



13th Pan Arab Conference on Diabetes
Cairo, 24-27 March 2009
Diabetes Health Economics, 24 March

Cost benefit of medical writing: Costs of publishing for authors

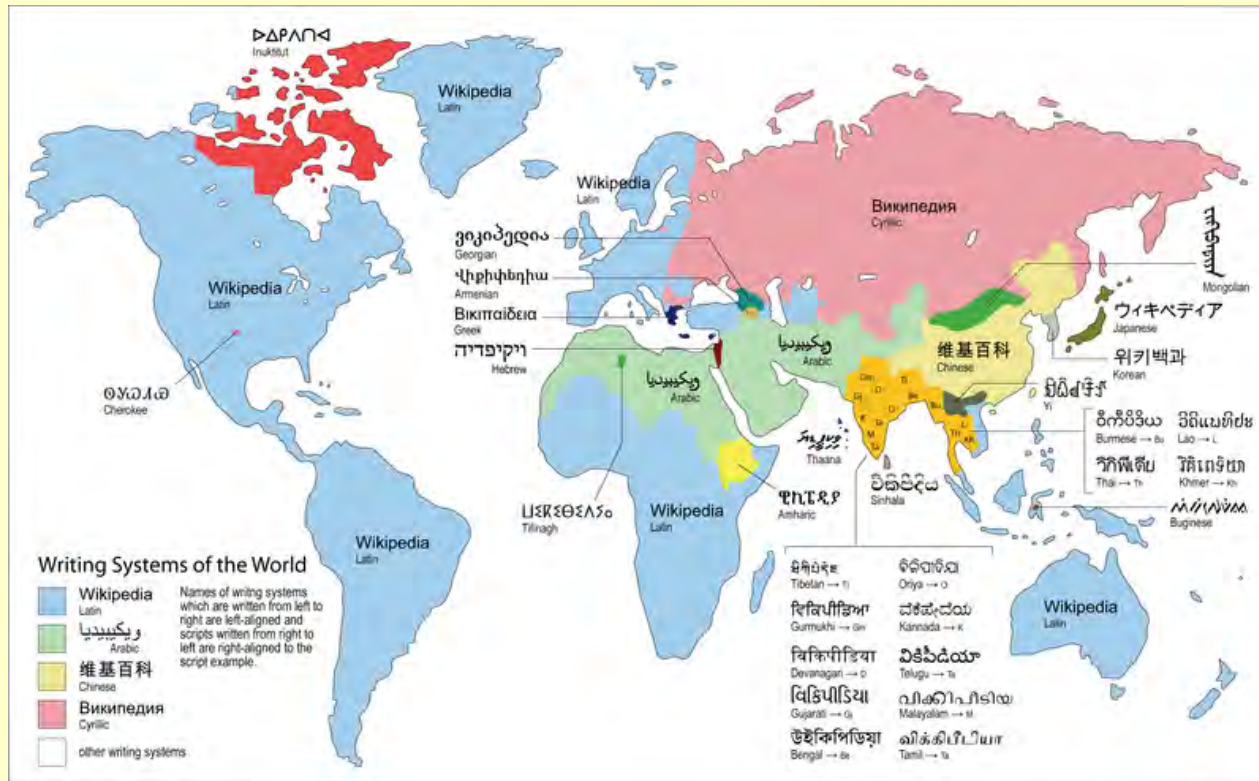
Karen Shashok, Granada, Spain
AuthorAID in the Eastern Mediterranean
kshashok@kshashok.com

Where do **publication costs** come from?

- **Writing, editing or translating manuscripts (access, quality)**
- **Submitting manuscripts (manuscript fees)**

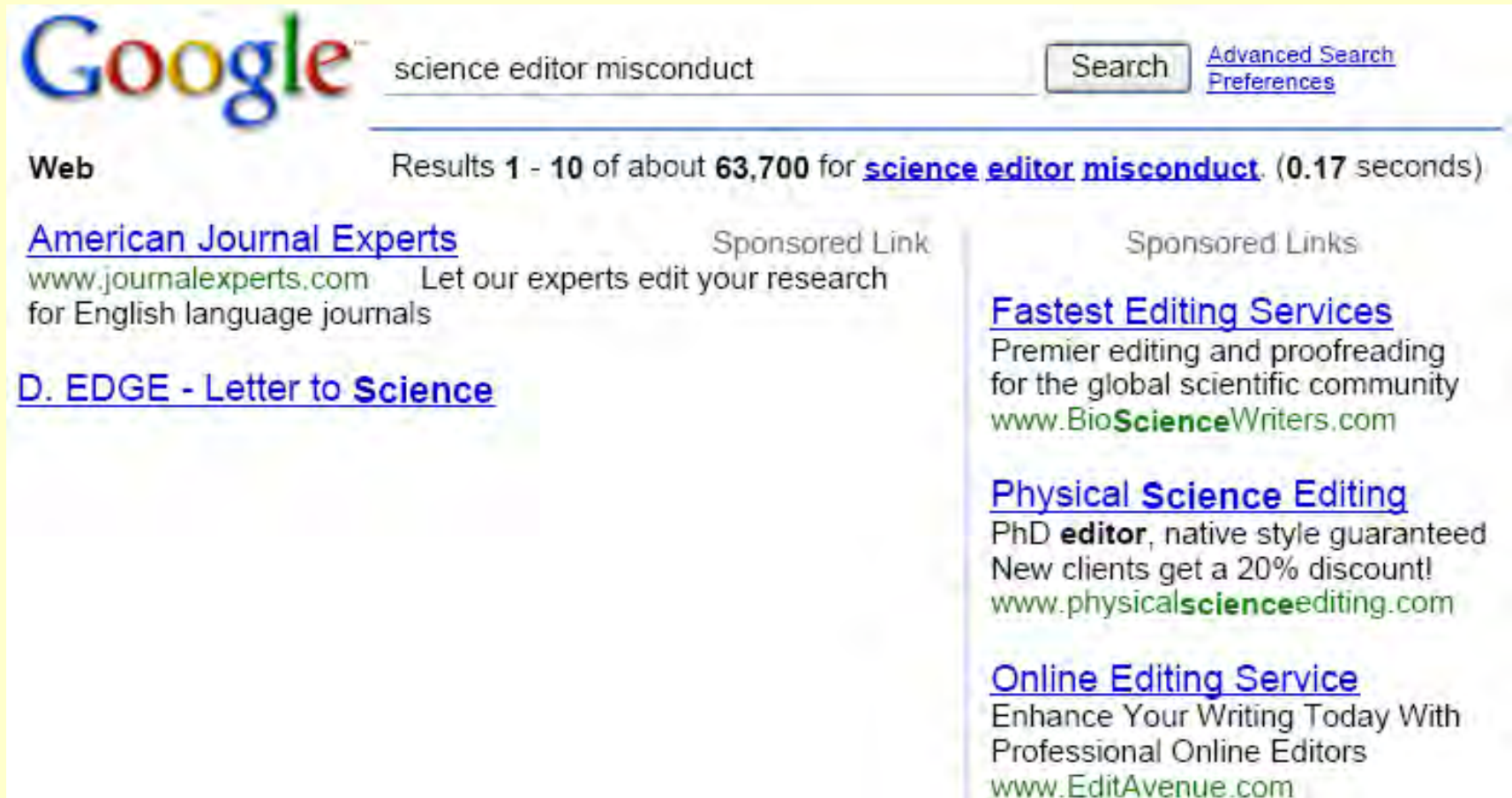
1. Access to high-quality editing help is limited in developing countries.

Wikimedia Commons



AuthorAID, Costs to authors

How do I find manuscript editors?



Google™ science editor misconduct [Advanced Search](#)
[Preferences](#)

Web Results 1 - 10 of about 63,700 for [science editor misconduct](#). (0.17 seconds)

[American Journal Experts](#) Sponsored Link
www.journalexerts.com Let our experts edit your research
for English language journals

[D. EDGE - Letter to Science](#)

Sponsored Links

[Fastest Editing Services](#)
Premier editing and proofreading
for the global scientific community
www.BioScienceWriters.com

[Physical Science Editing](#)
PhD **editor**, native style guaranteed
New clients get a 20% discount!
www.physicalscienceediting.com

[Online Editing Service](#)
Enhance Your Writing Today With
Professional Online Editors
www.EditAvenue.com

AuthorAID, Costs to authors

How do I choose manuscript editors?

How to choose an English editor, translator or similar service provider



Mediterranean Editors and Translators is a not-for-profit professional association of language experts with English language expertise to a wide range of cross-cultural projects. Although language experts are also required in financial, cultural, political and non-governmental or needs in Mediterranean cultures, facilitating communication in the English language and other languages.

MET offers these guidelines to users of communication support services — we wish to help service suppliers and choose consultants wisely and efficiently. The document is organized as follows:

- [Types of language services](#)
- [Characteristics of a professional language consultant](#)
- [FAQs about English language consultants](#)

Download the [full document](#) in PDF format.

AuthorAID, Costs to authors

How do I find manuscript editors?

- Online directories (Council of Science Editors, MET, translation societies)

- Recommendations from colleagues

2. Quality varies, as with any professional service.

- How can I judge quality and value?
- Can I afford it?

As with medical information, slick advertising or easy internet access do not necessarily mean high quality.

The image shows a screenshot of a Google search results page. At the top left is the Google logo. To its right is the search input field containing the text "science editor misconduct". Further right is a "Search" button and two links: "Advanced Search" and "Preferences". Below the search bar, the text "Web" is on the left, and "Results 1 - 10 of about 63,700 for science editor misconduct. (0.17 seconds)" is on the right. The first search result is a sponsored link for "American Journal Experts" with the URL "www.journalexerts.com" and the text "Let our experts edit your research for English language journals". Below this is another link "D. EDGE - Letter to Science". To the right of the search results is a column of sponsored links. The first is "Fastest Editing Services" with the text "Premier editing and proofreading for the global scientific community" and the URL "www.BioScienceWriters.com". The second is "Physical Science Editing" with the text "PhD editor, native style guaranteed. New clients get a 20% discount!" and the URL "www.physicalscienceediting.com". The third is "Online Editing Service" with the text "Enhance Your Writing Today With Professional Online Editors" and the URL "www.EditAvenue.com".

AuthorAID, Costs to authors

Many publishers and editors cannot help with the English.

Some publishers urge authors to consult professional editors.

From Elsevier's website:

“We have successfully negotiated with eight language editing companies to provide language editing services to our authors at competitive rates.”

These commercial editing services...

“provide language and copy editing services globally to authors who wish to publish in scientific, technical and medical peer-reviewed journals...”

...and would like assistance either before they submit an article for peer review or before it is accepted for publication.”

Language editing services. Available at: <http://www.elsevier.com/wps/find/authors/languagepolishing>. Accessed 21 Feb 2009

The publisher's disclaimer:

“Use of an English-language editing service listed here is not mandatory, and will not guarantee acceptance or preference for publication in an Elsevier journal.”

Please note: “Elsevier neither endorses nor takes responsibility for any products, goods or services offered by outside vendors through our services or advertised on this website. For more information please refer to our Terms & Conditions.”

How much?

**US\$ 0.032 per word or
8.00 per 250 words**

**€0.04 to 0.05 per word or
10.00 to 12.00 per 250 words**

**plus administrative fees, taxes
and bank fees**

How much on the Inet?

US\$ 0.02 to 0.45 per word

US\$ 70.00 to 75.00 per hour

**plus administrative fees, taxes
and bank fees**

No standard practices

- Types of editing
- Rates
- Turnaround times
- Terms and conditions
- Invoicing, bank fees

How can I judge quality and value?

- Ask the supplier for reference or examples of published work.**
- Order a small job to test quality of the produce and the process.**

3. Journal fees

No correlation between ms processing fee and for-profit or not-for-profit publisher, OA policy (gold, hybrid/green, other) or commercial vs. society publisher.

What it costs university researchers to publish (ms processing fees) depending on whether the institution has or doesn't have a commercial agreement with the publisher to obtain a discount.

**University of California Berkeley, Library Collections
Scholarly Communication Selective list of open access
and paid access fees (updated 2009).**

Available at

http://www.lib.berkeley.edu/scholarlycommunication/oa_fees.html. Accessed 18 Feb 2009

How much?

Fees range from free (Springer, due to UC Berkeley being a “member”) to US\$ 4500 for Royal Society of Chemistry.

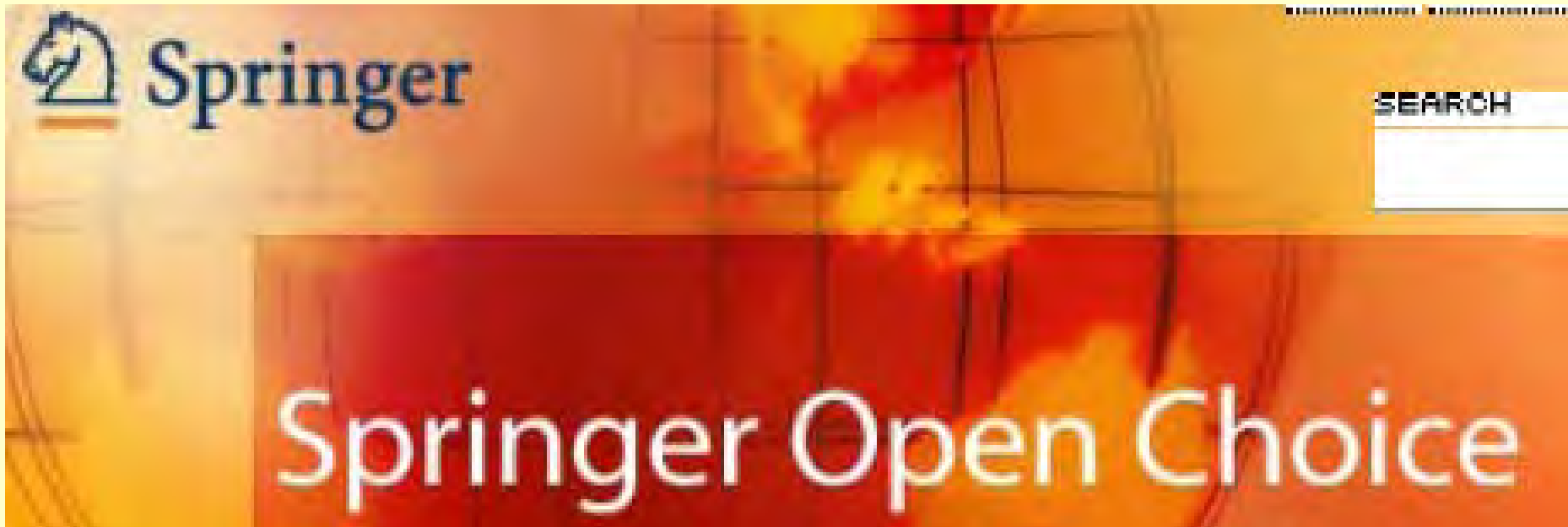
Average about US\$ 1000 to 3000 per ms.

How much?

10%-15% discount on ms processing fee if institution is a “member.” (Depends on the number of manuscripts the institution expects to submit per year)

Discounts apply only to some but not all of the publisher's journals, as negotiated with the institution. (Depends on which disciplines the institution's authors usually publish in)

Open Choice costs US\$ 3000.00 per manuscript...



Price and Payment Information

The basic fee for Springer Open Choice is \$3,000 USD, which can be invoiced in Euros. The order must be placed, and payment received in full (if not ordered by an institution), prior to publication. Springer Open Choice may be ordered directly from Springer.com, we recommend that the contact author (or his/her institution) place the order. Payment can be

AuthorAID, Costs to authors

[for authors](#)

[for libraries](#)

[media information](#)

[press center](#)

[Frequently asked questions about BioMed Central's processing charges](#)

Article processing fees from €220 to €1580 depending on the journal

Discount of 100% for developing countries (low- or middle-income according to World Bank classification)

Discount of 15% if the institution is a member

Discount of 15% if Endnote or Reference Manager is used

Discount of 20% if the author has reviewed a manuscript for the same journal (only a few journals)

Article processing fees for other publishers

US\$560 to \$5000, average approx. \$3000

Open access not always included

■ Comparison of BioMed Central's Article Processing Charges with those of other publishers

AuthorAID, Costs to authors

How can the cost of English editing be reduced?

1. Learn to write well in English to become self-sufficient.

Invest in acquiring solid skills in English writing as early in your academic and research career as possible.

2. Build social networks to facilitate access to colleagues who can help you.

Establish long-term relations with colleagues who write English well and can help with manuscript editing.

3. Use a volunteer editor from AuthorAID, Scientists without Borders, or a society-sponsored volunteer system.

AuthorAID - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Página 1 de 6

AuthorAID

Make a donation to Wikipedia and give the gift of knowledge!

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

AuthorAID is the name given to a growing number of web-based activities that provide developmental editing assistance to scientists and researchers from developing countries who wish to prepare scientific articles for publication in peer reviewed journals. Phyllis Freeman^[1] and Anthony Robbins,^[2] co-editors of the *Journal of Public Health Policy (JPHP)*,^[3] first suggested the name and concept in 2004 and published “Closing the ‘publishing gap’ between rich and poor” about AuthorAID on the Science and Development Network (SciDev Net)^[4] in 2005^[5]

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AuthorAID>

AuthorAID, Costs to authors

How can the cost of English publication be reduced?

1. Submit to journals with no or low manuscript processing fees.

2. Ask the journal if it will waive the manuscript processing fee for authors with no funding—some journals will do this.

3. Submit to a journal with an AuthorAID system



The International Society for
Environmental Epidemiology

[Home](#) [About ISEE](#) [ISEE Conferences](#) [How to Join ISEE](#) [Journals](#) [Announcements](#) [Members' Section](#)

[ISEE Mission and
Philosophy](#)

[Officers and Councilors](#)

[AuthorAID](#)

[What is AuthorAID?](#)

AuthorAID, Costs to authors

Thank-you very much



Wikimedia Commons

AuthorAID, Costs to authors