

Predatory journals: authors in great doubt

Abstract

The emergence of journals and publishers of questionable quality has become a major problem not only for scientific communication but also for the development of science and human society. Such journals are published in open access; they use the business model of charging costs to authors; and at the same time, they do not conduct peer review but publish everything without any criteria. Therefore, the basic feature of a journal of questionable quality is the lack of selectivity in the manuscript selection process due to the absence of a review process. It is extremely important that users (scientists, but also the general public) know how to recognise such journals. The aim of the paper is to investigate the appearance of journals and publishers of questionable quality as an anomaly within the scientific communication model moulded by scientific journals in the Croatian scientific community.

Keywords: black lists, open access, open access journals, predatory journals, predatory publishers, questionable quality journals, scientific communication, white lists