dozens of some other businesses, 11 publishers of scientific journals and 10 stand-alone scientific journals (of which 8 medical journals) use this opportunity to hide their true place of work. And the place of work must be somewhere else, indeed, considering the limited space at this address and the large number (447) of journals that are pretended to be handled there (Table 2).

Interesting is also that three journals housed at this address (*International Journal of Research in Agriculture and Forestry*, *International Journal of Research in Business Studies and Management*, and *International Journal of Research Studies in Medical and Health Sciences*), all pretending to be stand-alone journals, have almost completely identical websites and their contact addresses (only email addresses) have an identical structure; moreover, the covers of these journals show the Sryahwa logo (this publisher is also housed here), but the three journals do not indicate that they belong to Sryahwa, while this publisher does not mention these journals on its website. This can be explained only as an attempt to confuse potential authors and readers.

Something similar regards three other 'stand-alone' journals in Table 2 (*Insights Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology*; *Insights Journal of Surgery and Clinical Case Reports*; and *Insights of Clinical and Medical Image*). Their websites are almost identical and their contact addresses (only email addresses) have the same structure, but thus far we were unable to trace how these journals are related.

The journal *Advances in Thoracic Diseases* is puzzling as well; it shows, when pressing the button for 'contact' (accessed: 30 August 2023; repeated: 16 July 2024): "Contact: Mediterranean Journals". Surprising, as this publisher, who is housed at the same address (see Table 2), does not mention this journal.

These confusing data regarding the true nature of the 'stand-alone' journals in Table 2 are not exceptional: hidden relationships between journals seem fairly common. A close relationship must also exist between, for instance, the *Journal on Surgery* and *Epidemiology and Public Health* (see Table 1): both 'stand-alone' journals are housed, together with several other journals (and publishers), at the same address (848 N Rainbow Blvd #5483, NV 89107, Las Vegas). A simple search on the internet shows not only that more businesses and journals (including several medical journals) are housed at this address, but also SciBase Journals (see Table 1). Yet, the journals do not mention this publisher and *SciBase Journals* does not mention these journals.

The above jungle, giving authors and readers the feeling that they are trapped in a labyrinth, appears fairly common. A somewhat different but nevertheless comparable example is presented by the journals *Journal of Clinical Case Reports*, *Medical Images and Health Sciences* and *Journal of Clinical Studies and Medical Images, Case Reports*. Both have the same ZIP code in Frisco, but only the former journal provides a street address. However, both journals present the same phone number: (+1)313-786-0006. One must therefore deduce that both journals, despite pretending to be stand-alone examples, form part of an organisation that does not want to be known. Not a good attitude for a scientific journal! Unfortunately, more comparable examples can be found: the journal *Med Discoveries*, for instance, a stand-alone journal (Table 2) is housed in Franklin Park, NJ. This address houses also another stand-alone journal: *Annals of Case Reports and Medical Images*. No telephone numbers are provided by these two journals. Could one imagine that two persons, living at the same address, both started a medical journal, independent of each other?

It is not uncommon that the postal address of a publisher turns out to be a suite. Checking these addresses indicates in many cases that a company resides there that offers the opportunity to rent a virtual office, not rarely just a post-box and possibly a joint phone operator or even just equipment

to automatically forward a call. The real editorial office is located elsewhere. A keen reader may find several more comparable examples by analysing the data presented in Tables 1 and 2. If only these few hundreds of journals in Tables 1 and 2 show so many dubious addresses, it can only be deduced that the tens of thousands of new (mostly medical) journals should be looked at with suspicion.

How far publishers go with hiding their activities is clear from another example. In July and August, I received requests to contribute to the *Journal of Geography, Environment and Earth Science International* as well as to the *International Journal of Environment and Climate Change*. I checked the websites of both journals, which gave the impression to be stand-alone journals, but I found that the layout of their websites is identical. Checking once more, I had to deduce that there was no publisher. Digging deeper into the internet, however, I found many more journals with identical websites and eventually I managed to detect their common publisher (in India): Science Domain International. They publish in several disciplines: agricultural and food science (17 journals), biology (17 journals), chemistry (5 journals), computer science (1 journal), energy (1 journal), engineering (1 journal), earth sciences (5 journals), materials science (1 journal), mathematics (3 journals), medicine (43 journals), multidisciplinary (5 journals), physics and astronomy (5 journals) and social sciences (8 journals). These 112 journals all have the same phone number: a recipe for a headache for the phone operator!

A critical check of the address can help finding out about the predatory nature of a publisher or journal. Admittedly, this check can be time-consuming and frustrating because websites do often not present the required information. Particularly visiting addresses are often not indicated. Moreover, direct contact through email is often impossible: one can only leave a message on the journal's or publisher's website with personal data (with the promise to be contacted soon). Such obstacles to reach a publisher or a journal are, obviously, clear evidence that the publisher/journal is dubious.

The journal's name

Numerous predatory journal names have a 'prefix' that serves two purposes: (1) it adds little or nothing, but makes it easy to confuse the journal with a truly scholarly one and (2) the slightly different

name allows applying successfully for an ISSN. Common examples of such a 'prefix' are: 'Annals' [eg, *Annals of Clinical Case Reports* (Remedy Publications) vs *Clinical Case Reports* (Wiley)]; 'Archives' [eg, *Archives of Preventive Medicine* (Peertechz Publications) vs *Preventive Medicine* (Elsevier)]; 'Current Trends' [eg, *Current Trends in Internal Medicine* (Gavin Publishers) vs *Internal Medicine* (Japanese Society of Internal Medicine)]; 'Global Journal' [eg, *Global Journal of Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities* (Juniper Publishers) vs *Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities* (American Association on Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities)]; 'Open Journal' [eg, *Open Journal of Public Health* (Remedy Publications) vs *Journal of Public Health* (Springer)]; 'Open Access' [eg, *Open Access Journal of Toxicology* (Juniper Publishers) vs *Toxicology* (Elsevier)]; or the publisher's name [(eg, *Austin Sports Medicine* vs *Sports Medicine* (Springer))].

Another commonly applied trick with the names of predatory journals is a change in the order of subjects (or the addition of a term) in comparison to the name of an established journal. Examples are the journals dealing with complementary therapies. Table 1 shows only some of these journals, namely *Asian Journal of Complementary and Alternative Medicine* (ACAD-WISE), *Journal of Alternative, Complementary & Integrative Medicine* (Herald Scholarly Open Access), *International Journal of Modern and Alternative Medicine Research* (Blue Penn Journals), *Online Journal of Complementary & Alternative Medicine* (Iris Publishers), *Journal of Complementary Medicine & Alternative Healthcare* (Juniper Publishers), *Open Access Journal of Complementary & Alternative Medicine* (Lupine Publishers) and *Journal of Complementary and Alternative Medicine Research* (stand-alone).

Finally, it should be mentioned that, remarkably enough, the titles of some predatory journals are so awkward, that they raise the question of whether the publisher is interested at all in the journal, or in attracting authors that understand English. An example is the stand-alone(?) journal *Insights of Clinical and Medical Images*.

The lesson to be learned: check with some keywords on the internet which journals exist that deal with the topic(s). If there are several journals, check whether they represent a recognised publisher and whether the name is consistent with the contents of the most recent volume.

There is nothing like scientific truth

It would be beneficial for all scientists, as well as for the scientific community as a whole, if it could be established with certainty which publishers and journals are predatory, and which are not. Unfortunately, this is not possible. Not only because there are in principle gradual transitions between predatory and non-predatory journals, but also because scientific truth does not exist. What is scientifically correct nowadays need not be so tomorrow.²⁰ In other words: publishers that are considered predatory today need not be considered so tomorrow (and *vice versa!*). This may be due to a change in philosophy, but there may be other reasons as well. It has occurred, for instance, that non-predatory journals were taken over by predatory publishers. It also occurred that high-reputation publishers incorporated another journal that had been published before under dubious conditions or in a not commonly accessible language (eg, Chinese).

Consequently, one cannot draw a distinct line between predatory and non-predatory journals that is not open for discussion. Nevertheless, numerous publishers and journals have a distinct predatory nature, as revealed by a combination of characteristics several of which have been detailed above. This might help serious scientists to decide whether a journal is worth to be published in.

Conclusions

The rapidly increasing number of predatory publishers and journals threatens the reliability of science. Authors, reviewers and editors alike should therefore avoid becoming involved in such journals and – even more – in publishing companies that publish such journals. Recognising the predatory nature of a publisher is not always easy, but checking for a few characteristics that show significant differences between predatory and non-predatory journals may help. Since the above findings are based on our own recent experiences, we suggest all fellow-scientists to archive data such as shown in Table 1, since this may provide a tool that becomes in the course of time ever more effective in deciding about the reliability of a journal.

A probably even more important conclusion is that predatory publishers (and journals) appear to see the medical community as their most promising prey: more than half of the predatory journals (and their activities) concern this discipline.²¹ This implies that researchers and practitioners in medical and paramedical disciplines should be extremely careful when approached to contribute to a journal as an editor, reviewer or author. Becoming involved might significantly reduce their scientific credibility and their reputation in the medical community.

Ethics

This study was an analysis based on the currently existing data and did not directly involve human participants or experimental animals. Therefore, the ethics approval and informed consent was not required in this paper.

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Conflicts of interest

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Data access

All data are provided in the two Tables and can be checked on the Internet.

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Formal analysis: AJvL
Investigation: ORvL, AJvL
Writing - original draft: AJvL
Writing - review and editing: ORvL
Visualisation: AJvL
Supervision: AJvL
Project administration: ORvL

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