

Do I need to work with a publisher?

.... Ahem

Philip Abraham

A publisher's contract terms

. **PUBLICATION**

- *Schedule and supply.* Issues of the journal would be published during each calendar year and copies of each issue would be supplied by the Publisher to the Society at a discounted net price of Indian Rs. 85.00 per copy.
- In case costs of production inputs increase during the contract period, the discounted net price of Rs. 85.00 per copy would be correspondingly increased through consultation and agreement between both parties.

A publisher's contract terms

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PUBLISHER

- *Publishing services* The Publisher will provide and/or manage the following services:
 - Suitable language editing
 - Verifying authenticity of textual references/citations
 - Data entry and typesetting
 - Proof-reading (first and second proofs)
 - Redrawing of illustrations, tables and charts as necessary
 - Internal design and page layout
 - Film-making
 - Blueprint checking
 - Printing and binding
 - Delivery of copies to the society

A publisher's contract terms

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PUBLISHER

- *Proofing.* Changes at page proof stage may be subject to extra charge. No changes may be made after final page proof approval is received.
- *Right of refusal.* The Publisher reserves the right to refuse publication of articles not submitted in the required format.
- *A&I services.* The Publisher shall make commercially reasonable efforts to gain and/or maintain coverage of the Journal in appropriate abstracting and indexing services, including the *Science Citation Index*.

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RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PUBLISHER

- *Website.* The Publisher will represent the Journal on its website in a form consistent with the Publisher's developing Internet strategy subject to the approval of the Society.
- *Exhibitions.* The Publisher will display copies of the Journal at appropriate medical congresses and exhibitions participated in or attended.
- *Reprints.* The Publisher will provide 10 stapled reprints of each article published in the journal. The reprints will be mailed by the Publisher to the Society. Additional reprints may be sold by the Publisher directly to the authors and other individuals or companies.

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RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PUBLISHER

- *Promotional copies.* The Publisher will mail up to 30 copies of each issue to selected international libraries, institutions and abstracting and indexing services. This distribution list shall be compiled jointly by the Society and the Publisher.
- *Reuse of material.* The Publisher will inform the Society when selling reprints of journal articles. The Publisher shall pay to the Society 10% of the net revenue of such sales generated by the Publisher.
- *Promotion.* The publisher shall promote the Journal, outside of the area being catered to by the Society and endeavor to enlarge the awareness and readership base of the journal.

A publisher's contract terms

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SOCIETY

- *Editing.* The Society will undertake the technical/medical editing of accepted articles as necessary prior to submission to the Publisher
- *Submission.* The Society will submit to the Publisher all accepted articles including illustrative material in clean, double-spaced hardcopy and in electronic format in accordance with the publication schedule
- The Society agrees to send all articles/material for publication at least two months before the publication month
- The Society will compile the annual index to the Journal

A publisher's contract terms

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SOCIETY

- Alterations to the current printing specifications may be subject to additional costs
- Copies of the journal will be delivered to the Society by the Publishers at the expense of the Society

A publisher's contract terms

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE SOCIETY

- *Exhibitions.* The Society agrees to provide the Publisher, free of charge, display facilities for the Journal and related products at meetings, conferences or exhibitions that may be organized by the Society.
- *Advertising.* Both the Society and the Publisher may sell advertising space in the journal. Advertisement revenue currently generated by the Society would be retained by the Society. Any additional advertisement revenue, generated by either party, would be equally shared between the Publisher and the Society.

So, what does the publisher offer?

- To edit language, but not scientific content (both of which my Board members do now)
- To receive the manuscripts in “clean” electronic format
- To reserve the right to reject articles not to their requirement in format
- To format manuscripts finally (which my Board members do now)
- To process for printing, and to print and bind (which my printer does now)

What does the publisher offer?

- To reserve the right to charge for changes at proof stage, and refuse to make changes after the “final” proof
- To sell copies to me at my current cost price, for onward dispatch to the members (which my printer does now)
- To increase price if costs increase
- To make “reasonable” efforts to promote the journal, including to indexing and citation agencies (is that how these agencies work?)

What does the publisher offer?

- Not to do any scientific editing
- Not to prepare the annual index
- Not to allow me to generate any other funds except from my present advertisers, to pay for the cost
- To retain 90% of profits generated from reprints
- To share only 50% of profits generated from advertisements obtained by the Publisher

So, who needs a publisher?

- A Society that does not have a competent / functioning Board, or has one whose members are too competent in practice elsewhere
- A Society most happy to get someone else to take over the “headache” of publishing its journal
- A Society that is willing to pay a publisher for this, from other funds available to it
- From the optimist’s viewpoint, a Society flush with funds and articles, looking to benefit from a “famous” publisher’s name