

The Future of JAD – Gold or Green?

No, this headline means neither cast gold in restorative dentistry nor sustainable packaging in green dentistry; rather, it is a question about open access publishing in the scientific literature. The "golden path" of open access publishing – or gold open access for short – means that authors publish their work in an open access journal which is by nature online only. Such a journal allows free and immediate online access of any paper. Every paper has a "creative commons" license determining how the individual manuscript can be exploited. The "green way" of open access, ie, green open access, is present when the authors' accepted version of a published manuscript is deposited into a subject-based repository.

Together with Quintessence Publishing, we assessed both ways of open access together with just keeping things as they were before or modifying the Journal into a "hybrid" form. The latter allowing authors to opt for open access upon paying a substantial fee. Generally speaking, gold open access offers the attractive possibility to acquire freely accessible manuscripts directly upon publication. As main advantage, this considerably increases the visibility of your work as potential authors at the earliest point; however, it mandatorily comes along with a so-called article processing charge (APC), which means that if your paper is accepted, you have to pay a certain amount of money for publication. However, also the individual value of this APC is important. Of course, there are valid control mechanisms to ensure that it will not be easier to publish in a certain journal only because an APC was paid. Green open access simply does not have the same legal framework for content licensing. Here, any scientific use by others is restricted by copyright law. This repeatedly lead to problems on several public platforms, so that we did not find the green way to be suitable for us.

To make a long story short: We proudly announce that the Journal of Adhesive Dentistry will be gold open access from January 1st, 2022. A moderate APC of 1250 Euro will be due solely upon acceptance, with no manuscript submission fee.

Roland Frankenberger

Bart Van Meerbeek