

The Peripheral Nerve Society (PNS) relies on revenue accrued by its official publication, the *Journal of the Peripheral Nervous System* (JPNS), to support its organizational mission of “working together to develop and provide the best treatments for people who have peripheral nerve diseases.”¹ Historically and up to the present, the majority of funds earned by this journal and used to subsidize society expenditures have been attributable to subscriptions and the licensing of journal content.

Adherence to Plan-S principles would require that PNS rapidly (as of January 1, 2020) convert existing revenue (again, that is reliant on licensing and subscriptions) to those solely reliant on Gold Open Access. Though there is some funding currently being allocated by JPNS authors toward open access in the hybrid model, the overall funding available to authors to cover publication expenses within our field is not enough to support this rapid shift. Therefore, conversion to Gold Open Access within the timeframe proposed by Plan-S would jeopardize the sustainability of JPNS and would disenfranchise the segment of authors whose research is represented in the journal.

Because JPNS cannot feasibly adhere to the present Plan-S principles (for the reasons stated above), authors who receive funding from Plan-S signatories and who may otherwise be a good fit for our journal would be barred from submitting their work to JPNS. We believe that limiting author choice in this way would harm our journal, and more importantly, would ultimately work to the detriment of the researchers we serve, whose vital contributions to our field may be stifled by adherence to these unnecessarily strict principles.

It would therefore be in PNS’ best interest, and that of the research community it serves, if more time could be devoted to exploring more sustainable options so that societies, funders, and institutions can adapt in a more reasoned and deliberate way in order to ensure the needs of all are met in a cooperative manner before any formal policy is instituted with the expectation of journal adoption.

1. <https://www.pnsociety.com>