

# Europe PMC: an international role model?

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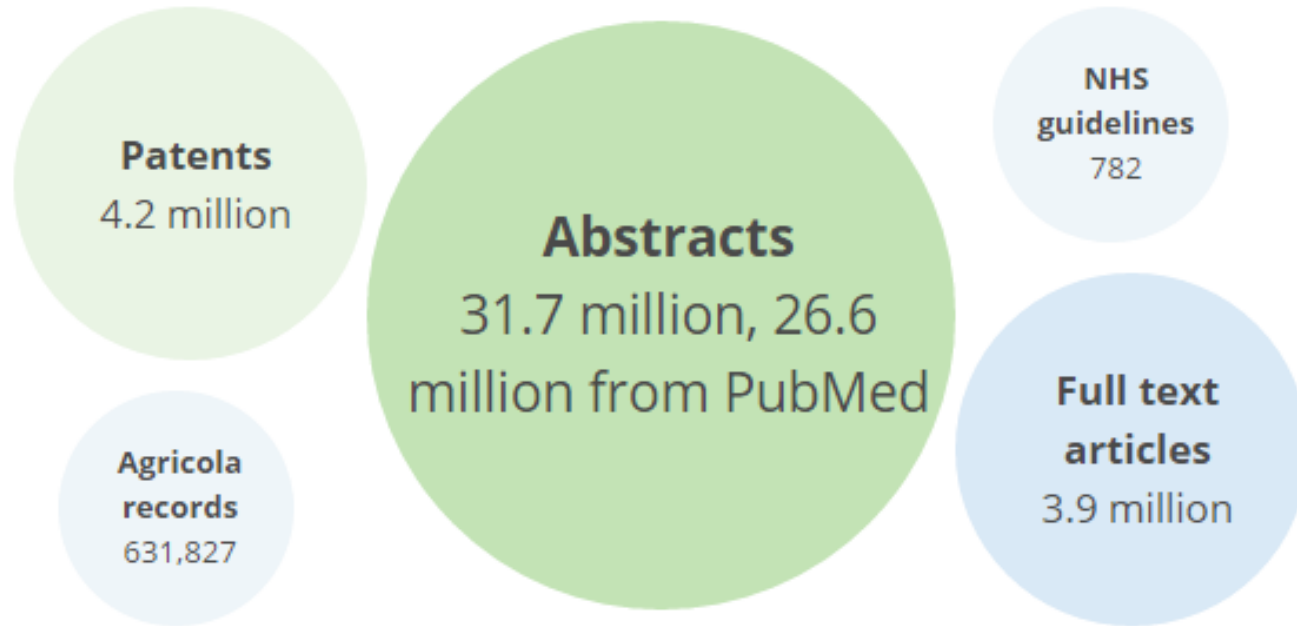
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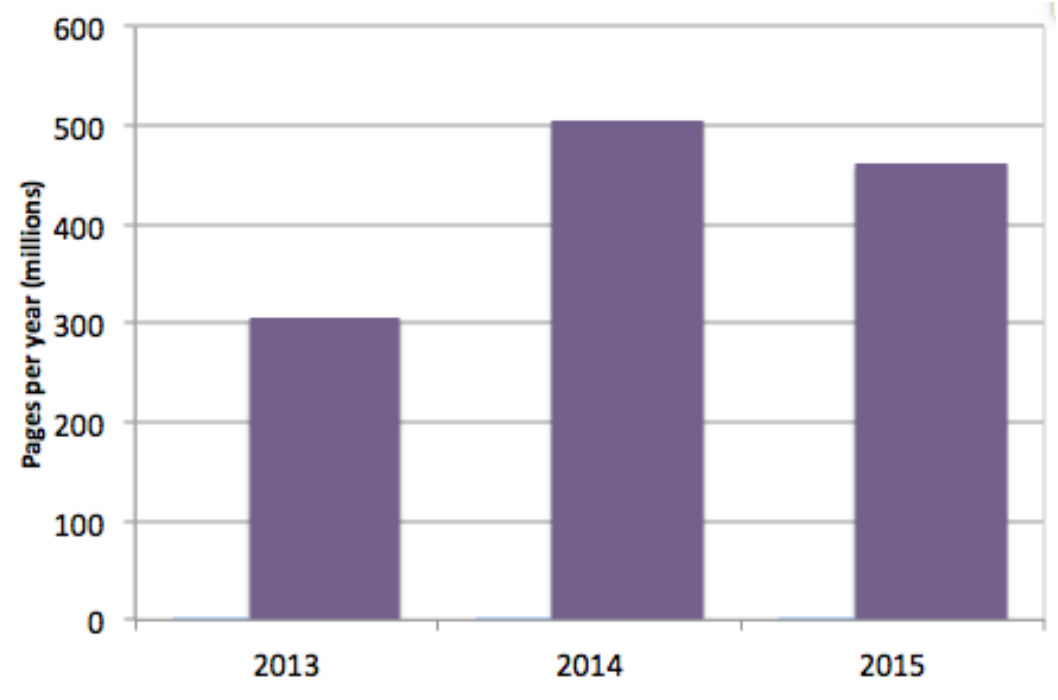
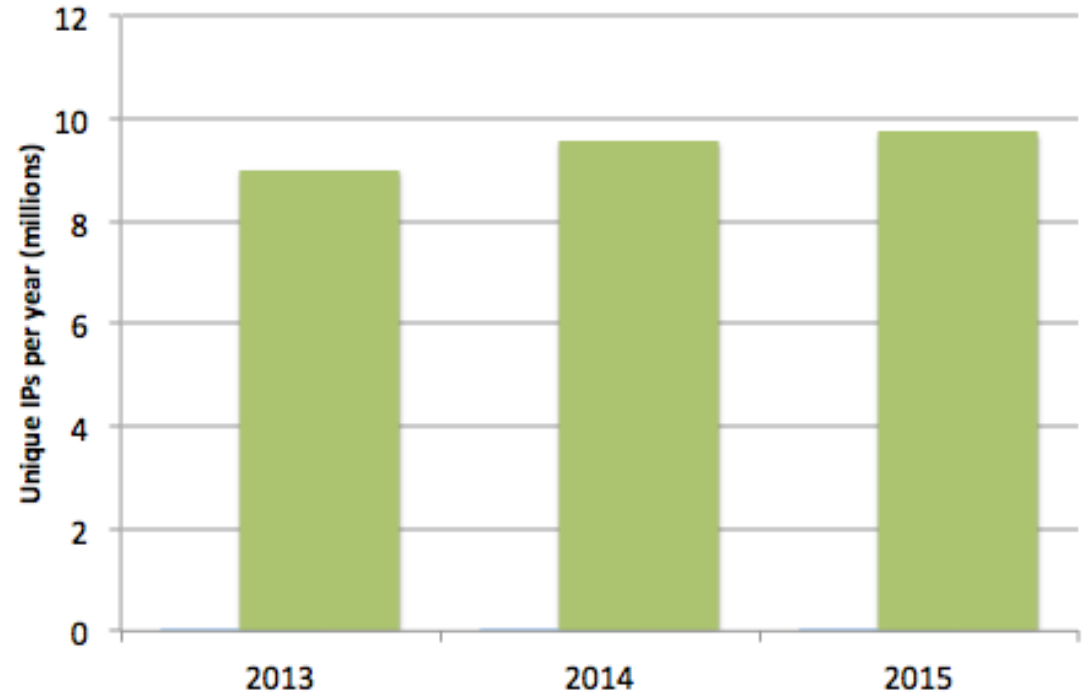
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# What is Europe PMC?



# Usage – unique IPs and page views



# Why do we need Europe PMC?

1. Acts as a designated repository for funders with OA policies
2. Provides access to content relevant for European researchers
3. Provides a **platform** to allow others to use/reuse this content
4. Enables new, user-led, services and tools to be developed based on shared content
5. Facilitates preservation through duplication – the LOCKSS approach



# Europe PMC as a platform

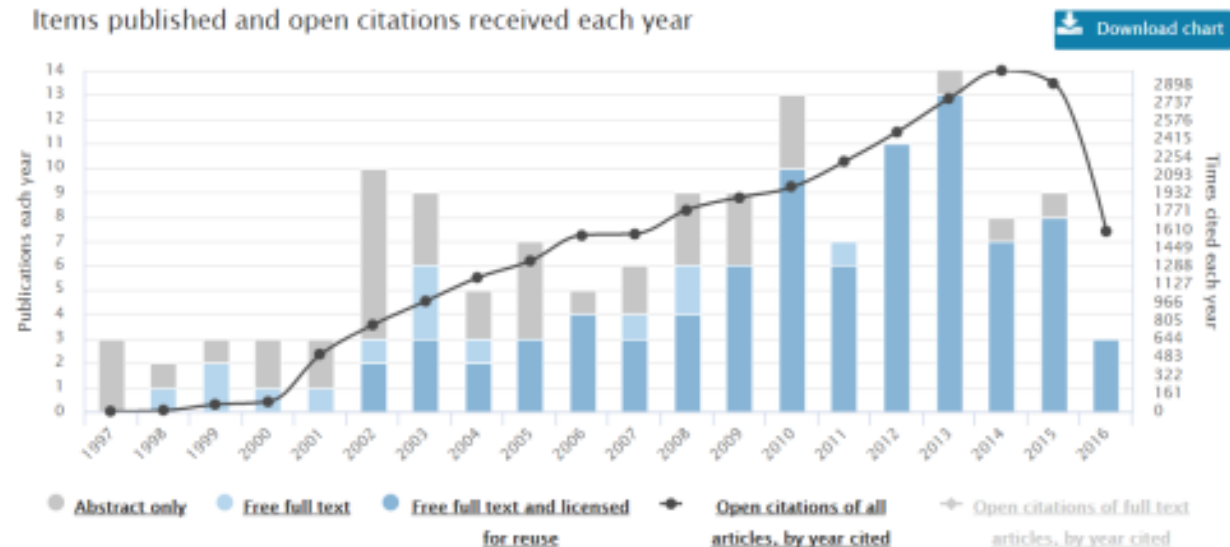
Through rich API's Europe PMC enables others to text and data-mine the content & build new applications

[CitePeer](#)  
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139  
Publications  
in Europe PMC

99  
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28,781  
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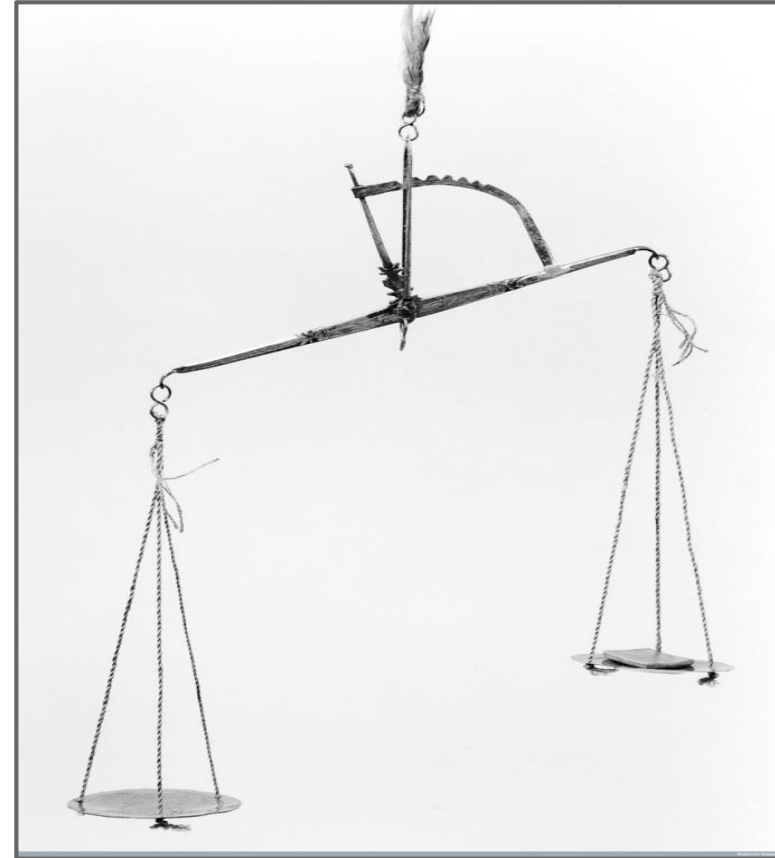


# How do we fund Europe PMC?

A group of 26 European Funders have awarded a grant to EMBL-EBI for £5.7M to maintain and develop Europe PMC for five years

Wellcome awards the grant to EBI, and the funders reimburse Wellcome

Funder contributions based on their annual research spend



Credit: Wellcome Library, London (CC BY)

# A sustainable model?

- Not dependent upon any single funder (and actively seeking to increase the pool of funders)
- Costs are shared – and based on annual research spend
- Total costs affordable
  - Wellcome will spend £1.6m over 5 years supporting Europe PMC against a projected research spend of £5bn



# Challenge to sustainability?

- Ongoing need to demonstrate value and impact
- Always a risk that some funders will walk– “not our job” argument
- In next 5 years will seek to conduct an independent review to determine:
  - Are we meeting the needs of our target audience?
  - What has been the impact of EPMC over the last 15 years?
  - Does it offer value for money to the funders?
  - Should the service evolve and if so how?



# How do we govern Europe PMC?

## Funders' Group

Ultimately responsible for the high level strategic direction of Europe PMC

## Funder Committee

Review yearly project reports and plans, and direct the Wellcome Trust (in its role as the grant giver) to release the annual funds for Europe PMC.

## Scientific Advisory Board

Review progress and future plans. Advise the Funder Committee as to the overall effective use of funds from the Europe PMC grant



Credit: Wellcome Library, London (CC BY)

# What would happen without Europe PMC?

- Loss of independence
  - Become dependent upon PMC (NIH) and publishers to access the literature
- More difficult for funders in Europe to implement (and measure the impact of) their open access policies
- Rich, value-added services and platform, no longer available
  - Impacts negatively on research
- Unable to develop the service and platform in line with the needs of our research communities



# Conclusion

- Europe PMC funding model has proven to be effective over the past 15 years
- Governance has evolved as we moved from a contract to a grant – recognised as a key community resource
- Maybe this funding model could be applied to other resources?

