

The Wellcome Trust's open access policy: research papers

We are committed to ensuring that the published outputs of Wellcome Trust-funded research are made freely available, so that this knowledge can be built on by the widest possible audience in a manner that maximises health and public benefit, and fosters a richer research culture.

The Wellcome Trust's open access policy applies to research papers, monographs and book chapters. This leaflet provides information for researchers making their **research paper** open access. Specifically, the policy:

- (1) applies to peer-reviewed, original (primary) research papers that have been supported, in whole or in part, by a Wellcome Trust grant
- (2) requires electronic copies of research papers to be made available through PubMed Central (PMC) and Europe PMC as soon as possible and in any event within six months of the journal publisher's official date of final publication
- (3) expects Trust funded researchers to select publishing routes that ensure the work is available immediately on publication in its final published form, wherever such options exist for their journal of choice and are compliant with our policy
- (4) will provide grantholders with additional funding, through their institutions, to cover open access charges, where appropriate, in order to meet the Trust's requirements (see wellcome.ac.uk/openaccessfunding)
- (5) encourages - and where it pays an open access fee, **requires** - authors and publishers to licence research papers using the Creative Commons Attribution licence (CC-BY)

We actively monitor the papers authored by our funded researchers to ensure they are made available in line with our open access policy.

How to comply

- (1) Check that the Wellcome Trust policy applies to the type of paper you plan to publish
- (2) Check that the journal you wish to publish in has a publishing policy compliant with the Wellcome Trust Grant Conditions.
- (4) If the publisher does not offer a paid open access option, ensure that they either:

The SHERPA/FACT Funders' and Authors' Compliance Tool database (www.sherpa.ac.uk/fact) provides information about whether journal publication policies are compliant with the Wellcome Trust Grant Conditions. If your chosen journal is not listed, you should speak directly to the journal's editorial staff to determine their policy.

- (3) If the publisher has an open access option for which a fee must be paid, ensure that they:

- Offer the Creative Commons, Attribution licence (CC-BY)
- Deposit the research paper in Europe PMC on your behalf immediately upon publication

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- Allow you to self-archive the peer-reviewed author manuscript in Europe PMC and make this freely available within six months of publication. You can self-archive your manuscript in Europe PMC at <http://plus.europepmc.org>.

For more details about this policy, its implementation and a useful FAQ visit wellcome.ac.uk/openaccess. Alternatively, please email openaccess@wellcome.ac.uk with queries.