

While the Society for Academic Emergency Medicine (SAEM) supports collaboration to advance open access science and although the Society is aligned with the fundamental goals of accelerating open access, we have significant misgivings on the potential impacts of Plan-S on researchers, societies, journals, and other stakeholders. Our concerns, specific to SAEM, are as follows:

SAEM relies on revenue accrued by its journal publishing program, *Academic Emergency Medicine* (AEM) and *AEM: Education & Training* (AEM E&T), in order “[t]o lead the advancement of academic emergency medicine through education and research, advocacy and professional development”.<sup>1</sup> Historically and up to the present, the majority of funds earned by its journals 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 SAEM 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 AEM and AEM E&T authors toward open access in the hybrid model, the overall funding available to authors to cover publication expenses within emergency medicine is quite limited. Therefore, conversion to Gold Open Access within the timeframe proposed by Plan-S would jeopardize the sustainability of SAEM’s publishing program and would disenfranchise the segment of authors whose research is represented within its journals.

SAEM has outwardly demonstrated and makes efforts to support the value of “research results [being] made openly available to the scientific community”.<sup>2</sup> AEM and AEM E&T each have a 12-month embargo in place on all content such that everything published within the journals and hosted on its publisher’s platform is freely available one year post-publication. Furthermore, SAEM is devoted to funding and creating useful materials (such as podcasts and educational tools) that build on and further elucidate that which is published in its journals. All such efforts are funded in part via its journal publishing program and made freely available to all.

SAEM opposes Plan-S as unsustainable and potentially detrimental to the academic communities we serve and to our ability as a Society to publish and disseminate high-quality, peer-reviewed, research.

1. <http://www.saem.org/utilitymenu/about>
2. <https://www.coalition-s.org/why-plan-s/>

Megan Schagrin, MBA, CAE, CFRE  
Chief Executive Officer  
Society for Academic Emergency Medicine

Jeffrey A. Kline, MD  
Editor in Chief  
Academic Emergency Medicine