

Draft NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing

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Sharing scientific data advances NIH's mission to seek knowledge that improves human health by enhancing NIH's stewardship of taxpayer funds and maximizing research participants' contributions. Moreover, increasing access to scientific data resulting from NIH-funded or conducted research advances biomedical research by enabling the validation of scientific results, allowing analyses to be strengthened by combining data, facilitating reuse of hard-to-generate data, and accelerating future research.

To promote effective and efficient data management and data sharing, NIH recently released a draft Policy for Data Management and Sharing for public comment. Under this policy proposal, individuals and entities would be required to provide a Data Management and Sharing Plan (Plan) describing how scientific data will be managed, including when and where the scientific data will be preserved and shared, prior to initiating the research study. Shared data should be made accessible in a timely manner for use by the research community and the broader public. Accompanying the development of an NIH policy, NIH has released proposed draft guidance and resources to help researchers integrate data management and sharing practices into their routine research conduct. As indicated in the NIH Strategic Plan for Data Science, NIH's plans to develop its policy are occurring in tandem with its efforts to modernize the NIH data infrastructure ecosystem.

Deputy Director of the NIH Office of Science Policy Dr. Lyric Jorgenson will provide an overview of the Draft Policy, the Agency's data management and sharing goals, and potential next steps.