

International Seminar on Open Access for  
Developing Countries  
21 September 2005

# Access to Research Data: NIH Public Access and PMC

Jane Bortnick Griffith  
Contractor



# Access to Research Data

- **Background**
- **PubMed Central (PMC)**
- **NIH Public Access Policy**



# Background

- **NIH-supported research is essential to improving human health**
- **Public Access to information resulting from this research is vital**
  - **Results should be made available to the public**
  - **It demonstrates output resulting from taxpayer funded research**

# Recommended Priorities for New Emphasis

- **Health Information for the Public**
- **Molecular Biology Information Systems**
- **Training for Computational Biology**
- **Definition of the Research Publication of the Future**
- **Permanent Access to Electronic Information**
- **Fundamental Informatics Research**
- **Global Health Partnerships**





*an Archive of life science journals*

[NIH](#)

[NLM](#)

[NCBI](#)

[About PMC](#)

[FAQs](#)

**PubMed Central (PMC)** is the U.S. National Library of Medicine's digital archive of life sciences journal literature. Access to PMC is free and unrestricted. Learn more about [how publishers can participate in PMC](#).

- **A repository of freely accessible life sciences journal articles and supporting research data, including multimedia data:**
  - a permanent archive
  - a platform for enriched linking, analysis, and use of research reports and data
  - one of many sources of full-text articles linked to PubMed/MEDLINE citations



# PubMed Central Goals

- **Freely Accessible Data**
- **Archival Documents**
- **Participating Publishers**
- **Back Issue Scanning Project**



# **Back Issue Scanning Project**

## **May 2005 Data**

- **Complete backruns (including predecessor titles) of 20 journals that also deposit current content in PMC**
- **68 more journals in production**
- **288,000 articles deposited**
- **Include Table of Contents, Full Text Summary, HTML view, Images, PDF**



# PMC in May 2005

- 187 journals
- 385,000 items (> 50% from digitized back issues)
  - includes some pieces (e.g., book reviews) not in PubMed
- Users: 591,000 unique IP addresses. Actual users estimated to be 2.5 times this number.
- Retrieval: 2 million full-text (HTML or PDF) articles. Abstracts, TOCs, full-text, etc.: 6 million.





# Public Access Policy Background

- **US Congress, House Appropriations**  
**Language:** FY2005 appropriations report for NIH, Congress concerned about public access to research reports as well as high price of journal subscriptions
- **Recommendation:** Develop a policy about depositing manuscripts reporting on NIH grant supported work into PubMed Central



# Policy Goals

- **ACCESS:** Provide electronic access to NIH-funded research publications for patients, families, health professionals, teachers, and students.
- **ARCHIVE:** Keep a central archive of NIH-funded research publications—for now and in the future, preserving vital medical research results and information for years to come.
- **ADVANCE SCIENCE:** Advance science by creating an information resource that will make it easier for scientists to mine medical research publications, and for NIH to better manage its entire research investment.



# Policy Development

- **Proposed Policy** (September 2004), to enhance public access to archived publications resulting from NIH-funded research.
- **Public Comments**
  - Public meetings: Publishers and Associations (July 2004), Investigators (August 2004)
  - Disease advocacy groups (August 2004)
  - Notice in *NIH Guide for Grants and Contracts* (September 3, 2004)
  - Notice in *Federal Register* (September 17, 2004)
  - Talks, visits, interviews, letters
- **6,249 comments received**



# Final Policy

- **February 3, 2005: Final policy published in the *NIH Guide* and *Federal Register*.**
- **Create Public Access Advisory Working Group of NLM Board of Regents to advise NIH and NLM on implementation and evaluation of policy.**
- **Develop information and training for NIH program staff and funded investigators.**



# Final Policy

## ■ Policy applies to:

- **Peer-reviewed publications** resulting from research supported in whole or in part with direct costs from NIH
- All research and career development award mechanisms, cooperative agreements, contracts, NRSA grants, and NIH intramural research studies

## ■ Author's final manuscript

- Final version accepted for journal publication and includes all modifications from the peer review process

## ■ Policy does not apply to:

- Book chapters, editorials, reviews, conference proceedings



# Final Policy

- At the time of submission, **author** specifies the timing of the posting for public accessibility.
- NIH **strongly encourages** authors to post for public accessibility as soon as possible (and within twelve months of the publisher's official date of final publication). NIH expects that only in limited cases will authors deem it necessary to select the longest delay period.



# Policy Supports All Publishing Models

- NIH supports the current publishing process by providing direct costs to its funded investigators for publication costs.
- The Policy creates a stable archive of peer-reviewed, research publications financed with NIH funds.
- The Policy is compatible with any publishing model that authors and journals choose to employ.

# Copyright Issues

- The NIH policy explicitly recognizes and upholds the principles of copyright.
- Authors/journals can continue to assert copyright in NIH-funded scientific publications, in accordance with current practice.
- NIH encourages authors and institutions to sign agreements that specifically allow the manuscripts to be deposited with NIH for public posting on PMC as soon as possible after journal publication.



# NIH Public Access Implementation

- **Development of the NIH Manuscript Submission System**
- **Voluntary submissions by NIH funded authors**
- **Deposits would involve:**
  - **Electronic version of author's final manuscript**
  - **Include all modifications from peer review**
  - **Submission system will be password protected**

# NIH Manuscript Submission System

- Will accept most word processing formats or PDF
- System generates email confirming submission
- Author specifies public accessibility

# NIH Public Access Implementation

- **Public Access Advisory Working Group of NLM Board of Regents**
- **To advise NIH and NLM on implementation and evaluation of policy**
- **Participants include**
  - **Publishers / Editors**
  - **Public Interest / Patient Advocacy**
  - **Libraries / Universities**
  - **Scientists**

# NIH Manuscript Submission System

- Author deposits began May 2, 2005
- Third party deposits began in July 2005
- FY 2006 U.S. Federal Appropriations language

# FY 2006 House Appropriations Language

“The committee is pleased that NIH is moving forward to implement its public access policy and is hopeful that the policy will be a 1<sup>st</sup> step toward providing free and timely public access to the published results of all NIH-funded biomedical research. **The Committee endorses NIH’s expressed goals for the policy... concerned, however, that the final policy may not achieve these goals.**”

(June 24, 2005)



# FY 2006 House Appropriations Language

“The Committee directs the Office of the Director to submit...by March 1, 2006 a comprehensive report on the progress achieved during the 1<sup>st</sup> eight months...

- Total # of applicable peer-reviewed articles deposited in PubMed Central
- Embargo period requested by the author for each deposited work
- NIH’s best estimate of the total # of applicable ...articles available for deposit”

(June 24, 2005)



# FY2006 Senate Appropriations Language

“The Committee agrees with the need for, and a goal of, issuing a balanced policy to help promote increased public access to NIH-funded research while maintaining the integrity of the peer review system which is essential to ensure the quality and accuracy of medical research in the United States. The Committee urges NIH to work with all stakeholders as it moves forward in implementing this policy. To assist the Congress in assessing the degree of success of this new policy, the Committee requests a progress report by no later than February 1, 2006. “



# NIH Manuscript Submission

<http://www.nihms.nih.gov/>



**NIHMS** (NIH Manuscript Submission) is currently accepting submissions through the eRA Commons (for NIH Extramural principal investigators, grantees or applicants) and through NIH Login (for Intramural NIH scientists and staff).

Third party submissions will be accepted starting July 6, 2005.

[NIH](#) | [NLM](#) | [NCBI](#) | [PubMed Central](#)

**Log in** to the NIHMS System if you are ready to submit a manuscript.

What is the NIH Public Access Policy? The NIH maintains a **web page** with information relating to the **Public Access Policy**.

Sign up with the **NIHMS News list** to get email notification of significant updates with the system.

Do you have questions about the submission process? Refer to the **NIHMS FAQ**.

The NIHMS also maintains a help desk to assist users with manuscript submissions, and answer any questions related to the submission process. **Contact** the help desk with your queries.

Email questions and comments regarding the NIH Public Access Policy to **[PublicAccess@nih.gov](mailto:PublicAccess@nih.gov)**.

The National Institutes of Health Manuscript Submission (NIHMS) system is a service of NCBI. Please [contact us](#) with any questions. [National Center for Biotechnology Information](#) | [U.S. National Library of Medicine](#)  
[Privacy Notice](#) | [Disclaimer](#) | [Accessibility](#)





# NIH Public Access

The screenshot shows a Microsoft Internet Explorer browser window displaying the NIH Public Access website. The address bar shows the URL: <http://www.nih.gov/about/publicaccess/index.htm>. The page header includes the NIH logo and navigation links: Home, Health, Grants, News, Science, Institutes, and About NIH. A search bar is located in the top right corner. The main content area is titled "Public Access" and is organized into several sections:

- Final NIH Policy**
  - [NIH Guide to Grants and Contracts](#), February 3, 2005 **UPDATED**
  - [NIH Public Access Implementation Plan](#), February 3, 2005 **NEW**
- News Releases and Related Articles**
  - [NIH Calls on Scientists to Speed Public Release of Research Publications](#), February 3, 2005 **NEW**
  - [Information Access: NIH Public Access Policy](#), Elias A. Zerhouni, *Science*, December 10, 2004
- Background Information**
  - [Public Access Questions and Answers](#), February 3, 2005 **UPDATED**
  - [Public Access Background Information](#), October 13, 2004
- Proposed NIH Policy**
  - [Extended Comment Period for the Draft Proposal for Enhanced Public Access to NIH Research Information](#), September 24, 2004
  - [Federal Register](#), September 17, 2004 **NEW**

[www.nih.gov/about/publicaccess/index.htm](http://www.nih.gov/about/publicaccess/index.htm)

# THANK YOU



United States  
**National Library of Medicine**  
National Institutes of Health