

Response to the “Open Issues with Open Access Publication”

To the Editor:

The commentary “Open Issues With Open Access Publication”¹ needs some clarification. After reading it, one may get the impression that the regular print journals do not cost the authors much. The mention of fees for submission is not mentioned in detail in this article.

In fact, as is well known, many prominent print journals charge fees to authors for publications. Remarkably, the authors still lose the copyright to the publisher! Authors retain copyright with the *Public Library of Science ONE*.² As an example, the *American Journal of Kidney Diseases* charges \$75 per page in excess of 4 pages and \$650 for the

first color figure. *The Journal of Neuroscience* charges \$1035 for regular manuscripts. There are many more examples.³

It is understandable that some form of fees is required for publications, either print or online, but one has to understand that publication fees for print journals often also are paid by the author’s grants. Because of little distinction in where the fees for publication are coming from, the invocation of morality into this debate is, at least, fruitless.

Talha H. Imam, MD
Department of Nephrology
Kaiser Permanente
Fontana, Calif

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