

Research Policies

Public Access to Publications (SC-320)

Purpose and Scope

This policy establishes the Institute's expectations relating to public accessibility of publications resulting from research in Institute laboratories. This policy applies to all Institute laboratory heads (i.e., Investigators and, at Janelia Farm Research Campus, Group Leaders and Fellows).

Policy

An Institute laboratory head is responsible for ensuring that each original, peer-reviewed research publication on which he or she is a major author is freely available and downloadable on-line within six months of publication. "Major author" normally includes both the first and last authors; if a middle author is designated in the paper as the corresponding author, then that author is also considered to be a major author.

If a publication is in a journal in the biological or biomedical sciences, the publication must be available through PubMed Central within six months of publication. Publications in journals in other scientific fields should be deposited in a comparable repository if one is available. Supplementary materials should be made available along with the publication.

If an Institute laboratory head is a co-author (but not the major author) or if any HHMI employee under the supervision of the Institute laboratory head is a major author (but the laboratory head is not a major author), then the laboratory head is strongly encouraged to advocate that the publication and supplementary materials be made freely available and downloadable on-line within six months of publication.

Review articles, perspectives, and commentaries are not subject to this requirement, but investigators are urged to make them publicly available through the appropriate repository.

HHMI will make available a [web resource](#) that will provide information about the major journals where HHMI work is published, including information on the specific responsibilities of the authors.

Investigator Reviews

An Institute laboratory head whose appointment is up for review may submit in his or her collection of significant papers only articles that are compliant with this policy. Articles submitted for publication before January 1, 2008 are exempt from this section of this policy and may be submitted with review materials.

Effective Date

This policy is effective January 1, 2008.

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