Identifying reputable open access journals

1. Refer to the guide "Getting Published"
   Refer to the UQ Library guide "Getting Published":
   http://guides.library.uq.edu.au/for-researchers/get-published

2. Is the journal listed in the DOAJ?
   Check if your journal is included in DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals): a directory that indexes high quality, open access, peer-reviewed journals: https://doaj.org/

3. Search for your journal on Ulrichsweb
   Search Ulrichsweb (available via the Library databases) by journal name for peer-review status of a journal and journal history

4. Is the journal indexed in a major database?
   Check if the journal is indexed in the major databases, such as PubMed, Embase, Scopus, Web of Science

5. Check the quality of the journal
   Confirm Impact Factor and Quartile using Journal Citation Reports or Journal Rank using SCImago (both available via the Library Databases)

6. Does the publisher adhere to ethical practices?
   Ensure publisher adheres to ethical publishing practices (e.g. is a listed member of COPE or WAME)

7. Are contact and peer review details clear?
   Check journal website to confirm accurate contact information (including postal address) and transparent peer review guidelines

8. If in doubt seek advice
   Contact the UQ Library Scholarly Publishing Team:
   Elena Danilova: e.danilova@library.uq.edu.au or 334 69991
   James Nicholson: j.nicholson@library.uq.edu.au or 334 67343
   Trinity McNicol: t.mcnicol@library.uq.edu.au or 334 64194
#1 Journal sends spam emails inviting article submissions

#2 Article Processing Charges are difficult to locate on journal’s website

#3 New publisher launches with a fleet of empty journals

#4 Publisher employs fake impact factors and indexing platforms

#5 Information regarding journal content and Editorial Board is deceptive

#6 Publisher promotes the ISSN number as a sign of quality

#7 Journal website doesn’t adhere to industry standards and has grammatical errors

#8 Anonymous, fictitious Editorial Board/editors/researchers listed without consent

#9 Article Processing Charges applied, but does not deliver services such as peer review; not indexed; no impact factor

*Do not make assumptions based on one Red Flag alone but be alerted to delve deeper*