

International COVID-19 Data Alliance (ICODA) Attribution and acknowledgement policy

Scope

This policy applies to all journal publication submissions, including publicly viewable pre-prints, containing results that were generated using data accessed through the ICODEA Workbench. It also applies to supporting materials related to the publication (e.g. scientific conference abstract submissions, lecture slides, posters, articles and theses), and to press releases and social media describing the outputs.

Guiding principles

- ICODEA is committed to the FAIR data principles (Findability, Accessibility, Interoperability, and Reusability).
- All contributions should be recognised, including those of patients, data generators, researchers, ICODEA and its funders. We particularly emphasise the importance of giving credit to those who collected the data and are making it available for reuse.
- All members of research teams should be recognised to demonstrate the importance of team science.
- Consistent attribution allows ICODEA to monitor and track research outputs, and enable more accurate reporting of impact.

Policy

ICODA expects three groups to be referenced, usually in the acknowledgements section.

1. ICODEA and its funders

The following text should be included in the acknowledgements or funding section:

“This work was supported by the International COVID-19 Data Alliance (ICODA), an initiative funded by the COVID-19 Therapeutics Accelerator and convened by Health Data Research UK.”

2. Patients or trial participants

It is important to recognise the role of trial participants, patients and the public in providing health data. We encourage researchers to include the following text in the acknowledgements or funding section, based on useMYdata’s data citation¹:

“This work uses data provided by patients and collected through clinical trials or as part of their care and support.”

3. Data contributors

Credit should also be given to the data contributors. Where applicable, the wording specified in the Data Use Agreement should be used. If not, the following text could be used:

¹ <https://understandingpatientdata.org.uk/data-citation>

“The authors wish to recognise XXX for their contribution of the data that made this research possible.”

Where there is a unique, persistent Digital Object Identifier (DOI) assigned to a dataset this should be included. Special care should be taken to include investigators located at institutions in Lower and Middle Income Countries (LMICs) that led original study implementations.

ICODA is convened by Health Data Research UK, and this policy is based on HDR-UKs attribution policy.

This policy was published in January 2021 and will be reviewed after six months of implementation.

We are keen to support attribution and communication around outputs. Please contact us at icoda@hdruk.ac.uk if you need any support or clarification in this regard.