NIH Public Access Policy
Overview for the OSU–CERTS Team

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Kathy Renick and Scot Erbe
College of Public Health’s Office of Research
Ensures that the public has access to the results of NIH-funded research

- Requires scientists to submit final peer-reviewed journal manuscripts that arise from NIH funds to PubMed Central upon acceptance for publication
- Requires that these papers are accessible to the public no later than 12 months after publication
- Policy has been in effect for several years but NIH has recently begun to enforce it
PubMed versus PubMed Central

- These terms are NOT synonymous
  - PubMed is a search engine for health literature and includes only abstracts
  - PubMed Central is a repository or digital archive of full-text articles

PMID ≠ PMCID
How to comply?

1) Determine if the policy applies
2) Address copyright
3) Submit papers to PMC
4) Include PMCID(s) in your citations
1) Does the policy apply to my manuscript?

- This policy applies to any peer-reviewed manuscript that arose from NIH funding since FY2008.
- If NIH funding supported the work (for example, paid for collection of data or your time to do the scholarly work) you MUST disclose the support and comply with the Public Access Policy!
2) Address copyright issues

- Copyrights are often transferred to the publisher when the journal agrees to publish a manuscript.
- Before submitting a manuscript for publication, read the journal’s website/policies to determine whether they will allow the published article to be deposited in PMC.
- A publishing agreement that restricts you from depositing in PMC does not exempt you from complying with the policy – it just means legal affairs may need to be involved.
3) Submit papers to PMC

- **Method A** – publisher submits final published article without author involvement
- **Method B** – publisher submits final published article upon author request (may charge a fee)
- **Method C** – author deposits final peer-reviewed manuscript in PMC via the NIH Manuscript Submission System (NIHMS)
- **Method D** – publisher submits final peer-reviewed manuscript (often after 12 months) and author approves
- **Method A**

- Publisher submits final published article **without author involvement**
- There are currently 2019 different journals that automatically put NIH-funded articles in PMC within 12 months of publication
- [http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit_process_journals.htm](http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit_process_journals.htm) or Google “Public Access Method A”
- Some examples:
  - *Nicotine & Tobacco Research*
  - *Tobacco Induced Diseases*
  - *Journal of Cancer Epidemiology*
- The easiest method all around!
Method B

- Publisher submits final published article upon author request and may charge a fee to do so.

Examples
- BMJ (which publishes *Tobacco Control*) – $3,200
- SAGE (which publishes *Psychological Science* and *Current Directions in Psychological Science*) – $3,000
- Taylor & Francis (which publishes *Health Communication*) – $2,950

- If you don’t opt/pay for open access, you will still need to comply via Method C.
- **Method C**

- Author deposits final peer-reviewed manuscript (e.g. a Word document) via the NIH Manuscript Submission System (NIHMS)
- You cannot deposit the PDF of the published article (copyright issues are a concern with this method)
- This method is independent of the publisher
- Anyone can deposit on behalf of the authors (we can help); any author can approve
- A temporary NIHMSID is issued and may be used in lieu of a PMCID for 3 months
- NIHMS is challenging and takes up to 8 weeks to process submissions
Publisher submits final peer-reviewed manuscript (often after an embargo period) and author approves

Example: Elsevier (which publishes *Addictive Behaviors*)
- Authors should disclose NIH funding during the publishing process.
- Elsevier will submit the manuscript on your behalf after a 12-month embargo period.
- Authors will receive further communications from the NIH to approve the submission.
4) Include PMCIDs in your citations

- You must include PMCID numbers:
  - On your own NIH biosketch – list of pubs
  - When citing your own work – in proposals and progress reports
Three authors collaborate on a paper that falls under the public access policy:

- **Author A** has no NIH support
- **Author B** worked on the paper using salary support from his mentor's NIH award. That funding support should be acknowledged in the manuscript.
- **Author C** used her NIH award to support the research reported in the paper. That funding support should be acknowledged in the manuscript.

If any of the four scientists (the authors and the mentor) cite the paper when they apply for an NIH award, they must include the PMCID in the citation. However, when another scientist (anyone else) cites this paper in their NIH research application, they are not required to include the PMCID.

In addition, when Author B's mentor and Author C submit progress reports on their respective awards to NIH, they must report the publication and include the PMCID.
What happens if you don’t comply?

- NIH is now withholding funding and not renewing grant awards if there are non-compliant publications.
- Compliance takes time – it cannot happen in the few weeks leading up to submission of a progress report.
- Bottom line? Start this process when you submit your manuscripts.
Where to find PMCID numbers

- Look them up in PubMed – they are located on the bottom right of the abstract page.
- Use NCBI’s converter tool at http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/pmctopmid/ or Google “PMID to PMCID”
- Some bibliography software will find PMCIDs automatically
  - Endnote X3 or later (earlier versions can be updated to include this functionality)
  - Refworks
MyNCBI

- A bibliography tool that can help you monitor public access compliance and allows you to easily associate publications with NIH funding
- Be sure to log in using your eRA Commons username/password so that MyNCBI is “linked” to your Commons account
- Scot can help you with MyNCBI
Acknowledging the P50

Each publication that results from research supported under this award must include an acknowledgement of CTP and NIH grant support and a disclaimer stating the following:

“Research reported in this publication was supported by grant number P50CA180908 from the National Cancer Institute and FDA Center for Tobacco Products (CTP). The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the NIH or the Food and Drug Administration.”
Let us know when you publish!

- Whenever you have a manuscript arising from the P50 accepted for publication, please notify Scot in the CPH Office of Research.
- He will be able to assist you through the process, and help ensure all of the P50 publications are compliant.
- Don’t wait until progress report time – you don’t want to be the one who causes grant funds to be withheld 😊
Questions?

- Kathy Renick renick.9@osu.edu or 247–8328
- Scot Erbe erbe.7@osu.edu or 247–8727