Policy on Access to Research Publications

Genome Canada is committed to the principle of rapid sharing of the outputs of Genome Canada-funded research. By providing the scientific community with timely access to the outputs of Genome Canada-funded projects, this policy is intended to accelerate the translation of research for the benefit of humankind.

Research publications are an important output of the research funded by Genome Canada and free, online access to these publications is paramount. Genome Canada recommends that peer reviewed publications that have been supported, in whole or in part, by Genome Canada be made freely accessible online, in a central or institutional repository, as soon as possible, and, at the latest, six months after the publication date. Genome Canada encourages the scientists it funds to publish wherever is best for their work but makes the following recommendations:

- Submit manuscripts to a journal that offers immediate open access or offers open access on its website within six months of publication;
- Submit manuscripts to a journal that automatically deposits publications in PubMed Central (PMC) immediately or within six months of the date of publication. Please see PMC Journal List\(^1\) for a list of journals depositing into PMC and their timeframes;
- If a manuscript is submitted to a journal that does not offer open access itself, the journal must allow self-archiving of the peer-reviewed manuscript in an open access institutional repository within six months of publication or less. The SHERPA/RoMEO\(^2\) database provides information on publishers’ copyright policies and self-archiving.

Genome Canada will keep this policy under review and work with other research funders to promote best practice in this area.

\(^1\) http://www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov/fprender.fcgi
\(^2\) http://www.sherpa.ac.uk/romeo.php