PUBLICATIONS POLICY
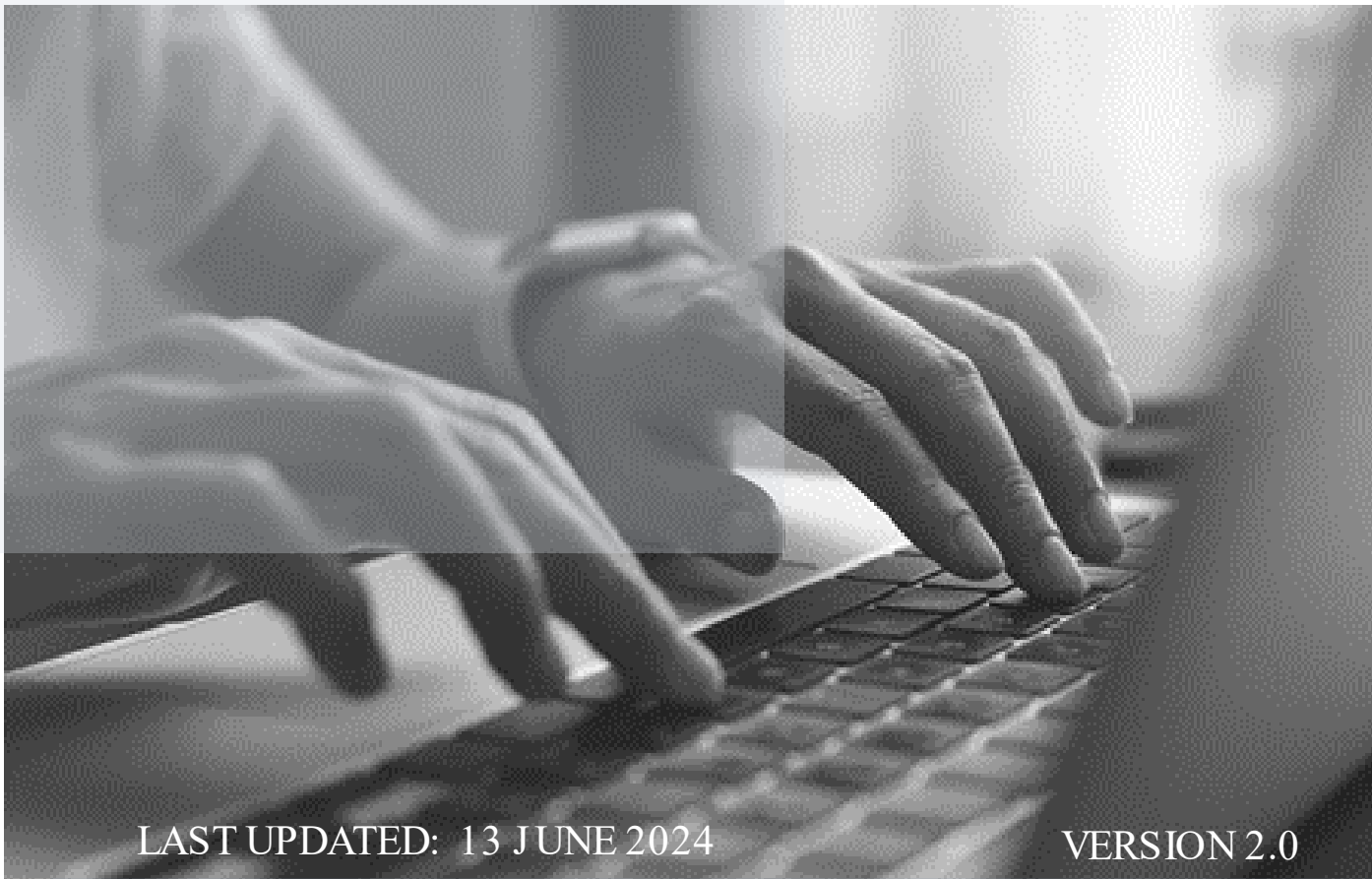
NIHR GLOBAL HEALTH RESEARCH GROUP ON PROMOTING CHILDREN'S AND ADOLESCENT'S MENTAL WELBEING IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

LAST UPDATED: 13 JUNE 2024

VERSION 2.0

About the Project

Summary

The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends preventative mental health interventions in schools. When children and adolescents focus on being mindful, they slow down, take their time, and focus on something in a way that is both relaxing and stress-free. Practising mindfulness makes children and adolescents happier. It improves their attention span, helps them manage stress, increases their sense of well-being, and improves their communication skills. It also improves their school performance. We do not know if mindfulness improves the well-being of children and adolescents in Sub-Saharan Africa. There is a need to know if it does so and if it would be a good use of government resources. We have designed a project which will help answer these questions.

We will deliver the project in Ethiopia and Rwanda between 2022 and 2026. Rwanda and Ethiopia are two of the poorest countries in the world. The wellbeing of children is poor in both countries, and school attainment is low. We will research ways of providing an affordable and acceptable mindfulness intervention that improves children's and adolescents' well-being. We will work with parents and policymakers to agree on delivering and testing it. Teacher-educators working with primary school teachers will develop an appropriate mindfulness intervention. Teachers involved in developing the intervention will train other teachers in their schools. Teachers will deliver the intervention as part of the primary school curriculum so that it reaches all children.

Further information is available at www.abdn.ac.uk/nihr-camw

Publications Policy

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Publications Policy

We are committed to ensuring that research outputs (publications and the underlying research data) should be made freely available, with the minimum of delay. At the same time, we need to ensure that we meet all legislative and ethical obligations to protect the rights and privacy of individuals and minimize the potential for harm and comply with the funder's (the National Institute for Health and Social Care Research) requirements.

The NIHR requires that we publish the findings from the research in peer review journals and other outputs. This includes all outputs from PhD students related to their PhD, as this is being funded through the project. The main study findings must be published open access within one year of study completion. NIHR tracks research outputs from funded projects while the project is being implemented and for three to five years afterwards. A record of all publications will be kept by the Project Manager based at the University of Aberdeen.

This policy should be read in conjunction with sections 8 (Intellectual Property Rights) and 10 (Publications) of the Collaboration Agreement (CA), the project's *Intellectual Property Rights Policy* and the National Institute for Health and Social Care Research *Outputs and branding* guidelines, *Research outputs and publications guidance*, *Open access publication policy guidance*, the *NIHR position on data sharing and NIHR Global Health Research branding guide*. The CA, the project's *Intellectual Property Rights Policy* and NIHR guidance takes precedence where there is a disagreement between them and this Policy.

Aims and Objectives

The main objective of this policy is to ensure that there is timely publication of the research findings from the project in compliance with NIHR guidance and other legal requirements.

The aims of the policy are to ensure that:

1. all research outputs comply with NIHR requirements and guidelines;
2. individual researchers' plans for publication are not in competition with the projects plans;
3. the authorship of papers is consistent with the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors guidance;
4. post-doctoral researchers' (PDRs), PhD students as well as all co-Is have an opportunity to co-author papers.

Scope of the Policy

1. The policy applies to investigators working on the project including co-Is, PDRs and PhD students.
2. It applies to all publications arising from the project published during the lifetime of the project[1], including but not limited to:

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[1] It also applies to the final project report which will be published after the conclusion of the project.

a. Data sets and manuals deposited with the UK National Data Archive and /or other open access data repositories[2];
b. Peer review journal articles;
c. Systematic reviews;
d. Chapters in edited collections;
e. Monographs;
f. PhD theses;
g. Other articles including magazine and newspaper articles;
h. Policy briefs;
i. Policy documents;
j. Reports including the final project report;
k. Conference papers/presentations;
l. Engagement focused website, blogs or social media channels;
m. Press releases;
n. Media interviews;
o. Training materials;
p. Research Tools

Roles and Responsibilities

1. The Project Director (J-L at the University of Aberdeen) (p.abbott@abdn.ac.uk) is responsible for compliance with this policy in accordance with relevant University policies, legislation, and funder terms and conditions.
2. *The Project Manager is responsible for maintaining a record of all publications and ensuring that the NIHR is notified as set out in the NIHR research outputs and publications guidance.*
3. Work Package (WP) leaders are responsible for ensuring that the findings from their WP are written up for publication and that data sets are prepared for publication in an open access repository.
4. PhD student supervisors are responsible for supporting students in presenting the findings from their research at seminars and conferences and publishing articles reporting on their research findings.
5. PhD students are responsible for ensuring that data sets from their PhD research are prepared for publication in an open access repository.

Notifying the NIHR of Publications

1. The Project Director must notify NIHR in advance of a publication going public through the NIHR REALMS.
2. A co-I or PhD student submitting a project or PhD related article to a journal should send it to the Project Manager (isabel.stanley@abdn.ac.uk) **before** submission to

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[2] All data sets will be published in an open access repository within three months of the end of the project, that is by the 31st of October 2026. During the life of the project data sets may be made available on reasonable request to the Contracting Institution (UoA) (p.abbott@abdn.ac.uk when the conditions of publication of a journal require that the data be made available.

ensure all aspects of this Publications Policy have been met, particularly requirements related to funder acknowledgment.

3. The co-I or other team member leading on a publication should also notify the Project Director (p.abbott@abdn.ac.uk) cc'ing the Project Manager (isabel.stanley@abdn.ac.uk) when an output is being published (made available open access). Details of the type of publication, where it is being published and the date of publication, where known, should be provided as well as a copy of the publication.

4. The exception to the above is press releases, which must be submitted to the Project Director (p.abbott@abdn.ac.uk) cc'ing the Project Manager (isabel.stanley@abdn.ac.uk) at least three working days before they are due for release, as press releases require NIHR approval.

Authorship

1. All co-Is, PGRs and PhD students should be involved in the writing up of the findings of the research and less experienced team members given the opportunity to be first and corresponding authors.

2. All researchers involved in an element of the research should be given the opportunity to be a co-author of publications arising from the research.

3. To be named on a research output as an author the following criteria must be met:
   a. Have made a substantial contribution to the conception or the design and/or the collection, analysis, or interpretation of the data,

      AND

   b. Drafting the article or revising it for important intellectual content,
      AND
   c. Reading and approving the final version of the publication and agreeing to be accountable for all aspects of the publication.

   The contribution to the article, in line with the above, of each co-author must be identifiable.

   All co-Is, PDRs and PhD students, and other researchers working on the project, who meet criteria 'a' should be given the opportunity to meet criteria 'b' and 'c'.

4. The order of authorship should be agreed by the authors of the publication, but the first author should normally be the researcher that wrote the first draft of the paper. The last author should normally be the co-I that was responsible for leading on the research that is reported in the paper. Any author can be the corresponding author, taking responsibility for correspondence with the publisher and ensuring that all administrative requirements are met.[3] PhD students should be the first author for any paper arising from their PhD research.

5. Where a researcher does not meet the requirement for authorship but has made a contribution to the research then they should be acknowledged.

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[3] The University of Aberdeen 's agreement for open access publishing requires that the corresponding author is a member of the University staff. This includes honorary staff.

Publishing Research Outputs

1. All publications must acknowledge NIHR funding, using the following disclaimer: *This study/project is funded by the NIHR (NIHR133712) using UK aid from the UK Government to support global health research. The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NIHR or the UK government, the Court of the University of Aberdeen, the Board of Directors of the University of Rwanda, the Board of Directors of Addis Ababa University, or the Board of Directors of The Sanctuary.*

2. All **peer review** research articles submitted for publication must meet NIHR open access publication policy and guidance. This includes original research articles and conference papers accepted for publication in a journal or conference proceedings with an ISSN number. (Publications not in scope include, monographs, book chapters, edited collections, and study protocols).

3. In scope **peer review** articles must be published under the Creative Commons attribution licence (CC BY). In the funding acknowledgement section of the manuscript and in any cover letter/note accompanying the submission must include 'For the purpose of open access, the author(s) has applied a CC By public copyright license'.

4. All publications, including **peer review** articles, must also include: (1) a data sharing statement describing how the underpinning research data can be accessed; and (2) an acknowledgement of NIHR of funding including the award identifier - *This study/project is funded by the NIHR (NIHR133712) using UK aid from the UK Government to support global health research. The views expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and not necessarily those of the NIHR or the UK government, the Court of the University of Aberdeen, the Board of Directors of the University of Rwanda, the Board of Directors of Addis Ababa University, or the Board of Directors of The Sanctuary.*

5. In scope **peer review** articles must be published in journals that offer compliant open access options for authors. To comply with the policy the most up to date Version of Record or the author Accepted Manuscript must be available open access from the day of publication, and it must be possible for this version (the final published article containing the publisher's copy edits and layout) to be published without delay in an institutional/national/regional repository[4] and Europe PMC vial the Europe PMC plus submission system.

6. Journals that offer compliant open access options can be identified by reading the options available for authors on journals websites or using Sherpa Fact.[5]

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[4] In scope articles will be published in the University of Aberdeen research repository.

[5] We have funds in the budget to pay Author Processing Charges (APC) and the University of Aberdeen has agreements with a number of publishers for the wavering of APCs (Open Access Publisher Agreements | Library, Special Collections and Museums | The University of Aberdeen (abdn.ac.uk).

Publishing out of scope outputs

Under point 2 of 'Publishing Research Outputs' it states that research protocols are considered formally out of scope by the NIHR. However, it is expected that all protocols produced as part of this project will be published in the public domain and registered where appropriate.

Note the following distinction:

Registering a protocol = making a formal notification of a review you are going to undertake. It avoids duplication and ensures transparency.

Publishing a pre-print = sharing a paper open-access before it has been peer-reviewed.

The project and PhD students working on their PhD projects are expected to do **both**.

Appropriate places to register protocols:

Scoping review protocols: Research Registry, INPLASY, Preregistration (cos.io)

Systematic, rapid or umbrella review protocols: PROSPERO

Study protocols: Research Registry, **OSF Registries**, **protocols.io**.

Appropriate places to publish protocols:

An appropriate peer review journal that accepts protocols.

Preprints

All publications working papers, reports and articles should be published as preprints. For working papers and reports this should be when they are published on the project website and for journal articles when they are submitted to a peer review journal.[6] Preprint journals/repositories include:

- medRxiv: medRxiv.org - the preprint server for Health Sciences
- The Multidisciplinary Preprint Platform: Preprints.org - The Multidisciplinary Preprint Platform
- OSF Preprints: OSF Preprints
- Advance (Sage preprint): Directory of Open Access Preprint Repositories: Advance (Sage preprint) (coar-repositories.org)
- AfricArxiv: Directory of Open Access Preprint Repositories: AfricArxiv (coar-repositories.org)
- F1000 Research: https://f1000research.com/
- HAL: https://api.archives-ouvertes.fr/oai/hal
- OSF preprints: https://osf.io/preprints/
- Preprints with The Lancet: https://www.thelancet.com/preprints

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[6] Check that the journal you are submitting to permits articles to be be published as a pre-print. You can check here: Welcome to Sherpa Romeo - Sherpa Services

- WikiJournal Preprints

Media Activity

1. Media activity includes press releases, a researcher taking part in interviews for press or broadcast or a journalist briefing.
2. Press releases must acknowledge NIHR funding for the research by naming and linking to the NIHR in the first or second paragraph of the body of the press release.
3. Press releases should **NOT** include the NIHR logo.
4. The following NIHR boilerplate must be included in the notes to editors.

The mission of the NIHR is to improve the health and wealth of the nation through research. We do this by:

- Funding high quality, timely research that benefits the NHS, public health and social care;
- Investing in world-class expertise, facilities, and a skilled delivery workforce to translate discoveries into improved treatments and services;
- Partnering with patients, service users, carers and communities, improving the relevance, quality and impact of our research;
- Attracting, training and supporting the best researchers to tackle complex health and social care challenges;
- Collaborating with other public funders, charities, and industry to help shape a cohesive and globally competitive research system;
- Funding applied global health research and training to meet the needs of the poorest people in low- and middle-income countries.

NIHR is funded by the Department of Health and Social Care. Its work in low- and middle-income countries and is principally funded through UK Aid from the UK government.

Branding Research Outputs

The new (April 2024) 'Funded by NIHR' logo together with the UK International Development (UK-ID) Logo (replacing the UK aid logo) should be used on visual and digital outputs such as websites, blogs, social media, materials and publication for stakeholders, newsletters, research slides, videos including training videos, and research posters.

The project's Branding and Copyright Guidance gives detailed guidance on how to apply branding to different types of output.