Does an open access publication have to cost so much?

A study of departmental publication patterns in order to recommend high quality - low cost alternative open access journals.

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Abstract: The growth in the number of open access (OA) medical journals as well as the adoption of an open access philosophy can present challenges for authors when publishers' average Author Processing Charge (APC) is $2,500 and climbing. Studies indicate that OA journals can increase an article's views, use, and influence. Libraries are investing in OA in a number of ways, including special memberships or subscriptions. [1-2] Some OA journals have questionable characteristics which can make selecting an OA journal confusing, especially with issues of quality, visibility, or impact. With the growing number of scholarly concentration programs in medical schools, publishing and related issues like OA becomes increasing more relevant. [3-4] A pilot project to identify current publication practices and identify comparable publication venues was undertaken to further awareness of quality low-cost APC journals.

The Key Population:
Clinical Pharmacy faculty at UC San Diego

Project goals:
1) Find open access journals with low to no APC that are high quality in the subject areas where faculty publish and are comparable to journals in their current CV.
2) It is our intention to standardize and simplify the process so that researchers, faculty, and librarians across the disciplines can replicate this methodology.

Resources & References
ThinkCheckSubmit
http://thinkchecksubmit.org/check/
Directory of Open Access Journals https://doaj.org/
- QUOAM: Quality Open Access Market http://www.qoam.eu/
- Cofactor Journal Selector http://cofactorscience.com/journal-selector
- Grand Valley State University http://bit.ly/pos-neg-oa-guide
- UC San Diego OA Discounts Guide http://lib.ucsd.edu/OAdiscounts

1. Chua SK, Qureshi AM, Krishnan V, et al. The impact factor of an open access journal does not contribute to an article's citations. F1000Res. 2017;6:208. Published 2017 Mar 2. doi:10.12688/f1000research.10892.1
2. Davis PM, Lewenstein BV, Simon DH, Booth JG, Connolly MJ. Open access publishing, article downloads, and citations: randomised controlled trial. BMj. 2008 Jul 31;337:a568.
3. Bierer SB, Chen HC. How to measure success: the impact of scholarly concentrations on students – a literature review. Acad Med. 2010;85:438–52.
4. AAMC. Medical School Graduation Questionnaire. All Schools Summary Report 2018. Available at: https://www.aamc.org/download/490454/data/2018gqallschoolssummaryreport.pdf. Accessed Nov 8, 2018.

1 Methodology: Getting Started

Create a master list of departmental faculty publications.
Tools Used
- Web of Science
- PubMed
- Dimensions
- EndNote Online
- Excel

2 Getting Started - Roadblocks & Washouts

ROAD HAZARD

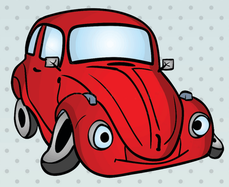
- Creating a corpus of departmental works is time-consuming
- Hoped for assistance using faculty CVs did not materialize - minimal compliance (3 of 22)
- Searching issues: author disambiguation, no optimal search strategy valuable for all authors due to variability in publishing affiliation, variable usage of author's name, and incomplete coverage of individuals' work in any one database necessitating the use of multiple databases to account for all of the work of the faculty.
- Project delayed 3-4 weeks while working out the search strategies.

3 Methodology: Back on Track

- For the most frequently used journals collect impact factor
- Using a spreadsheet, analyze and group publications into patterns for frequently used publications (a threshold of 5 times was chosen as an indicator of frequency), as well as subject or topic areas of articles

Tools Used
- EndNote Online
- Journal Citation Reports
- Excel

4 Back on Track - Roadblocks



- The faculty often collaborated on publications so searches for individual authors created lots of duplicated entries.
- Use of multiple databases required homogenization and deduplication of dataset.
- A learning process involved in understanding the issues in publishing and open access.

5 Methodology: Creating our List

- Identify alternative comparable publications using various tools and criteria.
- Consult with subject liaison librarians.
- Develop a list of quality OA publications comparable to most frequently used journals by the clinical faculty. Tools used: DOAJ, Ulrich's Periodical Directory, 2 more, campus discounts page
- Following presentation to departmental faculty, further refine list of recommended OA publication options.

Tools Used
- DOAJ: Directory of Open Access Journals
- Ulrich's Periodical Directory
- Quality Open Access Market
- Cofactor Journal Selector
- UC San Diego Library publishing discounts guide

6 Project Challenges

- Time – time to learn and understand the issues in journal publishing and open access for both library interns and librarians.
- Time - time to train interns on databases, tools, and processes
- Time – time to determine best search strategies, gather citations, dedupe, and homogenize dataset.
- Time – time to communicate and consult with needed stake-holders

7 Results

- Elsevier (15%)
- Wolters Kluwer (15%)
- Oxford Academic (9%)
- Sage (12%)
- Wiley (12%)
- Misc. others (37%)

Selected Sample Alternative Journals

Journal	APC Cost	Publisher/Society	Indexed in ...
Journal of Pharmacy & Pharmaceutical Sciences	$0	Canadian Society for Pharmaceutical Sciences	Embase, PubMed, WOS
INNOVATIONS in Pharmacy	$0	University of Minnesota Libraries Publishing	Google Scholar
Biomedicines	$550	MDPI AG	ChemAbstracts, Web of Science, PubMed
Journal of Pharmacological Sciences	$900	Elsevier/Japanese Pharmacological Society	Embase, Medline/PubMed, WOS