

# Scientific Reports

**Publisher:** Nature Portfolio (Springer Nature) **ISSN:** 2045-2322 **Launch Year:** 2011 **Open Access:** Yes **Impact Factor (2023):** ~4.6 **Article Processing Charges (APC):** ~\$2,000 USD **Frequency:** Continuous publication

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## Scope and Aim

\*Scientific Reports\* is a multidisciplinary, peer-reviewed, open-access journal that aims to rapidly disseminate research across all areas of the natural and clinical sciences. It accepts technically sound studies without requiring a demonstration of novelty or broad interest.

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## Strengths

### 1. Rapid and Transparent Publishing

\* Continuous publication model and streamlined editorial process lead to fast dissemination. \* Open-access format promotes visibility and accessibility.

### 2. Technical Soundness Over Impact

\* Articles are accepted if scientifically and methodologically valid, regardless of perceived significance. \* This supports reproducibility and mitigates publication bias against negative or confirmatory studies.

### 3. Multidisciplinary Breadth

\* Covers a vast range of disciplines, enabling cross-field citations and broader academic reach.

### 4. Backed by Nature Portfolio

\* Strong editorial infrastructure and indexing in major databases (PubMed, Scopus, Web of Science).

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## Weaknesses

### 1. Lower Perceived Prestige in Clinical Fields

\* Despite the Nature branding, many clinical academics consider it a “second-tier” outlet. \* Lacks the clinical rigor and editorial curation of specialist journals.

## 2. APC vs. Perceived Impact

\* Article Processing Charges (~\$2,000) are relatively high compared to perceived prestige and citation value. \* Value-for-cost ratio may be questioned in resource-limited settings or for early-career researchers.

## 3. Variable Quality

\* Acceptance based on technical soundness leads to a wide range in article impact and relevance. \* Requires careful reader discernment, especially for clinical application.

## 4. Susceptibility to Citation Inflation

\* Some authors may use it for strategic citation building, given its rapid publication and open-access reach.

# Relevance to Neurosurgery and Clinical Medicine

\* **Limited:** Most high-impact clinical neurosurgical studies prefer specialized journals (e.g., \*JNS\*, \*Neurosurgery\*, \*Brain\*, \*Stroke\*). \* **Useful for:** Pilot studies, technical validations, interdisciplinary collaborations, negative findings, or computational neuroscience.

## Summary Judgment

**Scientific Reports** occupies a useful niche in open-access scientific publishing, prioritizing technical rigor over novelty. While it lacks the prestige of flagship clinical journals, its broad reach and open-access model support transparency and early dissemination. However, its use in neurosurgery and clinical decision-making should be critical and selective.

“Scientifically sound but not necessarily practice-changing.”

If you'd like this in **Dokuwiki format** or want a **comparison with journals like \*BMJ Open\* or \*Frontiers in Neurology\***, I can prepare that too.

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Last update: **2025/07/03 06:00**

