

Predatory Reports



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- OVERVIEW OF PREDATORY REPORTS
- THE THREAT OF PREDATORY PUBLISHING
- TRAITS OF A PREDATORY JOURNAL
- IDENTIFYING FRAUDULENT JOURNALS
- ANATOMY OF A PREDATORY REPORT

OVERVIEW

Predatory Reports

	<div>Bioflux Society</div> <div>AAB Bioflux</div> <div><div><div> Romania</div><div> Open access</div><div> Reviewed Feb 13, 2017</div><div>Criteria v1.0</div></div></div> <div>10</div> <div>Violations</div>
	<div>Bioflux Society</div> <div>AACL Bioflux</div> <div><div><div> Romania</div><div> Open access</div><div> Reviewed Feb 13, 2017</div><div>Criteria v1.0</div></div></div> <div>8</div> <div>Violations</div>
	<div>American Association for Science and Technology</div> <div>AASCIT Communications</div> <div><div><div> China</div><div> Open access</div><div> Reviewed May 17, 2017</div><div>Criteria v1.0</div></div></div> <div>7</div> <div>Violations</div>
	<div>American Association for Science and Technology</div> <div>AASCIT Journal of Biology</div> <div><div><div> China</div><div> Open access</div><div> Reviewed May 18, 2017</div><div>Criteria v1.0</div></div></div> <div>6</div> <div>Violations</div>

View of the *Predatory Reports* search results

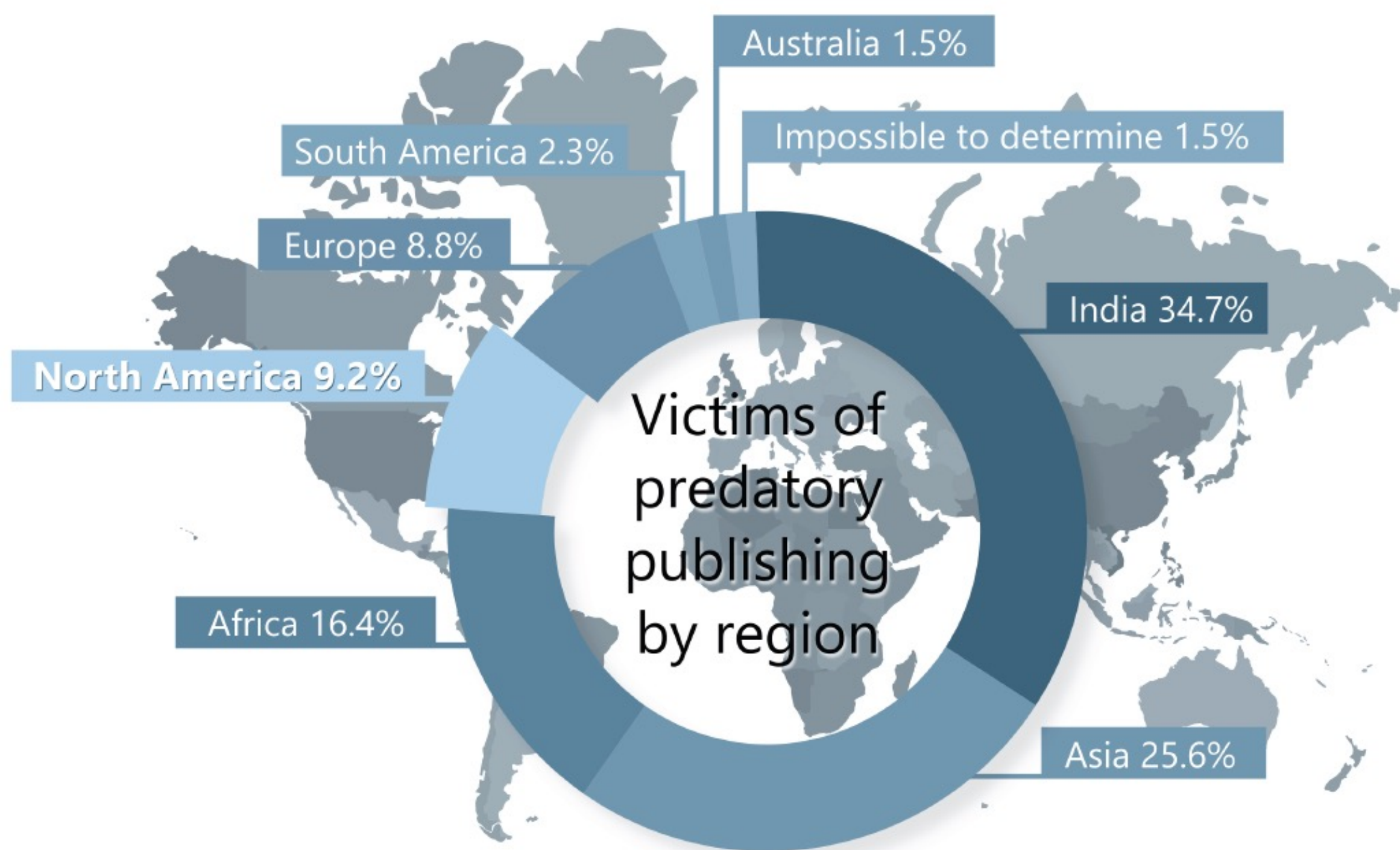
WHAT IS CABELLS PREDATORY REPORTS?

Predatory Reports is the only searchable database that identifies deceptive and fraudulent journals. Specialists identify and analyze over 70 behavioral indicators to flag potentially exploitative or dishonest operations.

Each entry in *Predatory Reports* provides information on how to identify the journal in the real world as well as a comprehensive report of each behavioral indicator that was uncovered in the journal’s evaluation.

The threat of predatory publishing

ABOUT ONE-IN-TEN VICTIMS ARE IN **NORTH AMERICA**



Shen C., Björk BC (2015) 'Predatory' open access: a longitudinal study of article volumes and market characteristics. BMC Med 1(13)

WHAT IS A PREDATORY JOURNAL?

The rise of digital publishing in academia has made launching academic journals easier than ever and has done much to advance the democratization of research. It is also now easier than ever to create fake or deceptive journals whose only purpose is to defraud researchers and academic institutions.

These journals are often referred to as “predatory journals.”

HOW DO THEY OPERATE?

A hallmark of the predatory journal is charging researchers to publish and then not delivering upon the stated or implied promises. There are many variations on this theme, but almost all predatory journals sacrifice integrity for profit or prestige.

The following page identifies certain traits and archetypes, outlining different ways that these journals defraud researchers.

Traits of a predatory journal

DOES NOT PERFORM ROBUST PEER REVIEW

The most common trait among predatory journals is that they do not perform substantial peer review. Performing peer review expends time, effort and money. Predatory journals often claim they perform peer review, but, in actuality, forego this most important step of the publishing process in order to reduce overhead and increase profit.

FAILS TO PUBLISH ACCEPTED ARTICLES

Many predatory journals promise to perform peer-review and publish a researcher's article. Upon receipt of the author's manuscript and publishing fee, many do not even pretend to perform peer review, publish nothing and pocket the fee. If they are eventually discovered, the operation will get a new website and a new name to start the process again.

PUBLICATION MILLS

Certain journals specialize in being an easy outlet in which complicit researchers can publish. These publication mills often perform minimal peer review and only allow "members" to submit and view articles they publish.

HOLDS MANUSCRIPTS HOSTAGE WITH SURPRISE FEES

Some predatory journals accept manuscripts to publish, creating the illusion of performing a lengthy peer review. Upon the completion of this process, the journal demands payment of additional fees in order to ensure publication. By this time, researchers are often running out of time and energy and capitulate to the demand.

HIJACK LEGITIMATE PUBLICATIONS

A very troubling archetype of predatory journals are those that make nearly identical copies of legitimate and well respected journals to capture submission fees from authors who believe they are submitting to the hijacked journal. These predatory journals are often able to spoof email addresses, copy websites and logos and even host previous issues of the legitimate journal's articles.

Identifying fraudulent journals



SOME FRAUDULENT JOURNALS ARE VERY SOPHISTICATED


Many predatory journals devote extensive resources toward appearing like high-quality and professional publications. Many will have professionally designed websites and claim to have an editorial board composed of respected researchers from elite institutions.



SOME ARE NOT


Other fraudulent journals rely on maintaining low costs and preying upon researchers in developing countries. Many of these shell-like operations have websites fraught with errors and dead links.


Anatomy of a predatory report




Bioflux Society

AAB Bioflux

 Romania

 Open access

 Reviewed Feb 13, 2017

10
Violations

About

Biological Sciences


Disciplines

2066-7639

ISSN

2067-6352

e-ISSN



VIOLATIONS

Publication Practices

- Machine-generated or other "sting" abstracts or papers are accepted.
- The Editor publishes research in his own journal.
- Authors are published several times in the same journal and/or issue.
- The name of the publisher suggests that it is a society, academy, etc. when it is only a publisher and offers no real benefits to members.
- The name of the publisher suggests that it is a society, academy, etc. when it is only a solitary proprietary operation and does not meet the definition of the term used or implied non-profit mission.

Peer Review

- Little geographical diversity of board members and the journal claims to be International.

Have an update on a predatory journal?

VISIT JOURNAL WEBSITE

IDENTIFYING INFORMATION

Predatory reports serve as a way for users to identify predatory journals in the real world. Each entry contains identifying information such as its title, claimed ISSNs, country of origin, claimed discipline and website. Using this data, researchers can know if an invitation to publish is legitimate, if research has been peer-reviewed, or if a potential research outlet is reliable.

TRANSPARENT CRITERIA

Each entry also displays what behavioral indicators our specialists found that flagged it for the predatory label. Each of these “violations” is enumerated and categorized. Using these reports, users can learn more about these behaviors and decide for themselves whether to trust the journal.