



OPEN ACCESS POLICY
OF NICOLAE TESTEMITANU STATE UNIVERSITY
OF MEDICINE AND PHARMACY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

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Biomedical research is a priority in the activity of *Nicolae Testemitanu* State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Republic of Moldova (hereinafter *Nicolae Testemitanu* University) that aims to continuously increase the benefits of public investment and the positive impact on the quality of life in the country. In this context, the institution defines its own vision and policy on scientific communication, efficient information flow, knowledge transfer from the perspective of the Open Access to Information movement, a phenomenon that is the key tool in stimulating science and innovation.

Nicolae Testemitanu University recognizes the strategic importance of Open Access to information in the context of disseminating scientific knowledge in the spirit promoted by Budapest Open Access Initiative in (2002); Bethesda Statement on Open Access Publishing (2003); Berlin Declaration on Open Access to Knowledge in the Sciences and Humanities. (2003); Commission Recommendation (EU) 2018/790 of 25 April 2018 on access to and preservation of scientific information; "Plan S" on Open Access; OA2020 initiative; Code on Science and Innovation of the Republic of Moldova (2004); National Development Strategy *Moldova 2030*; National roadmap for the integration of the Republic of Moldova into the European Research Area for 2019-2021; National program in the fields of research and innovation for 2020-2023; Mandatory principles of public access to research results funded by the European Research Council (2008), Commission recommendation (EU) 2018/790 of 25 April 2018 on access to and preservation of scientific information, and undertakes to disseminate as widely as possible the results of the institution's scientific activity within the limits of scientific ethics and copyright.

The university supports national and international initiatives on Open Access to Information, promotes this movement and its benefits within the university community. In this context, as of July 13, 2021, *Nicolae Testemitanu* University becomes one of the signatories of Berlin Declaration.



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The elimination of barriers to accessing scientific publications of *Nicolae Testemitanu* University will lay the foundations for effective scientific communication and will increase both the visibility and the impact of research on society.

In the long term, the University intends to increase the indicators of scientific research quality and performance. Therefore, *Open Access to information* can make an essential contribution to the promotion of scientific results, technological performance and innovative research aimed at increasing visibility as well as to the recognition of their significance at national and international level.

Definitions:

Open Access - free, permanent and unlimited online access to publicly funded scientific results, exercised in a proper manner and pursuant to scientific research ethics criteria;

archiving - the process of preserving documents in the repository according to pre-established criteria;

self-archiving - the process of preserving one's own publications by the author, individually, according to pre-established criteria;

author - a natural person who created a work through his activity and benefits from the protection of the copyright over his work;

depositor - an author or publishing house who holds exclusive rights over the document and places the document in the repository;

the Gold Road - publishing articles in open access journals;

the Green Road - involves archiving / self-archiving of scientific publications in open access repositories;

researcher - any member who is part of the research staff of *Nicolae Testemitanu* University at any educational level, regardless of his/her employment status;

digital copy - electronic copy of the publication in the final stage (or the final manuscript of the author, after the peer review of publisher's version);

embargo period - period of time in which the access to the text of the scientific publication is restricted. The maximum embargo period is 12 months;

publication - published work (or in the process of publication) of a group of researchers within the institution (more precisely, it can be in the form of: articles, monographs, book chapters, reports, conference presentations);

***Nicolae Testemitanu* University Repository/ Institutional Repository** - the electronic archive of the University that preserves scientific publications and / or research data combined with metadata of university community members and offers advanced search, navigation and open access tools to its digital collections;

open access journals - electronic scientific periodicals that include articles available free of charge online;

open access hybrid journals - subscribed electronic scientific journals, which contain articles published in open access against a processing fee (*Article Processing Charge*);

research data - information collected, noticed or created in order to analyze, produce and demonstrate the results of an original research. Research data have an identifying number, metadata and are managed by an administrator;

metadata - descriptive information on the content and author of the scientific publication;

public funds - amounts allocated from the state budget for the functioning of public institutions.



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Objectives:

1. Preservation and long-term management of scientific publications produced by the university community.
2. Ensuring the widest possible access to the scientific papers of the university community members.
3. Promoting the Open Access to Information movement and its benefits within the university community.
4. Supporting researchers to publish open access research results.

Actions:

1. Implementation of Open Access to scientific publications through two complementary models: archiving / self-archiving in the Repository of *Nicolae Testemitanu* University (hereinafter the Institutional Repository, abbreviation - IR) and registration of University scientific journals in the DOAJ International Register (Directory of Open Access Journals).
2. Ensuring the functionality and continuous development of the Institutional Repository.
3. Authors of scientific publications developed under research projects fully or partially funded from the budget or grants are obliged to submit the final version of the paper (pre-print or post-print) in open access to the Institutional Repository.
4. Authors of the works published with the full or partial support of *Nicolae Testemitanu* University and printed at *Medicine* Printing and Publishing Centre shall submit to the Repository administrator the electronic version of the paper to be included in the institutional digital archive.
5. Authors shall submit the scientific and/or didactic works to the Institutional Repository during their activity at the University.
6. At the stage of depositing publications in the IR, the authors complete and sign the Declaration expressing their agreement on the publication of scientific results in open access.
7. Authors are encouraged to publish their work with publishing houses / journals that allow archiving in open access institutional repositories.
8. *Nicolae Testemitanu* University encourages researchers to publish research data in the Institutional Repository or in other open access electronic data archives.
9. If there are certain restrictions on the part of publishers, authors are obliged to present the bibliographic references and the abstract of the paper to be included in the Institutional Repository.
10. If an author, for some reason, refuses to publish in the IR, an embargo period (6-12 months) is allowed. The publications shall be visible and available from the date of expiry of the established embargo period.
11. Authors shall ensure the effective and accurate archiving pursuant to the publishing conditions imposed.



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12. The Research Department will coordinate and monitor the development process of the Institutional Repository.

13. The departments, laboratories and scientific centers that host and support scientific research, researchers who generate research results, librarians and other stakeholders are encouraged to advocate for Open Access to information and to publish scientific articles and papers in open access journals and in the repository of *Nicolae Testemitanu* University.

14. The Health Sciences Library shall manage the Institutional Repository, ensuring its functioning and long-term preservation of scientific works developed by the university community and organizing training sessions for authors on self-archiving in the IR.

15. *Nicolae Testemitanu* University shall promote the Open Access movement using various forms and methods.

16. Each work published by authors - collaborators of *Nicolae Testemitanu* University - will obtain a Creative Commons Attribution NonCommercial License (CC BY-NC), which provides the reuse freedom and is mandated in the policies of funders (CC BY). The Attribution-NonCommercial License (CC BY-NC) allows others to copy, use, distribute, transmit and publicly display the work, to create and distribute derivative works in any digital medium, for non-commercial purposes, as long as the author is credited for his original work and the copyright is not infringed.

17. The vice-rector for research and the director of the Health Sciences Library are responsible for the implementation and promotion of this policy, the settlement of disputes, and the introduction of changes by stakeholders.

18. Open Access Policy of *Nicolae Testemitanu* State University of Medicine and Pharmacy of the Republic of Moldova shall enter into force on the date of approval and shall be reviewed every 5 years or if necessary.