NIMH Data Sharing Policy

On June 17, 2019, the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) published a policy for data sharing.

Background
In accordance with the 21st Century Cures Act, NIMH-funded researchers are required to submit all raw and analyzed data from experiments involving human subjects into the NIMH Data Archive (NDA).

Scope of the policy
- The policy is effective after January 1, 2020 for all applications and Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOA).
- Non-NIMH funded researchers with relevant data may submit to the NDA.
- The policy does not apply to these applications: Fellowship (F), Research Career Development (K), Training (T), Small Business (SBIR/STTR), Small Grants (R03), Education (R25), and awards related to AIDS research.
- The policy does not supersede the NIH Genome Data sharing Policy. The policy does mandate that the NDA serve as the repository for genomic data funded by NIMH. Awardees measuring human genomic data will register with dbGaP.
- Exceptions to the policy are described in the terms and conditions of an award.
- All data associated with new projects at the NIMH Repository and Genomics Resource will be deposited in the NDA.

Resource sharing plans
- All applications involving human subjects that are submitted to, or referred to NIMH, must include a Resource Sharing Plan.
- Informed consent documents should describe how study data will be shared with the NDA and the research community.

Post-Award responsibilities
- Within 6 months of the original award, awardees will provide a data submission agreement.
- Data from NIMH funded awards will be submitted to the NDA every 6 months.
- Researchers will submit specific data that was used for each resulting publication, by creating an NDA Study.
- A statement of progress on data sharing is required in non-competing renewals and progress reports.

Data will be shared with the research community when papers using the data have been accepted for publication, or at the end of the award period.