

Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience

Overview

* 'Publisher': Frontiers Media SA * 'Launch': 2009 * 'Indexing': PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science (SCI-E) * 'Impact Factor (2025)': ≈ 4.5 * 'CiteScore': ≈ 8.6 * 'Field': Aging, neurodegeneration, cognitive decline, dementia

Strengths

- **High visibility and citation metrics**
 - Q1 journal in aging neuroscience.
 - >180,000 citations since launch.
 - 4th most cited journal in Geriatrics & Gerontology (open access).
- **Interactive peer review**
 - Dialogue-based system among reviewers, editors, and authors.
 - Median time to first decision: 6–8 weeks.
- **Open access & global reach**
 - All content immediately available.
 - Strong discoverability and dissemination in non-subscribed institutions.

Weaknesses and Criticisms

- **Publisher reputation (Frontiers Media)**
 - Previously listed in Jeffrey Beall’s list of potentially predatory publishers.
 - Criticized for pressuring editors to accept more papers and for monetizing the APC (article processing charge) model.
- **Peer review concerns**
 - Reports of inconsistent quality and potential editorial bias toward acceptance.
 - Editorial independence questioned in past controversies (e.g., removal of rigorous editors).
- **Ethical oversight**
 - Past retractions in sister journals (e.g., *Frontiers in Psychology*) due to editorial interference and ethical disputes.

Who Should Consider It?

You are...	Verdict
A researcher seeking fast, visible publication	'Recommended'
Focused on top-tier selectivity and academic prestige	'Use with caution'
A clinician referencing systematic reviews	'Check methodology critically'

□ Summary Judgment

Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience is a widely cited, open-access journal with rapid review and good thematic focus on aging-related neuroscience. However, concerns about publisher practices, peer review rigor, and editorial independence warrant a critical eye when publishing or citing.

□ Tips Before Submitting or Citing

- Analyze reviewer comments if available.
- Assess author background and affiliations.
- Prioritize well-structured, methodologically robust articles.
- Consider alternative journals for high-prestige submissions (e.g., Aging Cell, Neurobiology of Aging).

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