

## STATEMENT FROM NATURE PUBLISHING GROUP

### Clarification on nature.com content sharing policy

Further to our 2 December 2014 announcement [[http://www.nature.com/press\\_releases/share-nature-content.html](http://www.nature.com/press_releases/share-nature-content.html)] that we will permit subscribers to share individual articles from nature.com for personal, non-commercial use, Nature Publishing Group would like to clarify some issues and questions.

In addition to this, we encourage readers to read the original announcement [[http://www.nature.com/press\\_releases/share-nature-content.html](http://www.nature.com/press_releases/share-nature-content.html)] and the principles and guidelines [[http://www.nature.com/npg\\_company\\_info/content-sharing-tandc.html](http://www.nature.com/npg_company_info/content-sharing-tandc.html)].

### Access to content

Non-subscribers cannot access or view subscription articles directly on nature.com. There is no change to this.

We are allowing individuals who have subscription access to allow other individuals (subscribers and non-subscribers) to view single articles.

Subscribers may generate a sharable link, which they can share with others for non-commercial, personal use. The link goes to a read only version of that article.

This is subscription content and is only accessible via read-only links.

Subscribers can only share the content they have access to. A subscription to Nature and the Nature research journals provides access to the current year of publication, and four previous years. Access to the archive is available as separate purchase.

### Using ReadCube

ReadCube is a private library facility. You can store articles in your personal ReadCube library, but only if you already have access to them. Journal subscribers can store access to selected research articles published in that journal only. The change we have allowed enables users to view and save a read only version of the article in their private library if the link to it is shared with them by an existing subscriber.

ReadCube does not provide additional free access to nature.com content.

More information about ReadCube is available here: <https://www.readcube.com/>

### **Open access and content sharing**

This content sharing initiative is not open access.

These articles are:

- Not immediately accessible to everyone
- Not guaranteed to be freely accessible forever to everyone
- Not available for re-use including text or data mining
- Not available via Creative Commons licences.

Articles that are shared are still subject to copyright and cannot be reproduced or shared in ways that are not permitted by the copyright holder. NPG's new policy provides a very specific but limited way for sharing to be possible in certain circumstances. This is therefore wholly different from Open Access.

NPG is very active in open access activities, including:

- Publishing a number of open access journals  
[\[http://www.nature.com/libraries/open\\_access/index.html\]](http://www.nature.com/libraries/open_access/index.html)
- Encouraging self-archiving of accepted manuscripts for public access six months from publication
- Encouraging data deposit
- Using Creative Commons licenses for open access publication

### **Terms and conditions**

All use of nature.com is subject to the website's general terms & conditions (<http://www.nature.com/info/tandc.html>) and more particularly its additional sharing terms & conditions (see [http://www.nature.com/npg/\\_company\\_info/content-sharing-tandc.html](http://www.nature.com/npg/_company_info/content-sharing-tandc.html)).

All non-Open Access content hosted on nature.com is subject to copyright (as per the notice: "© 2014 Macmillan Publishers Limited. All Rights Reserved" at the bottom of each page).

Therefore the behaviour and activities of every subscriber that accesses non-Open Access content on our site is subject to these terms and conditions.

Any guidelines that are published are there to help nature.com users and purchasers (of individual subscriptions or site-wide licenses) to understand what these terms and conditions are and how to apply them.

Our content sharing policy ([http://www.nature.com/npg/\\_company\\_info/content-sharing-policy.html](http://www.nature.com/npg/_company_info/content-sharing-policy.html)) was published on 2<sup>nd</sup> December to enable sharing of read only articles between individuals for "reasonable use, for personal and non-commercial purposes".

To explain what these mean:

**Personal use** – for individuals use and NOT for organisations

**Reasonable use** – single articles on an occasional basis to facilitate their work or interest NOT large scale, systematic or regular

**Non-commercial use** – research or educational purposes NOT as a paid service or to replace a paid a service

## **Appendix I: Nature.com Sharing Terms of Use**

These Sharing Terms of Use will apply in addition to the Nature.com Terms and Conditions, the principles and guidelines on sharing on nature.com ("Principles and Guidelines"), a relevant site licence or a personal subscription. These Sharing Terms of Use will prevail over any conflict or ambiguity with regards to the Nature.com Terms and Conditions, the Principles and Guidelines, a site licence or a personal subscription (to the extent so permitted). By sharing, or receiving our content from a shared source, you agree to be bound by these Sharing Terms of Use and the Nature.com Terms and Conditions.

We collect and use personal data to provide the Sharing service. We may also use this personal data internally and as agreed share it, in an anonymised way, for purposes of tracking, analysis and reporting. We will not otherwise disclose your personal data outside the group unless we have your permission as detailed in our Privacy Policy.

Our support for content sharing is laid out in our Principles and Guidelines. We support a reasonable amount of sharing of content by subscribers and authorised users, for personal, non-commercial use. By using the unique URL ("shareable link"), you agree to these terms. For these purposes, NPG considers academic use (by researchers and students) to be non-commercial.

Subscribers may occasionally share a shareable link to a read only version of the full text article. Use cases permitted are laid out in our Principles and Guidelines.

Recipients will need to be able to receive the shareable link and view it on our site. Please ensure that you have the express consent of the recipient to send the link to their email address or contact details.

Both subscribers sharing the content and recipients receiving the shared content may not:

1. use the Sharing service for the purpose of regularly providing other users with access to content or as a means to circumvent access control;
2. use manual or automated software, devices, scripts robots, other means or processes to access, "scrape," "crawl" or "spider" the content or any related data or information;
3. use bots or other automated methods to access the content or the Sharing facility or redirect messages; or

#### 4. override any security feature.

These terms of use are released as part of a one year pilot project, during which time they will be reviewed regularly and may be amended. We are not obligated to publish any information or content and can remove it and any content sharing features or functionality at our sole discretion, with or without notice. We may revoke this licence at any time and remove access to any copies of the shared content which have been saved.

Sharing of our content may not be done in order to create a substitute for our own products or services or a systematic database of our content. We do not allow the creation of a product or service that creates revenue from our content or its inclusion as part of a paid for service or for other commercial gain.

Please note that these rights do not automatically extend to content, data or other material published by Nature Publishing Group that we license from third parties.

If you intend to distribute our content to a wider audience on a regular basis or in any other manner not expressly permitted by these Sharing Terms of Use please contact us at [permissions@nature.com](mailto:permissions@nature.com).

**Appendix II: List of 49 journals on nature.com to share a read-only version of full text-subscription articles**

Nature Biotechnology	Nature Reviews Microbiology
Nature Cell Biology	Nature Reviews Molecular Cell Biology
Nature Chemistry	Nature Reviews Nephrology
Nature Chemical Biology	Nature Reviews Neurology
Nature Climate Change	Nature Reviews Neuroscience
Nature Communications	Nature Reviews Rheumatology
Nature Genetics	Nature Reviews Urology
Nature Geoscience	Nature Structural & Molecular Biology
Nature Immunology	Nature
Nature Material	Bone Marrow Transplantation
Nature Medicine	Cancer Gene Therapy
Nature Methods	European Journal of Clinical Nutrition
Nature Nanotechnology	Gene Therapy
Nature Neuroscience	Genes & Immunity
Nature Photonics	Intl Journal of Impotence Research
Nature Physics	Intl Journal of Obesity
Nature Protocols	JESEE
Nature Reviews Cancer	Journal of Human Hypertension
Nature Reviews Cardiology	Journal of Perinatology
Nature Reviews Clinical Oncology	Leukemia
Nature Reviews Drug Discover	Molecular Psychiatry
Nature Reviews Endocrinology	Oncogene
Nature Reviews Gastroenterology & Hepatology	Prostate Cancer
Nature Reviews Genetics	The Pharmacogenomics Journal
Nature Reviews Immunology	