

## Online posting of protocols

We found a platform for the Replication Package that is very good in posting documents online that cite other documents with DOIs ([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital\\_object\\_identifier](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Digital_object_identifier)).

While it is easy to post documents on the internet, or to even give such documents DOIs, it is not that easy for citations by those documents to be found by citation scrapers such as crossref. Crossref typically only finds citations by journal articles, since journals provide neat citation meta-data. So if the document is doing the citing is not a journal article, such as a risk-of-bias assessment document that cites your protocol, the citation might never be found. ResearchEquals is a platform that tries to tackle this for documents other than journal publications.

We can probably not cite all supplementary material separately in the manuscript, especially if documents appear online after the manuscript. So we make a supplementary material collection, that keeps collecting material after the manuscript appears on MedRxiv. We try to generate citations from that collection as best as possible, to show, for example, that your online protocol was used.

Three protocols already have a DOI as a journal publication (see [here](#) (NL), [here](#) (DK) and [here](#) (BR)) and are cited in the manuscript and added to the Supplementary material collection:

<https://www.researchequals.com/collections/kyep-h9>

Because we consider your protocol yours, and it will be unfair for us to publish it for you. Therefore, we ask you to publish your protocol yourself. You can use any platform you like as long as it creates a DOI (for example <https://osf.io/> ). However, if you want your document to cite a different DOI (for example the NL protocol, in case you took inspiration from it), please use the ResearchEquals platform following the step-by-step instruction below.

Note that you can add any authors you like, and we encourage adding those authors that were involved in your trial but not in the meta-analysis. Each author does have to create an account on the platform you use, e.g. an OSF account (link above) or a ResearchEquals account (steps below).

If you link to ORCID before you post on ResearchEquals, then your protocol will appear on your ORCID profile

We encourage you to link to your ORCID straight away, to avoid problems connecting the online protocol to your ORCID account afterwards.

This does not mean that the protocol will always be visible on your public ORCID page. To remove it from your public ORCID page, log into your ORCID account, scroll to 'Works', select the protocol, click 'Action', 'Set visibility' to 'Only Me'.


## Step-by-step instructions for a protocol DOI at ResearchEquals

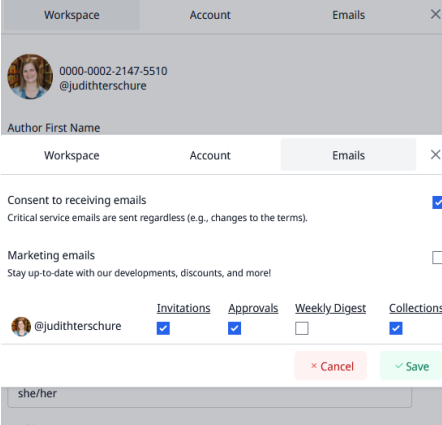
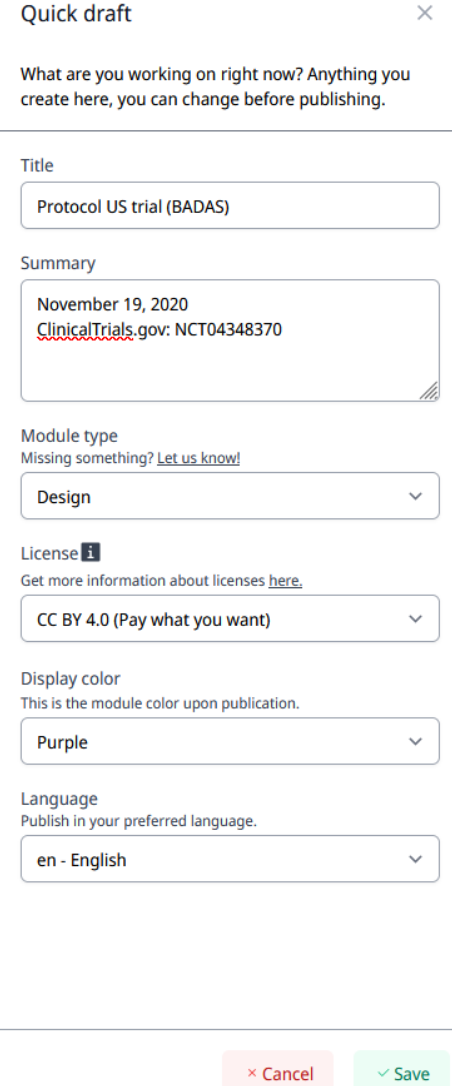
1. Make an account at ResearchEquals: <https://www.researchequals.com/signup>
2. Complete your author name (the name you use for publishing papers).
3. Connect your ORCID if you would like your protocol DOI to appear on your ORCID page. (Or just for yourself, see above.)
4. Go to settings, using the gear symbol in the right-upper corner. Go to Emails and check the box to receive notification e-mails to approve being added as an author by others and any changes others make. You can always uncheck this box later.
5. Create draft, using the +-button in the right-upper corner.
6. **Title:** Protocol xx trial (extra names of your trial with any trial acronyms you like) with xx the two-letter abbreviation of your trial for the meta-analysis: NL, SA, US, DK, HU, BR, AF
7. **Summary:** add some information on the date of your protocol document, and your registration in a trial registry
8. **Module type:** Design
9. **License:** We advise License CC BY 4.0 (you can sponsor ResearchEquals by making a small payment, but do not have to), but you can choose differently. We will use CC BY for the Statistical Analysis Plan and used CC0 for the newsletters, following this blog post for some background information: <https://www.chjh.nl/copyright-and-licenses-in-open-access-publishing/>
10. **Display color:** purple  
(Nice for visualization if all protocol publications appear with the same color in the collection)
11. Save
12. Your module appears as a draft.
13. **Reference list:**

If you took inspiration from it, please add the NL trial protocol in the field 'Reference list':  
10.1186/s13063-020-04389-w  
(Trials publication of the NL protocol)

### Reference list

Add any references for your module here. You can cite published modules and objects with a DOI.

1.  ten Doesschate, Thijs; Moorlag, Simone J. C. F. M.; van der Vaart, Thomas W.; [...] (2020). **Two Randomized Controlled Trials of Bacillus Calmette-Guérin Vaccination to reduce absenteeism among health care workers and hospital admission by elderly persons during the COVID-19 pandemic: A structured summary of the study protocols for two randomised controlled trials** <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13063-020-04389-w>. *Trials*.

**Quick draft**

What are you working on right now? Anything you create here, you can change before publishing.

**Title**  
Protocol US trial (BADAS)

**Summary**  
November 19, 2020  
[ClinicalTrials.gov: NCT04348370](https://clinicaltrials.gov/ct2/show/study/NCT04348370)

**Module type**  
Missing something? [Let us know!](#)  
Design

**License** ⓘ  
Get more information about licenses [here](#).  
CC BY 4.0 (Pay what you want)

**Display color**  
This is the module color upon publication.  
Purple

**Language**  
Publish in your preferred language.  
en - English

× Cancel   ✓ Save

14. Upload the main file of the protocol and possibly supplementary files.
15. Ask anyone you want to add as an author to sign-up to ResearchEquals as well and add them as authors. They need to approve the invite, so recommend them to turn the notification e-mails on (see 4.). Advise them to connect their ORCID straight away (see 3.), since they can always remove the protocol again from their public page (see above).
16. *Check everything.*
17. *All authors have to approve the latest version of the module.*
18. (When all authors have approved) Click Publish Module (any author can do that)
19. E-mail the link to your module to Judith ([schure@cwj.nl](mailto:schure@cwj.nl)) such that it can be cited and added to the ALL-IN-META-BCG-CORONA Replication Package:  
<https://www.researchequals.com/collections/kyep-h9>