The Society’s Principles Regarding Open Science and Open Access

In March 2019, the Society’s Council agreed the following principles for the Society’s approach to open science and open access:

1. The Society will take a positive and constructive approach to engage with open science and open access.
2. We do this principally because open science aligns with our mission to "[widen] participation in pharmacology and therapeutics to ensure a vibrant and diverse community and workforce" and has the potential to support the Society’s vision more broadly.
3. We see the change in current publishing models as an opportunity through which we can explore new ways of financially supporting our research dissemination activities.
4. We support the rights of authors, including our members, to publish in a journal of their choosing.
5. The Society will actively monitor changes in open access publishing and expects to establish a timeline to maintain a compliant, sustainable publishing model that supports the above principles.

In addition, in the same month the Society’s magazine, Pharmacology Matters, published an article by Charles Whalley, Journals Publishing Manager, discussing the Society’s position with regard to Plan S.

The Society’s consultation response to Plan S, submitted in February 2019 together with other members of the Society Publishers’ Coalition (socpc.org), is available on the Society’s website.

The Society is also a signatory to the San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA) and supports endeavours to “improve the ways in which the output of scientific research is evaluated by funding agencies, academic institutions, and other parties”.

Information on the open access policies and publication options for authors in the Society’s journals is available from the Society’s publisher, Wiley.