Requirements for publishing Wellcome Trust-funded research papers

This checklist provides a quick reference guide for researchers on key requirements and other issues to consider when publishing original, peer-reviewed research articles that have resulted in whole or in part from Wellcome Trust funding, and in sharing the data underlying published research findings.

1. Is the paper compliant with the Wellcome Trust's open access policy?
2. Have you acknowledged the funders of the research and referenced the relevant Wellcome Trust grant number(s)?
3. Are the datasets underpinning the paper available for validation and reuse?
4. Does the paper include a clear statement about how the datasets and materials reported in the paper can be accessed?
5. Can identifiers and metrics help assess the impact of your paper and associated datasets?
6. Is your research of potential interest to the public? If so, have you contacted the Trust's Media Office?

Below are some issues to consider in relation to each of these questions, together with links to relevant policies, guidance and further information.

This checklist does not cover scholarly monographs or book chapters. Researchers should note that where such outputs report original Wellcome Trust-funded research they are required to comply with the Trust's open access policy. Please refer to the **Monograph and Book Chapter FAQ** for further information.

1. Is the paper compliant with the Wellcome Trust's open access policy?

All papers reporting research that has been funded in whole or in part by the Wellcome Trust must comply with our **open access policy**. They must be made freely available through the **Europe PMC** repository as soon as possible and, in any event, within six months of publication.

Please refer to our **Authors' FAQ** and **other guidance** for details on how to comply. Please note that grantholders who fail to comply will be subject to **sanctions** – which, among other penalties, could prevent you from receiving further research funding from the Trust.

2. Have you acknowledged the funders of the research and referenced the relevant Wellcome Trust grant number(s)?

All papers must acknowledge the Trust's funding in the acknowledgements section and include the relevant grant reference number(s), following the format specified in the Trust's **guidance on publication acknowledgement practice**. All papers acknowledging our funding will be expected to comply with our open access policy.

3. Are the datasets underpinning the paper available for validation and reuse?

In line with our **data management and sharing policy**, we expect all the researchers we support to maximise access to research data with as few restrictions as possible. As an absolute minimum, Trust-funded researchers must ensure that datasets underpinning published research findings are made available to other researchers on request, as long as this is consistent with any ethics approvals and consents that cover the data and any valid restrictions relating to intellectual property. Restrictions might include cases of third-party intellectual property ownership or cases in which it is necessary to limit or delay data sharing to protect intellectual property, or develop a technology, in a manner that maximises the ultimate health benefit.

If you provided a data management and sharing plan as part of your original grant application, you are expected to follow the approach set out in your plan. Any significant changes in approach should be discussed with the Trust.

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We encourage all researchers to maximise opportunities to deposit datasets underlying research papers in recognised community data repositories, where these exist. In fields where such databases are not yet established, we encourage researchers to consider the use of emerging resources, such as **Dryad** and **FigShare**.

4. Does the paper include a clear statement about how the datasets and materials reported in the paper may be accessed?

Wherever it is appropriate, all Wellcome Trust-funded publications must include a clear statement about how the data, models and other materials underpinning the publication can be accessed by researchers and other users. Where the data are available in a community repository, relevant accession numbers should be provided. Where data or materials are held locally by the investigator or a managed access process is required, a clear point of contact or web link should be provided.

If the journal does not have a specific requirement or standard format for this information, the statement should be included as part of the methods section of the paper. In any event, the statement should be within the main body of the paper and not within supplementary materials.

In addition, researchers should clearly acknowledge (and cite as appropriate) any datasets or materials generated by other groups that were used in the course of their research. This should be in line with community best practice and abide by the terms of any relevant data access agreements.

5. Can identifiers and metrics help assess the impact of your paper and associated datasets?

The Trust encourages researchers to make full use of available identifiers and metrics, which can assist both researchers and funders in tracking the citation, use and impact of publications and datasets. We recognise that this is an emerging and fast-moving area and that the applicability of some metrics may vary between fields.

In particular, we strongly encourage researchers to:

• Consider signing up for an **ORCiD** (Open Researcher and Contributor ID), which provides a registry of unique researcher identifiers that can be linked to publications. This can help speed up the grant and manuscripts submission process for researchers.

• Explore emerging mechanisms for assigning **permanent digital identifiers** to datasets, which enable their use to be cited and tracked.

• Adopt emerging practices for specifying author and contributor roles on published outputs that help to enhance credit and recognition for members of research teams.

The Trust is committed to considering the value and impact of all research outputs (including software and datasets), alongside publications and other qualitative indicators of impact, when assessing funded activities. These emerging metrics will play an important part in helping researchers build a more complete picture of the impact of their work. These principles are highlighted in the **San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment**, of which we are a signatory.

6. Is your research of potential interest to the public? If so, have you contacted the Trust's Media Office?

If you think your paper has the potential to generate media interest, please let the Trust's **Media Office** know as soon as you can. Our media team can provide advice and training to assist our funded researchers in communicating their work to a wider audience. If you are already working with your university's press office, please ask them to get in touch with us.

Our **Guide to Working with the Media** provides further information and advice.