Predatory publishers and their scam journals and conferences pose today’s biggest threat to nursing and health research credibility and legitimacy (1,10,11). The scope of their influence is difficult to exaggerate. Predatory conferences now outnumber legitimate events (7) and there are close to 10,000 predatory journals publishing over 400,000 dubious if not completely unreviewed ‘papers’. The predators take advantage of a ‘perfect storm’ of a ‘publish or perish’ climate (3,6) and some researchers and academics so keen for a ‘research outcome’ that critical faculties appear to desert them.

Predatory publishers are not stupid. They did not create a multimillion dollar business (2) by being amateurish. It can often be difficult for new researchers and even experienced faculty to see through their polished websites and ingratiating email invitations (3,8,9).

Researchers, Schools, teaching hospitals and Universities can help to cut off their supply. In this symposium, we show how.

**Purpose:** To expose and highlight the rise of predatory publishers and their damaging impact on nursing research and scholarship
* To alert participants to some of the predatory publishers' worst excesses and practices
* To detail the dangers that predatory publisher pose to all researchers (5)
* To offer a ‘10 point protection plan’, a range of practical and ‘due diligence’ initiatives that every researcher and faculty member can implement today.
* To outline the policy initiatives that every Head of School, University and organisation can take to starve predatory publishers of their supply.

**Methods:**

Explanation, use of current research and experimental litter concerning predatory publishers, dialogue with participants, presentation of clear, do-able strategies, provision of key readings, weblinks and additional resources.

**Results:**

Participants will be able to conduct the due diligence necessary to avoid predatory publishers and thus protect their own work and scholarly reputations. Schools of Nursing and Midwifery will learn how to establish policies that will help cut off the predators ‘supplies’ (6).

**Conclusion:**

This is possibly the most pressing issue facing nursing research today (1,4). If we do not combat the rise of predatory publishing today, we may have little genuine scholarship or science publishing left in 5 or 10 years time. The situation is THAT serious.

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**Title:**
Fighting the Fakes: Spotting and Fighting the Fakes in Research Policy and Practice
Symposium
Abstract Summary:
This session will highlight the rise of predatory publishers, detail the extent of the problem, expose many of their tricks, deceptions and scams and show how researchers and schools can do do the due diligence needed to avoid predatory publishers' journals and conferences.

Content Outline:
Predatory publishers and their scam journals and conferences pose today’s biggest threat to nursing and health research credibility and legitimacy. The scope of their influence is difficult to exaggerate. Predatory conferences now outnumber legitimate events (1) and there are close to 10,000 predatory journals publishing over 400,000 dubious ‘papers’ (2). The predators take advantage of the ‘perfect storm’ of a ‘publish or perish’ climate and some researchers and academics so keen for a ‘research outcome’ that critical faculties appear to desert them. Predatory publishers are not stupid. It can often be difficult for new researchers and even experienced faculty to see through their polished websites and ingratiating email invitations.

This presentation will show the warning signs and red flags that researchers must be wary of.

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Primary Presenting Author
Philip Darbyshire, PhD
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**Professional Experience:** Clinical roles in children's nursing and disability 1977-1982. Diploma, Masters and PhD in Nursing 1981-1992. Academic positions and professorships at 4 Universities 1989-present. I am currently a Director of Philip Darbyshire Consulting Ltd, the consulting company that I established in 2008 on leaving my last full-time Professorial ‘Joint Chair’ position after 13 years. In my current Independent Consultant role, my main areas of expertise are; health service and university sector evaluation and redesign while enabling organisations to ‘change how they change’; nursing entrepreneurialism, and enhancing the image and profile of nurses and nursing.

**Author Summary:** Philip Darbyshire has been a children's nurse, educator, writer, researcher and educator for over 40 years. He is internationally recognized as a leader in nursing research and service development. For 13 years he led one of Australia’s most successful practice-based research departments at Women’s & Children’s Hospital in Adelaide, described by the Australian Council on Healthcare Standards as, “an example of excellence in research leadership”. His consultancy helps organisations ‘change how they change’.