

	Open Science Policy	Code: POL-COFIP-1
		Version: 01
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1 INTRODUCTION

The Open Science Policy for the Institute for Research in Biomedicine (IRB Barcelona) is based on the principles and structure outlined in the Model Policy on Open Science for Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) ([OpenAIRE](#)).

This Policy applies to all individuals directly or indirectly involved in research at IRB Barcelona.

2 PREAMBLE AND COMMITMENT

IRB Barcelona commits to the advancement of Science and the wide dissemination of knowledge to the benefit of society by adopting practices on open, reproducible, and responsible research as required by the Spanish Law of Science, Technology and Innovation (17/2022), and the Catalan Law of Science (9/2022).

It endorses the national open science Policy developed in Spain, specifically the National Strategy for Open Science ([ENCA 2023–2027](#)).

IRB Barcelona firmly believes and implements the free exchange and availability of research information as a core principle within its research environment, subject to any applicable legal limitations or other restrictions described in IRB Barcelona's Industrial and Intellectual Property Regulations.

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This commitment includes promoting access to publications, data, and other research outputs, while establishing the necessary infrastructure, skills, recognition systems, and incentives to support and sustain these practices.

The Policy aligns with the six dimensions of Open Science as described in the [National Strategy for Open Science \(ENCA\)](#): (1) Open Access to research outputs, (2) Open data, protocols and Methodology, (3) Open-Source Platforms, (4) Open Peer Review, (5) Citizen Science and (6) Novel Approaches to Research Performance Assessment.

The current version of the Policy focuses on establishing IRB's applicable principles in terms of openness of publications and research data, while other dimensions of Open Science will be incorporated into future versions of this document.

3 JURISDICTION AND EFFECT OF POLICY

This Policy applies to all individuals involved directly or indirectly in research at IRB Barcelona.

In cases where research is funded by a third party, any applicable agreement concerning access rights, deposit, and storage takes precedence over this Policy.

IRB Barcelona is bound by the Spanish and Catalan regulations, including the Spanish Law 17/2022 on Science, Technology, and Innovation, and the Catalan Law of Science (9/2022).

4 RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES

4.1 IRB Barcelona Responsibilities

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IRB Barcelona is responsible for advancing the institutional adoption and effective implementation of Open Science by delivering education, training, and awareness-raising initiatives, and by ensuring the provision of appropriate infrastructure and other support mechanisms.

Specific duties include:

1. Promoting the publication in Open Access with a preference for Full Open Access journals.
2. Establishing a collaboration with a consortial or national Open Access repository to ensure alignment with international standards. The current selected repository is the [Dipòsit Digital de la Universitat de Barcelona](#) -DDUB-).
3. Mandating the use of persistent identifiers (ORCID for researcher profile and DOI or others for publications, datasets, etc.).
4. Developing a Data Management Policy that defines the institutional principles for the storage, deposition, and sharing of data and other research outputs (such as software and models).
5. Fostering the use of repositories that align with FAIR data principles (Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable), following the terms described in IRB Barcelona's Data Management Policy.
6. Embedding Open Science practices in recruitment, research assessment, and evaluation criteria.
7. Make reports on the total cost of scholarly publication channels openly available upon request.
8. Monitoring Policy compliance by internal analysis.

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4.2 Researchers and Related Staff Responsibilities

IRB Barcelona researchers and related staff are responsible for managing publications, data, and educational resources in accordance with this Open Science Policy and the Data Management Policy.

Specific duties include:

1. Ensuring that actions related to the production, curation, deposit, management, and dissemination of publications align with all organizational, regulatory, and legal requirements.
2. Use persistent identifiers and, in particular, register their ORCID profile.
3. Ensure that the principles governing the handling of data of the research activities are included in Data Management Plans (DMP), in agreement with the provisions of IRB Barcelona's Data Management Policy.
4. Choose the appropriate type of license for their research outputs, ensuring compliance with IRB Barcelona's rules and policies, the Code of Conduct, Industrial and Intellectual Property Regulations, and the policies of funding bodies and publishers.
5. Prioritise the dissemination of research findings and access to the data related to such findings, via open access platforms and public access repositories, subject to compliance with IRB Barcelona's Industrial and Intellectual Property Regulations.

5 OPEN ACCESS TO SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS AND THEIR DATA

To guarantee long-term unrestricted access and secure the availability of IRB's publications, the Institute mandates that all researchers deposit a machine-readable electronic copy of the final

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peer-reviewed manuscript (postprint) of their main-authored publications in a trusted repository upon publication. This requirement applies to all publications in which they are the main authors. IRB Barcelona provides the necessary resources and support to fulfill this stipulation.

For co-authored publications in which IRB researchers are not main authors, they are encouraged to exercise due diligence to ensure that the final publication is made available in an Open Access institutional repository.

In all cases, immediate Open Access shall be provided whenever mandated by funders or other relevant authorities.

The current designated institutional repository for publications is DDUB (available [here](#)). For data related to publications, IRB Barcelona has an agreement to use CORA Dataverse as the institutional repository (available [here](#)). However, other Research Data Repositories are also valid options, including discipline-specific repositories (e.g., GEO, PRIDE, EGA) and general repositories (e.g., GitHub, Zenodo).

IRB encourages its researchers to communicate the deposition of their publications (as co-authors) and data that are placed in other repositories. Internal guidelines are available to IRB Barcelona researchers to facilitate compliance with the Open Access Policy.

Applicable principles:

1. Green Open Access Mandate. IRB Barcelona calls for full text of all peer-reviewed publications be deposited before or upon publication through self-archiving in a trusted public access repository, following the terms and conditions on the publisher's Policy. In addition, Open Access is required to be provided immediately, subject only to unavoidable constraints (e.g., publisher embargoes).
2. Licensing. Accepted manuscripts are recommended to be available under the latest available version of the Creative Commons Attribution International Public (CC BY) license

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or a license with equivalent rights. CC BY-NC, CC BY-ND, etc., licenses could be applied to specific situations.

3. Copyright/Rights Retention. IRB Barcelona aligns with [Rights Retention strategies](#), and licenses to publishers only those rights necessary for publication.
4. Metadata. IRB Barcelona strongly recommend that recognized metadata schemas are used. Furthermore, the metadata itself should be preferentially licensed under CC0, CC-BY or an equivalent open license, provided this is legally permissible and is not unduly restricted by specific industrial protection rights or other prevailing circumstances.
5. Assessment Link. For purposes of evaluation, IRB Barcelona will recognize and place significant value on the efforts to ensure that publications, metadata and full texts are deposited and managed according to the hereby stated requirements.
6. Gold and Diamond Open Access. IRB Barcelona promotes the publication of research results in full open access journals and actively supports the diamond open-access model.

6 RESPONSIBLE RESEARCH DATA MANAGEMENT

IRB Barcelona follows the principle that research data should be “as open as possible and as closed as necessary”.

Specifically, the provisions of this section apply primarily to the underlying research data supporting scientific publications or any other public communication of results.

Applicable principles:

1. Data Management principles: Data handling should align with the principles defined in IRB Barcelona’s Data Management Policy.

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2. Data Management Plan. In compliance with the IRB's Data Management Policy, the Institute is preparing Data Management plans (DMPs) to handle Research Data. The DMPs shall be updated whenever necessary.
3. Data Deposit. Researchers are encouraged to deposit the data needed to validate the results presented in scientific publications or any other public communication, in a suitable repository as soon as possible and within the deadlines set out in the DMP. Data must be provided with persistent identifiers and linked with the publications where possible.
4. Open Access to Data: Conditions for Open Access to data will be defined in the Data Management Plan and shall be in compliance with the IRB Barcelona Code of Conduct, Industrial and Intellectual Property Regulations and Data Management Policy.
5. Licensing. Researchers will define usage rights for open data through the assignment of appropriate licenses, preferably CC BY or CC0 (Public Domain Dedication).
6. Archival Duration. All research data must be stored for 10 years after the assignment of a persistent identifier.

7 RESEARCH ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

IRB Barcelona is dedicated to establishing a structured framework for the assessment and evaluation of research, with the strategic objective of incentivizing research excellence and the comprehensive adoption of Open Science principles and methodologies.

Applicable Principles:

1. Assessment Reform. IRB Barcelona promotes reviewing criteria in line with the principles and commitments of the Agreement for Reforming Research Assessment, established in 2022 now implemented by the Coalition for Advancing Research Assessment (CoARA), of which IRB Barcelona is a signatory.

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2. Qualitative Focus. Evaluation will be based primarily on peer-reviewed qualitative evaluation supported by evidence-based indicators.
3. Metric Reduction. IRB Barcelona commits to progressively reducing the use of quantitative bibliometric indicators related to journal impact (JCR, SJR) and avoiding the use of rankings of research organizations unless it is requested.
4. Promotion. To encourage the adoption of Open Science practices, dedicated actions will be carried out to promote among researchers the use of Open Science principles and their integration into research evaluation.
5. Rewarding. The use of Open Science practices will be taken into account in the assessment of the research done at IRB Barcelona.

8 TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

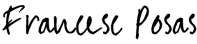
IRB Barcelona commits to continue developing training courses to facilitate the adoption of Open Science. These courses include skills related to:

1. Open access publishing, FAIR and open data and data management.
2. Research integrity, reproducibility, and legal issues related to Open Science.

Opportunities to develop open science skills will be available to researchers across all career stages.

Training, guidance, and support will also be provided to assessment panels, committees, and juries.

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Summary of Changes:

Versió	Data	Descripció de la modificació
1	01/12/2025	First version