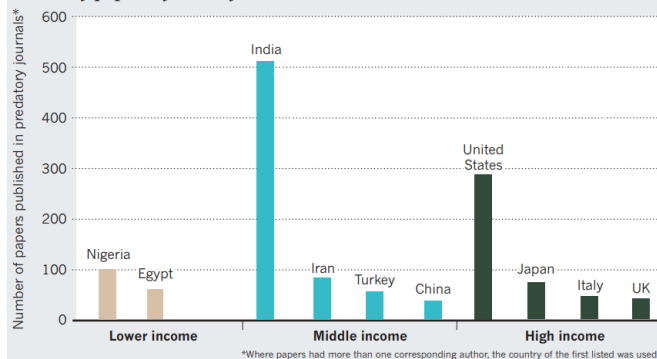


- “Predatory journals and publishers are entities that prioritize self-interest at the expense of scholarship and are characterized by false or misleading information, deviation from best editorial and publication practices, a lack of transparency, and/or the use of aggressive and indiscriminate solicitation practices.”¹
- This definition does not include characteristics such as journal quality, intent to deceive and quality of peer review
- A recent study² characterized 1,907 biomedical articles from more than 200 predatory journals. 17% articles used NIH money, Harvard (9 articles), University of Texas (11 articles) were among the eight institutions with the most articles.

GLOBAL PREDATION

A sample of 1,907 papers in more than 200 supposed predatory journals found that most of the articles come from India. Surprisingly, however, more than half of the papers from higher-income or upper-middle-income countries.

Predatory papers by country and income



Nature 2017, 549, 23-25.

According to Cabells analytics 2021³:

- ~15,000 Predatory journals
- ~ 787,000 articles
- ~ \$393 million

Staying Safe

1. Online Resources

- [The Directory of Open Access Journals](#) features 12,851 journals that show “a commitment to quality, peer-reviewed open access.”
- [Advice on identifying predatory journals](#)
- [“Should I Publish in an Open Access Journal?”](#) (UC Santa Barbara) and [List of Suspicious Journals](#) (Yale)
- Think Check Submit (<https://thinkchecksubmit.org/>)
- [Beall's List of Suspicious Journal and Publishers](#)

2. Look Beyond the Name

- Check if the journal is indexed by services such as MEDLINE and PubMed
- Check the background and work history of the journal
- Check the profiles of editors/reviewers

3. Journal Evaluation Tool

- Download [Journal Evaluation Tool](#) developed by Loyola Marymount University. Grading the journal and the publisher on 16 criteria, ranging from its business model to where it appears on web searches etc.

¹ Grudniewicz, A., et. al., Nature 2019, 576, 210-212.

² Moher, D., et. al., Nature 2017, 549, 23-25.

³ <https://www2.cabells.com/about-predatory>

• <https://wame.org/principles-of-transparency-and-best-practice-in-scholarly-publishing>

• <https://predatory-publishing.com/>

• <https://www.aamc.org/news-insights/problem-predatory-journals>

• <https://infoguides.rit.edu/predatorypub>

• <https://scholarlykitchen.sspnet.org/2019/05/01/cabells-predatory-journal-blacklist-an-updated-review/>