1 PURPOSE

Cancer Research UK has an obligation as a charity to make information about the work that it funds publically available. It is a condition of funding that Cancer Research UK funded researchers deposit an electronic copy of peer-reviewed, published papers arising from their Cancer Research UK funded work in the Europe PubMed Central (EuropePMC) database.

This policy outlines the requirements and process for Grantholders in meeting this obligation.

2 SCOPE

The policy applies to peer-reviewed, original (primary) research publications that have been supported, in whole or in part, by Cancer Research UK. The policy does not apply to book chapters, editorials, reviews or conference proceedings.

3 DEFINITIONS

3.1 Open Access (OA):
An OA publication is one that meets the following two conditions:

i. The author(s) and copyright holder(s) grant(s) to all users a free, irrevocable, worldwide, perpetual (for the lifetime of the applicable copyright) right of access to the work, and a license to copy, use, distribute, perform and display the work publicly and to make and distribute derivative works in any digital medium for any reasonable purpose, subject to proper attribution of authorship, as well as the right to make printed copies for their personal use.

ii. A complete version of the work and all supplementary materials, including a copy of the permission as stated above, in a suitable standard electronic format, are deposited immediately upon initial publication in at least one online repository that is supported by an academic institution, scholarly society, government agency, or other well-established organisation that seeks to enable OA, unrestricted distribution, interoperability, and long-term archiving.¹

3.2 Europe PubMed Central (EuropePMC):
Europe PubMed Central (EuropePMC) (formerly UK PubMed Central (UKPMC)) is a free online resource offering access to information sources for biomedical and health researchers. The EuropePMC funders, which includes

¹ This definition was arrived at by delegates who attended a meeting on OA publishing convened by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute in April 2003 (Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing).
Cancer Research UK, collectively award a significant proportion of the all the UK's research grants in biomedical and health research.

4 POLICY STATEMENT

4.1 Requirements

4.1.1 It is a condition of funding that Cancer Research UK funded researchers deposit in the EuropePMC database an electronic copy of the author's final version of papers accepted for publication.

4.1.2 Authors must acknowledge that their research has been supported wholly or in part by Cancer Research using the following format:

“This work was supported by Cancer Research UK grant number C…/A....”

All studies approved by Clinical Trials Awards and Advisory Committee must also quote the Cancer Research UK trial number (Cr-UK ref.)

This will enable funders to link the published outputs of research to the funding provided. Additionally the publication should be linked with the EuropePMC grant record.

If you do not know your grant number or you are unsure how to link the publication to a grant record in EuropePMC, please contact Cancer Research UK.

4.1.3 Publications should be available in the EuropePMC database as soon as possible and no later than six months after publication.

4.1.4 Payment of any open access fees may be met from underspend on existing grants, however, no additional funds will be made available for this purpose.

4.2 Methods of submission

4.2.1 A manuscript may be submitted to a journal that offers an Open Access (OA) option. The journal will then deposit a copy of the final article in the EuropePMC database. See appendix 6.1 for a flow-diagram detailing this approach.

4.2.2 Researchers may, alternatively, submit manuscripts to a publisher that does not offer an OA option but does permit a copy of the research article to be deposited, and made publicly available, in EuropePMC.² See appendix 6.1 for a flow-diagram detailing this approach.

² Researchers can determine which publications are compliant with this policy by referring to the Journal List on the EuropePMC website.
4.2.3 Authors must ensure, in advance of making any agreement with or commitment to a publisher, that the agreement or commitment does not conflict with the author's obligations under this policy. Specifically, authors should inform the journal of their existing obligation to make their papers available from EuropePMC, and investigate whether the publisher's policy is in conflict with this obligation.

4.2.4 If such a conflict exists, authors or their institutions have the following options:

i. The author's institution may retain ownership of the copyright and still allow publication in a journal by granting a license to the journal. This could be achieved, for example, through using one of the Creative Commons licenses.

ii. Enter into a copyright agreement with the journal. Copyright agreements can take many forms, but the following is an example of wording that could be included in an agreement with a journal that would still allow an author to comply with this policy:

"Notwithstanding any of the other provisions of this agreement, the journal acknowledges that the researcher will be entitled to deposit an electronic copy of the final, peer-reviewed manuscript into Europe PubMed Central (EuropePMC), and for this manuscript to be mirrored to all PMC International sites. Manuscripts deposited with EuropePMC may be made freely available to the public, via the internet, within six months of the official date of final publication in the journal".

4.3 Disclaimer

Cancer Research UK does not wish to prevent researchers from submitting research publications to the most appropriate journal, some of which may not be compliant with this policy. As a result Cancer Research UK funded researchers may publish, only in exceptional circumstances, in a journal that would not allow the article to be deposited in EuropePMC within 6 months. Researchers should contact Cancer Research UK to make a case for publishing in such journals in advance of submitting the manuscript.

5 RELATED DOCUMENTS

5.1 Cancer Research UK Terms and Conditions and Administrative Guidelines for Research Grants & Awards

http://science.cancerresearchuk.org/prod_consump/groups/cr_common/@fre/@gen/documents/generalcontent/cr_016276.pdf
6 APPENDICES

6.1 Flow Diagram for EuropePMC and Open Access

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1. Publisher version of the article freely available at publisher site from publication date.
2. Publisher version of the article freely available via EuropePMC from publication date, publisher deposits article.

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1. Publisher version of the article available to subscribers at publisher site from publication date.
2. Author manuscript freely available in Europe PMC within six months.