5 Things You Should Know about the NIH Public Access Policy

1. **What is the NIH Public Access Policy?**

   The NIH Public Access Policy ensures that the public has access to the published results of NIH-funded research. It requires scientists to submit final peer-reviewed journal manuscripts that arise from NIH funds to the digital archive PubMed Central (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc).

2. **Who must comply?**

   All researchers publishing work arising from NIH funding must deposit the final peer-reviewed journal manuscripts in PubMed Central. Applicable NIH funding includes any direct funding from an NIH grant, cooperative agreement, NIH contract or NIH Intramural Program.

3. **What types of publications are subject to the mandate?**

   The final manuscript of peer-reviewed journal articles, research reports, and reviews that result from NIH funding are required to be submitted to PubMed Central. Works that are not peer-reviewed, such as correspondence, book chapters, and editorials are not covered by this policy.

4. **What are the benefits of posting peer-reviewed papers to PubMed Central?**

   Papers posted to PubMed Central become more accessible and make it easier for all scientists to pursue NIH’s research priority areas competitively. In addition, clinicians, patients, educators, and students can better reap the benefits of papers arising from NIH funding by accessing them at no charge.

5. **How do I comply with the NIH policy?** Complying with the NIH policy is easy:

   a) Publish in a journal that automatically places copies of published articles in PubMed Central
   b) Publish with a journal that will deposit manuscripts for you
   c) Submit the manuscript yourself

   Learn more at: www.lib.wayne.edu/shiffman/resources/timesavers/nih

For assistance, contact Deborah Charbonneau (dcharbon@med.wayne.edu) at the WSU Shiffman Medical Library.