Introduction to chronos

A new publishing workflow tool to assist researchers funded by the Gates Foundation

Gates Foundation Open Access Publishing Policy

- The Gates Foundation has introduced a new publishing policy for anyone receiving a research grant from the Foundation.

- The policy will be adopted from 1st January 2017, but has been introduced to grantees in advance to enable a smooth transition

- Details can be found at [Gates Foundation Open Access Policy](#)

Summary of Policy

- The policy requires any published findings from research supported by a Gates Foundation grant to follow the following guidelines:

  - Publications are discoverable and accessible online

  - All publications shall be published under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 Generic License (CC BY 4.0) or an equivalent license

  - All publications shall be available immediately upon their publication, without any embargo period (from 1/1/2017)

  - All articles should be deposited with PubMed Central

  - Data underlying the published research results be immediately accessible and open

Payment of Publication Fees

- In order to comply with the OA policy, published research may incur a publication fee.

- The Gates Foundation will directly pay publishers for any publication fees incurred by research publications generated from a grant issued by the Foundation.

Aims of Chronos

- The Foundation has initiated this project to centralise processes and benefit all participants in the workflow:

- The foundation recognises that placing guidelines for publication increases administration for individual researchers and their research organisations.

- Chronos will relieve this burden and provide a central infrastructure to support and maintain the researchers' funder compliant publication

- Chronos will provide administrative access to researchers, grant managers, universities and research organisations, funders and publishers.

- Chronos will reduce administration time and cost significantly to allow research funds to be spent on actual research and not on administration

Chronos

- Chronos provides:

    - Search – a database indicating compliant journals

    - Submission – direct link to their selected journal

    - Compliancy Confirmation– the administration of confirming compliancy with the policy will be performed by Chronos (eg repository submission)

    - Publication payment – Chronos will centrally manage the invoice administration to enable the Foundation to pay the publishers directly

    - Publication reporting – Chronos automatically populates research and grant reports and notifies Grant PI's and Grant managers of articles published on behalf of the Foundation.

How does Chronos work?
Step 1 - Search

- Each recipient of a Gates Foundation Grant will automatically receive access to a secure account in Chronos

- Whenever they are ready to publish their research, they access Chronos

- They can search for their preferred journals

- Chronos provides the user with a complete list of journals, indicating which are compliant with the Foundation's OA Policy

How does Chronos work?
Step 2 - Submit

- Once they select their journal, Chronos links them directly to the journal.
    - *Chronos aims to make this link as seamless as possible and are integrating with journal submission platforms wherever possible*

- The researcher submits their content directly to the publisher in the normal process according to the journal/publisher.

How does Chronos work?
Step 3 – Publication Payment

- Upon the publisher accepting the article and a publication fee being raised, the publisher will pass the invoice directly to the Foundation.

- The researcher and their research organisation no longer has to participate or report on publication payments.

How does Chronos work?
Step 4 - Compliancy

• Chronos take the responsibility to confirm content is published according to the funders mandate

• In circumstances it is not, Chronos take central responsibilty to resolve

• Chronos also supervise and oversee submission to the appropriate repository (in Gates Foundation case to PubMed Central)

Benefits of Chronos

- Provides a support infrastructure for researchers and research institutions publishing and complying with funder's OA policies

- Reduces administration time and cost for all participants

- Removes responsibility for compliancy and reporting from the researcher

- For the first time, the Gates Foundation will receive an accurate report of all research published on its behalf. By connecting in this way, we hope the Foundation can help bring attention to the research encouraging more readership and use

Contact

- Please do not hesitate to contact us at anytime and a member of our project team will get back to you.

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