

Research Policies

Public Access to Publications (SC-320)

Purpose and Scope

This policy establishes HHMI's expectations relating to public accessibility of publications resulting from research in HHMI laboratories. This policy applies to all HHMI laboratory heads, including investigators and Janelia Research Campus group leaders and fellows.

Policy

HHMI strongly encourages all HHMI laboratory heads to publish their original, peer-reviewed research in journals that make publications freely available and downloadable on-line immediately after publication (i.e. open access journals). If a laboratory head chooses to publish an original, peer-reviewed research publication on which he or she is a major author in a journal that is not open access, the laboratory head is responsible for ensuring that the publication is freely available and downloadable on-line as soon as reasonably possible after publication, and in any event within twelve 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.

In addition, if an HHMI laboratory head's original, peer-reviewed research publication is in a journal in the biological or biomedical sciences, the publication must be available through PubMed Central as soon as reasonably possible, and in any event within twelve 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 as soon as reasonably possible, and in any event within twelve months of publication.

Review articles, perspectives, and commentaries are not subject to this policy, 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 and Other Laboratory Head Reviews

If an Institute laboratory head whose appointment is up for review submits in his or her collection of significant papers an article that was not made freely available and downloadable on-line within 12 months of publication, or that could have been made available through PubMed Central but was not, HHMI may at its option exclude that article from consideration in the review. HHMI will not do so before first discussing with the laboratory head why the article was not made available in a manner consistent with this policy. If after discussion HHMI decides to exclude an article from consideration, HHMI will provide the laboratory head with an opportunity to submit a different article that was made publicly available in a manner consistent with this policy.

Effective Date

This policy, as revised, is effective November 1, 2013.

Issued jointly by: Science and Janelia

Issue Date of Revised Policy: 10/2/2013, Effective 11/1/2013

Original Issue Date: 06/11/2007, Effective 1/1/2008