

Open access publishing: A pharmaceutical sponsor’s perspective on metrics and budget impact

Poster number: 27

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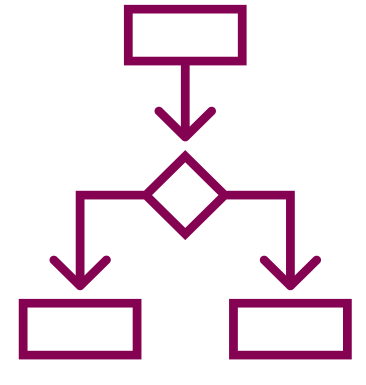
Why did we perform this research?



The principle of open science is becoming more widely adopted amongst policymakers, funders and researchers, and a few pharmaceutical sponsors have made open access (OA) commitments as well



There is yet to be broad adoption of OA in the pharma space, with the financial impact of article processing charges (APCs) and OA fees potentially presenting a challenge



There is no validated methodology for quantifying OA metrics and the financial impact of OA publishing in the pharmaceutical sponsor space



Objective
To collect longitudinal OA metrics by integrating information from multiple sources and to conduct a financial assessment of OA costs for AstraZeneca, a large pharmaceutical sponsor

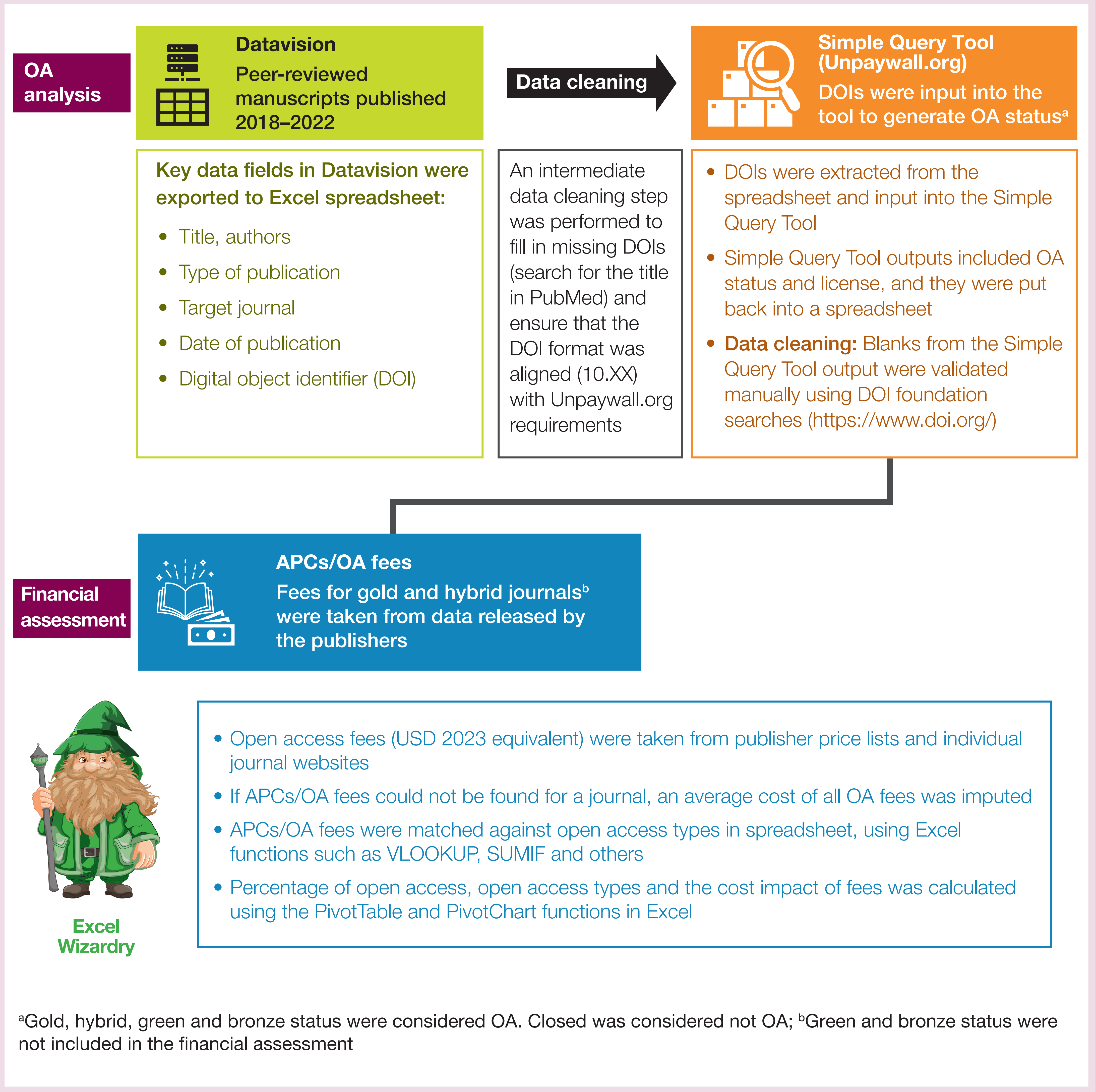


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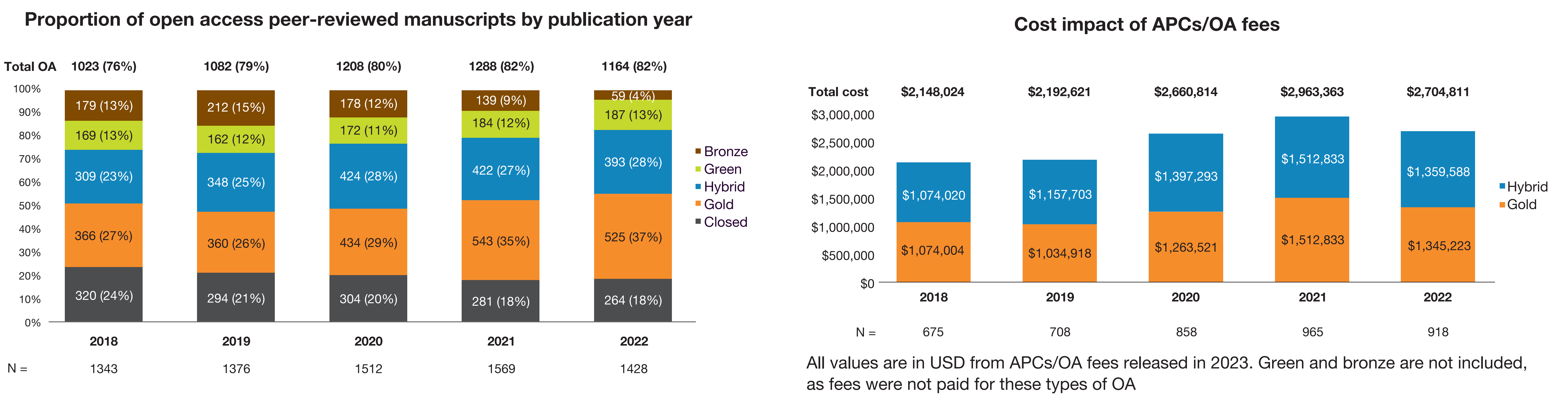
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Presented at the European Meeting of the International Society for Medical Publication Professionals (ISMPP EU) 2024, January 23–24, London, UK

How did we perform this research?



What did we find?



Limitations

- Manual data cleaning and gathering of APCs/OA fees from publisher and journal websites was labour-intensive
- Over time, journals may make more articles open access, and authors may deposit more in repositories, so there may be a small overestimation of the proportion of OA publications owing to the retrospective design
- Financial impact may be inflated for past years due to the inability to capture accurate costs at time of publication, but does capture recent costs using current fees

How might this impact current clinical practice?

- Despite the lack of public and industry-wide commitment, OA publishing has increased in AstraZeneca from 2016 to 2022
- Conducting similar metrics and financial analyses at other pharmaceutical sponsors is feasible if the right information is collated, and it may further advance the goal of open science

Disclosures
LW and JD are employees of AstraZeneca and own stock/stock options.

Acknowledgements
This study was funded by AstraZeneca. Editorial support was provided by Helen Brereton of inScience Communications, Springer Healthcare Ltd, UK, which was funded by AstraZeneca in accordance with GPP 2022 guidelines.