The NIH Public Access Policy has been in effect since April 7, 2008, but in 2013 the NIH implemented new rules around the policy. Renewal awards will be delayed if there are any publications listed on the progress report with a "non-compliant" status, and Principal Investigators must also use My Bibliography (via My NCBI) to enter papers onto progress reports. These changes resulted in an increased urgency around making sure all peer-reviewed scholarly articles that arose from any amount of an NIH award meet the requirements of the Policy.

Research Management Services and the UCSF Library began collaborating in 2013 to help investigators with the new policy requirements. As a result, the Library put together the NIH Public Access Policy Guide with key details of how the policy works and what it covers. The guide also includes:

- How to get papers into PubMed Central
- Troubleshooting non-compliant publications
- Tips and links for using My Bibliography for progress reports
- Contacts at NIH and UCSF for specific questions

The guide also calls out NIH’s policies for managing and sharing data. Currently these policies are separate from the NIH Public Access Policy, however at a later date NIH will be introducing new data sharing requirements. All federal agencies with more than $100M in R&D expenditures are now required to have public access policies for both publications and data (read more). The Library’s data sharing & management guide includes a grid of funder plan requirements for both publications and data.

Check out the guide, and let us know at nihpublicaccess@ucsf.edu if you have any feedback or questions!