

Spotting deceptive publishers

Some journals use deceptive - sometimes called "predatory" - publishing practices which can harm you and your research. These tips will help you assess journals to ensure you avoid deceptive publications.

Use caution



Unsolicited invitations to publish

- Invitations from unfamiliar journals outside your discipline
- Aggressive, spam-like email messages



Unrealistic promises

- Short turnaround for peer-review & acceptance
- Guaranteed publication



Article Processing Charges (APCs)

- Required before acceptance
- Misleading/false information about APCs on journal website



Poor quality articles

- Scan some issues & check articles for:
 - Methodological rigour
 - Writing quality



Journal operations

- Vague editorial scope for journal
- False claims about indexing/metrics
- Editorial board members falsely listed, or lack subject expertise

More information

ThinkCheckSubmit.org

Where to Publish- bit.ly/BrockPublish

Your Librarian or Scholarly Communication Librarian Elizabeth Yates, eyates@brocku.ca

