

## Open access policy

We're the largest charity funder of Parkinson's research in the UK. Since 1969 we have spent more than £70million on research.

Major advances have come from the research we've supported – helping to improve treatment and care for people living with Parkinson's, both within the UK and worldwide. The main output of this research is new ideas and knowledge, which Parkinson's UK expects its researchers to publish in high-quality, peer-reviewed journals.

In line with other major funders, Parkinson's UK believes the best way to share these papers as widely as possible is through free, unrestricted, online access. This means that the research we fund can be used to its best advantage by researchers all over the world, to the ultimate benefit of people affected by Parkinson's.

Specifically, Parkinson's UK:

- expects authors of research papers to maximise the opportunities to make their results available for free
- requires electronic copies of any research papers that have been accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, and are supported in whole or in part by Parkinson's UK funding, to be made available through PubMed Central (PMC) and Europe PubMed Central (Europe PMC) as soon as possible and in any event within six months of the journal publisher's official date of final publication
- expects charity funded researchers to select publishing routes that ensure the work is available immediately on publication in its final published form, wherever such options exist for their publisher of choice and are compliant with our policy
- will provide grantholders with additional funding to cover open access charges, where appropriate, in order to meet the charity's requirements
- encourages - and where it pays an open access fee, requires - authors and publishers to licence research papers using the Creative Commons Attribution licence (CC-BY) so they may be freely copied and re-used (for example, for text- and data-mining purposes or creating a translation), provided that such uses are fully attributed. CC-BY is also the preferred licence for monographs and book chapters.
- affirms the principle that it is the intrinsic merit of the work, and not the title of the journal or the publisher with which an author's work is published, that should be considered in making funding decisions.

## Open access options

Many journals will deposit the final published version of the article on behalf of the authors directly into [Europe PMC](#) (or into US PubMed Central, from where it is mirrored to Europe PMC) to be made freely available immediately on publication (often referred to as **gold open access**). Journals charge an Article Processing Charge (APC) for this option and Parkinson's UK provides financial support to pay these charges in most cases.

Alternatively, the journal may deposit the final, peer-reviewed manuscript in Europe PMC to be made freely available after a six month embargo period (often referred to as **green open access**). Usually no fee is charged for this service.

In some cases, the journal will not deposit the article but will allow the authors to deposit a copy of the final, peer-reviewed manuscript in Europe PMC to be made freely available after an embargo period. Europe PMC has an author manuscript submission system for authors to self-archive papers.

## Paying open access costs

Since 1 October 2015, Parkinson's UK has been a member of the [Charity Open Access Fund](#) (COAF). COAF is a fund to provide financial support for immediate gold open access of peer reviewed original research articles and non-commissioned reviews accepted for publication on or after 1 October 2015. This pilot scheme is a partnership between medical research charities and is administered by the Wellcome Trust. Researchers must be based at one of the participating [UK institutions](#) and the fund takes the form of a block grant to each institution. To claim from COAF, authors should contact their institution directly. If authors are unsure who the appropriate contact at their institution is, please email the Wellcome Trust at [openaccess@wellcome.ac.uk](mailto:openaccess@wellcome.ac.uk).

Authors who receive funding from us, but who aren't based at an institution that receives support from COAF, may use any unspent grant money to pay for APCs or contact us at [researchapplications@parkinsons.org.uk](mailto:researchapplications@parkinsons.org.uk) to discuss their situation.

Alternatively, authors can comply with our policy by self-archiving their publication in [Europe PubMed Central](#) (Europe PMC) within six months of publication.

## Selecting a publishing route

We recommend authors select publishing routes that ensure the work is freely available immediately on publication in its final published form.

**Where APCs are paid through COAF**, authors and publishers must licence papers using a [Creative Commons Attribution licence](#) (CC-BY). This is so they may be freely copied and re-used (eg for text and data mining purposes), providing such uses are fully attributed.

**Where APCs are paid direct by Parkinson's UK**, we recommend that authors and publishers licence papers using a CC-BY licence.

Electronic copies of any research papers accepted for publication that are wholly or partially funded by Parkinson's UK must be made available via Europe PMC as soon as possible and no later than six months after publication.

## Eligible publications

- Our open access policy applies to original research papers accepted for publication.
- Where APCs are met through COAF, funding is available for original research papers and non-commissioned reviews published on or after 1 October 2015.
- Where APCs are met by Parkinson's UK, funding is available for original research papers only and does not cover additional page charges or colour plate charges.
- Our open access policy does not extend to editorials, letters, commissioned reviews, scholarly monographs, conference proceedings or book chapters.
- To be eligible for reimbursement all full research articles and non-commissioned reviews arising from Parkinson's UK-funded research should acknowledge us by stating the relevant grant number.

For more information, please see our [Open Access FAQs document](#).