

Handling fee for open access journals

From the Editor-in-Chief of CVIR Endovascular: Jim Reekers

A handling fee is not the same as “paying for publication”. The author does not buy anything, especially not a right to publish. Every paper will be peer-reviewed and a handling fee is only charged after publication. Following the huge success of Plosmed, which was the first open access journal, many other journals started with open access journals, next to the mother journal. Lancet and Circulation now have a whole series of open access journals. It seems that subscription journals will start disappearing in a few years. What CVIR Endovascular is doing by opening an open access journal is nothing new, it is, however, something we all have to adjust to.

Where do you get the money for publication? There are options for free waivers from the Editor and also from the publisher. To find out more about this, take a look at the Springer website (<https://cvirendovasc.springeropen.com>) or contact the editorial office of CVIR Endovascular (info@cvirendovascular.org).

Until now the institutional libraries have always paid large sums for institutional subscriptions, but with the large number of open access journals emerging this will decrease or eventually stop completely. Many institutions have made deals with publishers for substantial reductions in open access handling fees, also institutions have redirected their funds for institutional subscriptions towards support for open access. Talk to your institution and librarians, or find out here if your institution is a member of SpringerOpen: <https://www.springeropen.com/about/institutional-support/membership>. I do understand that for individual, non-academic or non-institutional authors the fee can be a problem, but for academic or institutional authors the handling fee should be budgeted every year.

Industrial support for publication is often possible. Handling fees for open access should be a part of all research grants, and should be included in the respective grant budget. Scientific publishing is currently in a transition period but it is quite probable that subscription journals will completely disappear.

And of course, you also have to think about the advantages of open access:

- Direct and immediate access to your scientific work on every online platform.
- More visibility means more citations.
- The authors keep the copyright, therefore the paper can be used without permission.
- Unlimited publication space, therefore your good paper will never be rejected because of space.
- Papers can be longer, with more pictures, graphics and videos.