

The RoR Registry and hub



The RoR Registry and hub delivers a registry to hold research on research (RoR) or metascience activity. The registry is designed to strengthen collaborations by providing spaces to share projects and research.

In doing this, we contribute to mobilisation of research evidence, creating mechanisms to increase transparency in how we do research and decrease research waste.

RoR REGISTRY AND HUB: PROJECT TIMELINE

January 2020 - June 2021

Registry development phase

- Review of existing registries
- Advisory Group formed
- Brand concept and promotional video co-created

January 2022

First Chatter session

Online webinars covering RoR topics designed to promote the contents of the registry, engage with the RoR community, and create opportunities for collaboration and evidence uptake.

June 2022

- Presentation to the UK Reproducibility Network (UKRN) Festival of Open Research
- Registry awarded recognition for its contribution to research
- Virtual presentation at Metascience 2021
- Virtual presentation at the Research on Research Institute (RoRI) Phase II launch event

September 2023

- Publication of Research to Action blog <https://www.researchtoaction.org/author/alejandra-recio-saucedo/>
- Shared with Enhancing Value in Research (EViR) at the Autumn Round Table meeting in the Hague. Networking opportunities increased the community of the registry.

October 2024

Poster presentation at International Clinical Methodology Conference (ICTMC).

July 2025

Poster presentation at MetaScience conference.

Ongoing Growth and Future

Continuous engagement, collaborations, and planning for expansion (e.g. DOIs for registered outputs)

June 2021

Official Launch

- Online launch event for the RoR registry and hub (ror-hub.org)
- University of Southampton Faculty of Medicine poster

March 2022

Presentation to the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR) Southampton Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) Forum

April - May 2023

Evaluation survey

Online survey conducted 18 months post-launch to gather feedback.

May 2024

Research Festival

"AI and research: a promising relationship?" virtual festival held to celebrate 3 years.

December 2024

Website Updates

Discussion forum replaced with research output upload section based on survey feedback.

August 2025

- Published paper https://osf.io/preprints/socarxiv/fbzvg_v1
- Reaching global coverage of 30 countries
- Started to provide DOIs to all projects registered

FEATURES OF THE REGISTRY

The RoR registry and hub is:

- An online platform to register RoR work and have a DOI assigned
- A space to learn news relevant to the RoR community and metascientists, share your work and build networks
- It enhances visibility of RoR studies, promoting open science
- It facilitates research partnerships and connections within the RoR community

Adding work to the registry will make it more visible, increase opportunities for collaboration, promote transparency and good research practice. It will also provide a record of work that can be added to publications or other outputs for people to discover the full detail of your project.

New feature of the registry is that we can now provide registered projects with a DOI.

In the registry you can:

- Access details of registered projects through the project record
- Contact research leads through the platform
- Download outputs of work uploaded on the registry
- Attend online discussions on RoR topics aimed at fostering knowledge exchange
- Share project output on the news and resources tab



FUNDING

The registry was first created with funds from the Faculty of Medicine University of Southampton and supported by the National Institute of Health and Care Research (NIHR) Evaluation, Trials and Studies Coordinating Centre (NETSCC). It has received further funding from University of Southampton Research England Enhancing Research Culture (FMED) grants and continues to receive support from NETSCC.

CHATTER SESSION

RoR registry and hub Chatter sessions. These sessions are online discussions on a topic of interest to the registry and overall RoR community. The three main purposes for the Chatter sessions are: to support the dissemination of RoR activity; to encourage honest and open discussions about challenges inherent to conducting research and to communicate evidence that can inform future interventions or collaborations.

Sixteen chatter sessions have been delivered since January 2022 covering topics such as the Research Excellence Framework, the Hidden REF, open research and citation metrics, research waste, avoiding bias in clinical trials, global health research, narrative CVs, research integrity practices and others (a list of past sessions and link to some of the recordings is available here: <https://ror-hub.org/ror-upcoming-events/>).

COLLABORATIONS

- University of Southampton
- National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR)
- Trial Forge
- Ensuring Value in Research (EVIR)
- Comet Initiative
- DORA
- F1000 Research
- MetaRoR

OUR SUCCESS SO FAR

The success of the registry in filling a gap in metascience has been demonstrated through the response of the community. Our platform is actively addressing issues linked to siloed practices that hinder adoption of evidence to improve research activity which gives us continued energy to keep working on the project.

It has over 240 members actively growing. It currently holds 61 registered studies and shares Chatter sessions and relevant materials and news with over 900 people in the RoR registry community.



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RESEARCH REGISTRIES

- Are vital tools for promoting research transparency, reproducibility and accountability
- Play a crucial role in research and facilitating the identification of research gaps, promoting collaboration, enabling the evaluation of research practices.
- Provide a platform for registering research projects, thus helping to mitigate issues such as publication bias and data duplication.
- Capture key information about RoR projects such as study objectives, methodologies and planned analyses.
- Foster greater confidence in the integrity and reliability of research findings

The work of the RoR registry and hub is actively contributing to a culture of continuous improvement in research, ultimately leading to more robust and impactful research outcomes.

Global spread of the RoR Registry and hub community



Acknowledgments

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LONG TERM GOAL

We aim to ensure sustainability by joining efforts with other meta science spaces and conducting transparent, collaborative, and impactful research that supports implementation of better research practices and the goals of the UK in consolidating its place in the global research landscape.



Find out more
Visit ror-hub.org

