

Policy on Open Access Publishing

All researchers at the Cancer Research UK Scotland Institute must comply with Cancer Research UK's [Policy on Open Access](#)¹, as well as the open access publishing requirements of other funders of their research (Table 1)¹.

1. Policy Scope

This policy applies to original, primary research publications that are accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals. The policy does not apply to book chapters, monographs, editorials, reviews or conference proceedings¹.

2. Cancer Research UK's [Policy on Open Access](#)¹

All original primary research papers accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, that are funded wholly or in part by Cancer Research UK

1. must be made available through [Europe PubMed Central](#) (Europe PMC)² at the time of final publication.
2. must be published using a Creative Commons Attribution licence [CC-BY 4.0](#)³, unless CRUK has agreed (as an exception) to publication under a [CC-BY-ND](#)³ licence.
3. must acknowledge Cancer Research UK funding in the funding acknowledgement section of the paper⁴.
4. must use the [patient data citation](#) if the publication has used patient data⁵.
5. must include a data and code availability statement⁶.

It is also encouraged that manuscripts are posted as preprints with a CC-BY licence on a platform that is indexed in Europe PMC (e.g. [BioRxiv](#)⁷), en route to publication in a peer-reviewed journal.

3. Routes to compliance with Cancer Research UK's [Policy on Open Access](#)

1. Publish papers in [open access journals](#) or as [open access articles in hybrid journals](#) that make the Version of Record (VoR – the fully copyedited, typeset and formatted copy of a paper as published by the journal) freely available on publication. Typically, the journal will deposit the final publication in Europe PMC. In some cases, however, it might be necessary for the corresponding author to self-deposit at Europe PMC².
2. Publish papers in a subscription (non-open access) journal and make the Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM - post-print version/author-created version/author's final version of the manuscript) available immediately on publication. Typically, the corresponding author will need to self-deposit the AAM at Europe PMC² at the time of final publication.
3. Publish papers in a journal that has a transformative publishing agreement with the University of Glasgow⁸. Some of these are open access journals and hybrid journals.

Other funders may have additional requirements (Table 2)⁹.

4. Funding for open access publishing

Article Processing Charges (APC) for open access funding of Cancer Research UK core funded research and researchers, complying with the requirements outlined in section 2, can be charged to the CRUK Scotland Institute's core CRUK award¹⁰.

For non-core funded researchers in receipt of Cancer Research UK grants, grant underspend can be used to pay for APCs or authors can publish in a subscription (non-open access) journal and self-deposit the Author Accepted Manuscript in Europe PMC².

For non-core funded researchers in receipt of Cancer Research UK grants administered by the University of Glasgow, APCs can be paid for from CRUK's block grant to the University of Glasgow¹⁰.

For corresponding authors with a University of Glasgow salaried employment contract, using an @glasgow.ac.uk email address and/or who acknowledge relevant UKRI or charity grants administered by the University of Glasgow, APCs may be discounted or waived due to the University of Glasgow's transformative publishing agreements^{8,10} with publishers.

Other options may be available from other funders (Table 3)¹⁰.

For external collaborations or where only some authors are Cancer Research UK core funded researchers, APC costs should be divided fairly and sensibly between the available sources of funding¹⁰.

APPENDIX

1. Open access policies

Cancer Research UK does not require book chapters, monographs, editorials, reviews or conference proceedings to be made open access but the CRUK Scotland Institute will support these articles being published under open access if requested by the corresponding author.

Link to Funder's Policy
Blood Cancer UK
Breast Cancer Now
Cancer Research UK
Chief Scientist Office
ERC
Horizon Europe
Pancreatic Cancer UK
Prostate Cancer UK
The Royal Society
The Wellcome Trust
UKRI
Worldwide Cancer Research

Table 1: Links to our main funders' open access policies

Please check the grant conditions and open access policies for funders of your research that are not listed above.

2. Europe PubMed Central

Authors can self-archive the peer reviewed, revised, accepted but unformatted by the journal version of their manuscript (AMM - Author Accepted Manuscript/post-print version/author-created version/author's final version of the manuscript) using the Europe PMC submission system at [Europe PMC Plus](#).

In general, the Version of Record (VoR – the fully copyedited, typeset and formatted copy of a paper as published by the journal) cannot be used for self-archiving.

It is recommended that Author Accepted Manuscripts are posted on Europe PubMed Central with a [CC-BY-4.0](#) licence. A Rights Retention statement can be included (and is required by some funders).

To use Rights Retention, all authors must agree to apply the CC-BY licence to the submitted manuscript and it is the corresponding author's responsibility to ensure that all authors consent. When submitting the article to a journal a rights retention statement should be included in the acknowledgements or in the covering letter:

"This research was funded by [*insert Funder name*] [*Insert grant number*]. For the purpose of Open Access, the author has applied a CC-BY-4 licence to the Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM) version arising from this submission."

After the article is accepted for publication, the corresponding author should deposit the Author Accepted Manuscript version into Europe PubMed Central.

For further guidance refer to

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/myglasgow/openresearch/openaccess/openaccessprocessatglasgow/>

Publisher self-archiving policies, funder compliance and host organisation open access publishing agreements can be checked at [Jisc Open policy finder](#)

3. [CC-BY-4.0](#) licence

Open access articles can be searched, viewed, read and downloaded as PDFs. However, they are still protected by publisher copyright and cannot be reused in any way without permission of the copyright holder. CRUK funded research must be published with a CC-BY 4.0 licence, so that it may be freely copied, adapted and reused, providing that the original authors are properly credited.

The CC-BY-4.0 licence enables the content of papers to be freely shared, copied, adapted and re-used, providing that appropriate credit (authors, copyright notice, licence notice, disclaimer notice, and link to the material), an indication of the changes made and a link to the licence are included.

[CC-BY-ND-4.0](#)

The CC-ND-4.0 licence enables the content of papers to be freely shared, copied and redistributed in any medium or format, including commercially, providing that appropriate credit (authors, copyright notice, licence notice, disclaimer notice, and link to the material), and a link to the licence are included.

4. Acknowledging funding

Research and author support from all funding bodies must also be acknowledged using the funder name, scheme and grant number. Grant information can be obtained from Researchfish, grant portals or from the [Head of the Research Integrity Service](#) or the [Funding Co-ordinator](#).

5. [Patient data citation](#)

6. Data and code availability statement

The statement should include what data, code and software underlying the findings reported in the paper are available for sharing, where they can be assessed by other users, under what conditions they can be accessed and should provide persistent DOIs so that datasets can be cited. For data and code with restricted/controlled access the statement should include the reason for controlled access, conditions of access, contact details for access requests, timeframe for response to requests, and restrictions imposed on data use via data use agreements.

It is recommended that a data availability statement is used even where there are no data to share, the data are inaccessible or no new data were generated.

Instruction to contact the author directly for access to the data is not considered acceptable by most research funders.

CRUK is a signatory on the [Concordat on Open Research Data](#) and as such all CRUK funded research should be made available to the academic community for academic non-commercial research purposes, ensuring compliance with any applicable ethical requirements and safeguarding the privacy of research participants.

Exemplar data availability statements:

“The [*insert data type*] data that support the findings reported in this paper are openly available in [*insert repository name*] at [*insert URL*], with [*insert DOI/accession number/reference number*].”

“The [insert data type] data that support the findings reported in this paper will be available in [insert repository name] at [insert URL], with [insert DOI/accession number/reference number], following a [insert number of months] month embargo.”

“All data supporting the findings reported in this paper are provided in full in the Results section of the paper.”

“All data supporting the findings reported in this paper are provided in full within the article and or supplementary material.”

“This paper contains a re-analysis of existing [insert data type] data, which are available in [insert repository name] at [insert URL], with [insert DOI/accession number/reference number].”

“Due to [insert reason for not sharing data – ethical concerns, legal constraints, commercial constraints, IP] the data supporting the findings reported in this paper cannot be made openly available.”

“Due to [insert reason for not sharing data – ethical concerns, legal restrictions, commercial restrictions, IP] the data supporting the findings reported in this paper cannot be made openly available. Further information about the data and conditions for access are available from [insert repository name/by contacting X] repository at [insert DOI].”

Use similar statements for code and software.

If journals do not ask for a data availability statement, then add the statement to the acknowledgements section of the paper.

7. [BioRxiv](#)

8. University of Glasgow’s [transformative publishing agreements](#)

The University of Glasgow library has a number of transformative publishing agreements (contracts) with publishers, whereby the University pays them a negotiated price for their open access publishing services, rather than paying for subscription to their journals.

This means that the Open Access fees/ Article Processing charges (OA fees/APCs) for publishing in a journal with a transformative publishing agreement with the University of Glasgow are discounted or non-existent. The transformative publishing arrangements have been set up such that compliance with most funder open access requirements is built in (e.g. the publisher providing a Creative Commons (CC-BY) licence).

In general, for CRUK Scotland Institute publications to be eligible they must have corresponding authors* who have a University of Glasgow salaried employment contract, use an @glasgow.ac.uk email address and/or acknowledge relevant UKRI or charity grants administered by the University of Glasgow rather than by the CRUK Scotland Institute.

*If there are multiple corresponding authors, then eligibility is determined by the first listed corresponding author and the person who corresponds with the journal.

Some publishers include reviews as well as original research papers in their transformative agreements.

Check the current list of publishers with [transformative agreements](#) with the University of Glasgow - and contact research-openaccess@glasgow.ac.uk with enquiries and to inform them about accepted articles and they will advise on eligibility and how to process the transformative agreement.

9. Routes to compliance with other funders' open access policies

Funder	OA route
Blood Cancer UK	Pay publisher for OA Journal deposits manuscript in Europe PMC
Breast Cancer Now	Author deposits manuscript in Europe PMC as soon as possible and no later than 12 months following publication
Chief Scientist Office	Pay publisher for OA Journal/author deposits manuscript in Europe PMC by the official final publication date
ERC Horizon Europe	Pay publisher for OA Author deposits manuscript in a trusted repository before or at time of publication
Pancreatic Cancer UK	Deposit manuscript in Europe PMC as soon as possible and no longer than 6 months after publication (may need to pay publisher for OA)
Prostate Cancer UK	OA encouraged Pay publisher for OA deposit manuscript in OA repository after 6 months embargo
The Royal Society	OA encouraged Pay publisher for OA Journal/author deposits manuscript in a repository with no embargo period
The Wellcome Trust	Pay publisher of fully open access journals Journal/author deposits manuscript in Europe PMC upon publication
UKRI	Pay publisher for OA Journal/author deposits manuscript in Europe PMC at the time of final publication
Worldwide Cancer Research	Pay publisher for OA Journal/author deposits manuscript in Europe PMC at time of publications or within 6 months of publication

Table 2: Routes to compliance with our main funders' open access policies

Please check the grant conditions and open access policies for funders of your research that are not listed above. The Jisc [Open Policy finder](#) is a useful tool.

10. Paying for open access fees (article processing charges)

To use the CRUK Scotland Institute's CRUK core award to pay for open access fees/article processing charges, raise a purchase order in iDocs. An iDocs workflow group has been established for open access journal publication and is available to Group Leaders, Advanced Technology Heads, Associate Scientists and Scientific Officers. This workflow is restricted to item code CX00 ('Journal Publication Costs'), cost centre A02 ('Research Management') and project year ('CRUK Core'). Many commonly used publishers have already been established as suppliers on the system. For any new suppliers/ publishers, the existing process applies, i.e. please complete a new supplier form and submit to the Finance Office.

The Head of the Research Integrity Service is the sole approver of OA fees/APCs paid by CRUK's core award to the CRUK Scotland Institute. APCs will only be approved if the manuscript's data have been archived in the 'papers accepted' folder and the research integrity review report has been completed and returned to the Head of the Research Integrity Service.

For non-core funded researchers in receipt of CRUK grants administered by the University of Glasgow, APCs can be paid for from CRUK's block grant to the University of Glasgow. Contact research-openaccess@glasgow.ac.uk with the following information

- the name of the journal
- the title of the article
- confirmation that you have included the funder and award details in the article
- confirmation that you have included a data availability statement in the article
- a PDF of your manuscript, confirming if it is the agreed final text or whether revisions are expected

The University of Glasgow's [transformative publishing agreements](#)⁸ with publishers are available to CRUK Scotland Institute researchers if the corresponding authors* have a University of Glasgow employment contract, or have an @glasgow.ac.uk email address or acknowledge relevant UKRI or charity grants administered by the University of Glasgow.

*If there are multiple corresponding authors, then eligibility is determined by the first listed corresponding author.

Funder	Payment
Blood Cancer UK	application to Blood Cancer UK (maximum of £2,000)
Breast Cancer Now	grant underspend
Chief Scientist Office	application to CSO (maximum of £8,000)
ERC	cost on grant
Horizon Europe	transformative publishing agreements
Pancreatic Cancer UK	grant underspend
Prostate Cancer UK	application to Prostate Cancer UK immediately after the paper has been accepted and before it is published
The Royal Society	cost on grant
The Wellcome Trust	Block award to the University of Glasgow*
UKRI	Block grant to the University of Glasgow*
Worldwide Cancer Research	application to Worldwide Cancer Research (maximum of £2,000)

Table 3: Funder OA payment routes

Transformative publishing agreements might also be eligible. Check with research-openaccess@glasgow.ac.uk

Please contact the Head of the [Research Integrity Service](#) for any queries relating to funders' open access compliance and payment of APCs.

GLOSSARY of TERMS

Article Processing Charges (APC)

These are fees charged by publishers for publishing an article. They include open access publishing costs.

Author Accepted Manuscript (AAM)

This is the version of a paper that has been peer reviewed, revised by the authors and accepted for publication by the journal. It is not the publisher's version formatted for publication. It is also called a post-print version, author-created version or author's final version of the manuscript

[CC-BY-4.0](#) licence

This is a Creative Commons copyright licence that enables anyone to share, copy, distribute, and adapt the content of a paper for any purpose (even commercially), provided they credit the original authors, indicate if changes were made and provide a link to the licence. This does not extend to the underlying data or figures created in licensed software such as BioRender.

[CC-BY-ND-4.0](#) licence

This is a Creative Commons copyright licence that enables anyone to share, copy and distribute the content of a paper for any purpose (even commercially), provided they credit the original authors, indicate if changes were made and provide a link to the licence. The content cannot be adapted (remixed, transformed or built upon).

DOI (Digital Object Identifier)

This is a unique long-lasting digital reference number for an object (e.g. a paper) that can be used to track and identify the object.

[Europe PubMed Central](#) (Europe PMC)

This is a free, open access online repository and search platform for life sciences literature and data, accessible to anyone anywhere.

[REF](#) (Research Excellence Framework)

This is the UK's system for assessing the quality of research at Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) through peer review of research outputs, their impact and the research environment.

Rights Retention

Rights retention is an alternative route to making an article open access and enables authors to retain the copyright to their work. In most cases it will not be necessary for CRUK SI researchers to use a rights retention statement as articles will be published as open access under a CC-BY-4.0 licence.

Rights retention statements can be used

- to share peer reviewed unformatted Author Accepted Manuscripts on the University of Glasgow's publication repository [Enlighten](#). Refer to the University of Glasgow's [Open Access Process](#).
- when not publishing as open access and journal copyright transfer agreements have been signed.

Transformative publishing agreement

These are publishing contracts between publishers and academic/research organisations, whereby organisations pay publishers negotiated prices for their open access publishing services, rather than paying for subscription to their journals. This means that the Open Access fees/Article Processing charges (OA fees/APCs) for publishing in a journal with a transformative publishing agreement with an organisation are discounted or non-existent. The transformative publishing arrangements have been set up such that



compliance with most funder open access requirements is built in (e.g. the publisher providing a Creative Commons (CC-BY) licence).

Version of Record (VoR)

This is the final published version of a paper (copyedited, typeset, formatted, allocated a persistent identifier such as a DOI and labelled with the publisher's logo).



CANCER
RESEARCH
UK

Scotland
Institute

Document Control Box	
Policy title:	CRUK Scotland Institute Policy on Open Access Publishing
Approving Body:	CRUK SI SMT (January 2026)
Version	V1
Supersedes:	N/A
Date of next review	August 2028
Policy Owner:	Research Integrity Service
Lead Contact:	Head of the Research Integrity Service