

BRC open access guidelines

Open access definition

Open Access (OA) is the online availability of scholarly work via the internet, free of charge to individuals who wish to access and read it. OA research papers are digital, online, free of charge and free of most copyright and licensing restrictions. It is made possible by the internet and the consent of the author or copyright-holder.

Open access benefits

- More exposure for your work – higher citation rates
- Practitioners can apply your findings and put it into practice – thereby increasing value for money
- Strengthens the BRC's aim to support translational research
- Your research can influence policy
- The public can access your findings
- Papers are available to researchers in the developing world

NIHR policy on open access

The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) and the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) require that NIHR-funded researchers seek to publish their research outputs in a peer-reviewed journal that is compliant with the policy on open access:

- It is expected that the research should be published in a journal that makes it available using the **Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) licence**, and allows immediate deposit of the final published version in other repositories without restriction on re-use. If this is not possible then the authors must reconsider the appropriateness of the original publication and how to comply with the point above.
- The above should not prevent researchers from also depositing a copy in their own institutional or another subject-based repository should they choose to do so, or be

required to do so by their employing institution subject to any restrictions from the publishers.

- All peer-reviewed research articles must be OA including uninvited review articles, final reports and executive summaries.
- In 2019, the NIHR continued to implement its sanctions approach. A small number of awards that failed to provide a submission had sanctions applied.

Read more on the [NIHR open access policy](#).

The BRC's position on open access

The BRC is committed to disseminating its research as widely as possible. In line with this, it supports the principle that the results of research that have been publicly funded should be freely accessible in the public domain and therefore it encourages its research staff to make their research available through open access.

In line with the NIHR policy on open access, all research papers accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal which are wholly or in part funded by NIHR BRC at The Royal Marsden and the ICR must be made available through open access.

Our position applies to any peer-reviewed research articles (including review articles not commissioned by publishers, final reports or executive summaries), which are supported in whole or in part by NIHR funding, that have been submitted for publication since 1 April 2014, and which are published. The NIHR managing centres monitor compliance with this policy, including reviewing information that has been reported through [Researchfish](#).

If a member of The Royal Marsden staff also has an ICR contract/role then they can deposit their article in the [ICR Repository](#). You will need to [create an account on Symplectic](#) which feeds into the Repository.

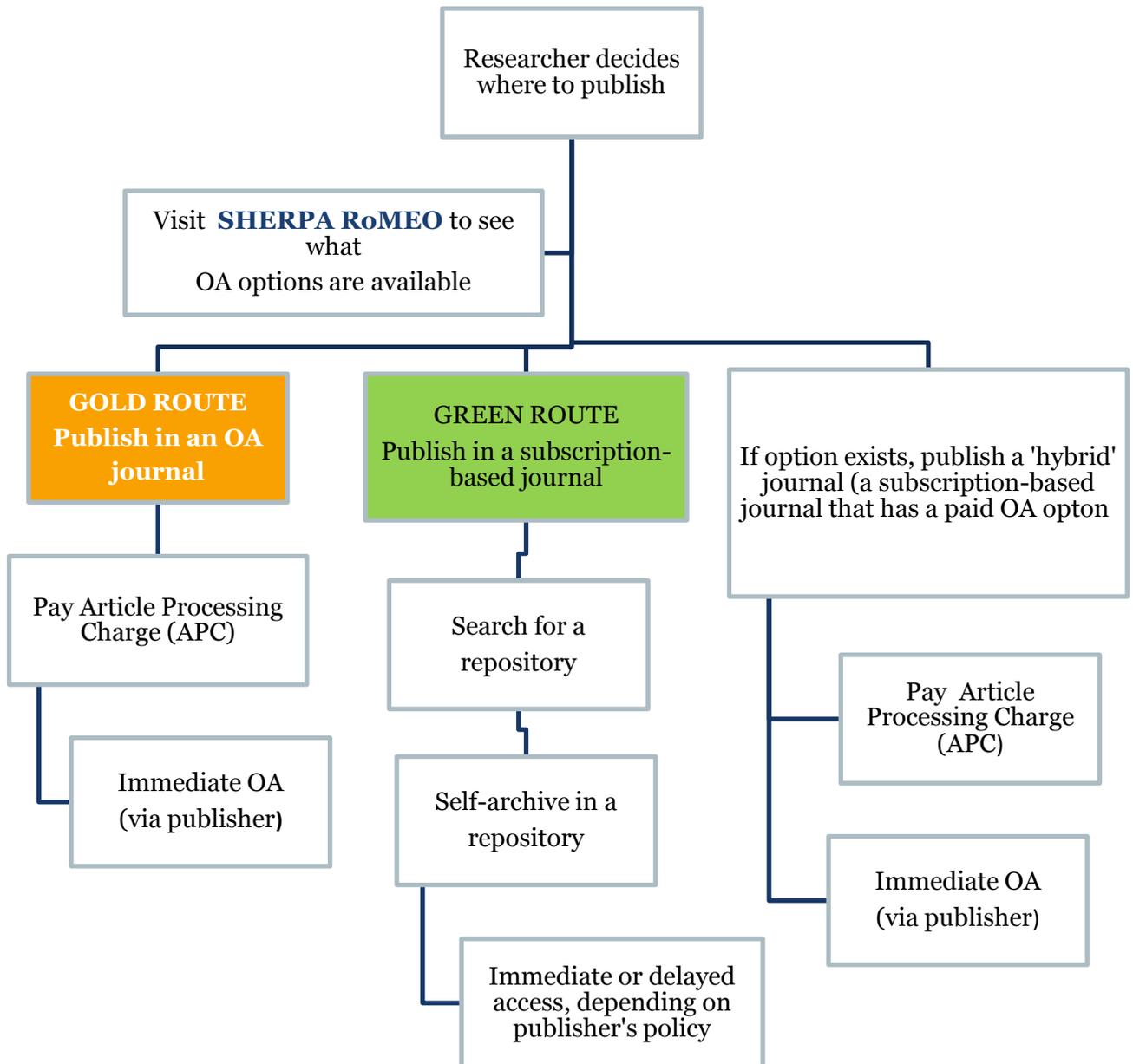
To upload onto this Repository, you will need to use the finally accepted author version without any publisher typographer).

For further information please contact:

- [YiWen Hon](#) (The Royal Marsden Librarian) 020 7808 2515
- [The ICR Library and Information Service](#)

Routes to open access publication

There are two established routes to OA publication: gold and green. This flow diagram summarises the process:



The table below highlights the differences between the two publication routes:

	<i>Gold OA</i>	<i>Green OA</i>
<i>Publishing</i>	<p>Article is published in an OA journal</p> <p>There are hybrid OA journals providing gold OA for authors who pay an up-front fee to publish on their journal's website</p>	<p>Article is self-archived in an online repository: subject, institutional, or national (e.g. Zenodo or Europe PubMedCentral), archive or website after publication</p>
<i>Timing</i>	<p>Final published version of work free for anyone to read online immediately after publication</p>	<p>Pre-print or post-print or final published version of work free for anyone to read online; sometimes an embargo period imposed by a publishing house (usually 6-24 months) applies</p>
<i>Cost</i>	<p>May include article publishing charges (APCs) paid by the author, or on his/her behalf by institutions or funders (usually a one-off fee averaging €2,000 per paper)</p>	<p>Publishing expenses paid by subscribers, no additional charges for authors</p>
<i>Licensing</i>	<p>Less stringent licensing restrictions to maximise access, re-use and dissemination provided author's work is credited</p>	<p>Offers more flexibility in license options, may allow author to limit re-use of work, particularly for commercial purposes</p>
<i>Funder/HEFCE requirements</i>	<p>May be required by funders, especially where publisher does not allow self-archiving</p>	<p>Since 1/4/16, green OA is required to ensure articles are returnable in a future REF</p>