



## **HRB Centre for Health and Diet Research Open Access Statement**

**April 2015**

This document records the HRB's Centre for Health and Diet Research (HRB CHDR) commitment to an Open Access policy and outlines how it implements that policy.

### **HRB Centre for Health and Diet Research**

The HRB Centre for Health and Diet Research is a leading research hub in public health nutrition that focuses on promoting the health and wellbeing of the Irish population. Its purpose is to inform public policy, health promotion, clinical practice and citizens on the prevention and management of obesity, diabetes and related metabolic disorders.

The Centre is coordinated by Professor Ivan Perry, Department of Epidemiology and Public Health, University College Cork (UCC) in partnership with University College Dublin (UCD) and the Institute of Public Health in Ireland (IPH).

Knowledge transfer is an integral part of its work and the Centre is committed to promoting free, unrestricted, timely online access to its publications and other information for the benefit of public health.

### **What is Open Access?**

Technological advances in internet publishing provide many opportunities to bring information to wider audiences who can apply it in new and innovative ways.

Open Access is defined as:

*“The free availability of research on the public internet; permitting any users to:*

- read, download, copy, distribute, print, search, or link to the full texts of articles;*
- crawl them for indexing and pass them as data to software; and*
- use them for any other lawful purpose;*

*without financial, legal, or technical barriers other than those inseparable from gaining access to the internet itself.*

*The only constraint on reproduction and distribution, and the only role for copyright, in this domain should be to give authors control over the integrity of their work and the right to be properly acknowledged and cited” ([1](#)).*

### **Open Access and public health**

Public health is

*"the science and art of preventing disease, prolonging life and promoting health through the organized efforts of society."*

Sir Donald Acheson,  
1988

Public health encompasses interdisciplinary approaches to health and wellbeing, and access to the most up-to-date health information is a key determinant of health and wellbeing for individuals, families, communities and places.

The Centre believes that making research and other information more broadly available will make a significant contribution to support the development of effective healthy public policy and practice, clinical practice and health and social services management.

### **How the HRB CHDR will implement its Open Access policy**

The Centre will adopt the common principles as set out in the Republic of Ireland's [National Principles for Open Access Policy Statement](#):

- Promote the freedom to publish where most appropriate
- Increase the visibility of, and improve access to the outputs of research
- Support the free flow of information across national and international research communities to support the principle of research-enabled teaching.

The Centre will continue to develop and manage its website so that it provides free and open access to its reports, journal articles, oral presentations, poster presentations and other relevant material.

Where feasible, the Centre will require its members to publish in Open Access Journals. The online [Directory of Open Access Journals](#) contains the most up-to-date list of these journals.

The Centre will encourage its members to promptly lodge their publications in the relevant institutional repository:

- [CORA \(Cork Open Access Research Archive\)](#), UCC's online, open access institutional repository
- [Research Repository UCD](#), UCD's online, open access institutional repository
- [All Ireland Public Health Repository](#), part of IPH's The Health Well website.

Each of these repositories is a member of [Rian](#), the portal to Irish repositories. This will make Irish research more freely accessible, and increases the research profiles of individual researchers and their institutions.

The Centre will continue to contribute its other relevant materials to [The Health Well](#) website in partnership with other health-related organisations across the island of Ireland.