



REWARD

REduce research Waste
And Reward Diligence

THE LANCET

RICHARD HORTON EDITOR
ASTRID JAMES DEPUTY EDITOR

Janet Wisely
Health Research Authority

By email – janet.wisely@nhs.net

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Invitation to support *The Lancet's* REduce research Waste And Reward Diligence (REWARD) campaign

We are writing to ask you to seek the support of Health Research Authority for *The Lancet's* REWARD campaign. REWARD will become the third of *The Lancet* campaigns, alongside the ‘cancer’ and ‘liver’ campaigns that you can see on the journal’s homepage www.thelancet.com. These campaigns have supporting partners (for example, the liver campaign’s society partners include The Royal College of Physicians, the Royal College of General Practitioners, The Foundation for Liver Research etc.). We hope to obtain your organisation’s support for the REWARD campaign.

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The REWARD campaign follows the 2014 series in *The Lancet on Research: increasing value, reducing waste* (www.thelancet.com/series/research). The series set out some of the most pressing issues, recommended how to increase value and reduce waste in biomedical research, and proposed metrics for stakeholders to monitor the implementation of these recommendations. Progress since the series will be celebrated at the first REWARD conference, held jointly with EQUATOR Network, in Edinburgh on 28-30 September 2015, where an action plan for the future will be developed (see the ‘Events’ section of <http://researchwaste.net>).

First we would like your organisation to become a supporting partner for this campaign by doing the following:

1. Endorse the REWARD statement:

We recognise that, while we strive for excellence in biomedical research, there is much that needs to be done to reduce waste and increase the value of our contributions. We maximise our research potential when we set the right research priorities; when we use robust research design, conduct and analysis; when regulation and management are proportionate to risks; when all information on research methods and findings are accessible; and when reports of research are complete and usable. We believe we have a responsibility not just to seek to advance knowledge, but also to advance the practice of research itself. This will contribute to improvement in the health of all peoples, everywhere. As funders, regulators, commercial organisations, publishers, editors, researchers, research users and others - we commit to playing our part in increasing value and reducing waste in biomedical research. <http://researchwaste.net/>

2. Provide your organisation’s logo to post on *The Lancet's* REWARD campaign page to signify endorsement and support.

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Second, we would like your organisation to consider these four other possible supportive actions:

3. Provide content for the campaign pages to give examples of the measures your organisation has taken, is taking, and will take to increase value and reduce waste in research.
4. Consider endorsing the REWARD action plan announced after the conference in September.
5. Consider supporting the REWARD observatory, which will systematically monitor efforts to increase value and reduce waste in biomedical research.
6. Consider providing financial support for the REWARD observatory and campaign.

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The Lancet's REWARD campaign will be launched at the conference in Edinburgh on 29 September, so **please respond to us by 22 September**. In the meantime, we will be very happy to answer questions by email.

Yours sincerely,

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