

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

1. Salem DN, Boumil MM (2013) Conflict of interest in open-access publishing. *N Engl J Med* 369: 491.
2. Terry R (2005) Funding the way to open access. *PLoS Biol* 3: e97.
3. Wolpert AJ (2013) For the sake of inquiry and knowledge--the inevitability of open access. *N Engl J Med* 368: 785-787.
4. Haug C (2013) The downside of open-access publishing. *N Engl J Med* 368: 791-793.
5. Wadman M (2013) NIH mulls rules for validating key results. *Nature* 500: 14-16.

***Corresponding author:** Yue Zhang, CRCHUM, Notre-Dame Hospital, 1560 Sherbrooke Street East, Pavillon DeSève, Room Y2625, Montreal, Quebec, Canada H2L 4M1, Tel: 1-514-890-8000, 23875; E-mail: zhanglee2006@gmail.com

Received August 23, 2013; **Accepted** August 24, 2013; **Published** August 27, 2013

Citation: Zhang Y (2013) OA: not “If” but “How”. *Human Genet Embryol* 3: e109. doi:[10.4172/2161-0436.1000e109](http://dx.doi.org/10.4172/2161-0436.1000e109)

Copyright: © 2013 Zhang Y. This is an open-access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited.