

POLICY FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO NIH-FUNDED MANUSCRIPTS

Effective April 7, 2008: "The NIH Public Access Policy requires final peer-reviewed manuscripts arising from NIH funds to be submitted to PubMed Central upon acceptance for publication"

WHY THIS POLICY IS NEEDED?

New regulations by the US National Institutes of Health require NIH-funded papers to be made freely available to the public through submission to PubMed Central.

WHAT IS PUBMED CENTRAL?

PubMed Central is a free digital archive of biomedical and life sciences journal literature at the U.S. National Institutes of Health (NIH), developed and managed by NIH's National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) in the National Library of Medicine (NLM).

WHAT THIS POLICY MEANS FOR:

AUTHORS Authors seeking publication of NIH-funded research in *The Ocular Surface* must submit their final published manuscript to PubMed Central no later than 12 months after publication.

PUBLISHER We now allow authors to retain the right to submit their manuscript to the NIH for public archiving in PubMed Central.

METHOD FOR COMPLIANCE

1. Publisher will alter its standard copyright transfer agreement to allow NIH-funded authors to retain the right to submit their final published manuscript to the NIH for public archiving in PubMed Central.
2. Publisher will provide author with an electronic file of the final published manuscript, which authors may submit to PubMed Central.
3. Author must submit manuscripts no later than 12 months following publication using the *NIH Manuscript Submission System*.