



This policy applies to all publications of the United States Transuranium and Uranium Registries. All collaborative researchers are subject to this policy.

Peer-reviewed publication of scientific findings is encouraged

It is the policy of the Registries to encourage publication of scientific findings and the associated data upon which these findings are based as expeditiously as practicable. Peer-reviewed scientific literature is the preferred vehicle for this purpose. To expedite publication further, preliminary results may be published in Registries Annual Reports, or in special topical reports.

Publication in peer-reviewed literature includes the following: articles; notes; abstracts; letters to the editor; other technical communications; or oral presentations of findings that have undergone independent review for scientific content and merit, given at scientific and technical meetings. Publication by the Registries scientific staff is encouraged, and, in keeping with the true spirit of academic freedom, does not require external or internal prior approval. The author(s) is(are) responsible for the scientific content of the publication, and for ensuring that there is no breach or violation of confidentiality, or other legal and ethical requirements.

Privacy of Registrants must be maintained

The USTUR has pledged confidentiality to the Registrants and their next-of-kin, and that pledge will pertain to all publications. No publicly available or open-literature publication shall be made in which Registrants are identified by name or other personal identifiers without the prior consent of the Registrant, or the legally

responsible next-of-kin, unless legally required by law, regulation, or court order.

Specific dates of radiological or medical incidents, specific dates of employment, or the exact place of employment shall not be used in publications. Also, the use of specific descriptions of radiological incidents, health conditions, or causes of death should be avoided if they might assist a reader in the identification of a subject. Such information will be presented in general terms so that an individual reading the publication would be forced to perform additional research in order to identify the research subject. For example, times of events shall be stated as time (days, months, years) before or after the beginning of work, the end of work, or death. An individual might be classified as working at Rocky Flats, Hanford, or other sites, but no specific work location or employer will be identified.

Approval may be required for non-peer-reviewed publications

The author(s) is(are) responsible for obtaining the Registries' approval of press releases and publications that do not undergo external scientific peer review prior to release or distribution. Customarily, it is the responsibility of the senior author to obtain the approval. This should not be construed to impose any constraints on formal or informal communications between Registries staff and external persons on technical or scientific matters, and applies only to 1) documents specifying Registries policy or administrative practice, or making commitments of Registries

resources or data, 2) press releases, and 3) release of unpublished or unverified data.

Publication on the World Wide Web

To enhance the availability of USTUR publications, publications are made available on the USTUR website, located at www.ustur.wsu.edu, provided that strict adherence to copyright, privacy, and ethical considerations is maintained. Data may also be published on the World Wide Web provided that these data have been verified and evaluated for accuracy.

A formal Annual Report shall be published

The Registries shall publish a formal progress report annually. The Annual Report shall be

given widespread distribution within the scientific and technical community and single copies made available without charge upon request by interested persons. The Annual Report shall include a list of Registries staff and a brief review of the activities of the Registries for the preceding year.

Publication tracking

Publications and presentations by Registries staff are issued a publication tracking number (R107). Each staff member is responsible for providing the Registries' administration with a copy of the manuscript or presentation and providing progress updates periodically until presented or published in open literature.