

NIH Public Access Policy How to Locate and Cite the PMCID Reference Number

The PMCID

The PubMed Central reference number (PMCID) is a unique number assigned to a work that is posted to PubMed Central (PMC).

NIH applications, proposals and progress reports must include the PMCID **when citing an article that applies under the NIH Public Access Policy** and is authored or co-authored by the investigator, or arose from the investigator's NIH award. See [Reminder Concerning Grantee Compliance with Public Access Policy and Related NIH Monitoring Activities](#) (NOT-OD-08-119) on where to note the PMCID in applications, proposals and progress reports. A PMCID is required for demonstration of compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy for articles three months post publication and beyond. See [Include PMCID in Citations](#) for more information.

NOTE: The PMCID is not the same as the PubMed Identifier number (PMID). The PMID is unique to PubMed and is assigned to citations added to the PubMed database. NIH-funded authors should use the PMCID, not the PMID, in order to comply with the NIH Public Access Policy.

Where to Locate the PMCID Reference Number

PubMed

Here is a sample PubMed record using the "Summary" display. Note that this display notes the PMID, which is a unique identifier number assigned to each publication as it is added to PubMed, a citation database. This is not the same as the PMCID.

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Fujimoto K, Hanson PT, Tran H, Ford EL, Han Z, Johnson JD, Schmidt RE, Green KG, Wice BM, Polonsky KS.
J Biol Chem. 2009 Oct 22;284(40):27664-73. Epub 2009 Aug 4.
PMID: 19854319 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
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2. [The physician scientist training program in internal medicine at Washington University School of Medicine.](#)
Muslin AJ, Kornfeld S, Polonsky KS.
Acad Med. 2009 Apr;34(4):468-71.
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3. [Targeted ablation of glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide-producing cells in transgenic mice reduces obesity and insulin resistance induced by a high fat diet.](#)
Athanas MC, Ford EL, Wang S, Tso P, Polonsky KS, Wice BM.
J Biol Chem. 2009 Jun 27;284(26):18365-76. Epub 2009 Apr 17.
PMID: 18420560 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
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4. [A significant role for histocompatibility in human islet transplantation.](#)
Mohanakumar T, Narayanan K, Desai N, Ramachandran S, Shenoy S, Jendrisak M, Susskind BM, Olack B, Bershoff N, Phelan DL, Brennan DC, Fernandez LA, Odonico JS, Polonsky KS.
Transplantation. 2006 Jul 27;82(2):180-7.
PMID: 16858260 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]
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5. [Inhibition of calpain results in impaired contraction-stimulated GLUT4 translocation in skeletal muscle.](#)
Citani K, Polonsky KS, Holloszy JO, Han DH.

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- Targeted ablation of glucose-dependent insulinotropic polypeptide-pro... [J Biol Chem. 2009]
- Defective insulin secretion and increased susceptibility to experimental... [J Clin Invest. 2004]
- Increased islet apoptosis in Pdx1+/- mice. [J Clin Invest. 2003]

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To locate the PMID, change the Display to "Abstract" and click Apply.

On the Abstract display, you will find the PMID under the citation/abstract on the right side. This is the number to include on NIH proposals, applications and progress reports.

PubMed Central

The PMCID reference number is noted on the search results page.

The screenshot shows the PubMed Central search results page. The search query is 'PMC2440595'. The search results display a single entry with the title 'Targeted Ablation of Glucose-dependent Insulinotropic Polypeptide-producing Cells in Transgenic Mice Reduces Obesity and Insulin Resistance Induced by a High Fat Diet'. The authors listed are Matthew C. Athage, Eric L. Ford, Songran Wang, Patrick Tso, Kenneth S. Polonsky, and Burton M. Wice. The PMCID 'PMC2440595' is circled in red, and a red arrow points to it from a red box labeled 'PMCID Reference Number'. The 'Recent Activity' sidebar shows search history including 'PMC2440595 (1)', 'targeted ablation insulin... (9)', 'targeted ablation insulin... (0)', and '18420580[uiid] (0)'. The footer of the page includes the text 'U.S. NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE' and 'Department of Health & Human Services'.

How to Cite the PMCID

The PMCID should be cited as:

Cerrato, A., et al., Genetic interactions between *Drosophila melanogaster* menin and Jun/Fos. *Dev Biol.* 2006 Oct 1; 298(1): 59-70. PMCID: **PMC2291284**

How to Demonstrate Compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy

Documentation of compliance is demonstrated by:

- **PMCID** (PubMed Central reference number)
Method A, B, C, and D forms of submission

A PMCID is required for demonstration of compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy for papers three months post publication and beyond. See [Include PMCID in Citations](#) for more information.

If the PMCID is not yet assigned for papers in press or published within three months of when an application, proposal or progress report is due, compliance can also be demonstrated by:

- **“PMC Journal – In Process”**
Method A and B forms of submission

OR:

- **NIHMS ID** (NIH Manuscript Submission system reference number)
Method C and D forms of submission

Last updated October 2009

Note: Using “PMC Journal – In Process” as documentation of compliance for works submitted via Method C and D forms of submission is **contrary** to the NIH Policy.

See the NIH Public Access Policy [Submission Methods](#) chart for more information.

Adapted from a [document](#) originally created by Molly Keener, Coy C. Carpenter Library Wake Forest University School of Medicine.