

## ARRIVE Implementation Action Plan - Funders

This Action Plan sets out a series of steps that journals can undertake to support researchers to improve the reporting of animal research using the [ARRIVE guidelines 2.0](#). The Plan focuses on highlighting the importance of the guidelines among researchers receiving funding for animal experiments, shifting expectations to full and transparent reporting as the norm, and monitoring adherence such that the level of compliance can be effectively assessed and resources targeted accordingly.

The items in the ARRIVE 2.0 guidelines are divided into the [Essential 10](#) (i.e. the basic minimum that must be included in any manuscript describing animal research in order for readers and reviewers to assess the reliability of the findings) and the complementary [Recommended Set](#) (i.e. information that provides context for the study). The goal should be to ensure full compliance with the ARRIVE 2.0 guidelines, reporting in accordance with the Essential 10 and Recommended Set.

The Action Plan is divided into three sequential levels with increasing expectation of compliance with the ARRIVE 2.0 guidelines. Many journals will already be at Level 1 and should relatively quickly be able to move on to more active use of the guidelines as standard practice in the review and acceptance of manuscripts describing the use of animals.

### Level 1: Highlighting ARRIVE

The key actions at this level focus on raising the visibility of the guidelines by:

- Ensuring that the funder has a public statement (e.g. on its website) endorsing the use of the ARRIVE guidelines.
- Actively promoting the [resources](#) provided by the NC3Rs on the ARRIVE guidelines to researchers who use animals. The resources available include webinars, various translations, guidance explaining the basis for the inclusion of each item in the guidelines and examples of good practice, a checklist for authors to submit to journals with their manuscript, and hard copies of the guidelines that can be distributed to newly funded researchers.

### Level 2: Implementing the use of the guidelines in practice

The key actions at this level focus on active implementation of the guidelines by:

- Setting a policy requirement for all funded researchers who use animals to report their methods and results in any manuscript in line with the [ARRIVE Essential 10](#). As part of the implementation of this policy, the funder should include a requirement for compliance with ARRIVE as part of grant terms and conditions.
- In preparation for shifting to Level 3, encouraging researchers who publish animal studies to adhere to the full ARRIVE guidelines (the [Essential 10 and the Recommended Set](#)) wherever possible, and to submit an [author checklist](#) to a journal alongside their manuscripts – ideally these expectations would be reflected in funding policies.

## Level 3: Monitoring adherence

The key action at this level is to actively monitor or audit compliance with the ARRIVE guidelines in publications describing animal research funded by the organisation. Opportunities to monitor compliance include requesting that researchers detail ARRIVE compliance in submissions such as mid-term or end of grant reports to funders, or adding a question on whether [ARRIVE checklists](#) were submitted alongside published manuscripts to research impact trackers such as Researchfish.

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## Useful links for Action plan implementation

- [Details of the ARRIVE Essential 10 and Recommended Set, explanations of each item included in the guidelines, and examples of good reporting from the published literature.](#)
  - [Webinar](#)
  - [Translations](#)
  - [Author Checklists](#)
  - [Compliance Questionnaire](#)
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