

BJP Open – FAQs for Librarians and Subscription Agents

Why is there a mixed model of funding for BJP in 2006?

The British Pharmacology Society (BPS) is committed to providing authors with all relevant publishing options in this period of technology change, while protecting the financial foundations of its publications, which support its charitable activities for the advancement of pharmacology.

This introduction of this publishing model for British Journal of Pharmacology (BJP) follows the introduction of 'Online Open' on the British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology, which is also a journal of the BPS.

Over the past few years there have been numerous changes in policy and business models in the publishing arena, the most significant being the rise of the 'open access' publishing model and the interest in enabling long-term preservation and widespread access to content through archiving and repositories. In 2005, Nature Publishing Group (NPG) implemented a number of new policies to demonstrate our commitment to these long-term developments that are now shaping the way we work, and this new publishing model is an extension of that commitment.

Throughout, NPG remains committed to publishing the highest impact research, with the widest possible readership. We will continue to innovate and experiment with new publishing models in order to meet the individual needs of our society partners and their journals, while ensuring we deliver a high quality service to our end users.

What will happen to the subscription prices of BJP in 2007?

During the first six months of each year, NPG and BJP undertake an annual pricing review for the following year. One of the key factors we take into account in setting subscription prices is any increase in the amount of material we expect to publish in the journal in the following year.

We will continue to use this information in setting pricing but will only take into account articles published under the traditional publishing model – any articles published under the BJP Open model will be excluded from this calculation.

Is this a permanent change?

The policy will be reviewed annually, and will inform external parties of any changes.

Is NPG planning to change any other journals to this model?

NPG has no plans to change any other journals to this model in the immediate future.

What is the post-cancellation policy on open content?

The content is freely available and so this will not affect subscription rights.

Will my institution get a refund on my site license subscription if authors decide to pay for publication?

No refunds will apply because the fees are for different services. The hybrid model offers the authors the option to pay to provide open access to their content. The site license fee will continue to cover the cost of hosting the article and all customer services, such as Table of Content E-alerts and the provision of usage statistics for site license administrators. All open access articles will benefit from the same services as a standard article.

My institution pays for author-pays publication on behalf of its employees, so now I am being asked to pay twice for access to the same amount of content. Why should I pay this?

The author's fee pays for providing open access to the specified article. This is an optional service. The site license fee pays for access to all content published by BJP, including archived content, and for all customer services such as Table of Content E-alerts and the provision of usage statistics for site license administrators, which are otherwise unavailable.

Will usage of the different types of content show up in my usage reports?

Yes and so this is a very good reason to commit to both models – the free content and the traditional content.

Is BJP still covered by my license agreement?

If you have signed a 2006 license agreement containing access to BJP then you will continue to have full rights to all licensed content and all BJP open content.