National Institutes of Health (NIH) Public Access Policy

Overview

The NIH Public Access Policy ensures that the public has access to the results of NIH funded research. Peer-reviewed articles accepted for publication on or after April 7, 2008, that resulted in whole or in part from NIH-funded research must be submitted to the National Library of Medicine's digital archive PubMed Central (PMC) via the NIH Manuscript Submission system and made available within twelve months of publication. Investigators may choose to make their article available to the public on PubMed Central immediately or to embargo access for up to 12 months. Some publisher agreements mandate an embargo period.

Beginning May 25, 2008, applications, proposals and progress reports submitted to NIH must include the PMC or NIH Manuscript submission reference number in the citation of articles that arise from NIH-funded research.

How to Comply

Submitting to a Journal that Submits Articles to PubMed Central

Some journals submit articles directly to PubMed Central on behalf of their authors. If you publish in one of these journals, no further action is needed to comply with the submission requirement of the NIH Public Access Policy (you are also encouraged to submit copyright language to allow deposit of the article into KU ScholarWorks). A current list of these journals may be found at http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit_process_journals.htm. For more information on submission, please see http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-08-060.html.

Submitting to Other Journals

If you submit an article to a journal not on the above list, you need to inform the journal that the article is subject to the NIH Public Access Policy when submitting it for publication. After ensuring that your publication agreement gives you the right to do so (see "Copyright Management" below), you or someone on your behalf must submit a copy of the manuscript to PubMed Central via the NIH Manuscript Submission system immediately after the article has been accepted for publication.

Copyright Management

Make sure that any copyright transfer or other publication agreements allow the article to be submitted to NIH in accordance with the policy. You may suggest the following language be incorporated into the publication agreement as a way of ensuring compliance:

[Journal Name] acknowledges that Author retains the right to provide a copy of the final manuscript to the NIH upon acceptance for Journal publication, for public archiving in PubMed Central as soon as possible but no later than twelve months after publication by Journal.

You are encouraged to also submit the following language for the publication agreement so that you retain the right to include your article in KU's institutional repository, KU ScholarWorks, and other venues such as your departmental, course, or personal web site.

In addition to any rights under copyright retained by Author in the Publication Agreement, Author may make and distribute copies in the course of teaching and research and may post a copy of the final manuscript on personal or

institutional Web sites or repositories, so long as Author receives credit as author and the journal in which the Article has been published is cited as the source of first publication of the Article.

Citing Articles

When citing your NIH-funded articles in NIH grant applications or progress reports, you must include the PubMed Central reference number.

Resources & Support

Help

If you need help ascertaining whether a proposed publication agreement will enable you to comply with the NIH policy, contact Ada Emmett, Scholarly Communications Librarian, in the Center for Digital Scholarship, KU Libraries, 864-8831 or aemmett@ku.edu.

Resources

NIH Public Access Policy Site

http://publicaccess.nih.gov

Public Access Frequently Asked Questions

http://publicaccess.nih.gov/FAQ.htm

PubMed Central

http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov.

NIH Manuscript Submission System

http://www.nihms.nih.gov

KU ScholarWorks

https://kuscholarworks.ku.edu

KU Copyright

http://www.copyright.ku.edu/

Scholarly Communications at KU

http://cds.lib.ku.edu/programs/scholarly-communication

Association for Research Libraries: Authors and Their Rights

http://www.arl.org/sc/copyright/author-rights-resources.shtml