Open Science at the TSC Alliance

Gabrielle Rushing, PhD, Director, Research
HRA Spring Meeting
April 20, 2022

Successful Endeavors in Open Science: Return of Results Required

- Require return of raw and annotated data for future research dissemination

- Require sharing of results from preclinical studies that we fund to test new compounds

Participation in the Open Access Funder Training Cohort

Offered by the Open Research Funders Group (ORFG)

Objectives:

- Understand the current state of open access and why it matters

- Hear from philanthropic peers about approaches to policy development, implementation, and challenges

- Learn about different types of open access policies that exist across funders

- Develop working plan for change to our organization's policy

rfg Open Research Funders Group

While we had a basic open science policy, we revised to make it more visible and relevant

Old Policy

- Policy located solely as a downloadable resource below all other grant materials

- No specific mention of outputs except for publications

- Only OA fees allowed for publication fees

New Policy

- Parts of text incorporated in main grant text under renewed "policies" section with link to full policy

- Addition of "outputs" examples to include data, code, software, protocols, and materials

- Clarifying text about using funds for use for broader Open Access activities (protocol sharing, pre-prints, data sharing etc.)

- Addition of language supporting the Creative Commons Attribution license to allow free copy and reuse

- Addition of language encouraging depositing unpublished data (into repositories such as HRA Open)
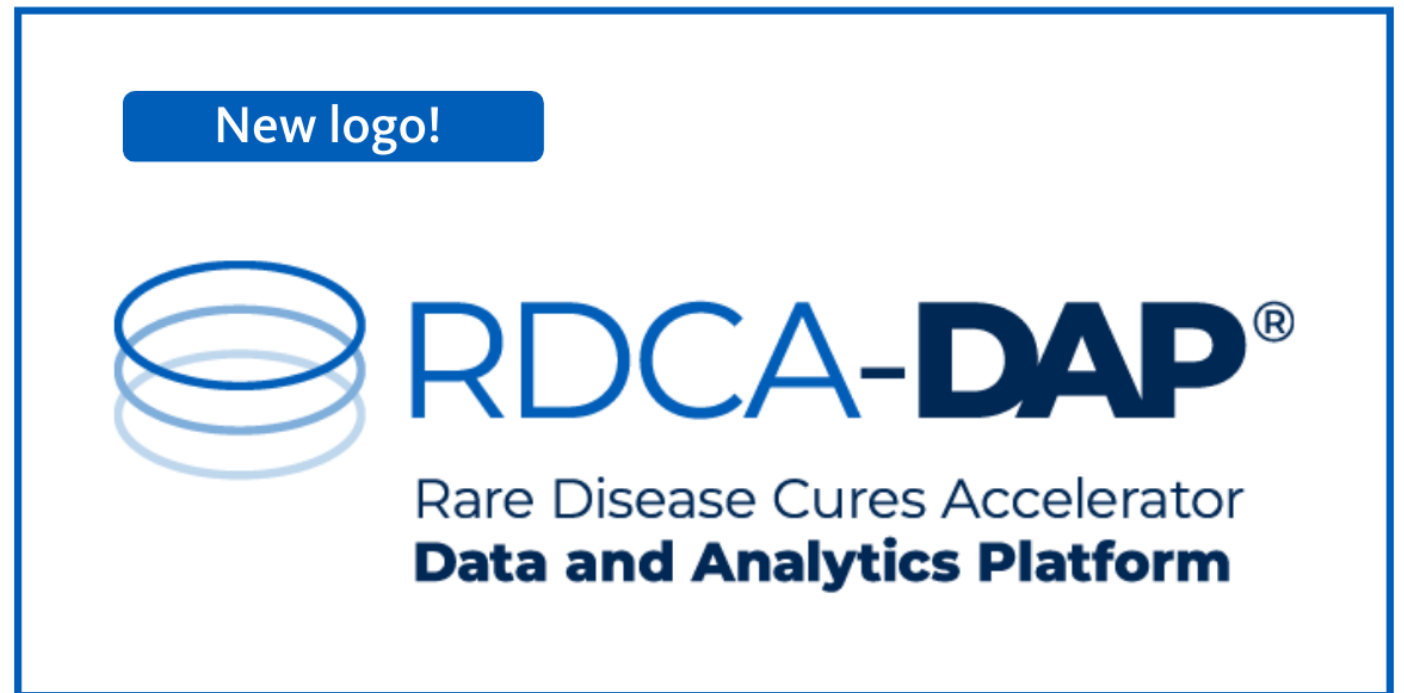
Example of New Policy in Action

Open Science Policy

As a nonprofit funded through contributions from the TSC community and the public at large, we are committed to being good stewards of these funds. We support projects that will rapidly advance our understanding of TSC and the development of therapies for the disease. The TSC Alliance seeks to inspire discovery and innovation by improving access to scientific data and outputs including data, code, software, protocols, and materials. Improved dissemination will lead to more opportunities for TSC investigators to collaborate and for build upon the latest developments in research. In this regard, the TSC Alliance has adopted an Open Science Policy to ensure transparency of and broad access to TSC Alliance-funded research. Please click here to read the policy in its entirety.

Link to our full policy here.

Actively Demonstrating Open Access as an Organization

- We contribute de-identified natural history data on TSC to the RDCA-DAP

- TSC Alliance representative on the RDCA-DAP Data Use Committee

Next Steps

- Working to specify allowable dollar amounts that can be used for open access activities for our grant recipients

- Making the policy more visible in our various grant documents

- Discussions on whether to make open access plans a "scoreable" feature for grant reviews in the future

Contact Information

Gabrielle Rushing, PhD
grushing@tscalliance.org