

Compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy

Nancy Stimson
UCSD Biomedical Library

In a nutshell, the policy....

. . . require[s] that all investigators funded by the NIH submit or have submitted . . . an electronic version of their final, peer-reviewed manuscripts upon acceptance for publication to be made publicly available no later than 12 months after the official date of publication . . .

<http://publicaccess.nih.gov/policy.htm>

- Your work will receive wide exposure due to the fact that it is freely available to anyone
- Studies show that open-access titles are cited more often

Here's a list of some articles: <http://tinyurl.com/2sy3b6>

1. Familiarize yourself with the contents of the OCGA and Biomedical Library web sites about the policy.
2. On the NIH Policy page, look at:
 - FAQ for investigators
 - Tutorials on how to submit your manuscript
3. Consider if the policy applies to you based on:
 - Dates
 - Funding
 - Type of publication

Three steps:

1. Manage copyright
2. Submit to the NIH Manuscript Submission System (if applicable)
3. Include PubMed Central ID Number (PMCID) in future NIH proposals and reports

Differences in what publishers will do for you:

- Some publishers **submit the finished article on your behalf**
- Some publishers **submit the final author manuscript** (with peer review changes)
- Some publishers **allow you to submit the final author manuscript** (with peer review changes)
- Some publishers offer a for-fee service to submit the final, peer-reviewed manuscript on your behalf, **but also allow you to submit the final author manuscript yourself, for free**
- Some publishers do not allow you to comply with the policy

1.1 Check your copyright transfer agreement – and modify it, if necessary

- Read your copyright transfer agreement **before you sign it** and make sure it allows you to submit your final peer-reviewed manuscript to PubMed Central within 12 months or less
- If you are unsure if it allows you to comply with the policy, insert this language into the copyright transfer agreement:

"Journal 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 12 months after publication by Journal."

<http://publicaccess.nih.gov/FAQ.htm#c3>

1.2 Attach the UC Office of Technology Transfer Letter

- University of California (UC) investigators must enclose the [letter](#) signed by William Tucker, Executive Director, Office of Technology Transfer and Research Administration, University of California, Office of the President, with any articles submitted to publishers for possible publication
- The letter informs the publisher that your article, if published by them, needs to comply with the NIH open access policy requirements
- **Attaching the letter does not negate the need to have your copyright transfer agreement include language that allows you to comply with the NIH open access policy**

1.3 Check the status of the primary journals for compliance **now**, before submitting your manuscripts

Things you can do:

- Check NIH web site list
- Check SHERPA/RoMEO site & the OAD wiki
- Check journal web site
- Contact the journal editor – and negotiate, if necessary

1.3.1 Check NIH web site

Look for your journal on the list of journals that automatically submit final articles to PubMed Central

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

If a journal is on this list, it means:

- Publisher will submit final, peer-reviewed manuscript (usually PDF) to PMC on your behalf
- No further action required
- Pagination of PMC version will be the same as that of official version – no multiple versions problem!

1.3.2 Check SHERPA/RoMEO site

Look for a green check by “NIH (Compliant)” and make sure to note any “conditions” that are listed

<http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php>

Note:

- The site is not comprehensive and is in-flux
- The site can be difficult to search, so contact me if you need help or are unsure

1.3.3 Check “Publisher Policies on NIH-Funded Authors”

http://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Publisher_policies_on_NIH-funded_authors

Note:

- The site is not comprehensive and is in-flux

1.3.4 Check the journal web site

Look for a statement about the NIH policy, or check the copyright transfer agreement, or personally contact the journal editor and ask them about it

1.3.5 Consider negotiating with the journal for the right to comply with the NIH policy

You need to submit your manuscript only if the journal you are publishing in:

- Does not automatically submit your manuscript to PubMed Central (i.e., in list on NIH web site)

AND

- The publisher allows you to comply with the NIH policy (i.e., SHERPA/RoMEO and/or journal web site)

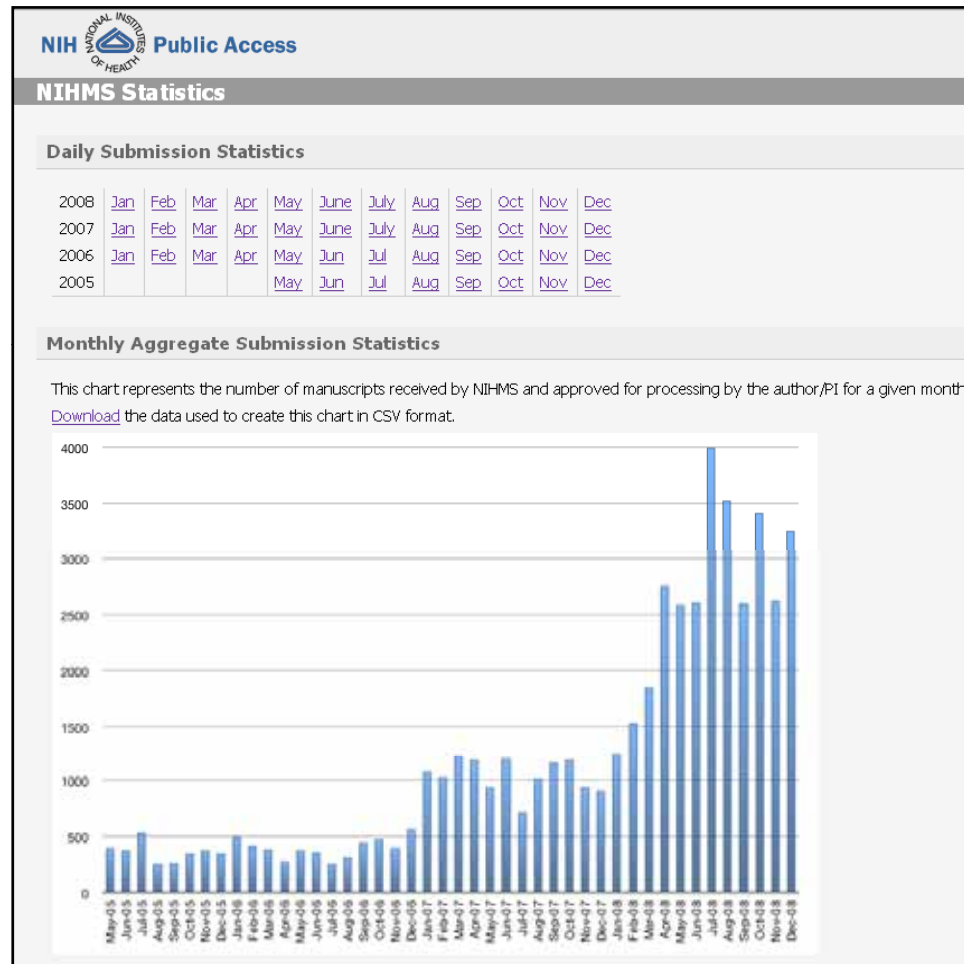
NIH Manuscript Submission System:

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

The PubMed Central identification (PMCID) needs to be included:

- When citing an article in NIH applications, proposals, and progress reports that fall under the policy
AND
- The article was authored or co-authored by you **OR** arose from your NIH award

Difference between PubMed and PubMed Central,
and PMIDs and PMCIDs



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

Contact Me

Nancy Stimson, MLS

UCSD Biomedical Library

nstimson@ucsd.edu

(858) 534-6321