CHECKLIST
For identifying predatory publishers

What to look for

- Contact information

- Scope of the journal

- Editorial board

- Author fee policy

- Quality of articles

What to check

- Does the journal's website provide complete contact information?
- Does it include a verifiable address?

- Is the journal’s scope multidisciplinary?
- Does it combine multiple, unrelated, wide-ranging fields?

- Does it include recognized, affiliated experts? (TIP: Contact a few & inquire about their experience with the journal)

- Does the journal charge authors publication fees? (TIP: Find out about such charges before submission)

- Does the journal publish good quality articles?
Peer review process

- Is the peer review process described on the journal's website? (TIP: Most credible journals are likely to display it)

Indexing information

- Is the journal indexed or a member of a prominent publisher association?
- Does it display an ICV*?

Retraction policy

- Does the journal have a clear policy for recalling articles? (TIP: Check journal policies or its instructions to authors)

Pitch for authors

- Does the journal guarantee publication or quick peer review? (TIP: If it sounds too good to be true, it probably isn't.)

E-mail invitation

- Do the journal, its editors and staff all have institutional or journal-affiliated email addresses?

* Index Copernicus Value (ICV) is a questionable journal metric, and is generally used exclusively by predatory journals. You will not find an ICV on the website of a legitimate journal.