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Ensuring a Trust Relationship Between Journal Editors, Publishers, and Owners

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As described by Davies and Rennie, the relationship between editors and publishers/owners is interdependent and must be based on mutual trust. However, there are bound to be uncertainties, concerns, and occasional conflicts that could threaten the trust relationship. To maintain trust, a formal agreement between the editor and owner should specify each party's expectations and the mission of the journal (for example, see JAMA's governance plan, and Key and Critical Objectives reproduced in Box). If these expectations are not formalized in a governance plan or other document, are not mutually understood, or are intentionally disregarded (as happened in the