



## Public Access to Journal Articles Presenting Findings from PCORI-Funded Research Policy

*Publication in the scientific literature represents a critical and often early step in the dissemination of research findings. This PCORI policy assures broad access to these findings, improving the quality of information available to help patients, clinicians, researchers, and other stakeholders make informed decisions about health, health care, and research priorities as consistent with PCORI's mandate.*

PCORI funds patient-centered comparative clinical effectiveness research to fulfill its mandate of improving the quality and relevance of evidence needed to help patients, caregivers, clinicians, employers, insurers, and policy makers make informed decisions about health and health care. PCORI recognizes that publication in the scientific literature represents a critical and often early step in ensuring the dissemination and implementation of research findings.

### **Deposit of Manuscripts in PubMed Central**

As a condition of funding, PCORI will require all awardees that have published, peer-reviewed articles reporting findings from research funded in whole or in part by PCORI to make the articles available in the PubMed Central online archive. PubMed Central is a database of full-text biomedical journal articles available online without a fee and hosted by the National Library of Medicine (NLM) in the National Institutes of Health (NIH). Manuscripts posted in PubMed Central become more accessible, prominent, and integrated within the context of other research findings, improving the quality of information available to help patients, clinicians, researchers, and other stakeholders make informed decisions about health, health care, and research priorities.

Awardees with published, peer-reviewed articles resulting from PCORI-funded research must ensure that the articles are made available in PubMed Central in accordance with the following conditions:

- Awardees are to ensure that an electronic copy of their final peer-reviewed manuscript is deposited in PubMed Central within four weeks of its acceptance for journal publication. (Instructions for posting are [available here](#).)
- The manuscript is to be made publicly available in PubMed Central no later than 12 months after the official date of journal publication.

In addition, PCORI support must be acknowledged in every article reporting findings from research funded in whole or part by PCORI, consistent with PCORI Guidelines. The acknowledgement statement must include the applicable PCORI contract number, which will enable PCORI to link the published outputs of PCORI-funded research to the support PCORI has provided.

PCORI will expect all awardees to comply with this Policy on Public Access.

#### **PCORI Payment of Fees for Free Public Access to Published Articles**

PCORI will, upon Awardee request, pay fees to provide free Public Access to peer-reviewed journal articles that present findings from PCORI-funded research. PCORI will pay such fees, including article or author fees charged by open access journals, Creative Commons license fees, or similar fees ensuring free public access to an Awardee's article immediately upon its publication, directly to the journal following acceptance of the Awardee's manuscript.

Awardees may request payment of Public Access fees for one article that presents the primary findings from the funded research. In addition, Awardees may request payment of fees for a second peer-reviewed journal article, which will be considered based on PCORI's priorities and availability of funds.

PCORI Public Access payments generally will not exceed \$3,500 per research project for publication of articles. PCORI will consider requests to exceed this upper limit under special circumstances, for example, for large projects producing a number of important findings.

#### History:

*Approved by PCORI April 13, 2016*