



CBCRA Open Access Policy

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Introduction

The Canadian Breast Cancer Research Alliance supports the underlying principle of Open Access: that the outputs of publicly funded research should be made available as widely and rapidly as possible. By providing unrestricted access to research outputs, we are supplying tangible evidence of the accountability of researchers to those who have sponsored the research and to the public. In addition, we expect this initiative to amplify the impact of the research on the generation of new knowledge, and on its practical applications.

CBCRA launched its Open Access Archive, hosted by University of Toronto Libraries, in 2006. This initiative clearly addresses two of CBCRA's strategic goals: to publicize findings of research funded by CBCRA and to develop CBCRA's presence on the international stage, by making breast cancer research results available to anyone who has access to the Internet. The Archive also strives to ensure permanent preservation of the published research findings supported by CBCRA grants, organized in one location.

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Policy

CBCRA **requires** that grant holders supply an electronic copy of final, accepted manuscripts funded in whole or in part by CBCRA grants, to be posted in the CBCRA Open Access Archive, as soon as possible after publication. A publisher's embargo period of up to six months will be permitted. The document must be either a publisher-generated PDF or the author's final, accepted version, including changes introduced by the peer review process.

CBCRA encourages authors to retain copyright of their works whenever possible. Authors are encouraged to specify in the publisher's copyright transfer agreement that they retain the right to make the article available in CBCRA's Open Access Archive. Suggested wording:

The Journal acknowledges that the Author retains the right to provide a copy of the Publisher's final version (preferred) OR the Author's final version of the paper to CBCRA upon acceptance for publication or thereafter, for public archiving in the CBCRA Open Access Archive as soon as possible after publication.

CBCRA grant holders are asked to notify CBCRA by sending a copy of the signed agreement to e-archive@cbcra.ca.

If authors are unable to negotiate an amendment to the copyright agreement, CBCRA will work with the author and the publisher to license back specific rights to facilitate posting the article on the CBCRA Open Access Archive. Authors may download the CBCRA licence agreement form from the Research Program section of the CBCRA website.

This policy relates only to the CBCRA Open Access Archive. If an Author also deposits her/his article in another open access archive (such as PubMed Central or an institutional repository), it is expected that s/he will notify CBCRA via e-mail (e-archive@cbcra.ca).

CBCRA has included provisions in the grant application process to allow for the cost of article processing fees that may be charged for open access to publications in online journals.

Further information is available at www.breast.cancer.ca.