

GambleAware[®]

keeping people safe from gambling harms

Options and Considerations for Research Dissemination and Publication

Guidelines

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About Us

GambleAware is an independent, grant-making charity commissioning prevention and treatment services across England, Scotland and Wales in partnership with expert organisations and agencies, including the NHS, across three areas:

- Commissioning the National Gambling Treatment Service
- Producing public health campaigns on a national scale and providing practical support to local services
- Commissioning research and evaluation to improve knowledge of what works in prevention.

Regulated by the Charity Commission for England and Wales, and the Scottish Charity Regulator, GambleAware is wholly independent and has a framework agreement with the Gambling Commission to deliver the National Strategy to Reduce Gambling Harms within the context of arrangements based on voluntary donations from the gambling industry.

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Background

GambleAware commissions national research to improve knowledge of what works for whom in prevention, education, treatment and support services including proportionate evaluation of all funded activity. Our research is independent, and is undertaken with a view to informing policy, facilitating evidence-based discussion, and supporting the commissioning of services for people experiencing harms associated with gambling. GambleAware follows Research Council policy regarding research ethics, encouraging and funding open access publication in academic journals and data reuse, and has been approved by National Institute for Health Research (NIHR) as an NIHR non-commercial partner. Further information can be found here - <https://about.gambleaware.org/research/research-commissioning-governance-procedure/>

This guidance focuses on the options for open access publication, and when and how GambleAware funds this, in the context of other ways we support the promotion and dissemination of commissioned research. This is with a backdrop of GambleAware's commissioning and funding a wide range of research and publication by diverse institutions, researchers, and academics.

Options for Dissemination

The purpose of GambleAware's research is to facilitate positive change for people, communities and society. To this end, we look to maximise the impact of and access to the research we commission and fund.

There are a range of ways in which GambleAware directly supports research partners to disseminate their research and evaluation findings. This includes publication of reports on GambleAware's website, making press announcements, social media activity, convening webinars, and funding publication in open access journals. GambleAware grant agreements detail a *Media Protocol*, which provides information about how we promote research, and how we ask our partners to engage with the media.

In addition, research teams and their respective institutions and/or agencies will have their own ambitions for publishing and disseminating their research that has been funded by GambleAware. These include institutional publication, peer-reviewed journal publication (both open access and behind paywall), peer-reviewed book chapter publication, and peer-reviewed book/monograph publication. GambleAware welcomes this wider publication and dissemination where it reflects our charitable objectives and ambition.

Independent Publication Considerations

Research may be disseminated and published independently of GambleAware – via peer-reviewed journal publication for example – when this is part of an agreed research project, and/or where direct GambleAware publication is not specified. GambleAware should be notified about independent publication as stipulated in grant agreements before any submissions are made. When GambleAware funds research that results in independent publications, maximising impact and visibility involves consideration of what the impact of the publication is and whether a publication is open access.

1. Impact Factor

Impact factor is an index reflecting the annual mean citations of papers published in respective peer-reviewed journals. The average is taken over the last two years and is understood as signifying the importance of a journal, and the articles published in it.

Journals are understood as being of greater or lesser impact than others by using their impact factor as a frame of reference. Publishing articles in journals with higher impact factor is therefore seen to be preferential in terms of maximising the impact and influence of research and work, irrespective of whether they are open access. In some cases, journals behind a paywall have considerably greater impact than open access journals.

Such journals are very well known with substantial reach and audience, both in the academy and in non-academic circles. Since GambleAware looks to maximise the impact and access to the research we commission and fund, the impact factor of the journal means that it may be more impactful for research to be published in journals which are not open access, but do have considerably higher impact factor, regard, reputation, and reach than open access equivalent options.

2. Open Access or Behind a Paywall

Publication behind a paywall can be contentious, since access to publications is limited to those with institutional logins, or those able to pay for access to the work. In contrast to research that is published behind a paywall, open access publications are available for readers to access free of charge. Everyone with an internet connection can access research, irrespective of institutional affiliation and/or journal subscription.

However, though it is free to access the published work, publishing in open access journals is costly for researchers and institutions. Costs are often a matter of thousands of pounds per publication. Funding is available to support this type of publication from universities, departments, and research councils. Similarly, GambleAware financially supports open access publication where this will maximise the impact and reach of a piece of research we have funded, and where other funding is not available.

GambleAware will fund up to £4,000 towards open access publications per project over the life course of the project, irrespective of the number of institutions involved. Up to £2,000 is allowed per publication. If costs are greater than those awarded by GambleAware, grantees can request to reallocate funds from other budget lines or should raise funds from elsewhere.

Open Access Funding Application

If open access peer-reviewed publication is the preferred route of publication and you would like to apply for funding from GambleAware please address the following and submit to your Research/Evaluation Manager or lead contact. They will aim to respond within ten working days with a request to raise an invoice if in the affirmative, and a justification if in the negative, or requesting further information if required.

1. List the working titles of the publications you would like GambleAware to contribute funding to.
2. How much funding are you applying for each publication (max of £2,000), and what is the total (max of £4,000)?
3. Have you been accepted for publication yet? If so, please attach evidence of acceptance.
4. GambleAware is not the only source of funding for open access publication. What other funding options have you considered for open access publication?
5. GambleAware considers whether researchers have attempted to raise funds elsewhere. What applications have you made for funding elsewhere, and what is the status of these applications?
6. GambleAware looks to maximise the impact and access to the research we commission and fund. What is the impact of the publication(s) you are intending to submit to (e.g. impact factor, citations, other considerations)?

For more information

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