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NATURE REVIEWS SELF-ARCHIVING POLICY FAQ

As of January 2005, authors are able to self-archive the author version of their accepted manuscript six months after publication. This policy has been developed to meet the needs of authors and the evolving policies of funding agencies that may wish to archive the research they fund. It is also designed to protect the integrity of the scientific record, with the published version clearly identified as the definitive version of the article. Please read the following questions and answers regarding guidelines for self-archiving of review articles.

What is the 'author's version'?

By 'author's version' we are referring to Word or Tex files produced by the author, not a PDF or HTML downloaded from nature.com. The article will have been developmentally edited and peer reviewed [at which point it is accepted by the Editor], but it will not have been copyedited into the final published version.

Why six months after publication?

NPG has discussed the issue with relevant stakeholders and listened to recent debates and believes that the proposed six month delay will accommodate the needs of all the relevant parties. Authors will of course be able to post abstracts of articles, with links to the definitive published version on nature.com, from the date of publication.

Which publication date will apply?

Previously, the date of print publication has been regarded as definitive, but the date of online publication is becoming increasingly important. In terms of this policy, the author can choose either date, whichever is the sooner.

Why are reviews subject to copyright assignment?

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