

TIPS ON HOW TO AVOID PREDATORY JOURNALS:

1. Check if the journal title is index in Scopus, Web of Science or MyCite
 - a. Many predatory journals are claiming they are indexed by either by Scopus, Web of Science or JCR, with impact factor. You can check whether they are telling the truth by searching these resources:
 - i. Master Journal List (by Clarivate Analytics) :
 1. [Master Journal List](#)
 2. [Journal Citation Reports](#) (accessible via Ezproxy with UTMID login)
 - ii. Scopus (by Elsevier)
 1. [Scopus Source](#)
 2. [Scopus Discontinued Sources \(February 2021\)](#) (Excel file)
 - iii. [MyCite](#) (PDF file)
 - b. **Website address** – go to the journal website using the URL provided in Scopus (or Scimago)/Web of Science/MyCite. Avoid searching the journal title in Google as it may lead you to a fake/pseudo journal instead.
 - c. **Subject coverage** – many predatory journals will publish any submitted articles without following to the journals' advertised subject coverage. It might also change its coverage from a single disciplinary to multidisciplinary within a short time!
 - d. **Editorial board** - The editorial board should be listed with their full names and institutional affiliation. If any of this information is missing, try to do a Google search on them, or e-mail them personally for further clarification.
 - e. **Contact details** – One red flag will be the use of non-professional, non-academic and non-journal affiliated email, such as gmail.com or yahoo.com.
 - f. **Frequency** - The journal should clearly state how often its issues will be published each year and this must be reflected in their archives. **RED FLAG ALERT!** Look for a sudden surge in the number of articles published.
 - g. **Archives** – The journal website contains an archive of its past issues with working links (DOI) to full text articles. Read through the past issues of the journals and look for any inconsistencies especially on its topic/coverage.
2. Check the journal's website **THOROUGHLY** and compare the details listed in Scopus/Web of Science/MyCite.
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3. If you are still in doubt and need further clarification, fill up this form bit.ly/checkjournal or contact us at lib-enquiryjb@utm.my

Source :

- [Journal Evaluation Tool](http://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/librarian_pubs/40/) - http://digitalcommons.lmu.edu/librarian_pubs/40/
- <https://beallslist.net/how-to-recognize-predatory-journals/>