



PROSTATE
CANCER UK

Publication Policy

As set out in our ambitious 10 year Research Strategy, we will invest in the most innovative research to create a step change in our knowledge of prostate cancer. In order to achieve this goal, we need to be open in our communication and dissemination of the research we are funding, so that others may learn from and build upon this vital research and we expect the researchers we support to share this same ethos.

We want to maximise the impact and reach of the research we fund, and ultimately we want to see this research benefiting men with, or at high risk of, prostate cancer and their families. To facilitate this, the research we support must be freely available to our supporters and to the global research community through open access publication.

Prostate Cancer UK expects all grant holders to publish the main output of their research as peer-reviewed research articles, and we strongly support the unrestricted access of these papers and the accompanying data. Specifically:

- Grant holders must provide us with details of all publications (and other outputs) arising from the research we have funded no later than the point at which the paper or abstract is accepted for publication/presentation. This is to ensure that we are kept fully informed of all results that are made public, and to allow us sufficient time to prepare for any potential publicity and media coverage. As such, we need to know the targeted date/timescale for publication, the chosen route of publication and the length of any embargo period (see below). We also require a copy of the final version of the paper once approved for publication.
- It is crucial for the charity to monitor the outputs of the research that we have previously funded in order to report back to our donors, provide evidence of impact, and encourage further donations to fund more research. Output monitoring also enables us to identify progress and keep abreast of the latest developments, in order to inform our funding activities. A standard acknowledgement format makes it as easy as possible for us to track these outputs.

Therefore, in all outputs arising from Prostate Cancer UK funded work, researchers must acknowledge our financial support in the following format:

“This work was supported by Prostate Cancer UK through a [Award Type e.g. Research Innovation Award] ([Grant Reference No.]).”

For work supported by multiple Prostate Cancer UK grants, all relevant grant references should be listed.

In certain cases, specific wording should be used in place of the above statement. In this instance your Grant Manager at Prostate Cancer UK will provide you with the alternative wording that should be used.

- Results should be published in such a way that allows unrestricted access to the data and information, and the research must be made publicly available as soon as possible.

There are two routes for open access, known as the 'Gold route' and the 'Green route'. The Gold route involves payment of a fee to the publishing journal which makes the full text freely available to readers immediately after publication. The Green route does not incur a fee to the journal, but instead requires the author to deposit a copy of the full text in an open access repository after an embargo period (usually after a period of six months).

We expect our funded researchers to, at the very least, publish via the Green open access route, with an embargo period of no longer than six months. However, we strongly encourage publishing via the Gold open access route wherever possible, to maximise the reach and impact of the research findings.

- We encourage - and where an open access article processing charge is paid to the publisher, require - authors and publishers to licence research papers using the Creative Commons Attribution licence (CC-BY)**. This is the standard licence used by open access journals to maximise the dissemination and impact of the published papers by allowing others to freely copy, re-use and build upon the published data (for example, for text- and data-mining purposes).
- Once the results have been published (or after any stipulated embargo periods), researchers are encouraged to make their results accessible and freely available by taking advantage of online open publishing platforms and repositories. This includes the dissemination of any negative or confirmatory results.
- To make it as easy as possible for grantholders to meet the requirement for open access publication of their results, Prostate Cancer UK is a member of the Europe PubMed Central funder consortium. This resource offers researchers a centrally managed, permanent and stable repository for their open access publications and simplifies the self-archiving process. Guidance on how to self-archive and details of other benefits and tools made available through Europe PubMed Central, are available on the Europe PubMed Central website: <http://plus.europepmc.org/>.

Electronic copies of any research papers accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, supported wholly or in part by Prostate Cancer UK funding, must be made available through PubMed Central (PMC) and Europe PubMed Central as soon as possible and no later than 6 months after publication.

- Any relevant data and materials must also be made freely available to other researchers upon request (subject to any ethics, approvals and Intellectual Property consideration).