

How to identify predatory journals

What are predatory
journals?

- **1. The journal asks for a submission fee instead of a publication fee or tries to keep the copyright to authors' work.**
- **2. The editorial board is very small or "coming soon."**
- **3. A single publisher releases an overwhelmingly large suite of new journals all at one time.**
- **4. The journal says an issue will be available at a certain time, but the issue never appears.**
- **5. The website is not professional in quality.**
- **6. The journal title notes a national or international affiliation that does not match its editorial board or location.**
- **7. There are fundamental errors in the titles and abstracts.**
- An example would be repeated mention of "*Vibrio cholera*" in place of the correct species name "*Vibrio cholerae*" (cholera is the name of the disease, not the bacterium). When looking through the articles from a journal that interests you, keep an eye out for repeated basic errors.
- **8. The content of the journal varies from the title and stated scope.**