

UKPMC Guidelines for Researchers funded by the Austrian Science Fund (FWF)

1. What is UKPMC

UK PubMed Central (UKPMC) is a free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature. Based on PubMed Central (PMC), the US National Institutes of Health free digital archive, UKPMC provides a stable and permanent online archive of full-text peer reviewed research publications. In addition, UKPMC is now developing services to enable institutions, funding organisations and researchers to report and track the outcomes of their research.

UKPMC is supported by the UK's eight principal biomedical and health research charities and government funded bodies¹. Collectively these organisations award around 90% of the UK's research grants in biomedicine and health.

The UKPMC Funders Group wishes to extend membership of UKPMC to other research funding bodies across Europe, with the aim of creating a single, Europe-wide open access repository, for research outputs in the life sciences.

In pursuit of this aim, a two-phased approach will be adopted. In the first phase (Phase 1) the UKPMC service – i.e. a fully-functional repository service – will be extended to other European research funders beyond the current UKPMC member base. The Austrian Science Fund (FWF) has agreed to join UKPMC in Phase 1.

Based on the experiences gained during Phase 1, the current UKPMC funders along with the new Affiliate Members (including FWF) would then will seek to provide a fully-fledged Europe PMC with a wide range of additional, value-added services.

2. What benefits arise as a result of making research papers available through UKPMC?

There are a number of benefits that arise through making research papers freely available through UKPMC.

a) Greater visibility

UKPMC content is freely available and can be accessed by all researchers, and not just those based at an institution that subscribes to a particular journal.

Evidence is beginning to emerge which suggests that free Internet access widens the circle of those who read and make use of scientists' investigations², thus maximising the return on research investment and making the research process more efficient.

¹ Arthritis Research Campaign, Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, British Heart Foundation, Cancer Research UK, Chief Scientist Office (Scotland), NHS National Institute for Health Research, Medical Research Council, Wellcome Trust

² Evans JA, Reimer J [Open access and global participation in science](#), *Science*, 2009, Vol. 323, 1025; The Open Citation Project [The effect of open access and downloads \('hits'\) on citation impact: a bibliography of studies \(constantly updated\)](#)

b) Improves the research process

Providing open access to the research literature through UKPMC also enables these outputs to be linked and integrated with other resources. Specifically, UKPMC is being enhanced:

- to provide the functionality – using text and data mining technologies – to integrate research articles with a range of other online sources, such as gene, protein and chemical compound databases;
- to enable discovery of, and provide access to, valuable and hard to find additional content such as clinical guidelines, theses and research reports;
- to integrate a range of bibliographic databases – including Medline, Patents, and Agricola – into a single, seamless discovery tool.

c) Simplifies grant reporting process

Through the Grant Reporting System (part of UKPMC) grant holders can report on and share the outcomes of their grants by creating publicly available web pages that will update dynamically whenever a new publication is added to either PubMed or UK PubMed Central.

The service also provides users with a 'My Impact' report showing the number of citations each paper has attracted. A citation count, using data from the Thomson/Reuters Web of Knowledge and Elsevier's Scopus, is updated continuously with the most recent data, and users with full access to the Web of Knowledge and Scopus will be able to see details of the citing articles.

3. How are research papers added to the UKPMC repository?

Researchers, supported by the FWF, who are requested to archive their publications in UKPMC will be informed via e-mail by UKPMC how to open a project account in the Grant Reporting System.

Researchers, supported by the FWF, must ensure that their published, peer reviewed research articles in the biomedical and life sciences are available through UKPMC no longer than 6 months after publication (in exceptional cases 12 months).

This can be achieved through one of the following routes:

a) Journals listed by UKPMC

If a researcher publishes in a journal listed by UKPMC (see below) and access is made available within 6 months after publication (or, in exceptional cases 12 months after publication), then the researcher does not have to do anything to get this paper into UKPMC.

The full list of journals that participate in UKPMC is available at:

<http://beta.ukpmc.ac.uk/journalList> or <http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/fprender.fcgi>

For all funders of UKPMC (incl. FWF project holders) the **Nature Publishing Group (NPG)** offers a **Manuscript Deposition Service** that makes all manuscripts freely available within 6 months after publication: http://www.nature.com/authors/author_services/deposition.html

b) Journals not listed by UKPMC but offering an open-access, author pays option

If a researcher publishes in a journal that offers an **FWF-compliant** open access option, the author should select this option. Costs incurred in this way will be covered by the FWF program line “Peer-Reviewed Publications”: http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/projects/peer-reviewed_publications.html

An FWF-compliant open access option is one where:

- a) The publisher deposits the final version of the article in PubMedCentral, where it can be made freely available at the time of publication. These articles will be mirrored to UKPMC.
- b) The publisher attaches a licence to these articles which allows these articles to be freely copied, distributed, displayed, performed and modified into derivative works by any user. Publishers may impose conditions on users in relation to attribution (i.e. users must attribute the work in the manner specified by the author or licensor) and commercial use (i.e. specify that the work must not be used for commercial purposes).

A list of journals/publishers that offer an open access option that meets the above mentioned requirements can be found at:

<http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/fprender.fcgi?cmd=&tabindex=7&term=&search-option=journals&title-switch=hide>

All journals from the publisher Elsevier offer an open-access, author pays option (sponsored articles): www.elsevier.com/fundingbodies

c) Journals that allow self-archiving of author’s final manuscript

If a researcher publishes in a journal that allows self-archiving of the author’s final manuscript embargoed for no longer than 6 months (or, in exceptional cases, 12 months after publication), the final manuscript has to be self-archived by the author via the UK Manuscript Submission System (UKMSS). For details:

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Policy/Spotlight-issues/Open-access/Guides-and-FAQ/WTD018855.htm#Q15>

The **RoMEO database** can be used to determine the open access policy of more than 600 publishers: <http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo/>

d) Journals which have an embargo policy longer than 12 months

If the publisher/journal does not allow the author to self-archive the author’s manuscript within 12 months or if the publisher/journal does not have an open-access (author pays option), we advise the author to either suggest changing the copyright language, or look for another journal to publish in. The Wellcome Trust has set this out in more detail at

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Policy/Spotlight-issues/Open-access/Guides-and-FAQ/WTD018855.htm#Q10>

4. In cases where the publisher makes the article available through UKPMC how are articles linked to a particular FWF funded project?

To link a paper to a specific FWF grant, grant holders should use the UKPMC Grant Reporting Function, with forms part of the UKPMC service. A walkthrough, showing how this works, can be found at: <https://ukmss.mimas.ac.uk/ukmss/local/Help/grep1.htm>

5. What type of publication should be made available through UKPMC?

Peer-reviewed, original (primary) research publications that have been supported, in whole or in part, by the FWF, should be made available through UKPMC. The policy does not apply to book chapters, editorials, reviews or conference proceedings.

When depositing a paper in UKPMC, relevant, supplementary material can also be deposited.

FWF's contribution must be acknowledged in all publications, quoting the relevant grant reference number. Please quote as following: **Austrian Science Fund (FWF) [reference number]**

6. When self-archiving a research article in UKPMC, when should I do this, which version should I deposit and how do I do it?

An electronic version of the **author's final manuscript** resulting from research supported in whole or in part by the FWF must be submitted **upon acceptance for publication**.

The version of the paper that should be archived is the final version that is accepted for journal publication, and includes all modifications from the publishing peer-review process.

A User Guide and FAQ are available at:

https://ukmss.mimas.ac.uk/ukmss/local/UKMSS_help.htm

7. How are embargo policies handled?

As part of the submission process, the depositor (typically the PI) is asked to indicate how long this paper should be embargoed for. In line with the OA policy of the FWF (http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/public_relations/oai/index.html) the maximum permissible embargo is 6 months (in exceptional cases 12 months).

8. Where can I find further information?

Further information is available at:

http://www.fwf.ac.at/en/public_relations/oai/index.html

https://ukmss.mimas.ac.uk/ukmss/local/UKMSS_help.htm

<http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/About-us/Policy/Spotlight-issues/Open-access/Guides-and-FAQ/WTD018855.htm>