



Alliance for Taxpayer Access

May 12, 2005

Dr. Elias A. Zerhouni
Director
National Institutes of Health
1 Center Drive, MSC 0148 (Room 126)
Bethesda, MD 20892-0148

Re: NIH Public Access Policy

Dear Dr. Zerhouni:

The Alliance for Taxpayer Access (ATA) believes that if NIH is to achieve the commendable goals of its Public Access Policy broad participation by NIH-funded researchers is essential. In order to follow and understand the progress being achieved, the stakeholders would all benefit if the NIH could post the following data to the PubMed Central web site at regular intervals:

- the number of papers that are publicly available in PubMed Central as a result of the Public Access Policy (as distinct from papers included in PubMed Central as part of the pre-existing journal archiving program),
- the number of papers approved by principal investigators for inclusion in PubMed Central but still under embargo, and
- the embargo periods requested by the submitters of these papers (publicly available articles and those pending embargo expiration reported separately).

We hope that these figures could be broken out on a month-by-month basis from May 2005 forward and updated monthly or more frequently.

Thank you for your attention to this request. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard K. Johnson', written in a cursive style.

Richard K. Johnson
Executive Director
Scholarly Publishing and Academic Resources Coalition
on behalf of ATA

cc: Donald A.B. Lindberg, Director, NLM