جَـامِعَة الـمِلِك عَوُد بِن بَعَبد العَزِيـز للعُـلوم الصّحِّية
King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences

UNIVERSITY STUDENT RESEARCH BOARD
Policy No. USRB 008
Guidelines to Avoid Publishing or Becoming a Victim of Predatory or Pseudo Journals

In an effort to maintain the research credibility of King Saud bin Abdulaziz University for Health Sciences and its Faculty Members, kindly find the below some tips to avoid publishing or becoming a victim of Predatory or pseudo journals/publishers.

1- Avoid direct journal search using Google due to the possibility of getting a journal with false Indexing and impact factor.
    1.1 Faculty members must use the reliable search engines (see Tip No. 4).
    1.2 Faculty members should publish only in the approved indexed journals (see Tip No. 5).

2- Don't submit your article without a complete verification about the reputation of the journal. Search for the **organization or institution** that the journal is connected to or **authors** already published in the journal. Searching this link https://www.scopus.com/ is indeed helpful to search for the journal ISSN, Publisher Name, and author's name.

3- You can use **Clarivate platform** for free to check the journal status through this link: https://mjl.clarivate.com/home and click **Search Journals** and/or you can also use the NLM catalog through this link https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nlmcatalog/.

4- You can use the following 5 most common platforms for safer journal search that will fit to your study:
    4.1 https://journalsuggester.springer.com/
    4.2 https://journalfinder.elsevier.com/
    4.3 https://journalfinder.wiley.com/search?type=match
    4.4 https://www.scimagojr.com/index.php
    4.5 https://mjlclarivate.com/home; click the Match Manuscript in looking for a Web of Science ISI indexed journals that fits for your manuscript (need to register and log-in).

5- It is recommended that faculty members should publish only in the journals which are indexed/archived in at least three of the following public databases:
    5.1 Scopus
    5.2 Medline-NLM-Pubmed
    5.3 Web of Science
    5.4 Embase
    5.5 Isl
    5.6 Ebsco

6- The following links show information on identifying predatory journals.

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6.1 The Beall's list https://beallslist.net/

6.2 Think, check submit https://thinkchecksubmit.org/

6.3 Committee on Publication Ethics https://publicationethics.org/

7- Please Note:

7.1 Predatory journals using the Thompson Reuters ID or Publons profile, Fake Impact Factor and fake indexing as a bait to submit your article to them.

7.2 Some predatory journals are also using PubMed Registration and false PubMed indexing as a bait. The predatory journals might still be indexed in PubMed or their indexing to PubMed was already terminated but they are still using this as a bait. Kindly search the journal name in PUBMED (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed) and look for the last indexed article. If the last article indexed in PubMedis "not updated" or "No Latest" or only few or selected citations, do not submit in that journal.

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