



# **Empowering Wellcome to publish diverse research outputs**

F1000

# Wellcome Open Research

F1000



**Wellcome** is an independent charitable foundation. It supports bold and ambitious discovery research with the potential to transform the way we understand life, health, and wellbeing.

Wellcome helps researchers from across a wide range of backgrounds and disciplines to focus on learning about our world, generating innovative and creative ideas to improve human health.

Alongside its commitment to this work, Wellcome is taking on three urgent healthcare challenges:



Climate change  
and health



Infectious  
diseases



Mental  
health

Wellcome grant funding transcends a wide range of disciplines to support research with the potential to inform real change in these areas.

## The challenge: a changing research landscape

The publications landscape has undergone a dramatic shift over the past decade. Researchers have challenged the restrictive copyright and paywalls of traditional academic journals, favoring technology and innovations that remove barriers to accessing and sharing research.

The traditional research article may have been the cornerstone of academic publishing in years past, but today a wider range of other **research objects** are increasingly important to researchers, funders, and policymakers alike.

These research objects include novel article types that give scholars the freedom to tell the full story of their work, in the format that best communicates the research outcomes.

Back in 2016, Wellcome recognized that to embody one of their key principles—to “act boldly”—they needed to provide Wellcome-funded researchers with a pathway to publish **all facets of their research quickly** and openly.

To get the most out of their research investment and solve urgent global health issues, Wellcome wanted to provide a publication venue for their grantees that facilitated full access to research outputs and data.

That’s where F1000 comes in.

## Goal

Create a bespoke open research publishing platform for The Wellcome Trust to enable Wellcome-funded research to make its maximum potential impact

## Key outcomes

- Wellcome Open Research is the #1 publication venue for Wellcome-funded researchers
- Researchers can choose from 13 diverse article types to publish their research
- Articles are highly cited, receiving on average:
  - Software Tool Articles  
38 citations
  - Method Articles  
18 citations
  - Research Articles  
11 citations



## Our solution: Wellcome Open Research

F1000 provides tailored open publishing solutions for organizations that want to do things differently.

With a [Platform](#) powered by F1000, research funders can maximize the use, re-use, and potential impact of their funded research. By offering a wide range of peer reviewed research [article types](#), we enable publication at every stage of the research life cycle.

Wellcome chose to partner with F1000 to champion open research principles and ensure rapid access to all Wellcome-funded research. Together, we launched [Wellcome Open Research](#) in 2016, signaling Wellcome's commitment to open publishing and new opportunities for researchers to diversify their research output.

Rather than simply publishing a single research paper at the end of a research project, Wellcome-funded researchers can now publish multiple research objects throughout the lifecycle of their project.

Some researchers may publish a [Study Protocol](#) before their project even begins and a [Research Article](#) after the fact. Others may take advantage of our more unique article types including [Software Tool Articles](#), [Data Notes](#), or one of 10 other [available options](#).

Moreover, research outputs published on Wellcome Open Research undergo post-publication, [open peer review](#). As such, our innovative publishing model exposes more components of research to the rigor of the scientific process. Since every article is published with a unique digital object identifier (DOI), all research is citable no matter the format it takes. Plus, all research outputs (excluding Editorials) are indexed in PubMed, PubMed Central, Europe PMC, Scopus, British Library, Crossref, and DOAJ after passing peer review. This ensures that researchers can expand their academic footprint and receive credit for all parts of their research project. Additionally, Wellcome can track the academic and societal impact of their investment through usage, citations, and an article's Altmetric score.

With F1000's technical and editorial support, Wellcome is well equipped to move with the changing research landscape to offer article types that enable real world impact and reproducibility.

## Innovation spotlight:

### Genome Notes on Wellcome Open Research

F1000 and Wellcome are united in our shared belief that innovation is key to solving some of the world's greatest challenges. That's why we continue to listen to the needs of the researchers we serve and provide diverse article types to showcase their discoveries.

In 2022, we will launch Genome Notes as part of [The Tree of Life Gateway](#) on Wellcome Open Research. Genome Notes are short, definitive publications containing the key specimen metadata and assembly metrics of genome sequences.

#### Wellcome Open Research:

**“ This method of rapid, open publication allows researchers across the globe to exploit our data immediately, assured that it is free to use. We expect our assemblies to have significant impact for scientists focused on evolution, ecology and conservation, as well as those developing new biotechnologies and biomedicine. ”**

**Professor Mark Blaxter**  
Programme Lead for the  
Tree of Life Programme at  
the Wellcome Sanger Institute

## The results: greater research impact for Wellcome-funded research

An F1000 powered Platform has enabled Wellcome to become changemakers in academic publishing. Today, Wellcome Open Research is **the #1 publication venue** for Wellcome-funded researchers.

In its first 5 years, Wellcome Open Research has published the work of over **7,700 authors**, from 2,437 institutions, and 104 countries.

### Wellcome Open Research: A summary after 5 years of publishing

#### Authors



7,709

Authors



2,437

Institutions



104

Countries

#### Articles



1,183

Articles published

Perhaps most telling of Wellcome's success in meeting the needs of today's researcher is the breakdown of how researchers are publishing their work. **54% of the 1,183 articles** published on Wellcome Open Research by the end of 2021 were in the form of **one of our unique article types**.

Furthermore, the Platform showcases the broad portfolio of quality research that Wellcome funds across climate change and health, infectious disease, and mental health. On average, Wellcome Open Research articles receive a total of 11 citations per article. Plus, we see even higher citation rates across our top 5 article types:

### Wellcome Open Research: A summary after 5 years of publishing

#### Top 5 article types by average citations\*

Article type	Number of articles	Sum of cites by article type	Average cites by article type
Software Tool Articles	18	677	37.61
Method Article	33	588	17.82
Data Note	26	367	13.73
Research Article	257	2891	11.25
Systematic Review	18	165	9.17

\*For articles published on Wellcome Open Research in 2019 and 2020. Data provided by Dimensions.

Tackling worldwide health challenges isn't simple but telling the full story of a research project and its impact can be with F1000 and Wellcome Open Research.

### Wellcome Open Research: A summary after 5 years of publishing

#### Research outputs

46%

Traditional  
Research Articles

54%

Other  
article types

#### Top article types

46%



Research  
Article

23%



Data  
Note

9%



Study  
Protocol

7%



Open  
Letter

## Why partner with F1000?

- Get the most out of your research investment and become a leader in the innovative open publishing landscape.
- Platforms are fully customized scholarly publishing venues powered by F1000's technical and editorial workflows.
- Researchers can choose to publish a wide range of article types, all of which undergo open, post-publication peer review.
- Our in-house publishing professionals oversee all aspects of the publishing process.
- We're willing to work with you on the "next big thing," even if we don't offer it currently.

Are you a research funder looking to **maximize the impact** of your funded research?

**Get in touch** today to learn more about our unique publishing solutions to support you on your open research journey.



[Follow us on LinkedIn](#)



[Follow us on Twitter](#)