

## Sigma Theta Tau International's 29th International Nursing Research Congress

### Fighting the Fakes: How Using Legitimate Publishing and Open Access Can Enhance Nursing Research

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The rise of predatory publishers has threatened not only individual researchers and their institutions, but the wider world of established nursing publishing and legitimate conference organising. How have legitimate nursing journals and publishers responded to the threat from predators? What can genuine scholarly and research conferences do to combat the swathe of fake conferences that now outnumber legitimate events? (<https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/predatory-conferences-now-outnumber-official-scholarly-events>)

#### **Purpose:**

To give participants the inside view from legitimate academic nursing publishing world.

To show the value of the late 'Beall's List' of predatory publishers and to suggest alternatives following its closure.

To highlight the availability and options of legitimate open access nursing and health care publishing and how to choose a good journal or conference.

To alert researchers and academics to the multiple dangers of using predatory publishers and their journals to simply 'secure a publication' regardless of the cost.

To show the benefits of using legitimate publishers and open access journals for both individual researchers and the broader world of nursing scholarship.

#### **Methods:**

This session will involve presentation of key facts and issues surrounding predatory and legitimate nursing publishing, detailing of the legitimate nursing publishing world, illustration of the ways that researchers can recognise and avoid the predators and open questions/discussion with participants as to their perspectives and experiences regarding predatory publishers.

#### **Results:**

Participants at this session will learn:

Why it is personally and professionally critical to avoid predatory publishers

The dangers that they present to nursing research and scholarship AND to the wider world of science and knowledge credibility.

Specifically what researchers and academics can do to avoid and counter such highly organised fakery.

#### **Conclusion:**

This is a pressing issue for all researchers and Schools of Nursing & Midwifery NOW. This presentation will show how we can take collective action now, not in five years time when we have nothing left to defend.

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**Title:**

Fighting the Fakes: How Using Legitimate Publishing and Open Access Can Enhance Nursing Research Symposium

**Keywords:**

Academic credibility, Predatory publishing and Research policy

**References:**

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**Abstract Summary:**

Avoiding predatory journals is easy yet, academics do publish in them. Strategies range from common sense through to checking journal websites and the Directory of Open Access Journals. Universities should be prepared to provide more training about publication policies and to sanction academics who do use predatory publishers.

**Content Outline:**

This presentation will show how to avoid publishing in predatory journals and at predatory conferences. Avoiding predatory journals is relatively easy yet, as evidenced by the predatory journal websites,

academics do publish in them. Likewise, avoiding predatory conferences is easy but we continue to hear about academics who respond to their ingratiating invitations.

However, since the demise of Beall's list, there is no single and easily accessible repository of information on predatory publishers and predatory conferences. Beyond, but possibly related to, the predatory publishing 'industry' is the creation of false websites to lure people into submitting and paying, in good faith, to have manuscripts processed, never to see their manuscript published. Unwary academics also need to know how to detect and avoid these.

Strategies range from common sense through to actively checking any potential journal website. In that process, the Directory of Open Access Journals is very useful as it lists open access journals that meet some minimal quality criteria. Likewise, with predatory conferences, the websites can be alluring at first but, ultimately, revealing of the predators' duplicity.

Beyond individual awareness and use of existing resources, universities should be prepared, on the one hand, to provide more information and training about publication policies and, on the other hand, to sanction academics who do use predatory publishers. Similarly, research and university funding bodies could implement relevant policies.

Finally, this presentation will point attendees to online resources and articles aimed at helping academics to avoid predatory publishers and conferences.

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