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Best Practices & Advantages of Open Access Publications

“If open access was the default choice for publishing scientific research results, the impact of these results would increase and cases like mine would not exist. There would be no doubt that the right thing is to circulate this knowledge, so that it should serve everyone.”

-Diego Gomez

Records show that Open Access (OA) policies have been adopted by various universities, research institutions and funding organizations from as early as 2003. Most of journals publish their articles without full access which can be subscribed by payment of whole journal or one or more articles. But, if research organizations, universities and funding agencies opt for open access then payment must be done by them. Open Access provides more readers of the articles, therefore, maximum circulation of findings of the authors and there is maximum chance of citations of that published work. Realizing the above mentioned merits, OA becoming priority of authors. Gradually OA publications are increasing day by day where all full text articles are free to all. Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) is now providing directory of open access journals only. 9324 journals are available in DOAJ from 128 countries where 2,341,298 Articles are present time; whereas the data is increasing day by day. Similarly, Directory of Open Access Books (DOAB) is giving directory of open access books in which 5492 Academic peer-reviewed books from 165 publishers are available at present. In addition to these, many other repositories are now adopting open access policies. PubMed Central (PMC), Elsevier open access, Wiley open access, Open Access Journals Search Engine (OAJSE) are also providing open access journals. We can see many open access sources on internet except above mentioned OA publications.

Now question arises, why OA increasing day by day? Why it is becoming the choice of universities, academicians and funding agencies? The cost of payment for OA publication seems very less in comparison of impact increasing due to citations of their published works and promotion of the status of that universities, academicians and funding agencies. In the developing countries most of authors are facing problem to purchase journals and articles, even the universities are unable to purchase journals because published materials, journals and books are more in number. On the other hand, payment for their own manuscripts are less in number and the publication charges are within the capacity to pay. OA publications are providing good opportunities for all. Waiver policy for poor economy countries and institutions help in quality publications of low income authors. There are many advocates of open access and they have given many important points in the favour of advocacy of open access.

To encourage open access publication, Open access week is now celebrated every year globally in the last week of October since 2011; whereas, it was stated in 2007, celebrated any week of October month.

In April 2008, the National Institutes of Health (NIH) reported the Public Access Policy which requires specialists and awardees specifically supported by NIH and in addition NIH staff to present 'an electronic adaptation of the last companion looked into composition upon acknowledgment for distribution in PubMed Central (PMC). The composition should either turn out to be promptly accessible in PMC or taking after a greatest of 12 months ban period.

In an research conducted by NIH, one of the top world research institution, on the effect of the NIH strategy on citation rates of journal articles demonstrated that when contrasting peer-reviewed articles distributed in 2009 with NIH financing and made accessible in PMC with peer-reviewed distributed in similar journals however that have not been kept nor made straightforwardly accessible in PMC there is a significantly 26% more elevated amount of citations in regard to not made publically accessible. The article considers that the NIH Public Access command has had a critical effect in making scientific data more noticeable and effortlessly open and prescribes other USA government offices to take after the NIH's case. Besides, the article demonstrates that in 2013 the general consistence had achieved 75%. Basically, the NIH decides its general consistence rate by computing the quantity of articles that it considers to be liable to its arrangement in a given year. The quantity of articles subject to the approach is computed on the premise of the articles connected to NIH grants.

Open Access to scientific data has various points of interest to the scholarly group and to the general public all in all. It builds the openness, accessibility, utilize and effect of research. It enhances the speed and productivity of research. It encourages the exchange of learning from the scholarly to people in general, not-for-benefit and private parts. Furthermore, it conveys expanded profits for interests in openly financed explore. Numerous organizations and funders in Europe and North America are driving the path in changing the practices in the insightful interchanges framework by actualizing OA arrangements. Checking consistence with OA strategies is appropriate in light of the fact that it empowers organizations and funders to evaluate the degree to which their scholastics, specialists and grantees are conforming to approaches. OA approach checking has prompted to the improvement of quantifiable definitions that help with following consistence with necessities, for example, who ought to make scientific data OA, what ought to be made OA, when ought to scientific data be made OA, where and how. After adopting the OA policy worldwide, research in developing countries enhanced due to availability of literatures in comparison to previous time. This editorial of IJGRR, an OA journal, gives emphasis on OA policy and conclude with following quotation.

“Access to information is a human right, but it is often treated as a privilege. This has change- and it will take all us to make it happen.”

-Erin McKiernan

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