

WHAT YOU MUST KNOW ABOUT MEGA JOURNALS ?

WHAT ARE MEGA JOURNALS ?

Mega journals are open access, peer-reviewed, have a broad subject scope, the research articles are judged by scientific and methodological soundness, which causes the low rejection rate has made the journals growing big, PLoS One (ISSN 1932-6203) was the first mega journal and has been very successful, the publishing model was then imitated by other publishers. According to JCR records, PLoS One, Scientific Reports (ISSN 2045-2322) and IEEE Access (ISSN 2169-3536) are three largest journals which published more than 10,000 articles in 2020.

MAIN CHARACTERISTICS

- A large quantity of articles under the journal title
- broad coverage of different subject areas;
- Fully open access journal
- Peer-reviewed
- Author pays article processing charge to cover the costs of publishing
- Accepting articles for publication based on whether they are technically sound rather than selecting for perceived importance

ARE MEGA JOURNALS PREDATORY JOURNALS ?

Attention: Mega journals are not equal to Predatory journals.

FEATURES	MEGA JOURNAL	PREDATORY JOURNAL*
Open Access	○	○
Author Charges	○	○
High volume of published articles	○	Maybe
Rapid publication process	○	○
Peer-review	○	Declare yes

*Predatory journals are attracting authors submitting articles by providing wrong or confusing data on their websites, the aim of Predatory journals is the APC.

RISKS ?

- The reviewers may come from different research areas lead to unstable article quality
- Accepted articles may be considered less important and novel
- May affect the scholarly reputation, promotion, or application for grant if you list mega journal articles

The perception to mega journals are varied, we suggest **DO NOT list mega journal article as your representative or reference publications for faculty promotion nor for application for the national-level research grant.**

HOW DO OTHER INSTITUTIONS SEE MEGA JOURNALS?

- Branch Office of Research and Development, National Taiwan University College of Medicine 
- Linkou Medical Library, Chang Gung Memorial Hospital 
- Research Center of Clinical Medicine, National Cheng Kung University Hospital 
- Department of Medical Education and Research, Kaohsiung Veterans General Hospital 