



R4HC-MENA Publishing and Open Access Policy

May 2019

Purpose and Scope

This agreement covers all publications, activities and outputs with R4HC-MENA academic partners, collaborators and external partners resulting from R4HC-MENA programme funding.

This agreement has been developed in line with UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) requirements, as stated within their standard [terms and conditions](#), [Open Access Policy](#) and [UKRI Open Access Principles and High Level Policy](#).

This agreement applies to all members of the R4HC-MENA including programme affiliates and others acting for, or on behalf of, R4HC-MENA.

1. Publishing

1.1 Funder and R4HC-MENA Acknowledgement

- 1.1.1 The following acknowledgement paragraph should be incorporated in **all** publications (journal articles, books, book chapters, opinion pieces, editorials and other articles) where possible, which incorporate knowledge and insights generated by R4HC-MENA funded activities.

[This publication/work] is funded through the UK Research and Innovation GCRF Research for Health in Conflict (R4HC-MENA); developing capability, partnerships and research in the Middle and North Africa ES/P010962/1. The overall vision for the R4HC-MENA partnership is to build sustainable research and policy capacity in the region to address major health challenges arising from conflict. R4HC-MENA activities aim to facilitate more effective translation of research into policy and deliver impact on both the research community and for patients and vulnerable populations. Principal and Co-Investigators: Adam Coutts, Brendan Burchell, Cengiz Kılıç, Deborah Mukherji, Fouad M Fouad, Ghassan Abu Sittah, Hanna Kienzler, Kai Ruggeri, Kalipso Chalkidou, Matthew Moran, Omar Shamieh, Preeti Patel, Richard Harding, Richard Sullivan, Rita Giacaman, Şevkat Bahar Özvarış, Simon Deakin, Tezer Kutluk, Wyn Bowen.

Where this is not possible, due to journal requirements and different disciplines, include the abstract outlined in 1.1.2.

- 1.1.2 The following abstract should be incorporated in all Presentations/Workshops/Training:

[This publication/research/presentation/workshop/training] is funded through the UK Research and Innovation GCRF Research for Health in Conflict (R4HC-MENA); developing capability, partnerships and research in the Middle and North Africa ES/P010962/1.

- 1.2 The UKRI and GCRF logos should be displayed prominently on all materials, including presentations, websites, certificates and websites. This excludes published papers. Reference



to GCRF must be made in any written text such as press releases or published documents, as outlined above.

2. Authorship – Statement of Principles and Expectations

- 2.1 The R4HC-MENA programme expects all of its participants to make every effort to build capacity amongst its cohort of Research Associates (including – but not limited to – postdoctoral researchers, PhD students, Masters students, research assistants and affiliated researchers) an important dimension of which is inclusion as authors on publications. In the interests of building nascent research careers this should include naming Early Career Researchers, including Research Associates, PhD students, and Research Assistants, as first authors when the contribution is sufficient to warrant it and in line with the directives of the International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (see 2.3).
- 2.2 Individuals should be included as named authors on the submitted manuscript if they meet the following criteria, based on the [International Committee of Medical Journal Editors \(ICMJE\)](#) guidance:
- Substantial contributions to the conception or design of the work; or the acquisition, analysis, or interpretation of data for the work; and
 - Drafting the work or revising it critically for important intellectual content; and
 - Final approval of the version to be published; and
 - Agreement to be accountable for all aspects of the work in ensuring that questions related to the accuracy or integrity of any part of the work are appropriately investigated and resolved.
- 2.3 Prior to the commencement of writing a publication, all of those directly contributing to the publication – *including research assistants* – must jointly agree who will be named as an author before the work is started and this agreement must be adhered to when submitting the manuscript for publication. Throughout the publication cycle, author contributions should be tracked.
- 2.4 Contributors who do not meet all the above criteria for authorship should not be listed as authors, but they should be acknowledged. All individuals who meet the first criterion should have the opportunity to participate in the review, drafting, and final approval of the manuscript. Any members of the research team who have not contributed to a publication should not be listed as authors.

3. Open Access Publications & Research Data

3.1 Definitions of Open Access:

(i) UKRI defines Open Access as unrestricted, on-line access to peer-reviewed and published research papers. Specifically, a user must be able to do the following free of any access charge:

- Read published papers in an electronic format;
- Search for and re-use the content of published papers both manually and using automated tools (such as those for text and data mining) provided that any such re-use is subject to full

and proper attribution and does not infringe any copyrights to third-party material included in the paper.

(ii) UKRI considers that the 'content' of a paper includes, but is not limited to, the text, data, images and figures within a paper.

(iii) There are various models for achieving open access, some of which allow more immediate access. UKRI has a preference for immediate, unrestricted, on-line access to peer-reviewed and published research papers, free of any access charge and with maximum opportunities for re-use. This is commonly referred to as the 'gold' route to Open Access. King's College London, Imperial College London and Cambridge University all hold dedicated funds from UKRI to enable publications authored on the basis of R4HC-MENA research to be made Open Access at the time of publication. Colleagues within these institutions should be approached if and when funds for this purpose need to be accessed.

3.2 UKRI does allow a mixed approach to Open Access; and the decision on which model to follow remains at the discretion of the researchers and their research organisations.

3.3 As made clear in its published [Open Access policy](#) R4HC-MENA's funder (UKRI) aims to make the findings of publicly-funded research freely available online as soon as possible, in ways that will maximise re-use. This is central to UKRI's ambitions for research and innovation in the UK, as sharing new knowledge has benefits for researchers, the wider higher education sector, businesses and others.

3.3.1 The costs of scholarly communication should be a legitimate and embedded part of research funding as a whole.

3.3.2 Stakeholders in the scholarly communications system should work together to provide a sustainable means to disseminate and validate the full range of research outputs.

3.3.3 Open access policy should align and assist with the development of a research system that facilitates 'openness'. This includes opening up access to publications, research data, research methods and metrics.

3.4 As per the [UKRI Common Principles on Data Policy](#) all papers which publish research findings acknowledging R4HC-MENA funding must include a short statement describing how and on what terms any supporting research data may be accessed, e.g. "*According to UK research councils' Common Principles on Data Policy, all data supporting this study will be openly available at <http://doi.org/doi:XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX>"10.18742/RDM01-123."* At the same time, UKRI recognises that there can be legitimate legal, ethical and commercial constraints which render it extremely difficult or indeed, impossible, to make research data available in this way. To ensure that the research process is not damaged by inappropriate release of data, due consideration will be given to ensuring that *all* pertinent circumstances are taken into account and fully consulted on prior to any release of research data. Any data arising out of R4HC-MENA projects will be firstly governed by approval from a relevant research ethics committee or institutional review board. For more information and background please access relevant information and advice on the King's College London [website](#).