NIH PUBLIC ACCESS POLICY EFFECTIVE APRIL 7, 2008 (http://publicaccess.nih.gov**)**

SUMMARY

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) Public Access Policy requires that all investigators funded in whole or in part by the NIH submit or have submitted for them to the National Library of Medicine's PubMed Central 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. Compliance with this NIH policy is a statutory requirement and a term and condition of NIH grant awards and cooperative agreements active in the NIH Fiscal Year 2008 (October 1, 2007- September 30, 2008) or beyond, and for all contracts awarded after April 7, 2008.

IMPORTANT DATES

- **April 7, 2008**
  As of April 7, 2008, all articles arising from NIH funds must be submitted to PubMed Central upon acceptance for publication.
- **May 25, 2008**
  As of May 25, 2008, all NIH applications, proposals, and progress reports must include the PubMed Central reference number when citing an article that falls under the NIH Public Access Policy and is authored or co-authored by the investigator or arose from the investigator's NIH award.

EFFECTIVE APRIL 7, 2008, ALL NIH-FUNDED INVESTIGATORS MUST COMPLY WITH ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

1 – Address copyright with each manuscript submission

a. Submit the attached template cover letter with every manuscript submission reporting research funded in whole or in part by the NIH <u>and</u>

b. Ensure that any copyright transfer or other publication agreement allows the article to be submitted to NIH in accordance with the NIH policy. If the copyright transfer or publication agreement does not allow for publication in PubMed Central, the author must include the following language in such agreements in order to comply with the NIH policy:

> ***"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."***

2 – Submit the accepted article to PubMed Central

a. Certain journals submit articles directly to PubMed Central. If you publish to one of the journals, no further action is needed to comply. See http://publicaccess.nih.gov/submit_process_journals.htm for a list of these journals.

b. For any journal other than one of those on this list, the author must:
  (i) Inform the journal that the article is subject to the NIH Public Access Policy when submitting it for publication.
  (ii) Ensure that any copyright transfer or other publication agreement allows the article to be submitted to NIH in accordance with the NIH policy.
  (iii) Submit the article to NIH, upon acceptance for publication.

3 – Cite the PubMed Central reference number

When citing an NIH-funded article in NIH applications, proposals, and progress reports, authors must include the PubMed Central reference number for each article.

FOR ASSISTANCE AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- NIH website with Frequently Asked Questions: http://publicaccess.nih.gov
- Detailed submission instructions at the NIH Manuscript Submission system: http://nihms.nih.gov
- Office of Research Administration can assist with questions about the NIH policy: 271-2090

- The Robert M. Bird Health Sciences Library can assist authors with the PubMed Central submission process: 271-2285