1. **Definitions**

1.1. The following definitions and rules of interpretation apply in this licence:

- **Authors**: the Submitting Author and any co-authors. Author shall mean any one of the Submitting Author or any co-author.

- **Author’s Accepted Manuscript**: the final draft version of the Work, which has been accepted for publication in the Journal & peer reviewed but not copyedited, typeset or published.

- **Author’s Original Version (Preprint)**: the pre review version of the Work that is submitted to the Journal or any earlier draft, which has not been peer reviewed.

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- **Submitting Author**: the author who submits the Work to BMJ for publication in the Journal.

- **Version of Record**: the version of the Work published by BMJ in the Journal.

- **Work**: the work You have submitted for publication in the Journal. Work shall include all text, audio, video and audio-visual material, abstracts, databases, tables, data, diagrams, photographs and other images or illustrative material and including all drafts of the Work, the version of the Work accepted for publication by BMJ and the Version of Record.

1.2. Unless the context otherwise requires, words in the singular include the plural and in the plural include the singular.

1.3. Headings are for convenience only and do not affect the interpretation of this licence.

1.4. Any words following the term including or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative only and shall not
limit the sense of the words preceding it.

1.5. A reference to a statute is a reference to such statute as amended.

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4.1.2. the Work comprises the original work of the Authors and has not been copied (in whole or in part) from any other work or material, or any other source;

4.1.3. no person other than the Authors named on the Work has been involved in the creation of the Work;

4.1.4. if the Work (or any part of the Work) has been created in the course of employment You have all necessary written releases required to enter into this licence from any employer;

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4.1.10. declarations of competing interests submitted by the Authors are and shall remain accurate and You will notify Us in writing of any changes to such competing interests immediately; and

4.1.11. all information supplied to Us shall be accurate.

5. **Bribery and corruption.** You agree to comply with all applicable laws relating to anti-bribery and corruption including the Bribery Act 2010 and to comply with BMJ’s anti-bribery policy (published on the website bmj.com). You must notify Us immediately if You become aware of, or have grounds for suspecting, fraud or malpractice in connection with the Work. For the purposes of this clause malpractice includes giving or receiving any financial or other advantage that may be construed as a bribe under the Bribery Act 2010 or any other applicable law).

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8.3. The Submitting Author is required to advise BMJ before publication whether the funding source is one of the bodies referred to in clause 8.2 and will be provided at the point of submission of the Work for publication.

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10. General

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10.2. To the fullest extent permitted by law, We accept no liability to You in connection with the Work.

10.3. Each of the provisions set out in this Agreement operates separately. If any court or competent authority decides that any provision is unlawful or unenforceable, the remaining conditions will remain in full force and effect.

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