

# An Open Access journal has invited me to publish in their journal. How do I know it's a trustworthy publisher?

With the development of OA, parasitic or « predatory » OA journals have started to exploit the « author pays » model. The authors, generally solicited by email, are invited to submit articles, which are systematically accepted after publication fees are paid for, regardless of the scientific value. One must note that this problem exists only for Gold OA journals.

Jeffrey Beall, of the University of Colorado, created in 2008, [scholarlyoa.com](http://scholarlyoa.com), a website that contained a list of potentially predatory journals based on 52 criteria. This list was used as a standard until its discontinuation in January 2017. An archived version is still [available](#) and other [sites](#) have tried to carry the torch. It is also possible to check the Directory of Open Access Journals, [DOAJ](#), to evaluate the credibility of an OA journal.

The recently launched cross-sector initiative called « [Think. Check. Submit](#) » is a campaign seeking to help researchers identify journals of quality for their research. It consists of a simple check-list that researchers can use to evaluate journals or publishers. This initiative is an excellent way of fighting against « predatory » journals.

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