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| **Guidelines for Evaluating the Integrity of a Journal** |
| **Question** | **What to look for** | **Red flags** |
| Who is the Editor in charge of journal content? |       A person who has a reputation in the discipline.      Direct contact information for the Editor is provided. |       You cannot find any evidence of the Editor’s standing in the discipline.      There is no contact information. |
| What is the journal’s process for assuring quality of content? |       A clear description of the process for review of manuscripts prior to publication is stated.      The names and duties of editorial advisory or review panel members are listed. |       A promise of rapid review and publication (quality reviews take time).      Mystification of those who are involved in the review process. |
| Does the journal have sound business and publishing practices? |       The journal is a member of [**COPE**](http://publicationethics.org/).      The journal is in the[**INANE/NA&E Directory of Nursing Journals**](http://nursingeditors.com/journals-directory/).      Information about author processing charges (APC), if any, is clear and easily accessible.      If the journal shows an impact factor, it is verifiable in the [**Journal Citation Reports**](http://thomsonreuters.com/journal-citation-reports/) (Web of Science). |       The publisher/journal is on Beall’s List at[**Scholarly OA**](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CLeslie%5CDownloads%5Cscholarlyoa.com).      The journal name or other information is suspiciously like another journal.      The journal/publisher solicits manuscripts using excessively complimentary emails. |
| Sources:Open Access Scholarly Publishers Association (OASPA) [**Code of Conduct**](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5CSally%5CDocuments%5CCurrent%20Working%20Files%20%20-Aug%2023%5CINANE%20writing%20project%5CCode%20of%20Conduct%C2%A0) (http://oaspa.org/membership/code-of-conduct/)Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) [**Membership**](http://publicationethics.org/members)(http://publicationethics.org/members) International Association of Scientific, Technical & Medical Publishers (STM) [**Code of Conduct**](http://www.stm-assoc.org/code-of-conduct/) (http://www.stm-assoc.org/membership/code-of-conduct/) |