

Dear NIH Investigators,

As you are aware, on May 2, 2005, the NIH Public Access Policy went into effect. You can find it summarized on the NIH website:

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

This policy is intended to provide broader public access to the results of NIH sponsored research, and to give Principal Investigators an alternative means to fulfill the existing NIH progress report requirements of providing NIH with copies of publications .

NIH-funded investigators are now asked to submit their final peer-reviewed manuscript resulting from research supported in whole or in part with support from NIH to the NIH manuscript submission (NIHMS) system (<http://www.nihms.nih.gov>) at PubMed Central (PMC). NIH requests that this voluntary submission to PMC occur within 12 months of a manuscript's date of final publication. The NIH also asks authors and/or their institutions to ensure that their manuscript submissions to PMC are consistent with copyright agreements that they may have, or enter into, with publishers or other third parties.

Because standard publisher-initiated copyright agreements may not readily accommodate the NIH Public Access Policy, we have created the attached copyright amendment for your convenience. You are encouraged to attach the copyright amendment to the publisher's copyright agreement when you submit your final manuscript for publication.

This form is also available on several MIT websites:

<http://web.mit.edu/faculty/research.html>

direct link:

<http://web.mit.edu/faculty/agreement.pdf>

<http://libraries.mit.edu/about/scholarly/amendment.doc>

<http://web.mit.edu/ipcounsel/publication.html>

<http://web.mit.edu/osp/www/>

Please direct any questions about the form and your experiences using it to amend-cip@mit.edu. We would like to document your experiences using this form, and **would appreciate hearing any feedback you may receive from journal publishers in complying with this policy.**

Sincerely yours,

Alice Gast and Ann Wolpert