

ExplORe: Guide to Open Access Research Publications

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Contact us

The Open Research team is there to support and help you.

[Get in touch](#)

Open Access

What is Open Access?

Open access is permanent free unrestricted access to digital literature such as journal articles and books. It is open to all without charge. Licensing terms allow liberal reuse provided that the original source is cited. This facilitates discovery and sharing of your work.



Many research funders, including UKRI, Wellcome Trust, European Commission, and the Research Excellence Framework (REF) have open access policies which require research outputs to be openly available.

The University of Aberdeen has implemented a new [Research Publications Policy](#). The policy supports our authors in retaining the rights to their research when publishing in academic journals.

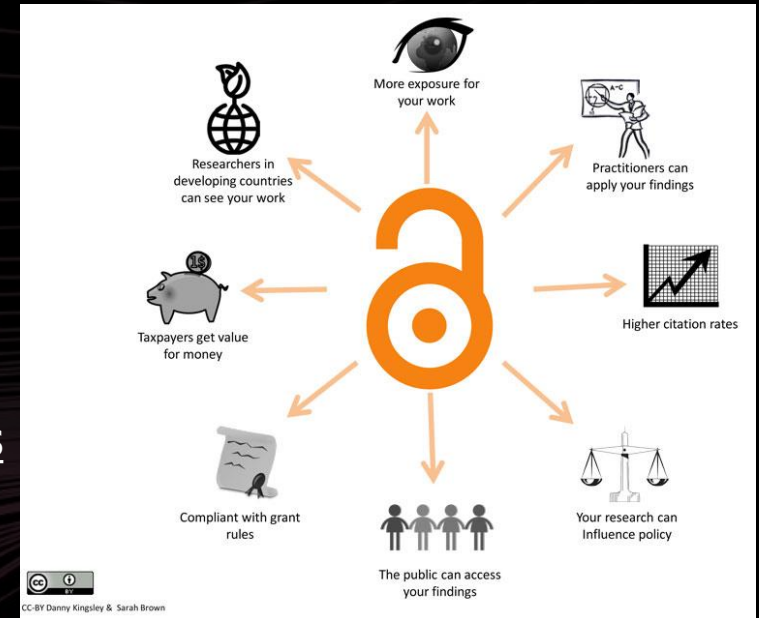
Benefits of open access

- Open access leads to much faster and wider dissemination and sharing of research findings, improving researchers' reputation.
- It maximises research impact. Numerous studies are confirming that an open access article is much more likely to be accessed and cited than an article which sits behind paid-for, traditional subscription models.
- Institutional repositories (such as AURA here at Aberdeen) enhance the visibility of research undertaken by individuals, departments and research groups here at the University. This can be important in attracting research students and funding.
- Since no library can possibly collect or provide access to all of the peer-reviewed scholarly literature, publishing research outputs via an OA model vastly increases all researchers' access to the scholarly

Open Access

Why is Open Access Important?

- Benefits society as a whole
- REF Open Access Policy
- Funder Open Access Requirements
- Find out more on Open Access Policies on our Webpages
- Colours of Open Access



[Check out our Explore session – REF and Funder Open Access Requirements](#)

Open Access

Green Open Access

- Publish your article in a subscription journal
- University pays for their members to read
- No charge for author to publish
- Author deposits version of the article in their institutional repository (Pure/AURA)
- Usually, the author's final draft including corrections after peer-review but before publisher formatting has been applied
- Include the Rights Retention Statement with submissions to ensure open access
- Same principles apply to books and chapters

Open Access

Gold Open Access

- Publish your article in a fully open access journal or
- A subscription journal with an option to pay to make selected articles open access
- Author pays to publish – Article Processing Charge (APC) or
- Institution pays for an Agreement to cover APCs for their researchers
- The article is published immediately online free for anyone to read without charge
- An open licence allows sharing and reuse under certain conditions (Creative Commons Licence)
- Expensive, inequitable, unsustainable – not everyone has funds to pay for open access

Open Access

Diamond Open Access

- Publish your article in a fully open access journal
- Publisher covers the publication costs (usually a University or Society Press)
- No charge to author or reader
- The article is published immediately online free for anyone to read without charge
- An open licence allows sharing and reuse under certain conditions (Creative Commons Licence)
- Sustainable and ethical – open to all

Open Access

Open Access Agreements

- We have agreements with 20 publishers
- Includes Elsevier, Springer Nature, Wiley and more
- Corresponding authors affiliated to the University of Aberdeen
- Not all agreements the same
- Some include subscription (hybrid) titles only e.g. Elsevier/Springer
- Others include subscription and fully open access titles e.g. Wiley, Oxford University Press
- Use your University of Aberdeen email address
- Research type articles covered

[Check out our Explore session – Open Access Publisher Agreements](#)

How the Agreements Work in Practice

- Publisher identifies you as an eligible responsible corresponding author by your affiliation
- Use your UoA email address
- You will be offered open access under the agreement
- Choose the CC BY Creative Commons licence
- Requests for OA under the agreements sent to library for approval
- Email openresearch@abdn.ac.uk if you have any questions
- Some issues for researchers who have left uni by time of publication – contact us for advice

Open Access

Rights Retention

- Typically, researchers' hand over their rights to publishers when they sign a licence to publish
- Retain your rights
- University of Aberdeen Research Publications Policy supports researchers
- Include the Rights Retention statement with submissions in the acknowledgements and with any covering letter
 - "For the purpose of open access, the author has applied a Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) licence* to any Author Accepted Manuscript version arising". *Or other permitted licence

Open Access

Creative Commons Licences



Distribute, remix, adapt
Credit must be given to
the creator



Distribute, remix, adapt
Credit must be given to the
creator
Non-commercial purposes only



Copy and distribute only
No derivatives
Credit must be given to the creator

We recommend the CC BY licence and it is usually
mandated by funders!

Open Access

Pure/AURA

- Pure is the University's Research Information System
- Accessible by staff and research post grads (not taught PG)
- AURA is the institutional repository where the full text of outputs is made open
- Public Research Portal is where all the info is freely available
- Email paperaccepted@abdn.ac.uk when you have an article accepted
- Or if you have data to be recorded openresearch@abdn.ac.uk
- Add Activities/Awards/Prizes to your own Pure account
- New researchers import your publications
- Set up automated search for publications in online sources
- Use ORCID



ORCID

- ORCID provides a unique persistent digital identifier (ORCID iD) that you own and control, and that distinguishes you from every other researcher.
- Connect your iD with your professional information — affiliations, grants, publications, peer review, and more.
- Use your iD to share information between systems and institutions, ensure recognition for all of research contributions, save time and reduce scope for errors.
- Connect ORCID and Pure: [Toolkit Video](#).
- The use of ORCID is becoming more popular and is expected to be made a requirement by funders and future REF exercises so is recommended that you adopt it.



Open Access

Predatory Publishers and Conferences

- Normal practice to pay Article Processing Charges for open access
- However, has led to some opportunist predatory publishers who seek to extort funds for services they can't or won't provide
- Think. Check. Submit.
- A checklist to help you evaluate a publisher before you decide
- Same principles apply to open access books and paying to attend conferences



UKRI Open Access Policy

Journal articles

- Applies to articles & conference papers with an ISSN submitted from 1st of April 2022
- UKRI requires immediate open access either by
 - Version of Record (VoR) published in a journal or on a publisher platform
 - Author's Accepted Manuscript (AAM) deposited in an institutional or subject repository
 - Data Access Statement required explain how to access associated research materials
- Payment of an APC for articles in hybrid journals not compliant unless covered by a transitional agreement
- Licence requirement – use statement for hybrid journals
- CC BY licence required for both VoR and AAM - CC BY ND by exception.
- Embargo: No embargo permitted

Monographs

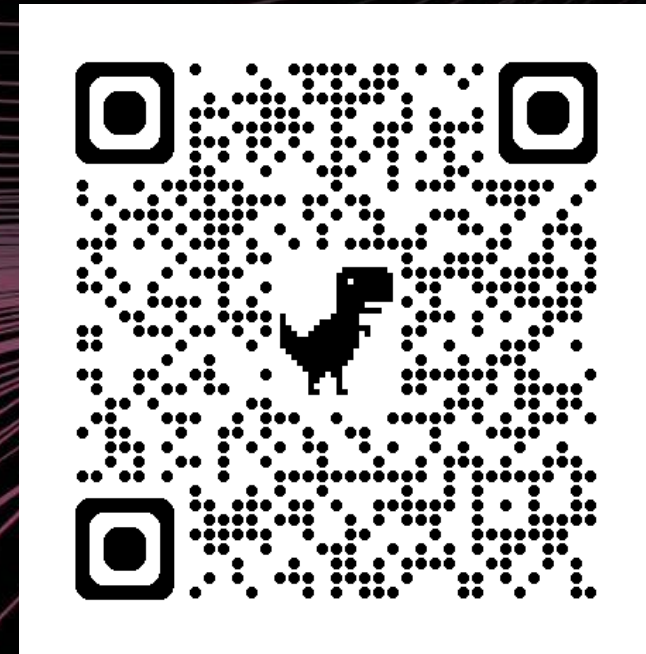
- Applies to monographs published from 1st of January 2024
- Key requirements of the new policy for monographs published on or after 1 January 2024 include:
 - the final version of a publication or accepted manuscript being made open access via a publisher's website, platform or repository, within a maximum of 12 months of publication
 - CC BY licence preferred, but NC and ND licences are permitted.
- <https://www.ukri.org/publications/ukri-open-access-policy/>

Research Excellence Framework (REF)

- REF2021 submitted 31 March 2021
- New policy expected to be announced Winter 2024. Follow REF2021 OA policy until further notice
- Applies to journal articles and conference papers published with ISSN
- Repository-Based Open Access (Green)
- Deposit Accepted Manuscript (AAM) in institutional or subject repository within 3 months of acceptance
 - Email paperaccepted@abdn.ac.uk
- Exception - Deposit within 3 months of 1st online publication
- Publisher open access (Gold)
- VoR immediately available is compliant
- Publisher agreements allow compliance
- Must permit reuse
- CC-BY-NC-ND licence allowed
- There will be no open access mandate for open access books in REF2029.
- There will be an open access requirement for longform after REF2029. Details tbc.

Sign up here

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Data Management and DMP session on
20/11



Carve your PhD!



2023 Winner! Depicting: Inertial Sensors for Clinical Movement Analysis of the Upper Limb



Any Questions?

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www.abdn.ac.uk/open-research

