

New advice from COPE on how to tackle, avoid, and raise awareness of the problem of predatory journals



A new [discussion document](#) from COPE looks at the issues around predatory publishing. In this discussion document, COPE will describe the basic phenomenon, identify the key issues, describe the impact on the various stakeholders involved, analyse proposed interventions and solutions, and present COPE's perspective on addressing the problem going forward.

This discussion document covers:

- the characteristics of predatory publications
- deception using the name of an existing journal or a similar title to a well-established journal
- how predatory publishers recruit authors
- innocent victims of predatory publications and those willing to associate themselves with such journals
- other stakeholders affected by predatory publishers
- moral and legal responses
- advice and further resources for funders, institutions, editors, peer reviewers, journals and publishers

COPE welcomes feedback and comments to continue this live and ongoing debate from publishers, journal editors, reviewers, researchers, institutions, librarians, funders, and other stakeholders.

<https://publicationethics.org/predatory-publishing-discussion-document>

#PredatoryPublishing

#AllegationsOfMisconduct

#PredatoryPublications

FURTHER INFORMATION

For a copy of the discussion document please contact:

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About COPE

COPE is committed to educate and support editors, publishers and others involved in publication ethics, with the aim of moving the culture of publishing towards one where ethical practices become the norm. Our approach is firmly in the direction of influencing through education, guidance and support of our members alongside the fostering of professional debate in the wider community.

COPE's 10 Core Practices which includes resources such as guidelines, flowcharts and real publication ethics cases, covers many ethical issues to help editors in their day to day work.

COPE was established in 1997 by a small group of medical journal editors but now has over 12,500 members worldwide from all academic fields.