



Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte
Health Service Executive



The HSE has endorsed a position statement on Open Access Publication.

Here are some Frequently Asked Questions about this statement:

1. WHAT is Open Access?

Open Access (OA) is the free, immediate, online access to the results of scholarly and academic research.

2. WHY has the HSE endorsed it?

- **Accelerated discovery:** With open access, researchers can read and build on the findings of others without restriction (no username/password required).
- Research shows that *open access* publications are **cited more often** on average than closed publications.
- **Public enrichment & transparency:** Much scientific, academic and medical research is paid for with public funds. Open access allows taxpayers to see the results of their investment.
- **Improved education:** Open access means that educators and students have access to the latest academic research findings throughout the world.
- **WHO does this apply to?**
HSE health professionals engaged in research or promoting research as part of their work

3. Who are most likely in the HSE to contribute to the repository Lenus?

Clinical Biochemists	Doctors	Physiotherapists
Dietitians	Dentists	Psychologists
Medical Scientists	Nurses & Midwives	Radiographers
Occupational Therapists	Pharmacists	Social Care Workers
Orthoptists	Managers	Social Workers
Podiatrists	Librarians/Information Specialists	Speech and Language Therapists

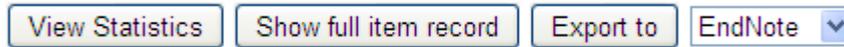
The table above lists those who are likely to contribute with publications to Lenus from e.g.: journal articles, case reports, theses, reports, conference posters, conference presentations.

4. HOW does contributing to Lenus benefit you as a HSE member of staff?





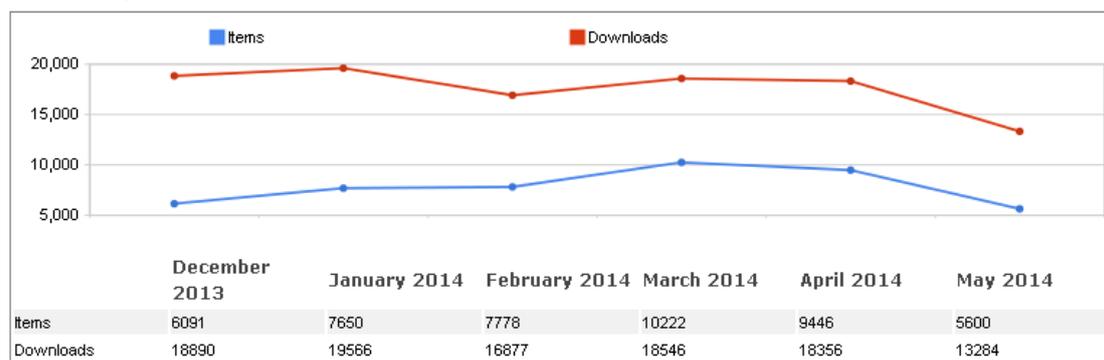
- All records in Lenus have a “view statistics” button available. This allows authors to track the usage of your own publications.



- Lenus receives an average of 30,000 visits per month.
- Readers searching Google Scholar will retrieve hits from Lenus as it is fully indexed by Google.
- Publications are grouped into topic collections for example the ‘Hospital Research Collection’ represents all research by staff affiliated to Irish hospitals. The example below shows the number of hits and downloads by readers of all research in the previous 6 months highlighting the use and accessibility of the knowledge:

Figure 1: Total visits and downloads of items indexed in the entire collection of Lenus from months Dec 2013 to May 2014

Total Visits per Month (Last Six Months)



5. WHERE does the name Lenus come from?

Lenus is the name of a Celtic God of Healing and well being. The name was chosen as it sums up the **dual** of purpose of the repository – the content and subject of the repository is **health research** and the origin of the academic research is health professionals working in **Ireland**.

6. WHEN has the HSE policy statement on open access come into place?

The policy has been approved since 23rd February 2013 by the HSE National Management Team.

When are publications considered to be eligible for submission to Lenus?

Any item of completed research published since January 1st, 2009 will be accepted by the Regional Library for inclusion in Lenus.



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7. Are there any disadvantages of Open Access?

Reactions of *publishers* to open-access publishing have been mixed. From enthusiasm to embracing a new open-access business model, to experiments with providing as much free or open access as possible, to active lobbying against open-access proposals.

A disadvantage is that there is a **misconception** and **misinformation** that open access somehow means less peer-review and therefore quality is affected. However this is completely unfounded and with Lenus all items are **already published** and have **already gone through a peer-review process**.

Some open access journals charge authors a fee of approximately 1200 Euro to publish in their journal. However other journals will allow the author copy to be made freely available after an embargo period of anything between 6-18 months at no charge to the author.

8. **WAYS** to contribute to Open Access. I can contribute to open access in the HSE by?

Step 1: review research you have done since 2009

Step 2: select published research including:

- a) academic articles published in a peer-reviewed journal,
- b) posters that were presented at National or International Conferences
- c) presentations that were presented at National or International Conferences
- d) Masters or Doctoral Theses on healthcare topics
- e) Key reports on strategies and reviews in the public domain of relevance to healthcare

Step 3: Send electronic copies to regionallibrary@hse.ie with your name and work location.

OR Go to <http://www.lenus.ie> and use the **SUBMIT** button  to upload your work to Lenus.

Links for further information

[The National Steering Group on Open Access Publishing in Ireland Statement](#)

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