

***From July 22nd 2010 Telethon introduces its Open Access Policy. This applies to research papers resulting from new awards, as well as to existing grants.***

Telethon considers supporting unrestricted access to the published output of research a fundamental part of its mission. To this end, Telethon has joined the [UK PubMed Central \(UKPMC\)](#), a free-to-access digital archive of peer-reviewed biomedical and life sciences research, with the ambition to eventually expand to become ['Europe PubMed Central'](#).

Sharing a common approach with the other members of the [UKPMC Funders Group](#), in order to open up access to its funded research, Telethon implemented the following Open Access Policy, using the Wellcome Trust Position statement in support of open and unrestricted access to published research as a template.

### **TELETHON OPEN ACCESS POLICY**

Telethon's mission is to foster and promote basic or clinical research aimed at curing genetic diseases.

Telethon expects its researchers to publish the main output of their research in high-quality, peer-reviewed journals.

Maximising the distribution of these papers - by providing free, online access - is the most effective way of ensuring that the research we fund can be accessed, read and built upon. In turn, not only this will foster a richer scientific research culture, but also it will render the results accessible to Telethon's major stakeholders, the patients and donors.

**Telethon therefore supports unrestricted access to the published output of research as a fundamental part of its charitable mission and a public benefit to be encouraged wherever possible.**

Specifically, Telethon:

- expects authors of research papers to maximise the opportunities to make their results available for free
- requires electronic copies of any research papers that have been accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal, and are supported in whole or in part by Telethon funding, to be made available through UK PubMed Central (UKPMC) as soon as possible and in any event within six months of the journal publisher's official date of final publication
- will cover open access charges, where appropriate, in order to meet Telethon's requirements
- encourages - and where it pays an open access fee, requires - authors and publishers to license research papers so that they may be freely copied and re-used (for example for text and data-mining purposes), provided that such uses are fully attributed
- considers grantees responsible for compliance with the Policy, ensuring that any publishing or copyright agreements permit submission to UK PubMed Central (UKPMC) in accordance with the Policy.

For authors' obligations and guidance relating to this policy please refer to the [Guidelines section](#). Further information and details can also be found in the [FAQ](#).

Telethon will continue to keep this policy under review.