



MULTICENTER OSTEOARTHRITIS STUDY

GUIDELINES FOR PUBLICATIONS USING PUBLIC USE DATASETS

January 2011

A. Objectives and Scope of the Guidelines

1. To encourage appropriate use by the scientific community of the MOST public use datasets. (Hereinafter "MOST data" refers to study data collected from participants by questionnaires, interviews and examinations and to measurements made from radiograph and MR images.)
2. To avoid unintended duplication of effort and to foster collaboration among investigators.
3. To ensure appropriate citation and acknowledgement of MOST as the source of the data used in publications.
4. To foster high quality and creative publications based on valid use and interpretation of MOST data.
5. To offer analytic guidance in use of MOST data.

B. Access to MOST Data and Permitted Uses

To be a Recipient of MOST data, an investigator will be asked to join a registry of data users and must complete a Data Use Agreement.

Please Note: Transfer of MOST data from a Recipient with a valid Data Use Agreement to others (agents) is restricted to subcontractors, students, fellows, analysts and others who are collaborating directly with the Recipient on permitted uses of MOST data. All other individuals must register separately and complete a Data Use Agreement before obtaining and using MOST data.

Permitted uses of MOST data are specified and governed by the Data Use Agreement.

Violation of the terms of the Data Use Agreement by a Recipient or their agents may result in termination of the Recipient's further access to MOST data.

C. Registry of MOST Data Recipients

When MOST data Recipients submit a Data Use Agreement, they provide their name, institutional affiliation, and contact information. If the registered individual completes a Data Use Agreement and becomes a Recipient of MOST data, their information will become part of a database of MOST data Recipients. This database will be used to ensure that Recipients are able to receive updates about MOST data already in their possession and to inform them about other MOST data that are available and that will be available in the future.

Recipients may also opt to provide further information about research interests and planned uses of the data to foster contact between investigators with similar interests and to avoid unwanted duplication of research effort (some duplication may, of course, be intentional and desirable).

D. Required Citation and Acknowledgement of MOST

As part of the Data Use Agreement, Recipients and their agents agree that in publications using MOST data they will acknowledge MOST as the source of the data.

1. The official name of the study for publications is “Multicenter Osteoarthritis Study (MOST)”.
2. Meeting abstracts, presentations, and journal articles.

Title: “...data from the Multicenter Osteoarthritis Study” or the name can be abbreviated to “MOST” or “MOST study”.

Methods section: “Data for these analyses are from Multicenter Osteoarthritis Study (MOST)”.

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Recommended

Additional documentation describing various aspects of the design and methods of MOST is available by request sent to MOSTOnline@psg.ucsf.edu and should be paraphrased and referenced as appropriate.

E. Informing MOST Online about Publications based on MOST Data

Recipients are requested to inform MOST investigators of articles published using MOST data by sending notice to MOSTOnline@psg.ucsf.edu so that publications can be tracked and the author(s) acknowledged by having the citation posted on MOST Online (<http://most.ucsf.edu>).

F. Collaboration with MOST Investigators and Obtaining MOST Approval of Manuscripts

Recipients of MOST public use datasets are encouraged to seek collaboration with MOST investigators in the analysis and publication of MOST data. Those interested should send a Collaboration Request form (available on [MOST Online](#) under the Publications link) with an attached analysis plan proposal to MOSTOnline@psg.ucsf.edu.

Collaboration involves the following:

1. Develop an analysis proposal using a specified format (including research questions and/or hypothesis, brief background and rationale, variables to be used in analysis, key mock tables, timeline for completion, etc.) and submit this analysis proposal for review by the MOST investigators.
2. Collaborate with one or more MOST investigators in analyzing and publishing the data.
3. Submit abstracts and manuscripts for review by MOST investigators prior to submission to a meeting or journal. Authors may be asked to submit additional information about the analyses, such as code from statistical packages for key calculated variables used in analyses, the IDs of subsets of participants included in analyses and/or code indicating how the subsets were defined and selected.
4. Follow the acknowledgement policies stated above (section D) and, when appropriate, use the following acknowledgement: "This manuscript has been reviewed by MOST study investigators for its scientific content and data interpretation".