OA: not “If” but “How”

Yue Zhang*
Research Centre, CHUM, Notre-Dame Hospital, Montreal, Quebec H2L 4M1, Canada

Disclosing conflict of interest (COI) is critical for the quality of peer-reviewed publications [1]. The perceptions of Open Access (OA) include low quality and low COI requirements. We should not assume that OA pursues more revenue so COI requirements are lowered. The OA debate is not about economics; it is about access [2,3]. For instance, the Journal of Visualized Experiments initially chose the OA model but sounds difficult to cover costs, so they adopted subscriptions. Most OA articles undergo the same peer-reviewing process as traditional models, especially in high-profile OA publications (e.g. PLOS Medicine, PNAS, Nature Communications, Nature (open), and so on. A few journals may abuse OA [4]. The legal issues urge us to develop new policies and laws for OA publishing. A package including the following may help to filter fakes:

- Novel fair-crediting requirements,
- Sagacious interactive reviews, interactive publications,
- Fast, fair but strict indexing systems,
- Post-publication assessment systems and general impact classification,
- Independent systems [5] for verifying key experiments (e.g. funding agencies may make this mandatory, or simply a "sting" at the discretion of reviewers or editors),
- Step-by-step online methods and protocols for OA publications.
- Individual OA publication element with DOI assignments for identification and crowd-sourcing confirmation.

References

*Corresponding author: Yue Zhang, CRCHUM, Notre-Dame Hospital, 1560 Sherbrooke Street East, Pavilion DeSève, Room Y2825, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2L 4M1, Tel: 1-514-890-8000, 23875; E-mail: zhanglee2006@gmail.com

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