

Transformative Journals what you need to know

Transformative Journals (TJs) were proposed in May 2019 by Springer Nature as a new way of accelerating a transition to open access.

In January 2021 we will



Launch our first TJs



Transition many Springer Nature journals to TJs

Unlike hybrid journals, TJs play an active role in advocating OA to authors, increase OA uptake and proactively support the OA transition

Why?



OA advantage:

We believe research should be open to all as soon as possible, so that it can be read, used and built upon.



Funder compliance:

Transformative journals are compliant with Plan S requirements for open access.

Source¹

OA articles...

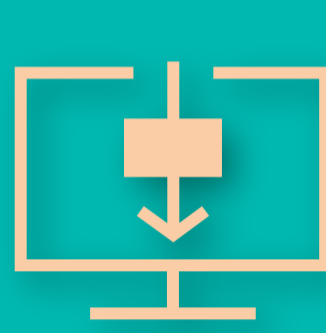
Are cited more



1.6x
more citations

of OA articles than non-OA articles

Are downloaded more



4x
more downloads

of OA articles than non-OA articles across all subjects

Have greater impact



2.5x
more Altmetric attention

OA articles attracted 1.9x more news mentions and 1.2x more policy mentions

Source²

Benefits of TJs versus Hybrids in driving OA

Active promotion of OA benefits



Transformative Journals

Vs

Hybrid Journals

To maximise take-up of the OA option, TJs proactively promote the benefits of OA to authors of primary research articles during submission, at the point of subscription/ OA choice and during the peer-review process

Are agnostic to author choice of OA or subscription route

Commitment to annual OA growth and transition to full OA



Transformative Journals

Vs

Hybrid Journals

Commit to continuously increase the OA share each year and flip to full OA once 75% threshold has been met

Facilitate, but make no commitment to driving OA growth and transition

Open metrics and reporting



Transformative Journals

Vs

Hybrid Journals

To encourage OA uptake, transparency and advocacy, TJs provide metrics and comparisons of the volume, usage, citations, and online attention for OA and subscription content, at article and journal level

Make no commitment to provide transparent reporting on OA vs. subscription content

Author choice of OA or author subscription



Transformative Journals

Vs

Hybrid Journals

Authors can choose between gold OA or subscription publication, based on their preferences, funder or institutional requirements for OA, and availability of APC funding

Authors can choose between gold OA or subscription publication, based on their preferences, funder or institutional requirements for OA, and availability of APC funding

APC pricing transparency



Transformative Journals

Vs

Hybrid Journals

Commit to providing greater transparency on the services covered by the APC

Make no commitment to provide pricing transparency

Subscription pricing transparency



Transformative Journals

Vs

Hybrid Journals

Commit to being more transparent about their subscription pricing policies, enabling institutional librarians to understand how subscription pricing takes account of any reductions in the volume of subscription content

Commitment to no double dipping

For more information about Transformative Journals at Springer Nature visit [springernature.com/transformative-journals](https://www.springernature.com/transformative-journals)



1. Plan S: Making full and immediate Open Access a reality <https://www.coalition-s.org>

2. Assessing the open access effect for hybrid journals <https://www.springernature.com/gp/open-research/about/oa-effect-hybrid>