

## BioFIND Publications Policy

### *Publications Utilizing BioFIND Data and Specimens*

## Introduction

It is expected that investigators with access to the Fox Investigation for New Discovery of Biomarkers ("BioFIND") data will seek to publish and present study-related scientific reports. This document outlines both BioFIND's policies for publication and publication credits for all publications utilizing BioFIND subject data or biospecimens, as well as abstracts and posters presenting analyses of BioFIND data and biospecimens.

## Publications Policy

The intent of this policy is to ensure that:

- BioFIND data are published fully, accurately, and expeditiously
- BioFIND study members are recognized for their effort in study design, acquisition, and analysis of data and collection of biospecimens
- BioFIND publications may be tracked to develop a complete record of the findings resulting from BioFIND-related efforts

### Guidelines for all Manuscripts

As per the BioFIND Data Use and Biospecimen Use Agreements, investigators are reminded that they must submit all manuscripts and abstracts to the BioFIND Data & Publications Committee (DPC) for administrative review *prior* to submission to a journal or conference. Review of submitted manuscripts and abstracts is guaranteed within two weeks of submission. To submit to the DPC, please email a copy of the manuscript to [resources@michaeljfox.org](mailto:resources@michaeljfox.org) with the subject line "BioFIND Manuscript for DPC Review".

All publications using BioFIND data must acknowledge BioFIND study members and funding support by including the following within the manuscript or acknowledgements:

"Data used in the preparation of this article were obtained from the Fox Investigation for New Discovery of Biomarkers ("BioFIND") database (<http://biofind.loni.usc.edu/>). For up-to-date information on the study, visit [www.michaeljfox.org/biofind](http://www.michaeljfox.org/biofind)."

"BioFIND is sponsored by The Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (MJFF) with support from the National Institute for Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS)."

Please note that manuscripts using BioFIND biospecimens may have additional requirements for publications. These guidelines can be found in the BioFIND Biospecimen Use Agreement.

The BioFIND DPC highly recommends that investigators leverage as a resource and cite the BioFIND Steering Committee's cohort characterization paper (PMID: 27113479). Full citation of all published manuscripts will be provided to the BioFIND DPC upon acceptance of manuscripts. A copy of the manuscript will be provided to the BioFIND DPC upon publication of the manuscript so that it may be listed on the MJFF website.

It is anticipated that there will be two categories of BioFIND publications as defined below:

1. Primary Publications: Publications authored by the BioFIND Steering Committee, Investigators, and Study Cores

Primary Publications are defined as those reports, analyses, and publications written by the BioFIND Steering Committee (SC). Other BioFIND Study personnel that may participate in the writing of Primary Publications include BioFIND site Principal Investigators (PIs), Study Cores, and investigators who are approved to access BioFIND biospecimens, reflecting the contribution of those authors. In addition, "and the Fox Investigation for New Discovery of Biomarkers\*" will be written on the author line of all Primary Publications with an asterisk referring to the BioFIND author list, which must be included as an appendix to ensure that all authors may be cited.

2. All Other Publications Utilizing BioFIND Data

It is expected that investigators outside of the study will conduct research and seek to publish analyses using BioFIND data and specimens. These individuals are encouraged to publish novel scientific findings that result from their research using BioFIND data. Authorship of such a publication will not include BioFIND in the author line, either as a reference to the study as a whole, or in reference to a group or committee without approval by the SC.

Abstracts and Posters

Abstracts and posters must be sent to the BioFIND DPC for administrative review *prior to* submission to a conference. BioFIND may only be listed on the author line of an abstract and/or poster if authorship is approved by the BioFIND SC. Abstracts and posters which have not been approved by the SC should acknowledge BioFIND as the source of data within the body of the abstract or poster. To submit to the DPC, please email a copy of the abstract or poster to [resources@michaeljfox.org](mailto:resources@michaeljfox.org) with the subject line "BioFIND Manuscript for DPC Review".

Authors of abstracts will notify the DPC after abstracts or posters are presented so that they may be posted to the MJFF website.

Data and Publications Committee (DPC) Structure

The BioFIND DPC was formed by the BioFIND SC and established to conduct administrative review of all manuscripts, abstracts, and posters. The DPC will not review submissions for scientific quality, trusting that the peer-review process is the best way to judge the objective quality of a publication. Data and publications issues will be adjudicated by the DPC; however, if investigators disagree with the decisions of the DPC, they can appeal to the SC for final arbitration.

Unusual Situations

It is expected that the aforementioned policies will cover the majority of users of BioFIND data and biospecimens. We anticipate that investigators will follow these guidelines in good faith and that most analyses will be of reasonable quality. However, we do anticipate the possibility of some unusual circumstances.

1. **Egregiously Poor Manuscripts:** If a review of a proposed manuscript reveals that it is egregiously poor in terms of language, writing, or sensible substance, the DPC can recommend to the authors that it not be submitted without significant revision. If the authors choose to submit the manuscript anyway, the DPC will have two options: 1) request that the authors publish a statement to the effect that while BioFIND data were used, the BioFIND Study did not find this manuscript of sufficient merit to warrant submission for publication, or 2) revocation of privileges to use BioFIND data in the future.
2. **Failure to Follow BioFIND Data and Biospecimen Use Agreements:** If users inadvertently violate the Data or Biospecimen Use Agreements, it is likely that they will self-correct as infractions are discovered. If users willfully violate these Agreements, the sole sanction available to BioFIND will be to revoke access to the BioFIND data.
3. **Fraudulent Use of Data or Specimens:** Open access using only online registration raises the possibility that individuals could obtain access to data under false pretenses. It is possible that even the closely vetted samples could be used inappropriately. Should the DPC discover an attempt to publish using BioFIND data or samples obtained fraudulently, the user will be sanctioned through BioFIND SC communication with them or their academic supervisors. As soon as the DPC becomes aware of any breach of either Use Agreements, immediate steps will be taken to cure the breach or end the violation. This may include discontinuing the user's data access and/or reporting the violation.
4. **Journal Objections:** For Primary Publications, it is possible that journal editors may object to the group authorship format with the caveat that those BioFIND names credited have gathered data, but not participated in the analysis and writing of the paper. In these situations the primary author of the paper should inform the DPC of the issue. The DPC will work with the author to resolve this problem in a way that is acceptable to the DPC.

## **Previous Publications Policy:**

If BioFIND data are used in the analyses or publications, as part of the Data Use Agreement, investigators will be asked to agree to a Publication Policy as follows:

- All manuscripts will acknowledge the methods of BioFIND data gathering using language recommended by the BioFIND Steering Committee (see Data Use Agreement).
- All manuscripts will acknowledge the support of the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Research (see Data Use Agreement).
- All manuscripts will acknowledge repository resources funded by the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke (NINDS).

In addition to the named authors, all manuscripts will be submitted with an acknowledgement of BioFIND on the author line followed by an asterisk (see Data Use Agreement). The asterisk will point to a printed listing (if allowed by the journal) or a web site listing that will list the names of the BioFIND investigators.

Manuscripts will be submitted to the BioFIND Steering Committee for administrative review two weeks prior to submission. The purpose of this review will be to make sure that all of the above administrative requirements are met.

Full citation of all published manuscripts will be provided to BioFIND upon acceptance of manuscripts. A copy of the manuscript will be provided to BioFIND upon publication of the manuscript.