Open Research @ the Wellcome:
an update on current activities and priorities

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Agenda

• Overview of Open Research @ Wellcome
• OA publisher requirements
• Wellcome Open Research
• Preprints
Open Research
Open Research

- Project – a nine-month development phase
- Deliverable - a prioritised and costed Roadmap setting out how Wellcome could take a leadership role in ensuring research outputs which arise from its funding are findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable (FAIR principles)
- Focus – sharing of publications, data and code
- Deadline - Spring 2017
Vision

A world where there are transformative improvements in human health because research outputs are managed, shared and used in ways that unleash their full value.

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Why is this important?

• Opening up access to the research outputs helps:
  • **Accelerate discovery and its application for health benefit**
    • Computational analysis of over 7,700 brain images – made openly available – determined that the first physiological sign of Alzheimer’s disease is a decrease in blood flow in the brain. *Nature Communications*
  
  • **Maximise the return on our research investment**
    • Human Genome Project – Return on Investment of **141:1**

  • **Enhance research reproducibility and reduce avoidable waste**
    • Other researchers can re-analyse and replicate published studies
Challenges?

- Infrastructure
- Culture & incentives
- Skills & capacity
- Global equity
- Ethics & governance
- Transition to OA for research publications

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Current activities

- **survey** of Wellcome funded researchers
- **mapping exercise** of current activities
- **landscaping** reviews
- **clinical trial** data
- role of **preprints**
- **Wellcome Open Research**

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Publisher Requirements
Objectives

• **Reduce** the number of articles where an APC is paid, and the article doesn’t comply with our OA policy

• **Clarify** what Wellcome requires when it pays an APC

• **Simplify** compliance for authors, institutions, funders and publishers

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Direct-acting antivirals for acute hepatitis C in HIV-infected MSM

Example 1

An increasing population of patients with HIV infection have evidence of acute hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection [1-11]. This has led to increased interest in novel therapeutic strategies for the treatment of acute hepatitis C. This review highlights the current controversies in the diagnosis and management of acute hepatitis C infection. In addition, it discusses the challenges in the management of acute hepatitis C in patients with HIV co-infection and the potential benefits of antiretroviral therapy in this setting.

Example 2

Localized Translation of gurken/TGF-α mRNA during Axis Specification Is Controlled by Access to Orb/CPEB on Processing Bodies

Alexander Davidson, Richard M. Parton, Catherine Rabouilliez, Timothy T. Weil, and Ilan Davis

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The key requirements

• **Deposit**
  • Final version of peer-reviewed articles, in XML and PDF must be deposited in PMC
  • Material changes must be made available to PMC
  • Encouraged to sign PMC Agreement
  • Include Crossmark where available

• **Licence**
  • Must be made available via CC-BY
  • Licence statement must be included in the XML and be human & machine readable

• **Invoice**
  • Must include title of article
  • Must have refund policy
Implementation timeline

- **By 15 December 2106** - publishers requested to say whether they can meet the requirements
- **6 January 2017** – Wellcome publishes a full list of publishers who can comply with our requirements
- **1 April 2017** – requirements implemented for papers submitted from this date
Outreach

- Have directly contacted “top” 35 publishers – who between them publish 95% of Wellcome-funded research
- Running a workshop for Institutional OA representatives
- Hope to work with ALPSP and PA to promote these requirements
  - Develop good practice guidelines on APC invoices and a model refund policy?
Wellcome Open Research
Wellcome Open Research

- A publishing platform where Wellcome-funded researchers can publish any results they think are worth sharing.

http://wellcomeopenresearch.org
Objectives

• To improve the way research is communicated

• Make the process **faster** and more **transparent**, and make it easier for researchers to provide information that supports **reproducibility**

• One of a number of activities – along with support for **eLife, preprints, paying APCs** etc. – Wellcome undertaking in this space

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Benefits to researchers

- **Fast** – articles published within a week
- **Inclusive** – can publish all your research outputs
- **Open** – fulfils Trust OA and data sharing requirements
- **Reproducible** – data published alongside article
- **Transparent** – open, author-driven, peer review
- **Easy** – costs are met directly by Wellcome
Success measures

- Wellcome-funded researchers **publish** on this platform
  - *From early career researchers (PhD students) through to Principal Research Fellows & Investigators*
- A **range** of research outputs are published
  - *Null/negative studies, datasets, case reports, protocols etc*
- Other **funders** seek to establish their own platforms
- Other **publishers** consider adopting similar practices
Preprints
Preprints

• Growing interest in using preprints
  • They provide researchers with a fast way to disseminate their work, establish priority of their discoveries, and obtain feedback. They also offer a more current understanding of an investigator’s work.

• Work within Wellcome to amend grant application/EoG forms so preprints can be cited

• Developing guidance for grant reviewers

• Working with ASAPbio
Questions?

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