



## About PMC

[Overview](#)[FAQs](#)[Author Manuscripts](#)[Back Issue Digitization](#)[Open Access Publishing](#)[PMC International](#)[Advisory Committee](#)[■ Copyright Notice](#)

## For Publishers

## PMC Utilities

## PMC Copyright Notice

This page has information about general copyright restrictions that apply to the material that is available through the PubMed Central (PMC) site. There also are links to specific [terms and conditions of use](#) defined by certain publishers.

Although access is free, almost all the material available through the PMC site is protected by U.S. and/or foreign copyright laws. For such material, the respective authors, publishers or other copyright holders retain rights for reproduction or redistribution. Users of such material are solely responsible for compliance with copyright restrictions and are expected to adhere to the terms and constraints invoked by the copyright holder. Transmission or reproduction of protected material, beyond that allowed by the fair use principles of the copyright laws, requires the written permission of the copyright owners. [U.S. fair use guidelines](#) (a PDF file) are available from the Copyright Office at the Library of Congress.

### Copyright Statements in PMC

Much of the material in PMC includes an explicit copyright statement in the various versions of the material — Abstract page, Full-text HTML page view, or Full-text PDF file — that may be available. However, the absence of this statement from any or all versions of an article or other item should not be interpreted as the absence of copyright protection. In case of doubt, users should contact the journal publisher to verify the copyright status of an article.

### Restrictions on Systematic Downloading of Articles

In general, the downloading of articles in bulk is prohibited. Automated processes may not be used to systematically retrieve batches of articles from PMC. The only exceptions to this policy are for articles that are in the public domain and those that are made available under an Open Access provision, as described below.

### Public Domain Material

The following PMC journal is a U.S. Government publication:

#### [Preventing Chronic Disease](#)

All material published in this journal is in the public domain and may be used and reproduced without special permission. However, anyone using the material is requested to properly cite and acknowledge the source.

### Open Access Articles

Some articles in PMC are made available as Open Access (OA) articles. In this context, OA means that an article is still protected by copyright but is distributed under a Creative

Commons or similar license that generally allows more liberal use than a traditional copyrighted work. The license terms are not identical for all OA articles. Please refer to the license statement in each article for specific terms of use. The OA articles may be downloaded in bulk using the PMC OAI or FTP services. See the PMC [Open Access List](#) for more information.

Note that some journals also use the label "open access" for an article that is available free at time of publication, but is still subject to traditional copyright restrictions. Such articles are not included in the PMC Open Access List.

### **Links to Publisher-Specific Copyright Information**

Use these links to certain publishers' sites for additional copyright terms, warranties or disclaimers that apply to their respective content in PMC.

[American Society for Microbiology](#)

[CBE—Life Sciences Education](#) (American Society for Cell Biology)

[Molecular Biology of the Cell](#) (American Society for Cell Biology)

[National Academy of Sciences](#)

[Nucleic Acids Research](#) (Open Access content)

---

[Write to PMC](#) [PMC Home](#) [PubMed](#) [NCBI](#) [NLM](#) [NIH](#)

[Privacy Policy](#) [Disclaimer](#) [Freedom of Information Act](#)

Last updated: March 8, 2007