OPEN ACCESS POLICY

The research we fund should be made freely available to the broader scientific community and to the public to maximise its reach and benefit.

All Grantholders must comply with our Policy on Open Access, and should ensure that an electronic copy of each primary research paper or non-commissioned review funded wholly or in part by us is made freely available as soon as possible, and no later than at the time of publication.

Open access (OA) publication is a condition of your grant, and the OA requirements set out below apply to all Grantholders awarded after 1 September 2021.

1. Publishing your research

As a condition of your grant we require that a copy of the final version of each peer-reviewed primary research paper or non-commissioned review article accepted for publication, supported in whole or in part by our funding, shall be deposited in Pubmed Central (PMC) or Europe PubMed Central (Europe PMC), to be made freely available at the time of publication.

Grantholders are also strongly encouraged to deposit pre-publication versions of articles in appropriate preprint repositories such as bioRxiv, arXiv and PeerJ Preprints. A preprint is defined as the version of the manuscript that is submitted to a journal, an earlier draft, or any part thereof.

2. Open access options

You can comply with The Brain Tumour Charity’s OA policy via a number of different routes:

- Publish in a fully OA journal where the publisher makes the paper freely available immediately on publication by publishing it on the journal website and depositing the final published version of your article into PMC or Europe PMC.
- Publish in any subscription journal that allows researchers to self-archive the Accepted Author Manuscript (AAM) in PMC, Europe PMC or other repository at time of publication (no embargo is permitted).
- Publish in AMRC Open Research, an OA publishing platform set up by 24 Association for Medical Research (AMRC) member charities, including The Brain Tumour Charity, in partnership with F1000. This platform operates an alternative publication model that enables the rapid and immediate publication of any research funded by the participating charities, followed by open peer review.

We will cover any reasonable publication cost charges by fully OA journals and platforms that provide these services, provided the authors do not have access to other sources of OA funding (e.g. institutional OA funds or via REF). See section 5 on claiming OA fees.

You should take steps to verify the credentials of a prospective journal and publisher before submitting your manuscript. The Think! Check! Submit! guidance - in particular the Check list - will help you assess whether a journal operates according to proper scholarly practice.

3. Which licence should I choose?

We encourage – and where The Brain Tumour Charity pays an OA fee, require – authors and publishers to license research papers using the Creative Commons Attribution license (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. For more information regarding licenses please visit the Creative Commons website.

4. Which types of publication are eligible for support?

Where authors do not have access to other sources of OA funding, we will pay for reasonable Article Publishing Charge (APC) fees for the publication of peer-reviewed, primary research articles and non-commissioned reviews funded wholly or in part by us. We will not pay APC fees for commissioned review articles or conference proceedings.

5. Claiming open access fees

We advise authors to request funding prior to submission. All funding requests must be made prior to publication and no later than six months after the grant end date.

To be eligible for reimbursement all full research articles and non-commissioned reviews arising from The Brain Tumour Charity funded research should acknowledge us by stating the relevant grant number. The following wording should be used: “This work was supported by The Brain Tumour Charity (grant number GN-XXXXXX)”.

Where a research publication has arisen from research funded by more than one funder that supports OA, the associated APC fees should be proportionally allocated to each appropriate funder. Where the other funders do not have available support for APC fees, we will pay the full APC fees.

Authors should request funding by contacting the Research Grants Team via grants@thebraintumourcharity.org. Please include the following:

- The Brain Tumour Charity grant number
- Name of the principal investigator
- Details of the journal you intend to submit/have submitted the paper to
- Details (including percentage contribution) of any other funders whose funding contributed to the publication
- Amount requested with justification
- A copy of the paper

Decisions will be made within 4 weeks following receipt of a funding request.

6. Policy version information

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