

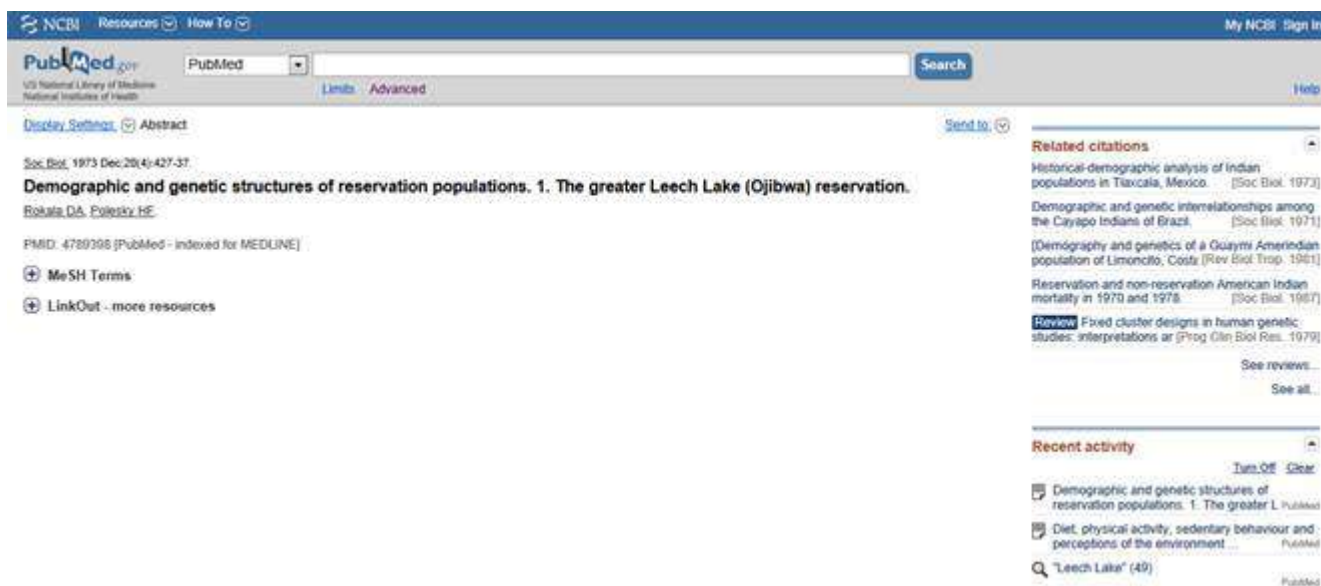
Subject: Lack of Public Access

Date: December 7, 2011 12:15:18 PM EST

Greetings! I am writing in regard to comment upon public access to federally-funded research through databases such as PubMed. When federal taxpayer dollars are used in research, the researchers have an obligation to ensure that their use of federal funds is accountable and transparent to the taxpayers by making the research freely and publicly available; this is especially so when the research involves a particular community, especially a community that cannot afford subscription access, either in print or electronically or both, to for-profit and non-profit research journals. For example, the following is unavailable to the average Leech Lake Anishinaabe citizen, despite the fact that the study involves Leech Lake and its citizens.

This seems an egregious disservice to the public, to Leech Lake citizens as both human beings and as health care consumers, to federal taxpayers, and to health care providers and educators and students in rural, economically-depressed areas and institutions.

Please consider the continued lack of economic and scientific opportunities on communities and populations with whom federally-funded unclassified information is shared. Miigwech / Thank you on behalf of my profession, the educational institution I serve and its stakeholders, and your constituencies.



The screenshot shows a PubMed search result for the article: "Demographic and genetic structures of reservation populations. 1. The greater Leech Lake (Ojibwa) reservation." by Robata DA, Polesky HE. The PMID is 4789268. The page includes options for "MeSH Terms" and "LinkOut - more resources". On the right side, there are sections for "Related citations" and "Recent activity".

Melissa Pond, Director of Library Services
Leech Lake Tribal College



Leech Lake Tribal College provides quality higher education grounded in Anishinaabe values.