2025/07/02 14:32 1/2 Frontiers in Neurology

Frontiers in Neurology

https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/neurology

☐ Strengths and Merits

• Open-access and Highly Cited

 One of the most cited open-access journals in Clinical Neurology. According to 2017 JCR data, it ranked first in total citations.

Broad Indexing and Transparent Policies

- Indexed in PubMed Central, Scopus, DOAJ, and Web of Science.
- Member of COPE and OASPA.
- Publishes peer review reports and discloses reviewer identities after publication.

Fast Turnaround Time

- ∘ Average time from submission to acceptance is ~90 days.
- Uses an interactive peer-review system to streamline revisions.

△ Criticisms and Concerns

Perception of Superficial Peer Review

- Reports of reviewers missing key points or submitting superficial assessments.
- Authors and reviewers note pressure to avoid rejecting submissions.

Controversies Over Editorial Practices

- Listed by Beall's list (2015) as a potentially predatory publisher (now removed).
- Internal disputes and retractions have occurred in some Frontiers journals.
- Allegations that the publisher prioritizes profit and special issue volume over quality control.

• Mixed Reputation in Academia

- Some academic institutions may consider it a second-tier journal.
- Concerns exist about the academic rigor of certain article types and special topics.

□ Journal Metrics Snapshot

Impact Factor: ~3.5-5CiteScore: ~3.3-4.6SJR: Q2 in Neurology

• Review time: ~90 days

• Indexed in: PubMed, PMC, Scopus, WoS

☐ Submission Suitability

Recommended for:

Broad dissemination of clinically relevant or incremental findings.

15:59

Authors needing fast open-access publication.

• Use caution when:

- Publishing novel, high-impact, or methodologically complex work.
- Relying on peer-review rigor for academic validation or tenure.

□ Conclusion

Frontiers in Neurology offers fast, open-access publication with wide visibility. However, concerns about peer review depth and editorial standards warrant careful consideration—especially for highstakes research.

Bottom line: Suitable for routine or timely studies. For seminal work, consider society journals with more stringent editorial boards.

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Last update: 2025/07/01 15:59

