

Benefits of data management and sharing

Data Management and Sharing Workshop
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Data management: all data-related activities other than analysis

- Organising
 - File naming and formatting
 - File transfers and remote access
 - Version control
- Administering
 - Back-ups
 - Documentation
 - Access controls
 - Security
- Storing and sharing

Benefits of good data management

- Efficient – makes research easier
- Safety – protect valuable data
- Quality – better data
- Reputation – enhances visibility
- Compliance – with ethical codes, data protection laws, journal requirements

Why share data?

- But first: write down three reasons to NOT share...
- Situating the question: “why share data”
 - Research ethics
- Data sharing is part of discourse of ethical research-duty or responsibility

Benefits of data sharing: to public and funders

- Public –
 - Production of high quality research with social value
 - Always balanced against risks to participants, et al.
 - Compliance with laws and regulations
 - Adoption of emerging norms – “open access” publishing
 - To be, and appear to be, open and accountable (UEA)
- Funders
 - Make optimal use of publicly funded research
 - Avoid duplication of data collection

Benefits of data sharing: to scholarly community and participants

- Scholarly community
 - Maintain professional standards of open inquiry
 - Maximise transparency where appropriate
 - Quality improvement from verification, replication and trustworthiness
 - Valuable resource in teaching, e.g., methodology
 - Promote innovation – unintended, new uses of data
- Research participants
 - Allow maximum use of their contributed data
 - “More than we could ever use”
 - Minimise data collection on the hard-to-reach (e.g., ill)
 - Enable participants’ experiences to be understood as widely as ethically possible

Benefits of data sharing to researchers

- Archiving provides long-term safe storage for data
- Assists in implementing publishers' data retention policies
- Increases visibility of scholarly work (e.g., data catalogue)
- May increase citations
 - Open access journal articles cited 2-3 times more
- Enable collaborations on closely related themes, and new topics
- Establish links to next generation of researchers

Unspoken fear: no one will want my data....

Connecting the research and data life cycles

Back ups and storage

V
Long-term
Management

I
Discovery &
Planning

Consent and RECs

Access controls

IV
Publication &
Sharing

The
Social Science
Research Life
Cycle

II
Initial Data
Collection

Metadata

Research Data
Management
Support (UKDA)

III
Final Data
Preparation &
Analysis

Sharing *during* project

Green and Gutmann,
2007