

UK DCTN Publication Policy

The principles for this publication policy for studies developed with support from the UK DCTN are that:

- Every person's contribution and role in the study is recognised in an appropriate and proportionate way in accordance with ICMJE guidelines <https://icmje.org/>.
- They must comply with journal policies. Journal policies vary from one to another so in some respects our policy will be that which is determined by the target journal for any individual study.

Our policy:

1. Any publications arising from studies developed with support from the Network will be published using criteria that fit with modern journals ie a named writing team with the exact role of all other contributors mentioned elsewhere in the article. **By publication we mean publication of trial reports, protocols, pilot trials, feasibility studies and any related development work.**

2. The writing team will be comprised of relevant members of the trial management and development team along with a few (typically 2 or 3) of the top recruiting principal investigators. This will allow extraordinary efforts to be recognised and will ensure good clinical in-put into the study write-up.

- All investigators contributing patients to a study will be listed as 'contributors'.
- Investigators who have screened/recruited zero patients will be asked if they feel they should be acknowledged in the publication.
- The decision on who to mention in the acknowledgements section is a local one which should be made by the local PI and communicated to the study writing team. This should ensure that input from very active SpRs and research nurses is recognised in addition to that of the local PI.
- Independent members from the Trial Steering Group and Data Monitoring and Ethics Committees will be mentioned and thanked in the acknowledgements section.

3. The Chief Investigator for the study will normally be corresponding author.

4. The following statement must be included in the acknowledgements section of all publications to ensure that support from the UK DCTN is recognised*.

"The study was developed with support from the UK Dermatology Clinical Trials Network (UK DCTN). The UK DCTN is grateful to the British Association of Dermatologists and the University of Nottingham for financial support of the Network".

*This is to ensure recognition of input from UK DCTN Committees and UK DCTN members during the trial development process. Individual committee members will not normally be recognised as authors unless they have made a significant and sustained contribution to the study (eg by joining the study team). Please also note this is a requisite of continued funding from the British Association of Dermatologists for UK DCTN infrastructure funding and also recognises continued infrastructure support from the University of Nottingham.

5. We request that all publications (including oral and poster presentations for meetings) should be sent to the UK DCTN co-ordinating centre (UKDCTN@nottingham.ac.uk) before final submission for publication so that we can check that the above conditions have been met and ensure that the contribution from the UK DCTN is recognised appropriately.

6. The UK DCTN will not fund journal open access fees or other journal print charges for any publications (unless fully costed and already included as part of a funded UK DCTN Themed Call award). If you wish to publish open access, then please check with your institution that such costs will be covered by transformative agreements with publishers and/or ensure that you have sufficient project funding available to cover such costs before submitting your publication.

7. If you are planning a press release following the publication of your study results, please inform the UK DCTN Co-ordinating Centre (UKDCTN@nottingham.ac.uk) in advance as a courtesy so that we can prepare accordingly.

Approved: April 2025

Date for renewal: November 2026