Data Notes: Making your data easier to find, cite and share

Sharing research data can mean more than simply uploading it to a repository. At F1000Research, we believe that data should be shared in a discoverable, useable, and reproducible way.

Enter: Data Notes.

Publishing a Data Note helps to increase the discoverability of your research because, unlike data in repositories, Data Notes are indexed and searchable across services including PubMed, Scopus, and Europe-PMC.

What...

1. Depositing your data in an open repository
2. Downloading and following our handy Data Note template
3. Submitting via our online submission form

Why...

There are several benefits to publishing a Data Note:

- Increase the visibility of your research
  - Data Notes are fully citable stand-alone articles with their own DOI. This gives your data its own bibliometric flag meaning that readers, such as those searching through PubMed, can discover and cite your research more easily.
- Receive extra credit
  - Whether you have already published a Research Article based on your dataset or plan to do so in the future, you can still publish a Data Note using the same data. Requiring only minimal effort, a Data Note allows you to gain an extra citable research output for work you have already done!
- Promote effective data management practices
  - The steps involved in preparing a Data Note for F1000Research are strongly linked with good data management practices. By following our article and data guidelines, you will:
    - Improve the efficiency of your research by storing your files in a clear and manageable way
    - Improve the integrity of your research by allowing others to fully evaluate and validate your data
    - Help others to easily discover, understand and reuse your research through the provision of clear metadata and data descriptions
- Quick and easy
  - The aim of a Data Note is to describe your dataset. Therefore, no analyses or conclusions are required, making Data Notes quick and easy to write.

When...

You can publish your Data Note at any point. Here are some examples of when a Data Note could be published:

1. As soon as you have finished data collection
   - If your data is particularly novel or insightful, the publication of a Data Note allows for an immediate impact. Data Notes are fully citable stand-alone articles so there is no risk of scooping. If someone uses your Data Note, they will cite it.
2. Alongside your Research Article
   - This allows you to provide further context to the analyses and conclusions that may have been out of scope for the Research Article.
3. Once the study has ended
   - Did your research return unexpected data and you didn’t have time to analyse it during your study? Making the data available as a Data Note offers an extra citable output for minimal effort.

How...

Publishing a Data Note with F1000Research requires only a few simple steps:

1. Data Notes are short descriptions of a dataset indicating why and how the data was collected
2. Unlike a Research Article, they do not include any analyses or conclusions.
3. Publishing a Data Note won’t prevent you from publishing a Research Article that uses the same dataset
4. Data Notes are suitable for all kinds of data no matter the subject or the size of the dataset
5. As with any F1000Research article, Data Notes are ‘living,’ meaning you can come back and revise your Data Note at any time