Predatory Practices: consequences and how to avoid?

**What is a predatory journal?**
Journals that take advantage of authors
- Ask to publish for a fee & do not follow standard peer-review

**What is a predatory conference?**
Exploitative conferences that appear legitimate
- Not organised by scholarly associations and standard conference practices are absent

**Why they are bad?**
- Spread junk science
- Downgrade scholar's academic profiles
- Lower the country's academic ranking

**Signs of predatory journals and conferences**
- Contacts are not professional (contain "com" domains)
- Spelling and grammar errors in the website
- Manuscript handling process is unclear
- Promotes index copernicus value (ICV)

**How not to fall prey**
1. Be patient
   - Do not look for fast publication. Always improve and resubmit
2. Assume the worst
   - Always assume that the journal/conference is predatory
3. Check and confirm
   - Who organises the conference and who publishes the journal
   - Is it listed as a predatory journal or conference
   - Is it listed in authentic journal lists such as JCR or DOAJ

Over 15,000 predatory journals prey upon scientific research and/or spread low-quality science

Annually, more than 420,000 articles spread false knowledge without a proper peer-review

75% of the authors that publish in predatory journals are from Asia or Africa paying an average of US $178 per article

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