

Editorial Opinion on the EC Journals' Mission Statement and Description

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The founding statement of EC Journals from 2014, emphasizing rapid and open dissemination of scientific research, aligns with one of the most transformative shifts in academic publishing: the move toward open access. The commitment to making research “freely and promptly available on the web” reflects a recognition of the evolving needs of the global scientific community, particularly the demand for more equitable access to knowledge and faster dissemination of results.

The ambition to expand the journal list in the coming years suggests a dynamic and growth-oriented vision. However, with expansion must come an equal emphasis on maintaining academic rigor, transparency in peer review, and the quality of editorial processes.

The statement positions EC Journals as a “peer reviewed international publisher” aiming to promote research across all areas of scientific and technological advancement. While the breadth of this vision is admirable, it is essential to ensure that such a broad scope does not dilute the specialization and depth expected of high-quality academic publishing. Journals, especially in specialized fields like paediatrics, must remain deeply rooted in their niche disciplines to maintain relevance and impact.

Strengths:

1. **Commitment to open access:** This provides wider dissemination and increased visibility for authors and ensures access to knowledge for researchers globally, including those in resource-limited settings.
2. **Focus on originality and interdisciplinary:** Encouraging innovative and cross-disciplinary work is in tune with the modern research landscape where complex problems require integrated approaches.
3. **Mission for rapid publication:** Timely publication is a significant need in both clinical and scientific research, particularly in fast-evolving fields like paediatrics.
4. **Accessibility and readability:** Emphasizing user-friendly language and structure improves the real-world impact of published work, especially in applied sciences and clinical domains.

Areas for clarification or enhancement

- **Quality control:** While rapid dissemination is valuable, it must not come at the cost of rigorous peer review. More clarity around peer review policies, editorial board structure, and quality assurance mechanisms would strengthen trust in the journal's integrity.
- **Statement refinement:** Some parts of the mission (e.g. “to get to know, to discover, to publish”) are vague and could benefit from clearer articulation. Stronger, more specific phrasing would improve professionalism and reader confidence.

- **Scientific impact:** The mission could include a clearer emphasis on measurable outcomes such as indexing, impact factors, and citation standards, which are important for authors choosing a publication venue.

Final Remarks

As editor, I support the core mission of EC Journals to democratize access to scientific knowledge and foster interdisciplinary, high-quality research. However, as we strive to grow and diversify our publications, we must uphold the highest standards of editorial integrity, peer review, and scientific excellence. Our role is not only to publish but also to elevate and curate science for a global readership.

In this spirit, the Journal of *EC Paediatrics* will continue to prioritize clarity, credibility, and clinical relevance in the work we publish—always with the best interest of patients, practitioners, and researchers in mind.

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