

How to Access Data for Analysis and Publication Process

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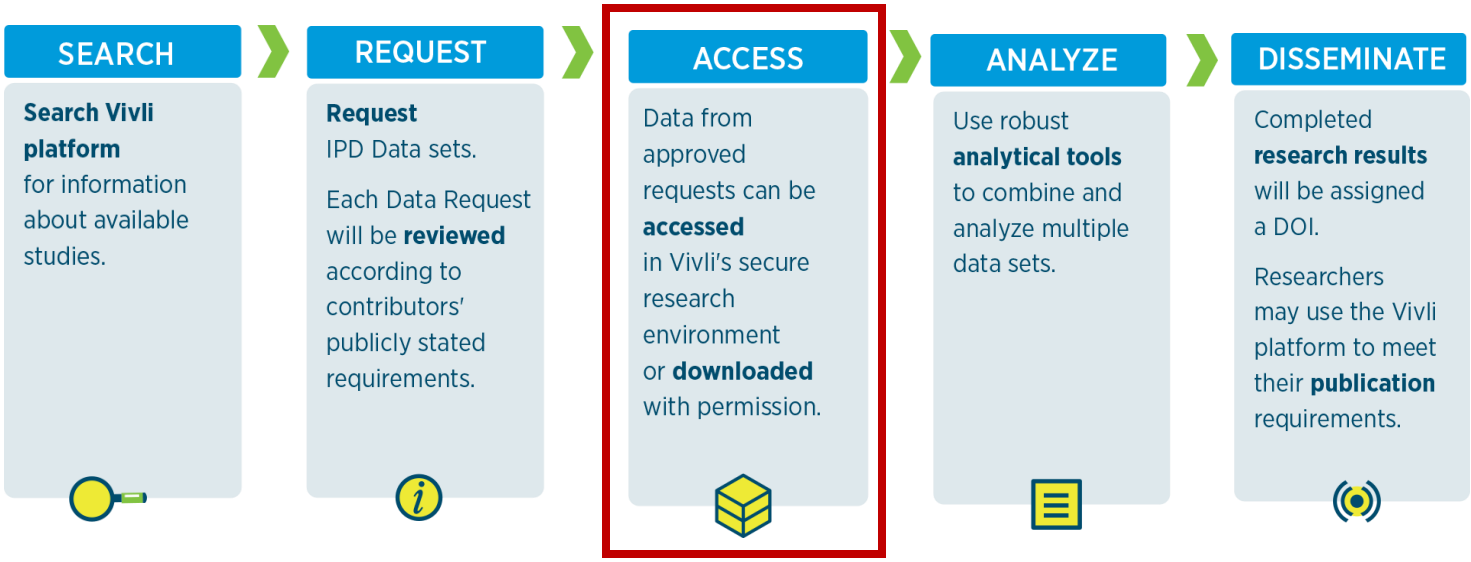


1.0 Data Access Introduction

Your team's data request has been approved and your Data Use Agreement has been executed. Now that one of the studies from your request has been uploaded, your research team is able to begin analyzing the data. Depending on the access options available on your requested studies, you can either download the data (See section 13.0 for more information) or you can access the data via a secure, cloud-based, isolated workspace known as a research environment.

- The Research Environment is a where users have access to various tools to analyze their data and conduct their research, including R, Python, Jupityr, the Microsoft Office suite, STATA, and SAS (Academic-license only) depending on the type of the Research Environment selected. A complete list of the software included and versions in the Research Environment can be found on the Vivli website resources page.
- The Vivli Research Environment can also accept your own preferred analytical tools if you can provide the license key for the tool, or if it is an open-source tool. Your research team can install R packages from CRAN, and approved Python packages using pip, yourself (see section 3.5). Packages from other sources, such as Bioconductor or GitHub, can be added by the Vivli Team.

2.0 Getting Started

- Once one of your requested studies data packages has been uploaded, you will be notified via email that your data is available.
- At this point, you may initiate the Secure Research Environment. Please note that only the Lead Researcher of the request can start the Research Environment.

Research environment desktop

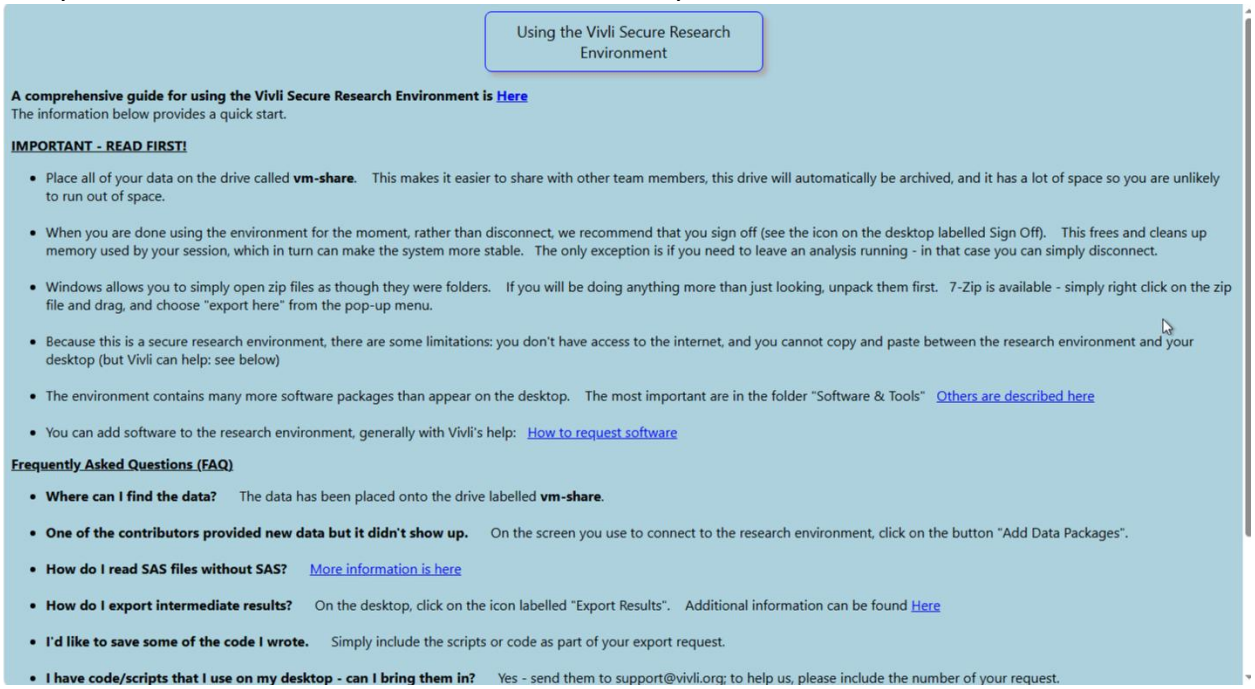


2.1 Using the Vivli Secure Research Environment

1. Click on the **Using Vivli** icon on the left corner of the desktop.



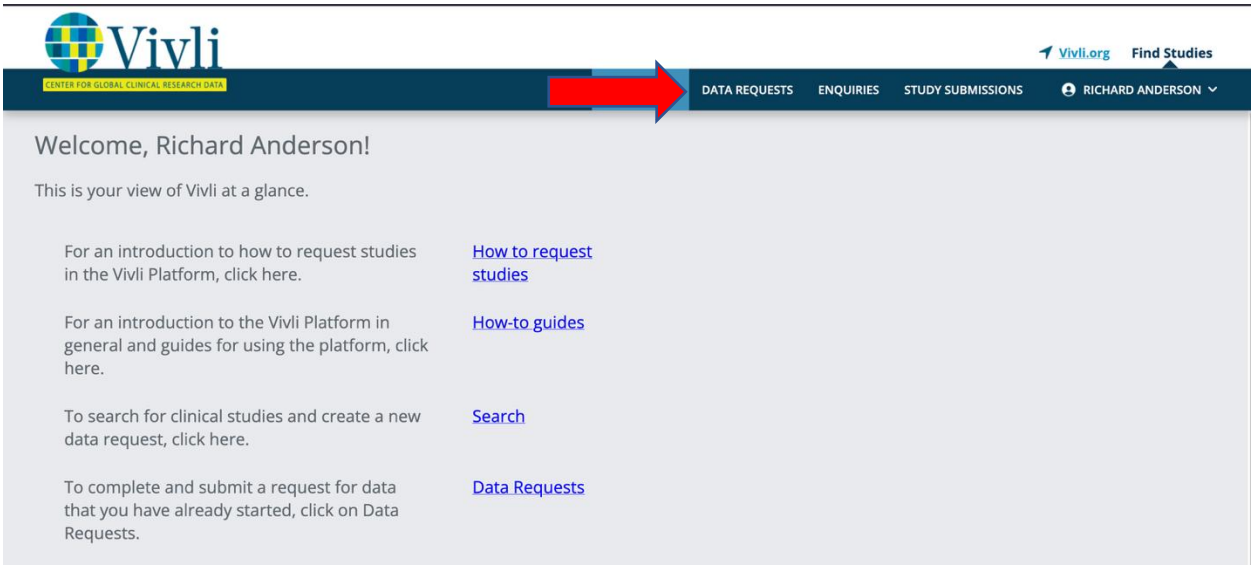
2. The Vivli secure research environment guide, important instructions for saving in progress analysis, FAQs, and other resources are conveniently linked here.



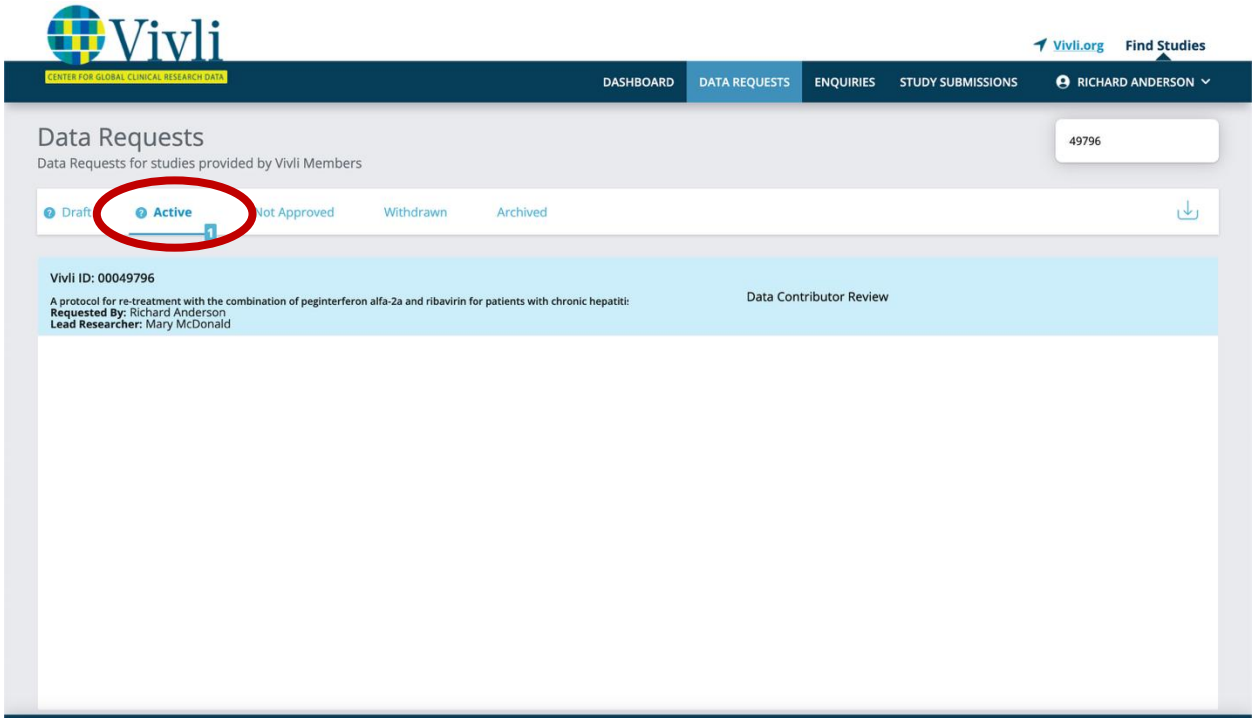
2.1 Locating the Data Request and seeing how many studies are available for analysis

1. Click on **Data Requests** from the dashboard :

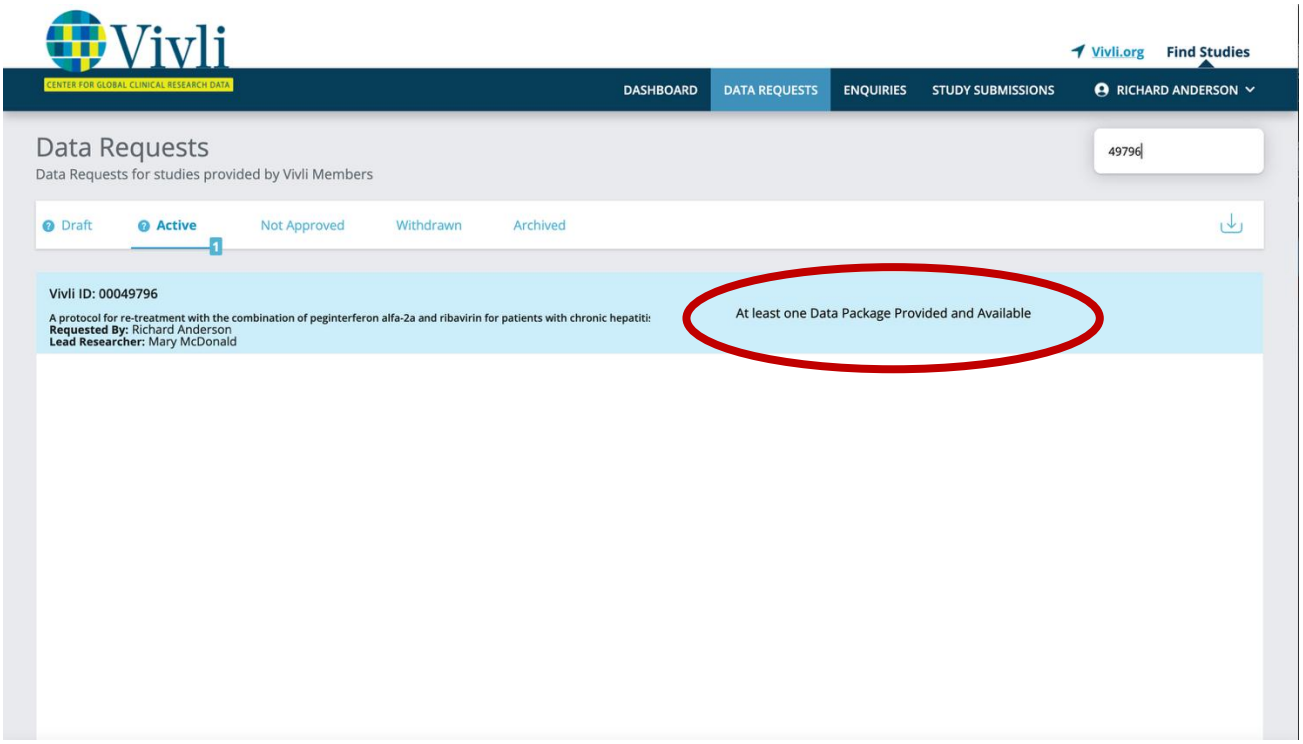
Figure 2 - Data Requests



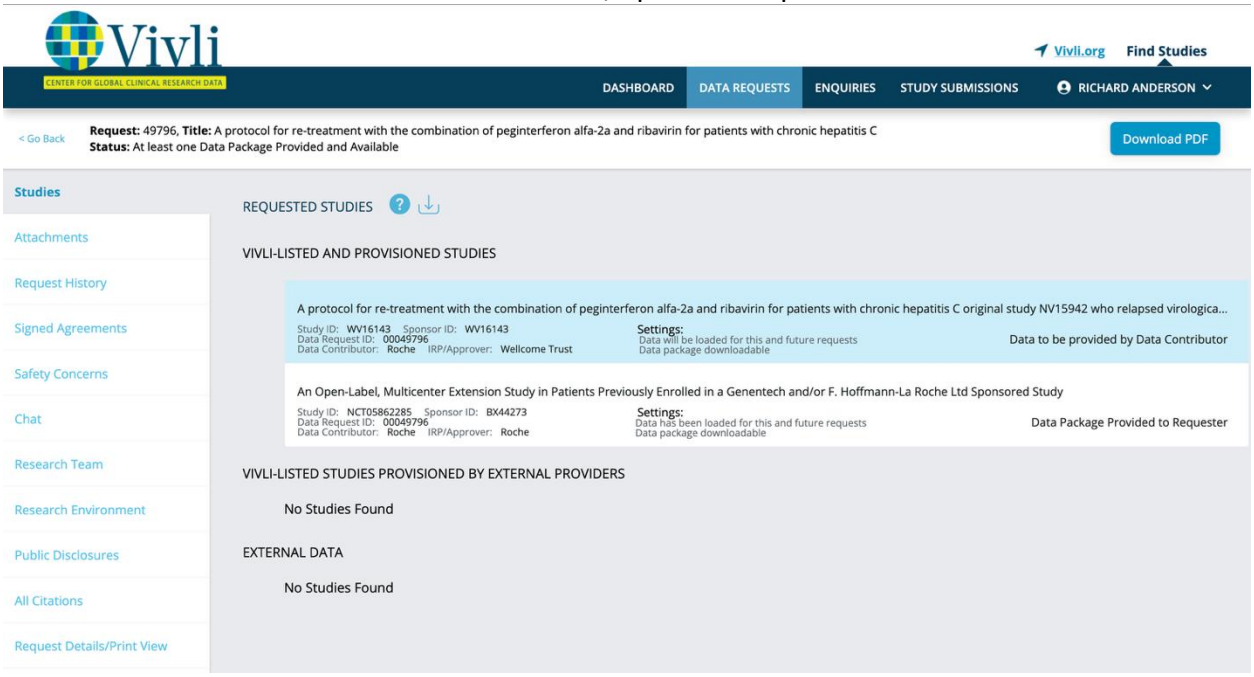
2. The request will appear under **Active:**



3. If the request has been approved, the Data Use Agreement validated and the requested data from at least one requested study is available, the request will appear under “Active”, with a status of “At least one Data Package Provided and Available”



To determine **which** studies have been loaded, open the request and click on the Studies tab:



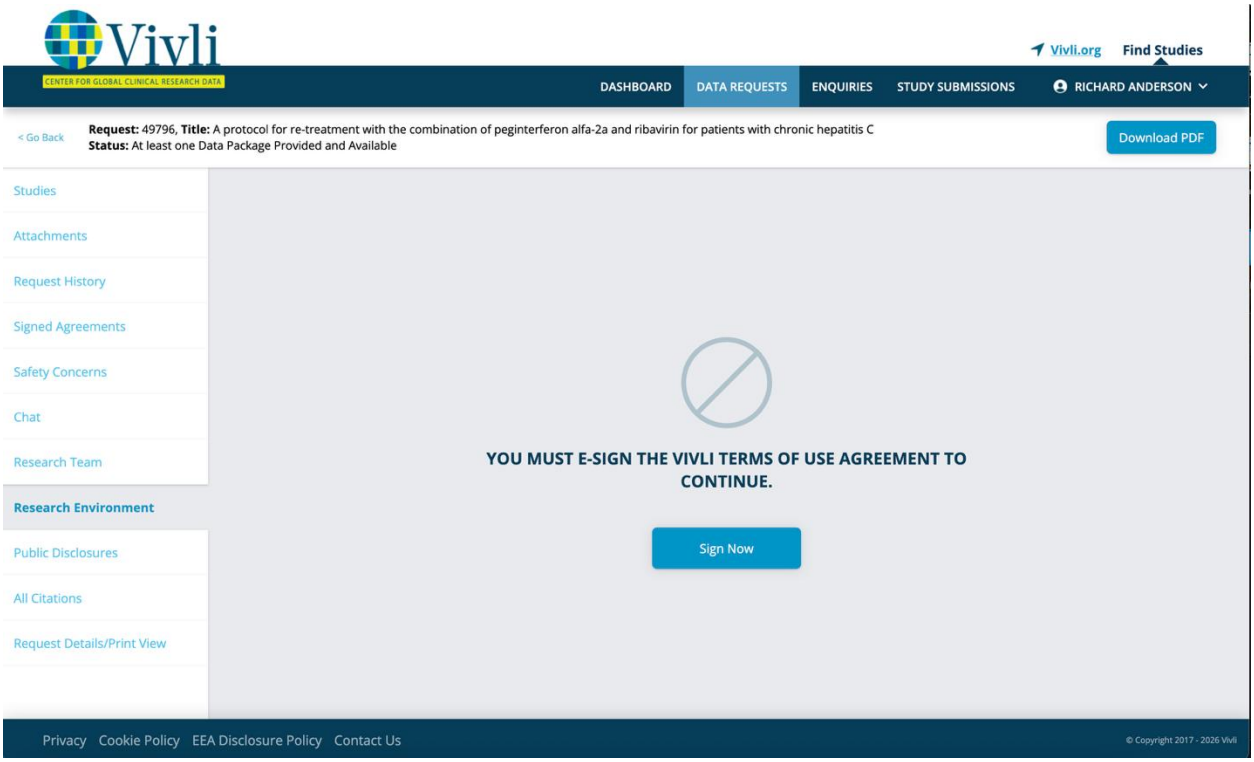
If you start the research environment before all of the data is available, then as additional data is made available, it will not automatically appear in the research environment– you will have to request that the new data be added to your research environment– see section "5.2 How to add additional data to your research environment as it becomes available"

2.2 Starting the Secure Research Environment

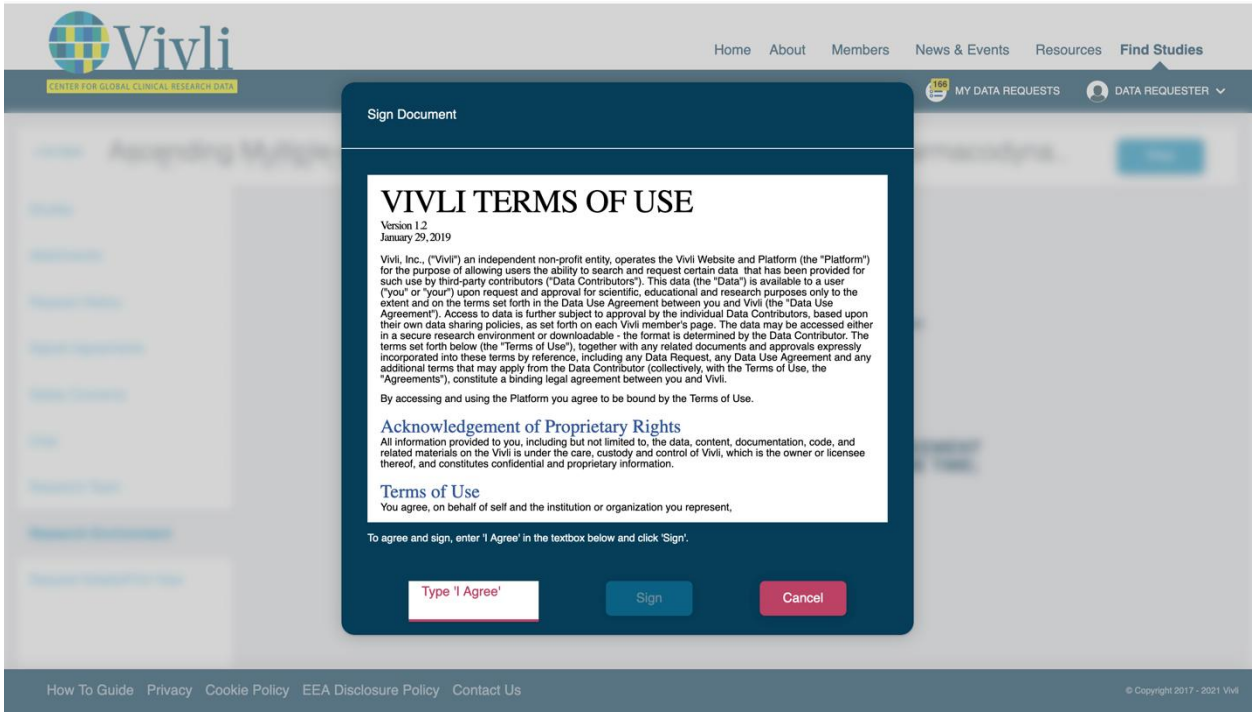
Once you have opened your request, click on the **Research Environment** tab on the left-hand side of your screen to begin initiating the environment.

Note: only the **Lead Researcher** may initiate the Research environment.

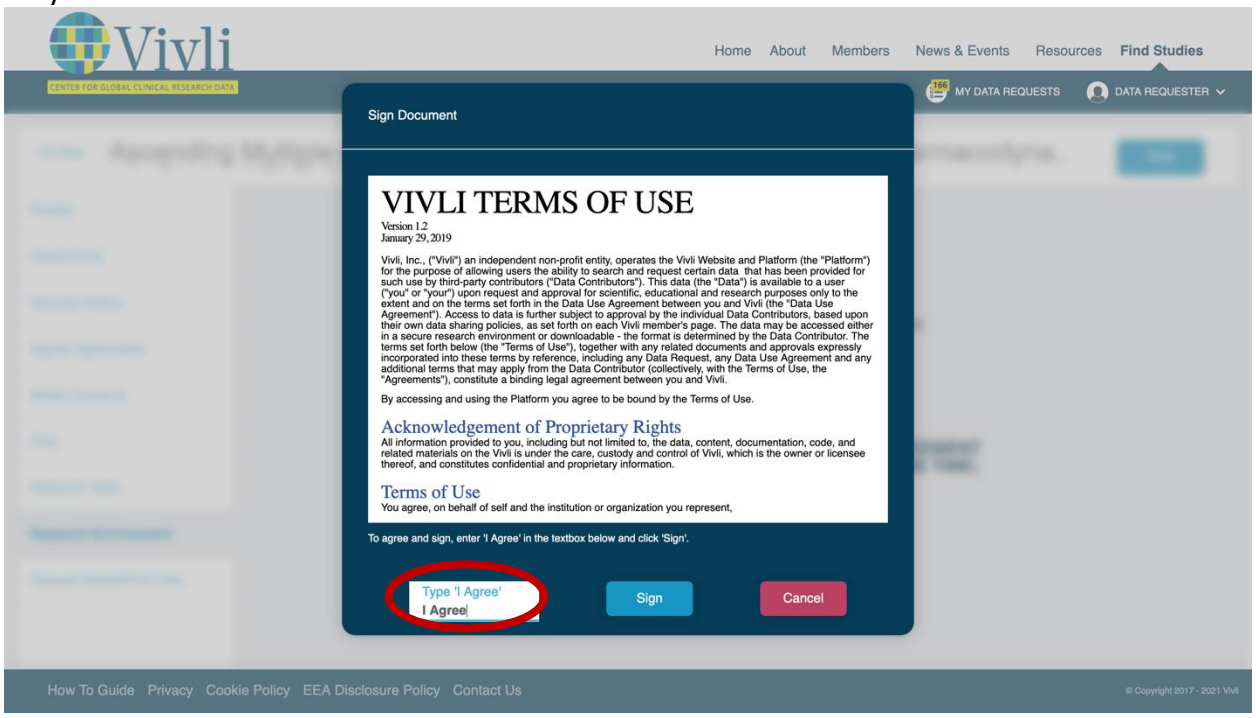
Please read and acknowledge the Vivli Terms of Use for the Research Environment. Click on **Sign Now**:



The following pop-up window will appear:



Type **I Agree** in the dialogue box and click **Sign.**
Each Team member accessing the Research Environment must Sign the Terms of Use when they first access the Research Environment.



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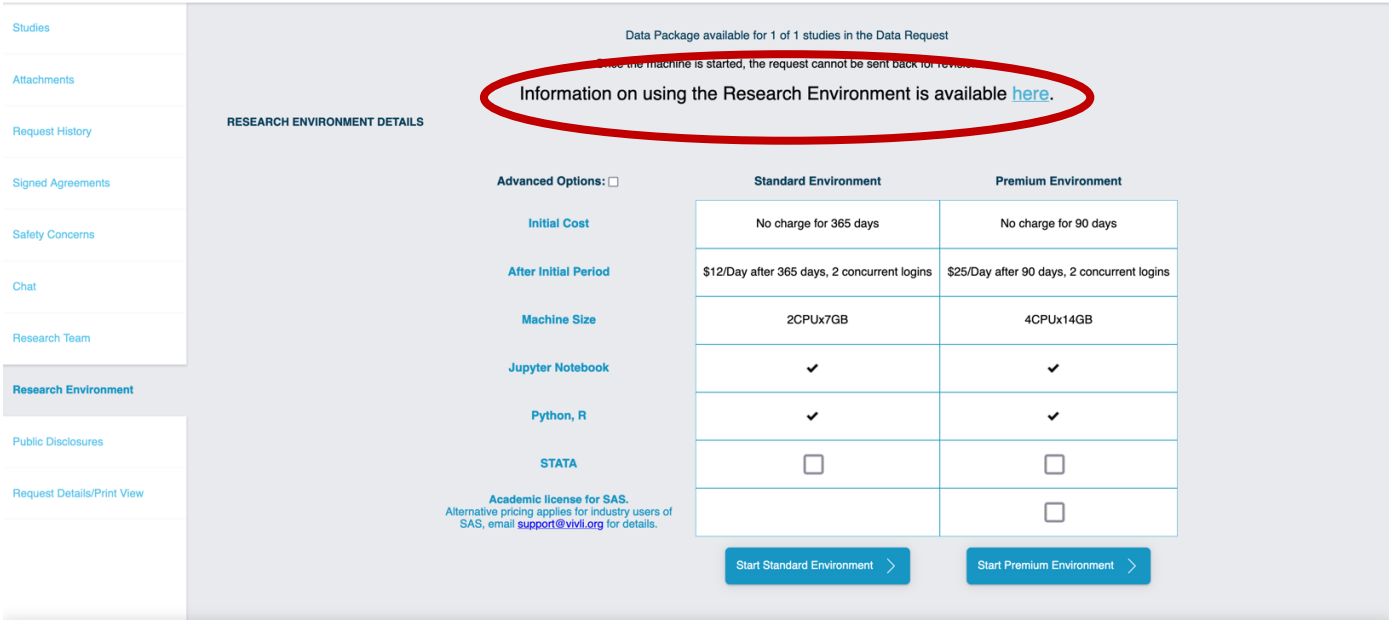
2.3 Secure Research Environment Options

1. After you agree to the Terms of Use, the following options window will appear:



2. Most research teams find that the standard environment meets their needs. If you need a larger environment, the Premium will normally suffice.

2b. If you need a dramatically larger environment, choose Advanced Options for additional environment size types. Please note that if you choose a larger size, you cannot move to a smaller size, but you can start with a smaller size and upgrade to a larger size research environment. In addition, the no charge period will change based upon the larger machine size that is used and will consider the no charge time already provided. For example, if you move from a standard to a premium, after 90 days, you will not be entitled to a further 90 days of no charge.



4. Select the research environment appropriate for your needs and check the boxes as desired for the software you require and click the button “Start Environment”.

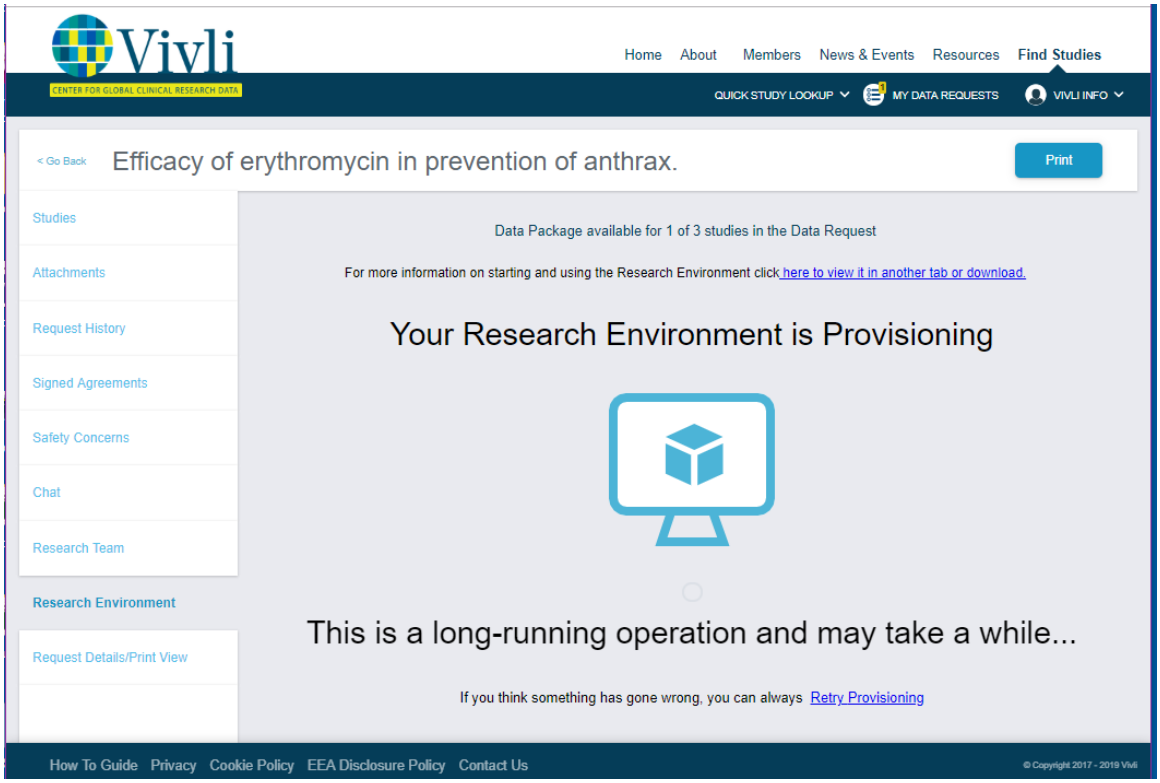
As you consider which environment to choose, if you don't want to use SAS, but if the data is provided as SAS data, the system includes three R-studio packages that can help:

- Foreign
- Haven
- SAS7bdat

When you click the "Start…" button, your selection is final, and the provisioning will begin. For more information, contact support@vivli.org.

2.4 Initiating the Secure Research Environment

1. After selecting the size of the environment, the data will be provisioned into the Secure Research Environment. While provisioning is taking place, the following screen will appear:

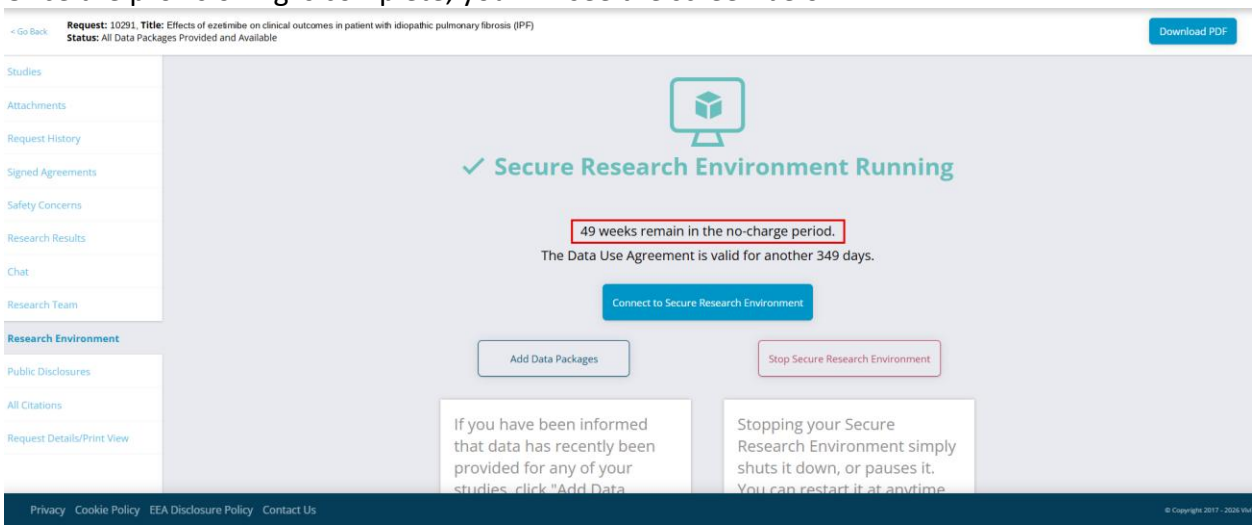


2. While the system is provisioning, you can exit this screen and allow the provisioning to proceed in the background. You will receive an email when the process is complete. This process typically takes 20-25 minutes.

3.0 Access to the Environment

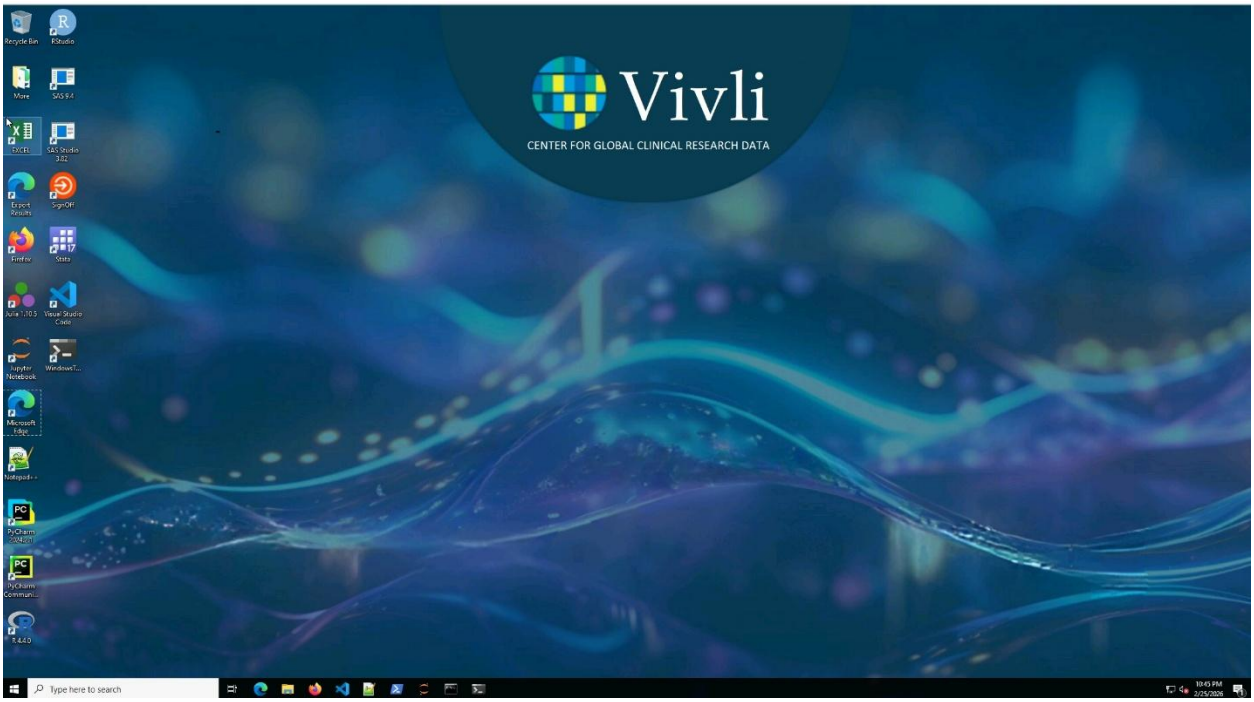
3.1 Accessing the Secure Research Environment

1. Once the provisioning is complete, you will see the screen below:



2. Then click on the box “Connect to Secure Research Environment” 

   The number of weeks remaining in the no-charge period is calculated from when the research team starts the research environment. The number of weeks will be rounded up to the nearest number of weeks, including 1 week if less than 7 days remain. (e.g. "3 days" would display as "1 week"). Once there is no time remaining, the message is no longer shown on the screen.
3. After clicking on "Connect to Secure Research Environment," the secure research environment will load in a new browser tab.
4. The secure research environment home screen opens automatically:

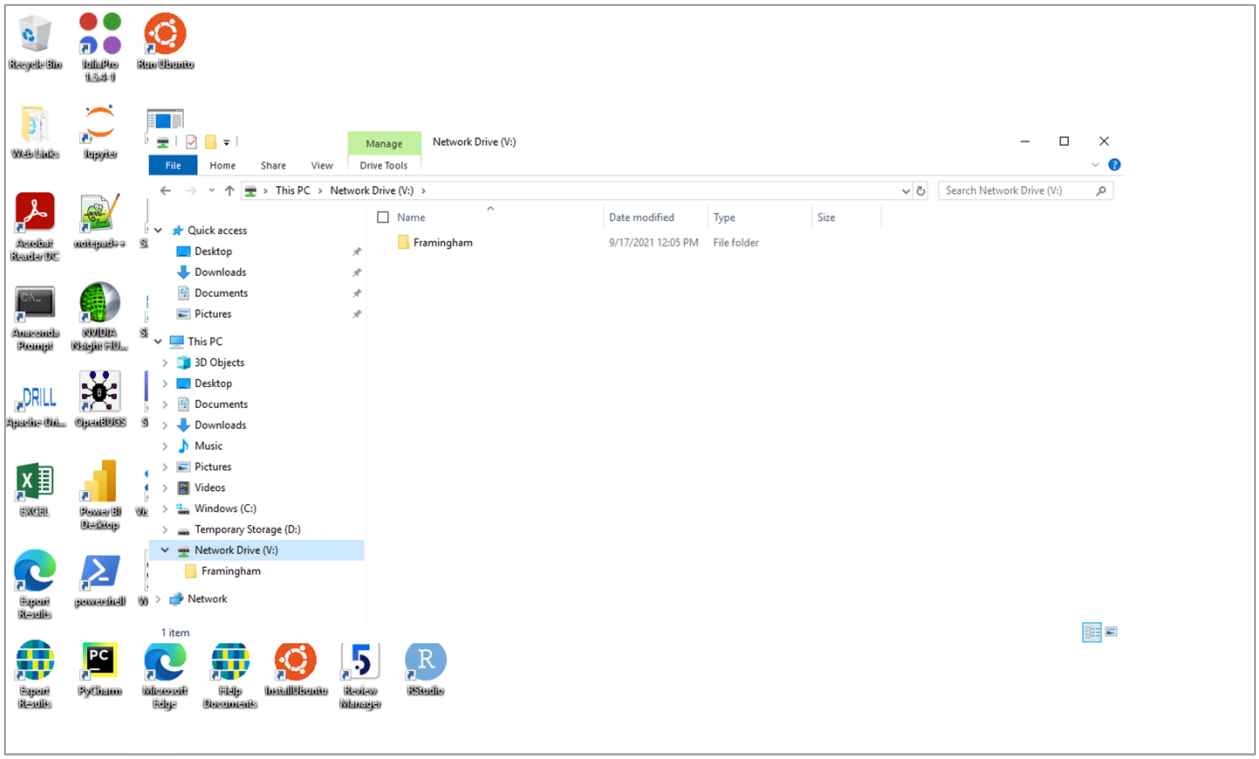


- Note that the first time you connect to the secure Research Environment, the system will be slower than normal as the system does some first-time configuration.

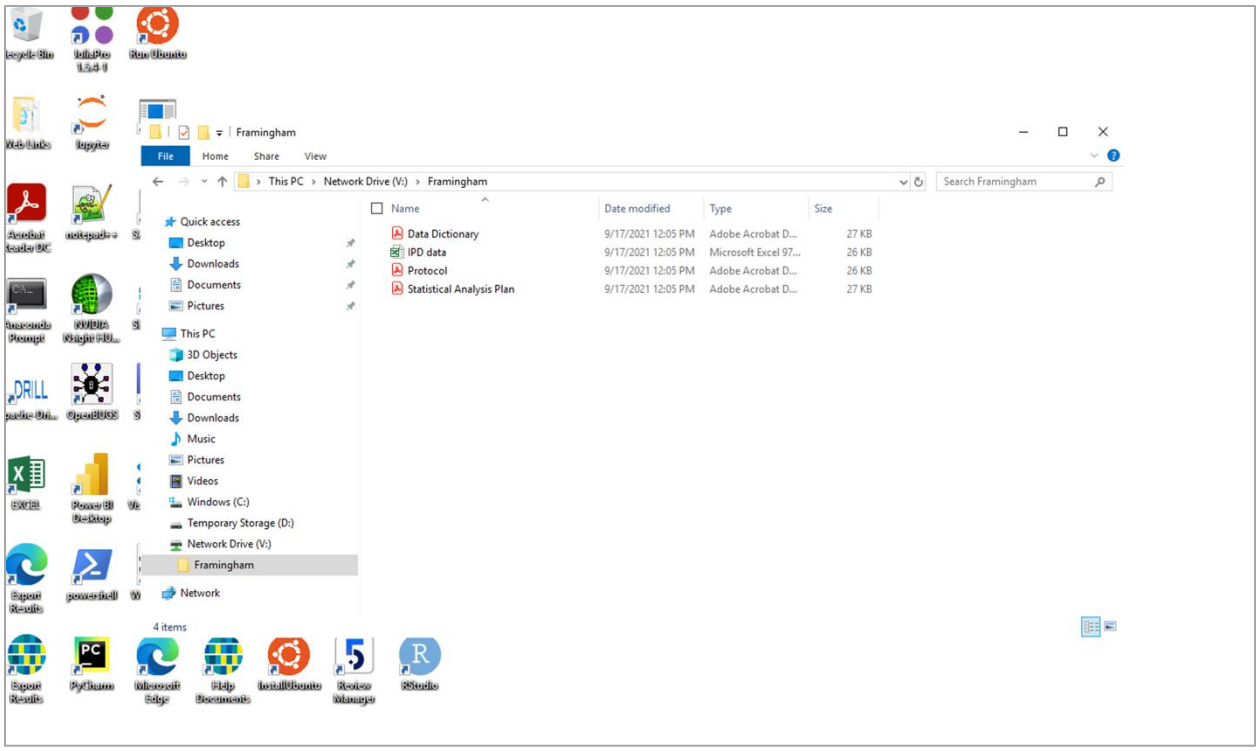
3.2 Working in the Research Environment

3.2.1 Finding your data and using space

1. Open Disk V:



2. In the Network Drive (drive V:) you will find one folder for each study that has been provided –the folder name will be the sponsor-assigned ID. Unlisted studies will appear with the ID you used to request the study. Within the ID, some characters that are not allowed for filenames will be replaced by an underscore character, including /\:*?*<>|



Do not place any important data onto the temporary storage drive D: when the machine is stopped, even temporarily, the temporary storage will be deleted.

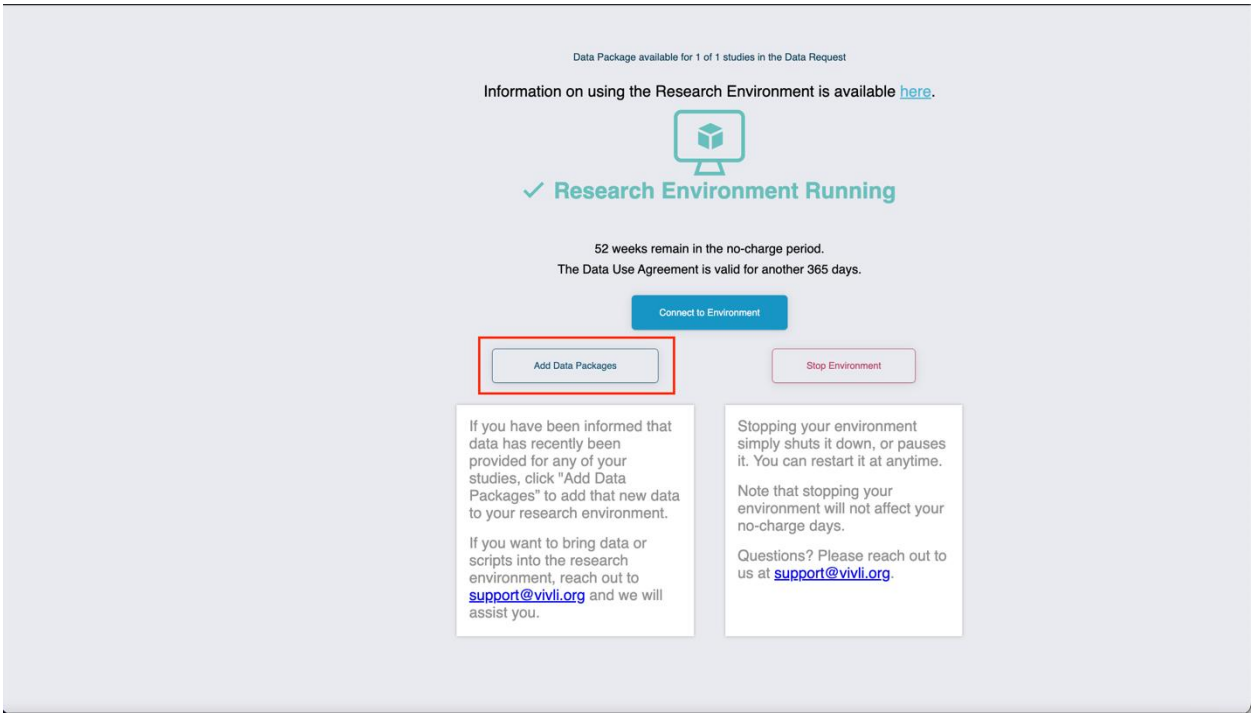
If the data has been provided in the form of a zip file, you can open the file as though it were a folder, and read the files in the zip file, but you will not be able to modify them in-place. To modify the files, you will need to copy the file(s) to a new, un-zipped folder. Alternatively, if you drag the icon representing the zip file onto another folder, 7-zip will offer to extract all of the files.

Additional network space will expand as you add files, up to a terabyte. We recommend that you not put anything but transient data onto C: drive. Data on the V: drive will be placed into long-term storage after you have completed your analysis.

If you have questions about the data and what has been provided, use the Chat function within the Vivli platform. Please direct questions about the source data to the data contributors. Responses to questions about the source data is at the discretion of the data contributor.

3.2.2 If you started before all of the data was available

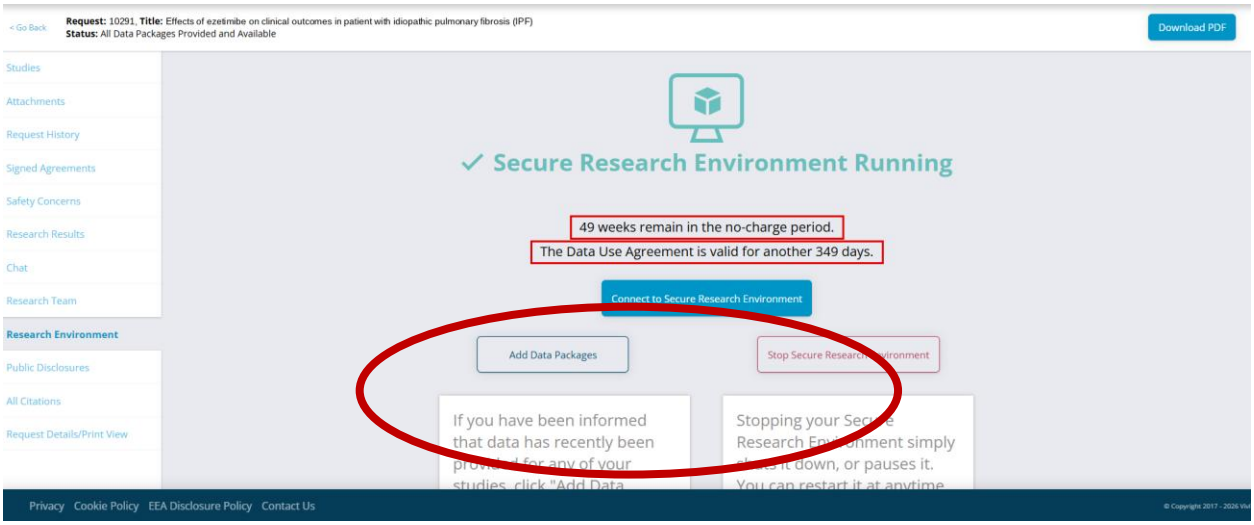
If you have decided to start before *all* of the data is available, then when additional data is provided by the contributor, it won't be added to your research environment automatically. See Section 5.0 for instructions on how to load newly provided data.



3.2.3 Additional Tips for working in the Research Environment

From the research environment tab, you can review the (1) remaining no-charge period left in the environment and (2) the number of valid days remaining for the Data Use Agreement (DUA). –

- The no-charge period refers to how many weeks remain before billing will start for the environment selected (refer to Section 11.0 Paying for the Research Environment).
- When the no-charge days are less than 30 Days, the message is displayed in red.
- The DUA is valid for one year from the date it is signed and a request for extension will be required to continue analysis beyond this date (refer to Section 10.0 Extensions to the Data Use Agreement via the Data Request Progress Report).



3.3 Disconnecting from the research environment

- When you are done working with the research environment, unless you are leaving a long-running analysis running, we recommend that you Sign Out – this will free up memory and will allow other members of the research team to use the research environment.

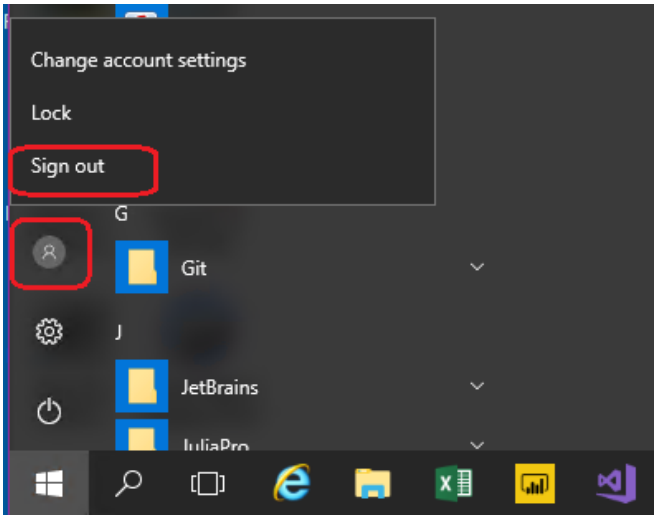


Figure 17 – How to Sign-out

- There is also an option to Sign Out by selecting the SignOff icon from the desktop.



- Only two team members can use the Secure Research Environment at a time. If a third member tries to log on, they will be given the option of disconnecting a team member:

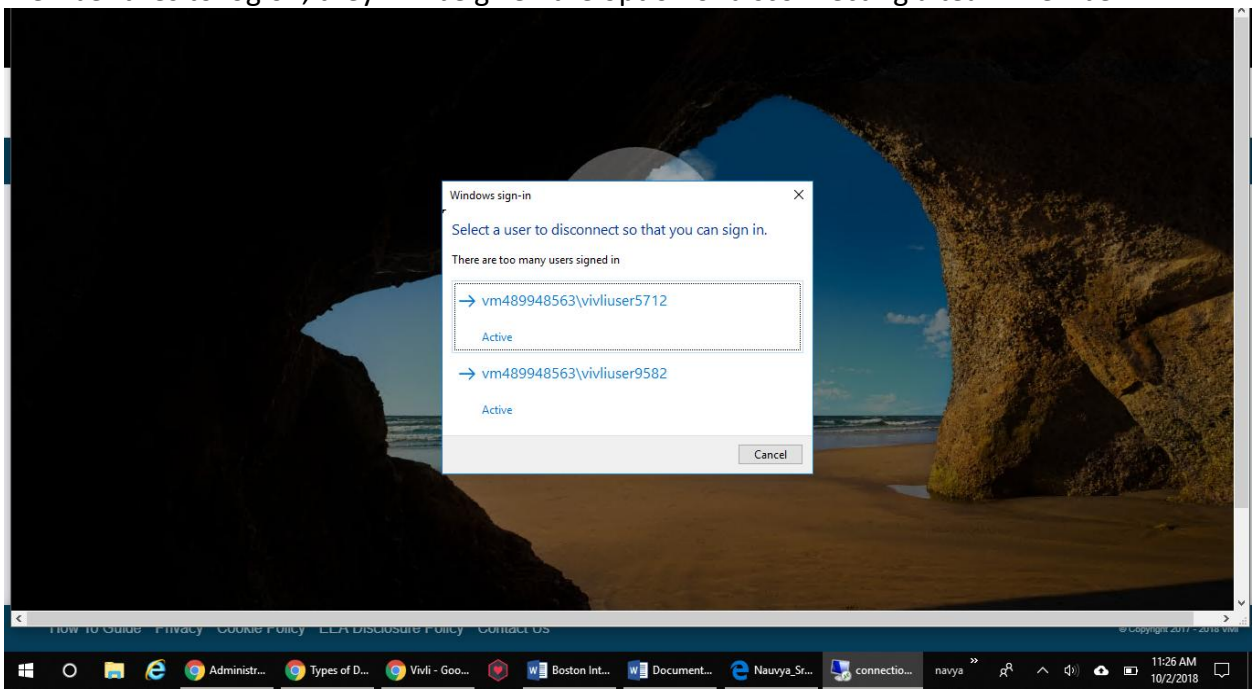
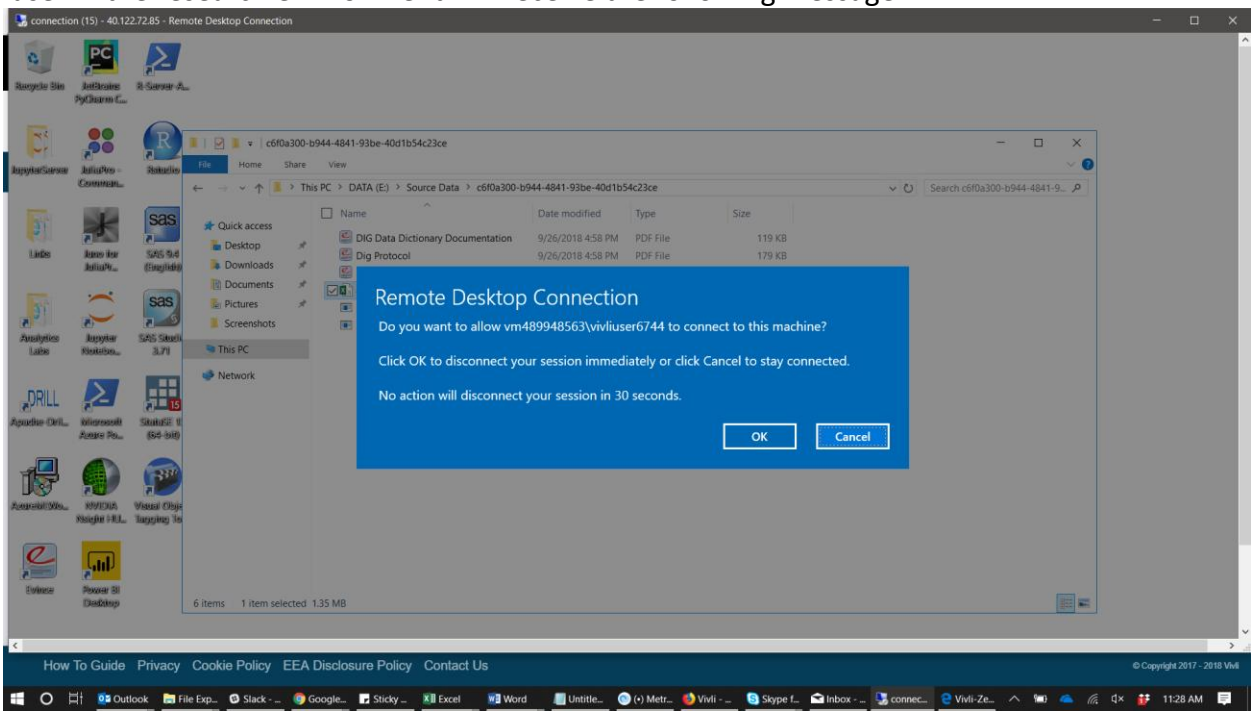


Figure 19 - disconnecting user

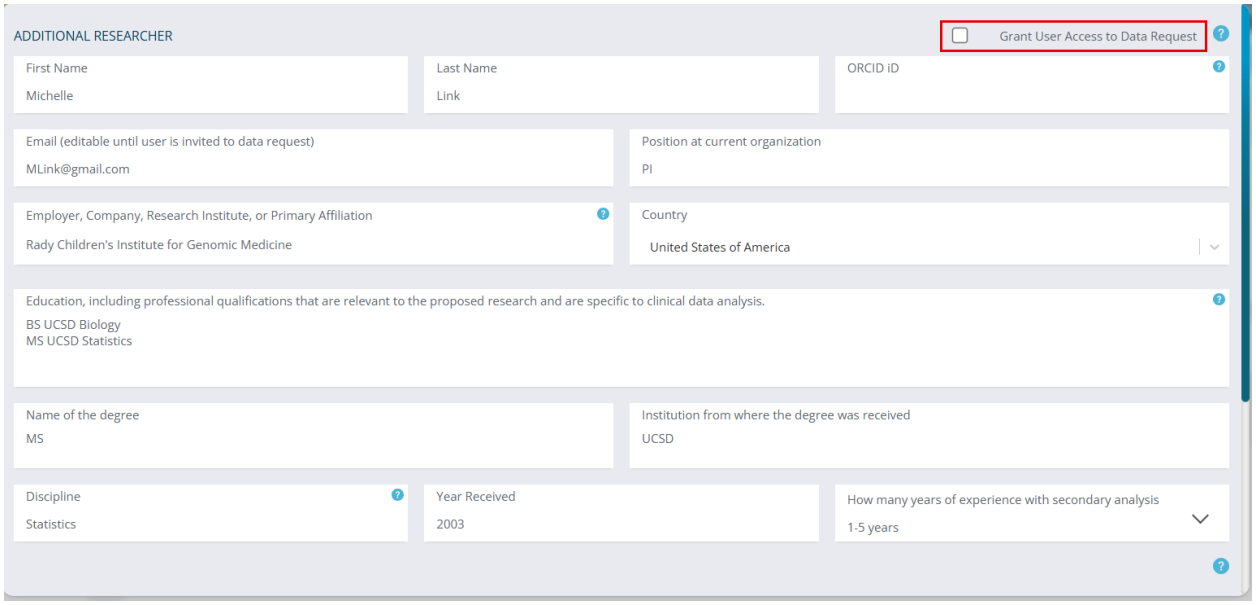
- The user in the research environment will receive the following message:



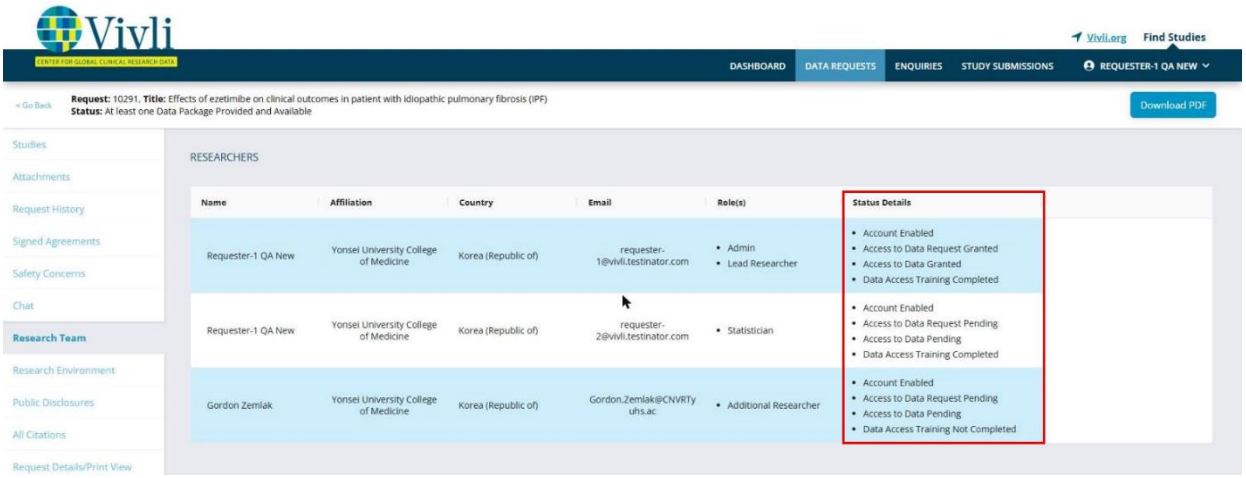
- The user in the research environment must click **OK** to disconnect and allow their team member access. Save your work regularly, and especially before disconnecting.

3.4 Team Access to Secure Research Environment

- All members of the research team working in the research environment must have a signed Data Use Agreement (DUA) and have completed data access training. If a research team member is part of the same institution as the Principal Investigator, they are covered under the Principal Investigator's DUA. If a team member is from another institution, they must sign a DUA before accessing the research environment.
- To add a user, the user must first create an account using the "Sign-up" link on the initial page. For information on creating an account, see the User Quick Start Guide



- When a research team member is granted access to the data request, the request will appear on their "Data Requests" screen and they will be given access to the data request. Once Vivli has validated that they are covered by a signed Data Use Agreement and have completed data access training, they will be given access to the research environment.
- The Research Team tab lists each team member with their role(s) and Status Details. Status Details show whether the member's Vivli account is enabled (Account Enabled, Account Disabled or No Account), whether they have Access to Data Request and Access to Data (Pending, Granted or Denied), and whether their Data Access Training is Completed or Not Completed. A team member can use the research environment once their Access to Data is Granted.



- Once your request has been submitted, you are unable to make changes to the research team. If you need to add or remove research team members, contact support@vivli.org.

3.5 Adding additional software, tools and data during your analysis

You can install R packages from CRAN, and approved Python packages using pip, yourself. You do not need administrator rights. Packages come from secure copies that Vivli keeps inside the research network, so your Research Environment stays closed to the public internet and the data you work with stays protected.

Installing R packages from CRAN

R in your Research Environment is already set up to use Vivli's copy of CRAN. There is nothing to configure. Use either method:

- In R or RStudio, run install.packages(). For example: install.packages("jsonlite")
- In RStudio, go to Tools, then Install Packages. Under "Install from", select Repository (CRAN), then enter the packages you want.

Packages install into your own personal library. The first time, R may ask whether to create a personal library. Answer yes.

Vivli's copy of CRAN includes:

- Every package currently on CRAN, as source code.
- Ready-to-install Windows versions of packages for R 4.1 and newer.
- Older versions of every package (the CRAN archive).
- New packages and updates, usually within one day of their release on CRAN.

To install a specific older version, use the pre-installed remotes package. For example: remotes::install_version("jsonlite", version = "1.8.0"). Older versions install from source code, so packages that contain C, C++ or Fortran code must be compiled during installation. If an older version fails to install, contact Vivli with the error message.

Vivli's copy covers CRAN only. Packages from other sources, such as Bioconductor or GitHub, are not included. If you need one, contact Vivli.

Research Environments created on or after 31-Oct-2026 use Vivli's copy of CRAN automatically. Existing Research Environments will be moved to Vivli's copyby 02-Nov-2026. You do not need to do anything. If R is open when your environment is moved, close R and start it again.

Installing Python packages with pip (new)

You can now install approved Python packages yourself using pip. Until now, Python packages had to be installed by Vivli on request. pip is already set up to use Vivli's copy of approved packages for every Python installation in your Research Environment. There is nothing to configure.

- To install a package, open a command prompt and run pip as usual. For example: pip install pandas
- Because you do not have administrator rights, pip installs packages into your own user folder. pip may show the message "Defaulting to user installation because normal site-packages is not writeable". This is expected, and the package is installed and ready to use.
- If pip cannot connect the first time you use it, sign out of your Research Environment and sign back in.

Vivli's copy includes 1,009 approved packages. The list covers the packages already in use across Vivli Research Environments, plus the packages they depend on. Updates to approved packages usually appear within one day. See the full list here: (https://vivli.org/Software_Available_in_Research_Environment).

Most common scientific packages, such as numpy, pandas and scipy, come as ready-to-install Windows files and install directly. A package that must be compiled from source code may fail to install. If that happens, contact Vivli with the error message.

If a package is not on the approved list, pip shows an error such as ERROR: No matching distribution found for <package-name>. To request it, contact Vivli via chat or support@vivli.org with the package name. Vivli reviews each request.

Research Environments created on or after 31-Oct-2026 are set up automatically. Existing Research Environments will be set up by 02-Nov-2026. Until then, request Python packages from Vivli as before.

If a package will not install

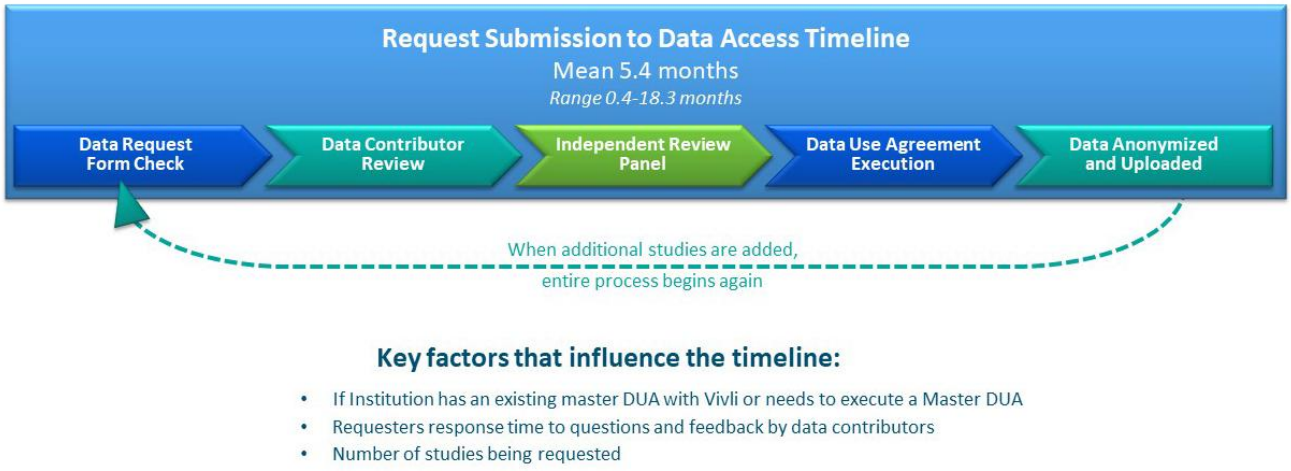
Contact Vivli via chat or support@vivli.org. Include:

- The package name, and the version if you need a specific one.
- Whether it is an R package or a Python package.
- The full error message.

Any scripts that you have written can be emailed to support@vivli.org and they will be added to your Research Environment. Please include your request number to help Vivli locate the correct environment.

If you have additional software, please email Vivli at support@vivli.org with the name of the software and any license key, if required. If this software was not included in your request, Vivli will need to reach out to the data contributors involved and ask for their agreement to include this software or data.

If you wish to add additional study data that is available on Vivli after your request is approved, you will need to submit a new request. Please note that this process can take an additional 2-5 months for review, approval and uploading of the additional data. Vivli strongly recommends that all studies needed for analysis are included before submitting your data request.



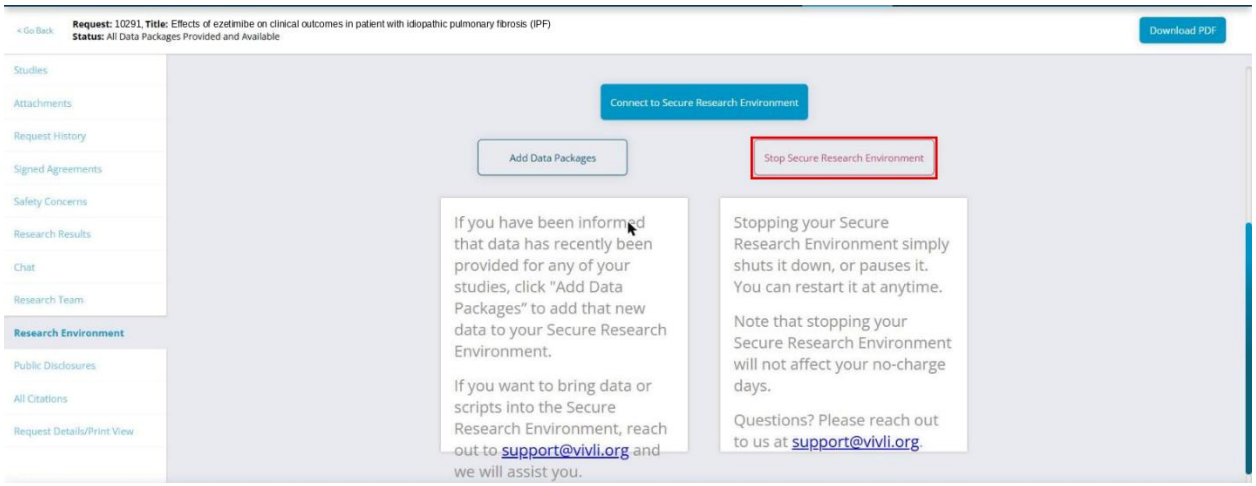
4.0 Stopping and Starting the Research Environment

4.1 Stopping or Pausing the research environment

- Stopping the research environment is like powering off your laptop: nothing is lost, and the environment can be restarted quickly (less than 5 minutes).
- If you expect to leave the research environment idle for several days or longer, we recommend that you stop the Research Environment
- When you are ready to use the Research Environment again, you may restart it and the environment will be restarted with all the saved data as you left it.

To Stop the Research Environment:

1. Login to the Vivli Platform
2. Navigate to the Research Environment, and click on the button “Stop Secure Research Environment”:



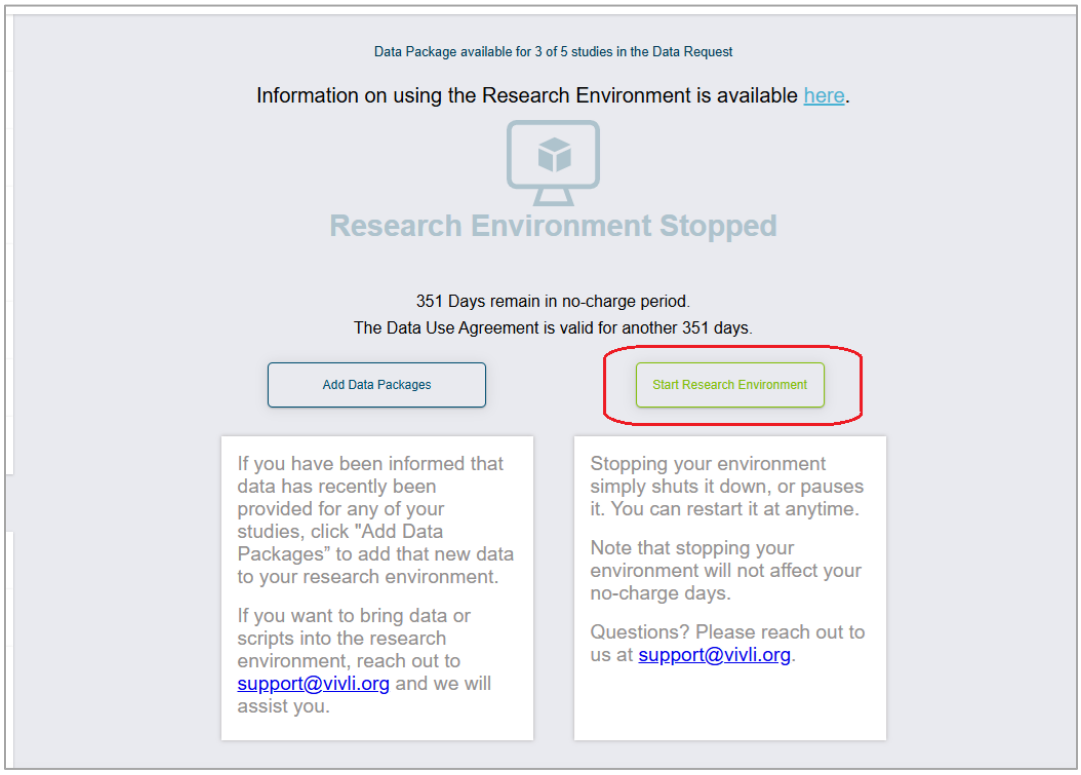
This will stop the secure research environment.

Note: Once you click “Stop Secure Research Environment”, billing and no-charge time will not automatically pause. Please reach out to the Vivli team if you would like to pause your billing and the Vivli team will provide next steps.

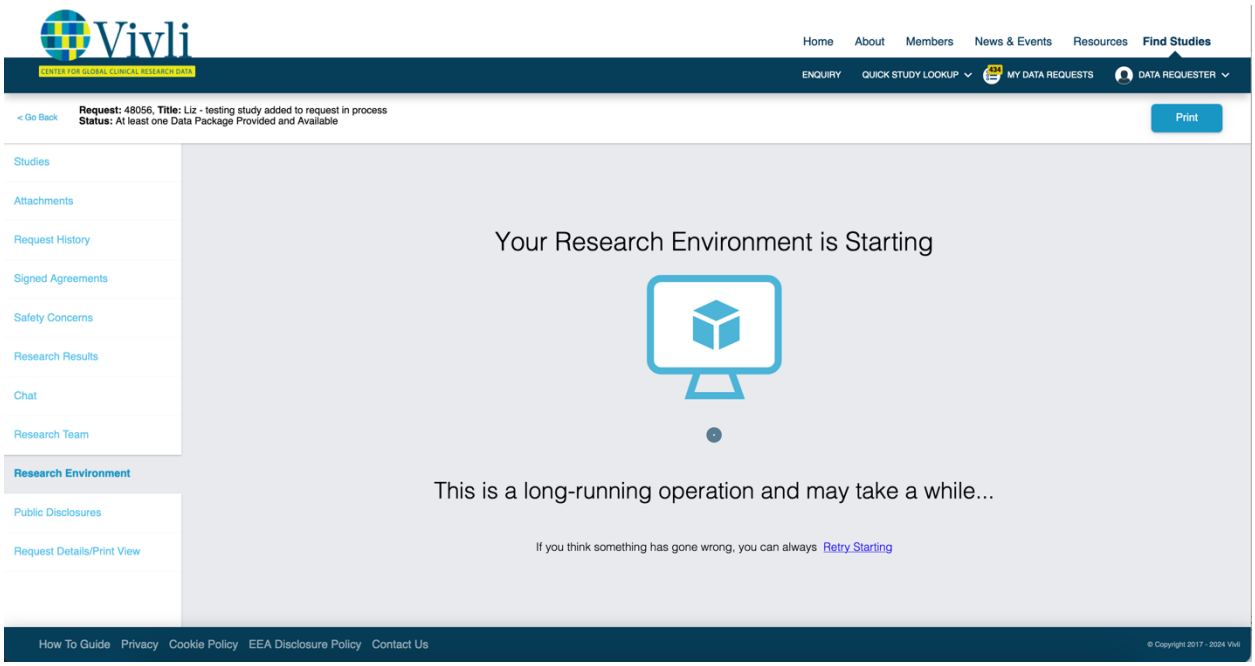
4.2 Restarting the research environment

To restart the research environment:

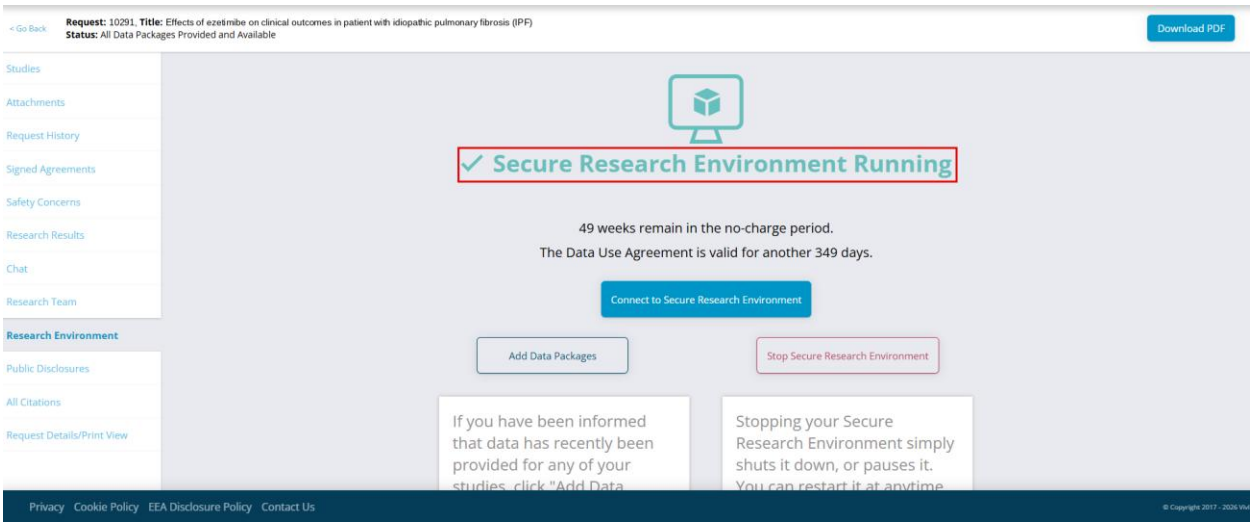
1. Login to the Vivli Platform
2. Navigate to the research environment; the start button will be where the Stop button was located:



3. Click on **Start Research Environment** – the platform will tell you that the research environment is starting:



4. After approximately 5 minutes, the system will display the “Running” screen:



After restarting the machine, the first login may take a few minutes.

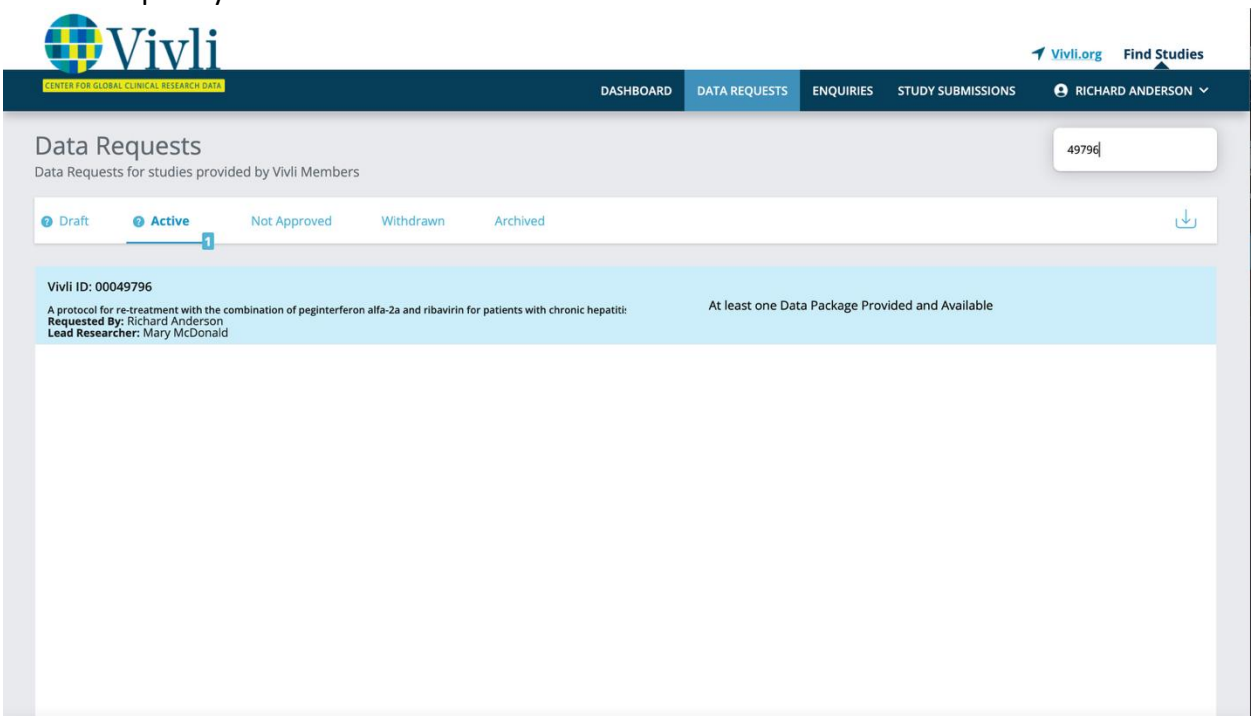
5.0 Adding Data Packages to the Research Environment

If you started the Research Environment before all the data was provided, then as additional data packages are loaded into the system, they will not be placed into your Research Environment automatically. You will however receive an email notification that

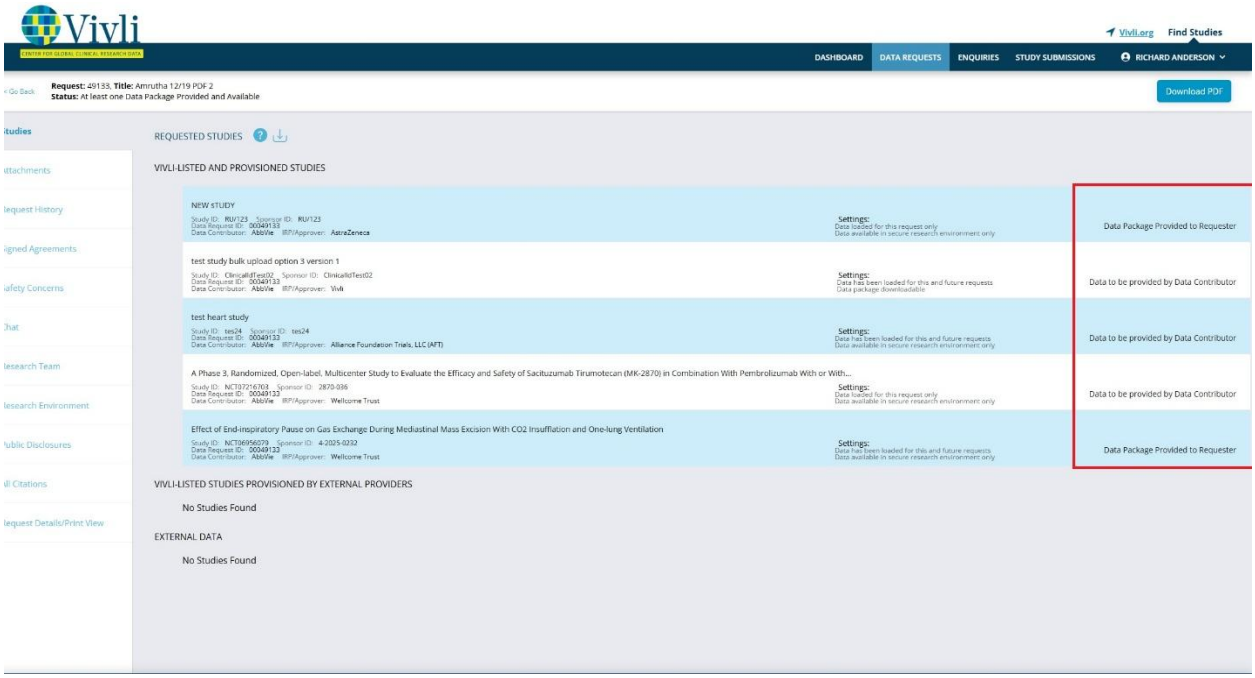
additional data has been provided. When you are ready, you can ask the system to add the additional data packages to your Research Environment.

5.1 How will you know when data is available?

As additional data packages are loaded into the system and made available, you will receive an email notification. Within the Vivli Platform, you can look at the "Active" tab, select the request you are interested in:

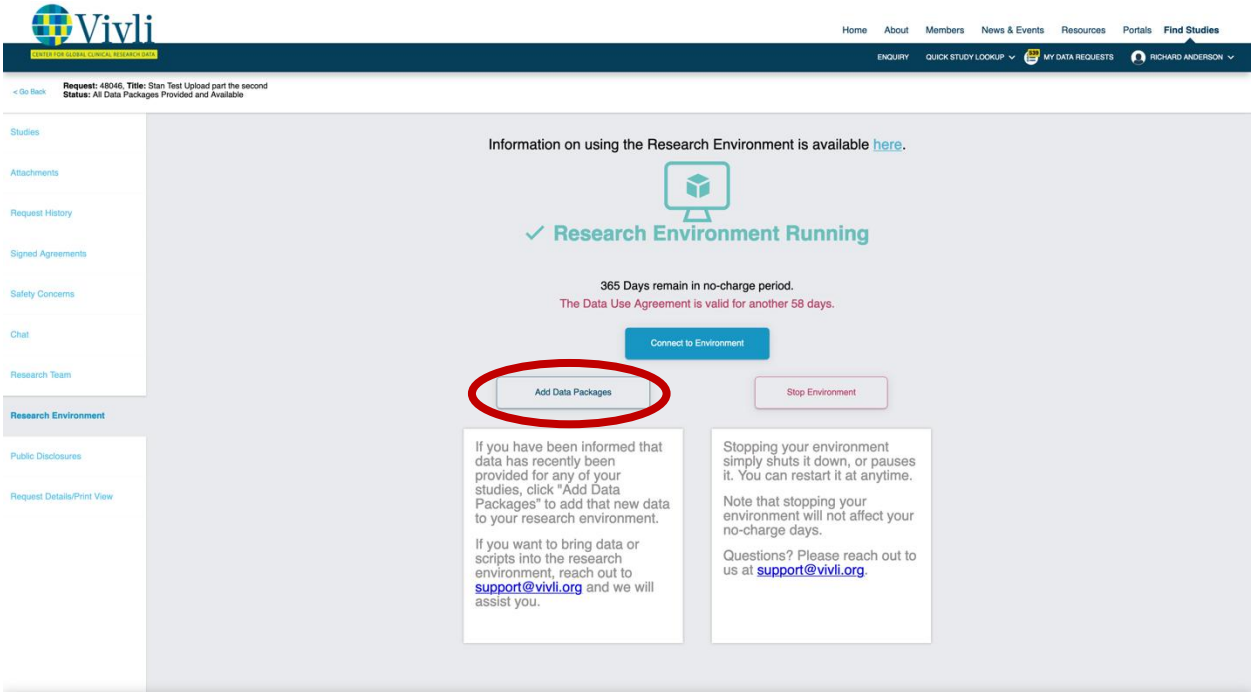


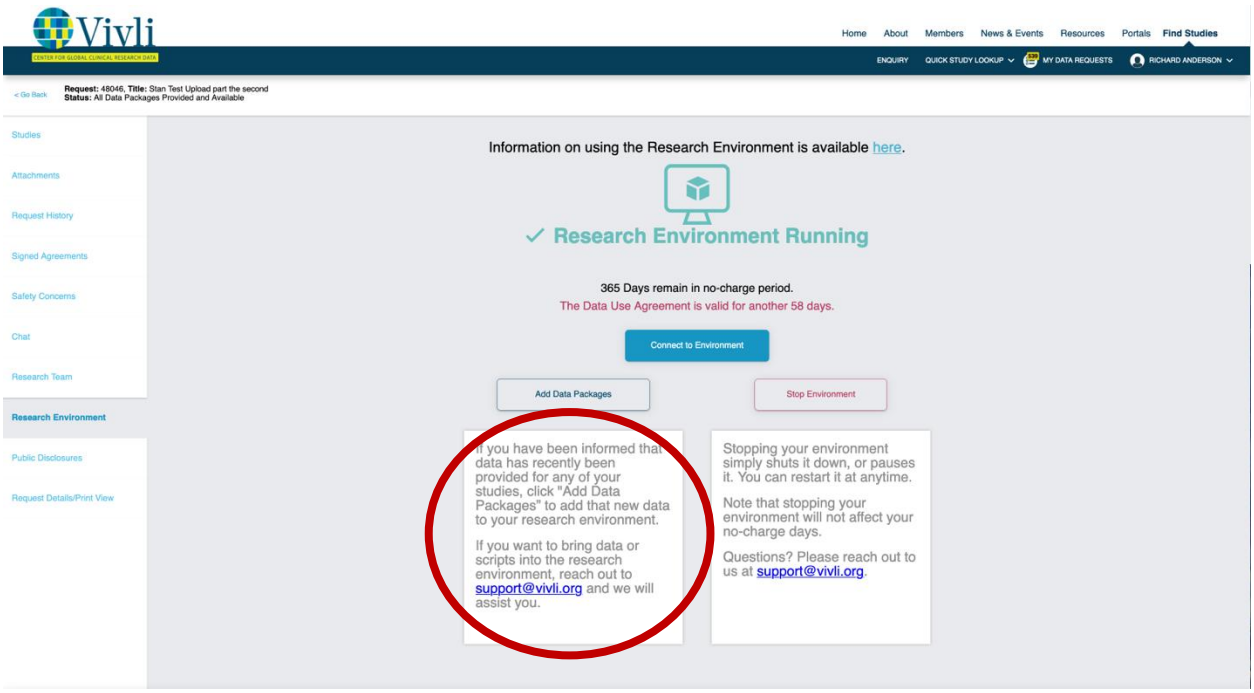
To determine ***which*** studies have been uploaded, click on the studies tab, and this page will provide a status of each study:



5.2 How to add additional data to your research environment as it becomes available

Once you have determined that you are ready to ask the platform to load the additional data into your research environment, open the data request, select the Research Environment tab, and click on the “Add Data Packages” button:





5.3 Refreshing previously loaded data

The Vivli platform determines what new data should be loaded by looking for an existing folder with the appropriate name: if it finds a folder in the Research Environment with the original folder name for the study, it will leave that existing folder alone. This means that:

- If you have started to make changes to previously loaded data (e.g. for harmonization), your changes will **not** be overwritten.
- If you would like a fresh copy of the data for any reason, you can simply rename the existing folder, and the system will load a fresh copy of the data package.
- If you rename a data folder for any other reason, the system will load a fresh copy of the data using the original folder name. If the extra copy is redundant, delete it.

6.0 Safety Concerns

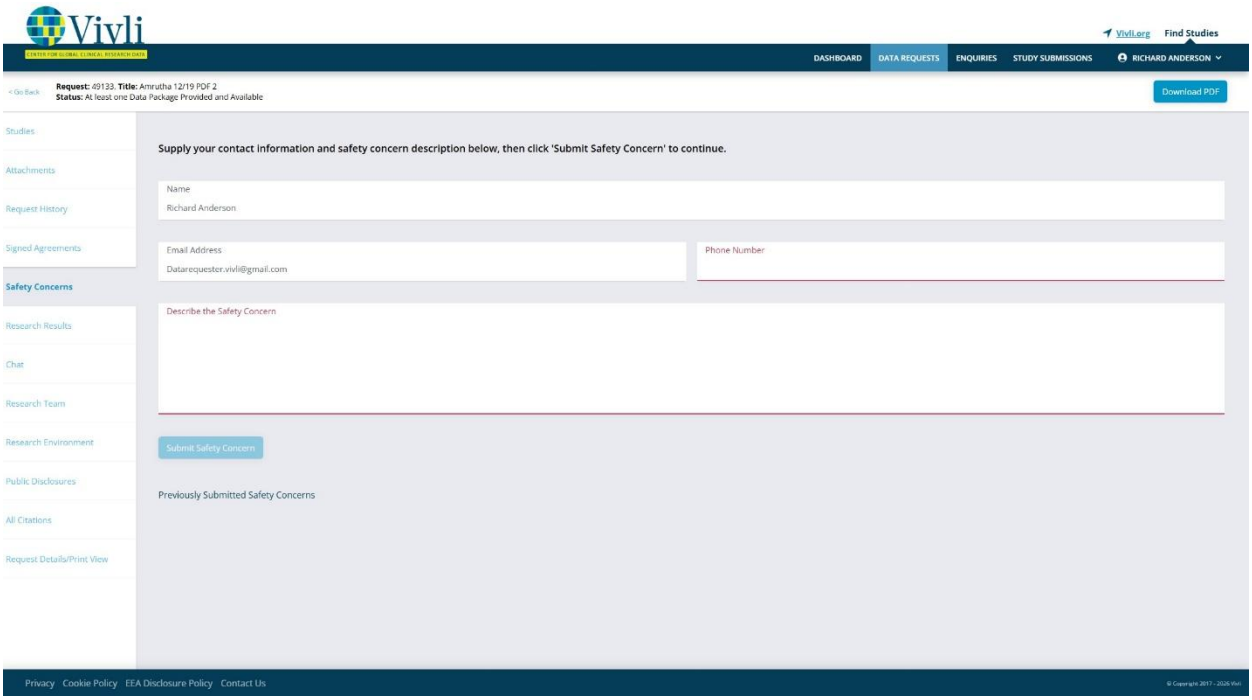
If you discover any information regarding the safety or risks of a product related to their requested data, you must inform Vivli and the Data Contributor of this discovery within 24 hours, per the terms of the Data Use Agreement.

The steps for reporting safety concerns are as follows:

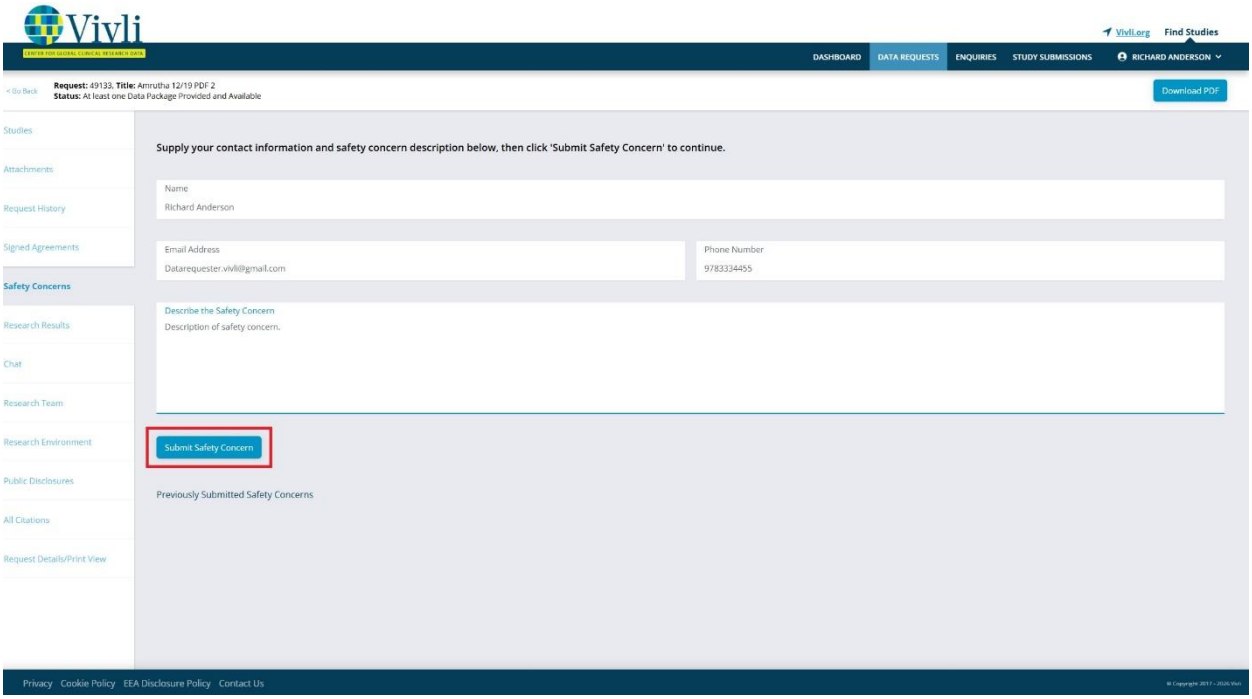
1. Login to the Vivli Platform.

2. Click on the “Safety Concerns” tab on the dashboard:

   The following screen will appear:

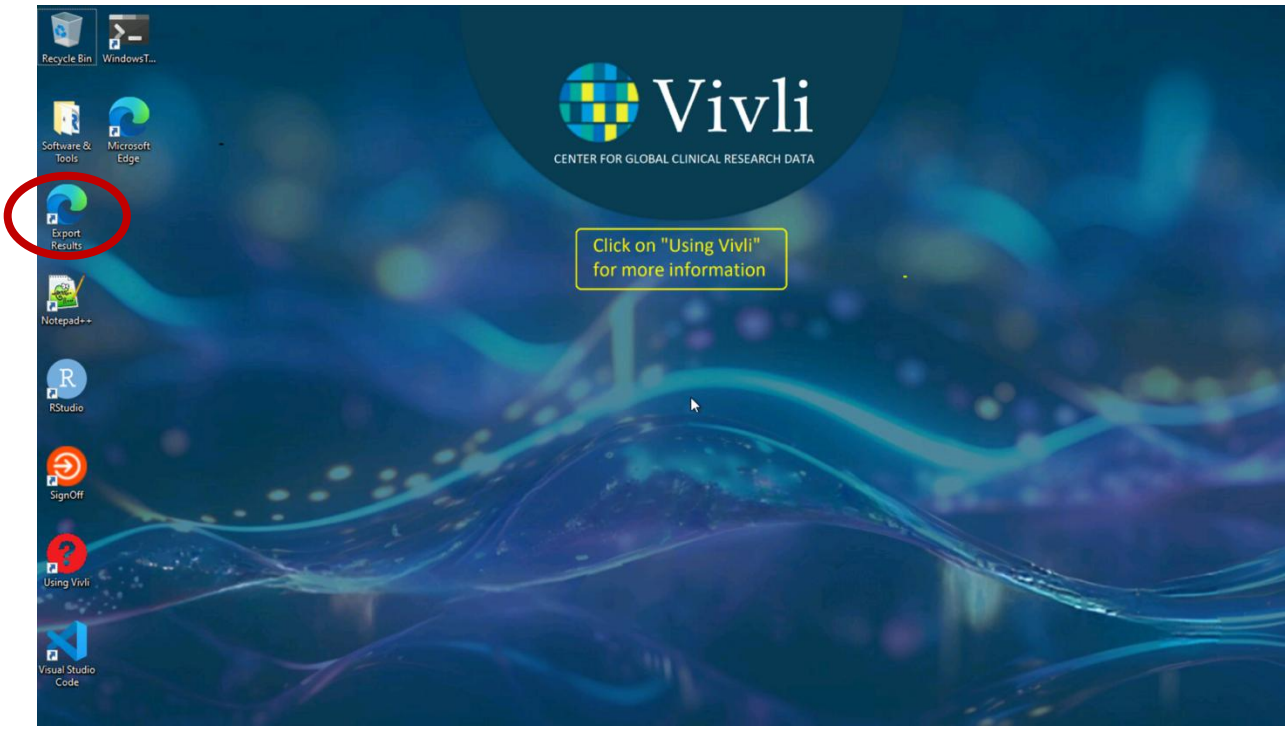


3. Complete the form and click on **Submit Safety Concerns:**



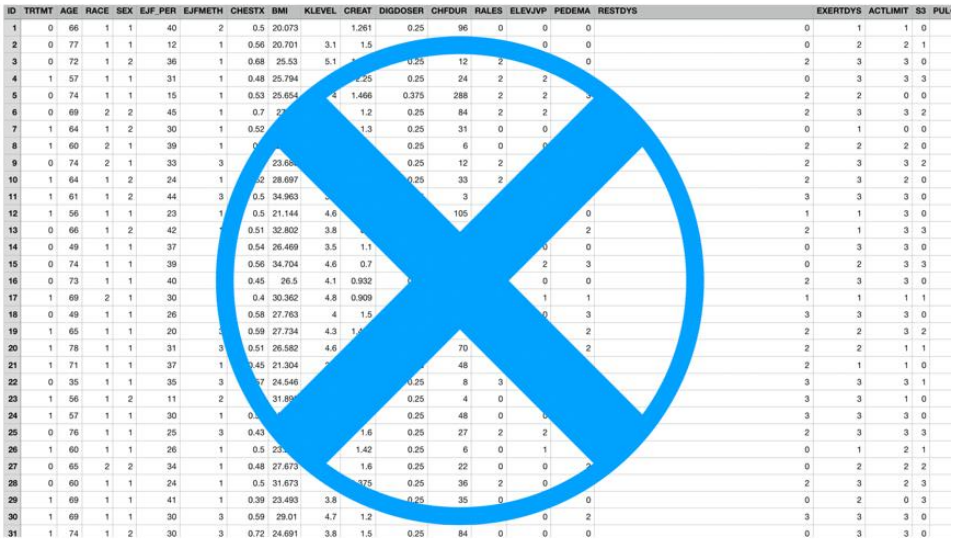
7.0 Exporting Research Results

If you have preliminary or final results from your analysis, you may request the ability to export summary results from the Secure Research Environment. Any custom scripts you may have developed during the research can also be exported with the results. A shortcut to submit this request is on the desktop.



When submitting your request to export results, please note that Individual Participant Data (IPD) requested from this study will need to remain in the Vivli secure research environment. As such, there should be no attempt to try to remove IDP data or re-identify individual participants in the study you are requesting. Per your signed Data Use Agreement, any results derived from your analysis in the Vivli Research Environment, which will be used in subsequent presentation or publication, should be obtained by submitting a request for removal of this data.

Results exports should not include any individual participant data in the results. Acceptable results export is limited to summary representation of data (e.g. means, standard deviations, counts), derived data (e.g. slopes, clin pharm parameters) data, analytical and representations of results (e.g. graph), scripts or programs that you developed in the Research Environment. The following graphic is an example of a request to export results spreadsheet, including IPD, which would not be approved.

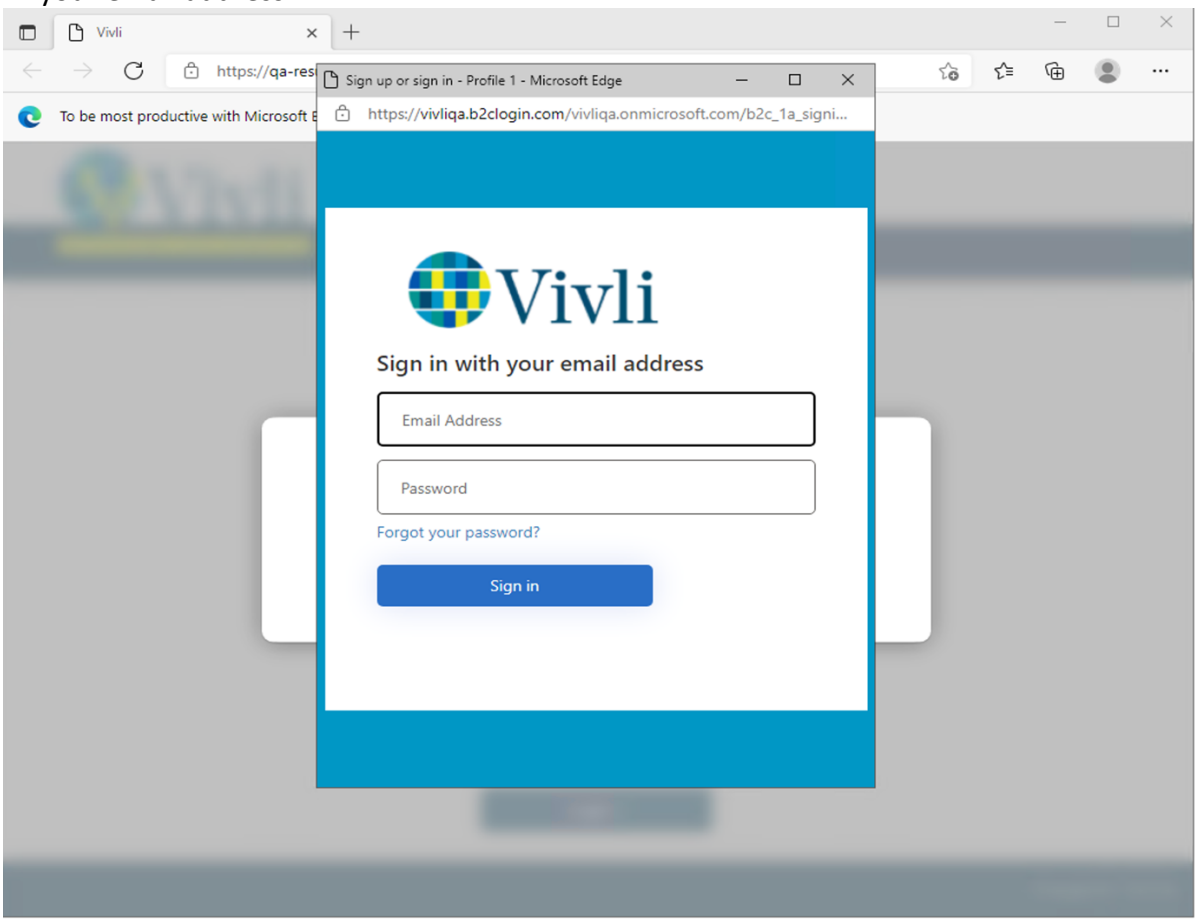


ID	TRTMT	AGE	RACE	SEX	EJF_PER	EJFMETH	CHESTX	BMI	KLEVEL	CREAT	DIGDOSER	CHFDUR	RALES	ELEVJVP	PEDEMA	RESTDYS	EXERTDYS	ACTLIMIT	S3	PUL
1	0	66	1	1	40	2	0.5	20.073		1.261	0.25	96	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	
2	0	77	1	1	12	1	0.56	20.701	3.1	1.5					0	0	2	2	1	
3	0	72	1	2	36	1	0.68	25.53	5.1		0.25	12	2		0	2	3	3	0	
4	1	57	1	1	31	1	0.48	25.794		2.25	0.25	24	2	2		0	3	3	3	
5	0	74	1	1	15	1	0.53	25.654	4	1.466	0.375	288	2	2		2	2	0	0	
6	0	69	2	2	45	1	0.7	27		1.2	0.25	84	2	2		2	3	3	2	
7	1	64	1	2	30	1	0.52			1.3	0.25	31	0	0		0	1	0	0	
8	1	60	2	1	39	1	0				0.25	6	0	0		2	2	2	0	
9	0	74	2	1	33	3		23.68			0.25	12	2			2	3	3	2	
10	1	64	1	2	24	1	52	28.697			0.25	33	2			2	3	2	0	
11	1	61	1	2	44	3	0.5	34.963				3				3	3	3	0	
12	1	56	1	1	23	1	0.5	21.144	4.6			105			0	1	1	3	0	
13	0	66	1	2	42		0.51	32.802	3.8						2	2	1	3	3	
14	0	49	1	1	37		0.54	26.469	3.5	1.1				0	0	0	3	3	0	
15	0	74	1	1	39		0.56	34.704	4.6	0.7				2	3	0	2	3	3	
16	0	73	1	1	40		0.45	26.5	4.1	0.932				0	0	2	3	3	0	
17	1	69	2	1	30		0.4	30.362	4.8	0.909				1	1	1	1	1	1	
18	0	49	1	1	26		0.58	27.763	4	1.5				0	3	3	3	3	0	
19	1	65	1	1	20		0.59	27.734	4.3	1.4					2	2	2	3	2	
20	1	78	1	1	31	3	0.51	26.582	4.6			70			2	2	2	1	1	
21	1	71	1	1	37	1	0.45	21.304				48				2	1	1	0	
22	0	35	1	1	35	3	57	24.546			0.25	8	3			3	3	3	1	
23	1	56	1	2	11	2		31.89			0.25	4	0			3	3	1	0	
24	1	57	1	1	30	1	0				0.25	48	0	0		3	3	3	0	
25	0	76	1	1	25	3	0.43			1.6	0.25	27	2	2		2	3	3	3	
26	1	60	1	1	26	1	0.5	23		1.42	0.25	6	0	1		0	1	2	1	
27	0	65	2	2	34	1	0.48	27.673		1.6	0.25	22	0	0		0	2	2	2	
28	0	60	1	1	24	1	0.5	31.673		375	0.25	36	2	0		2	3	2	3	
29	1	69	1	1	41	1	0.39	23.493	3.8		0.25	35	0		0	0	2	0	3	
30	1	69	1	1	30	3	0.59	29.01	4.7	1.2				0	2	3	3	3	0	
31	1	74	1	2	30	3	0.72	24.691	3.8	1.5	0.25	84	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	

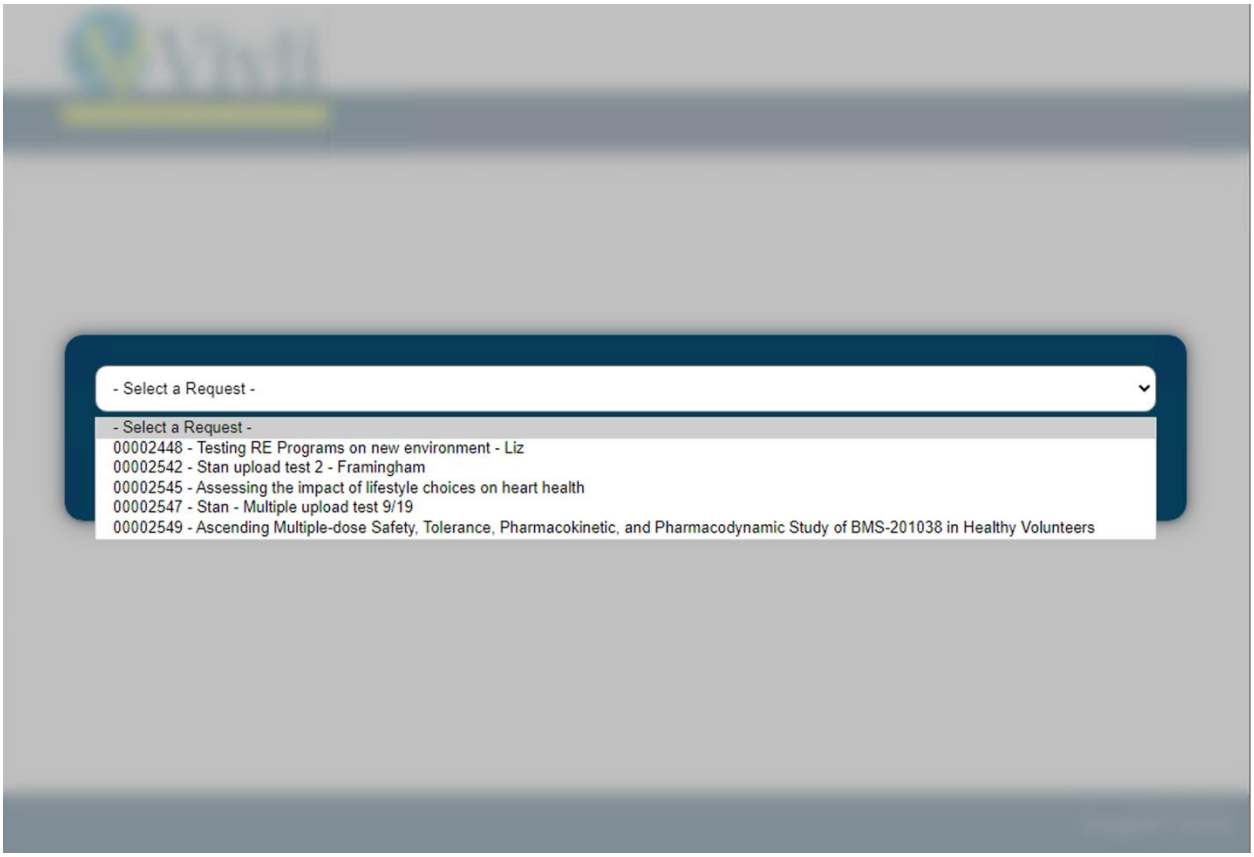
Please note that all results should be submitted through the results export option.

7.1 Request to Export Results

1. From the Vivli Research Environment, double click the Export Results icon on the Desktop.
2. Enter the Vivli User credentials you use to log onto the Vivli Platform – your username will be your email address.



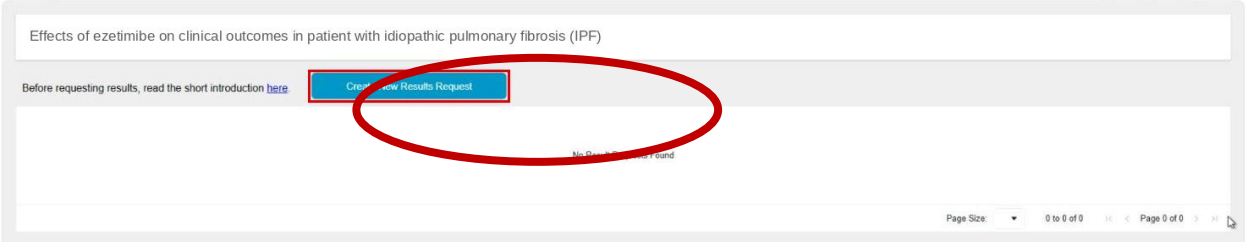
3. From the dropdown menu, select your Vivli request. Please note, if you have more than one Vivli request which has a secure research environment, each request will appear in the menu.

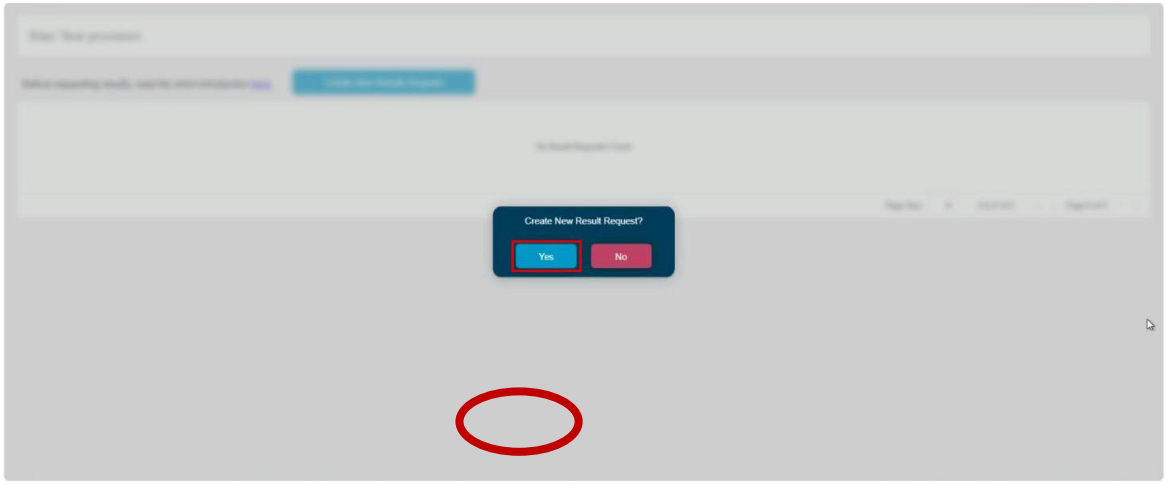


4. From the results export menu, select the help text to open the Vivli Research Environment guide. Section 8.0 Exporting Research Results has detailed instructions for submitting this request.

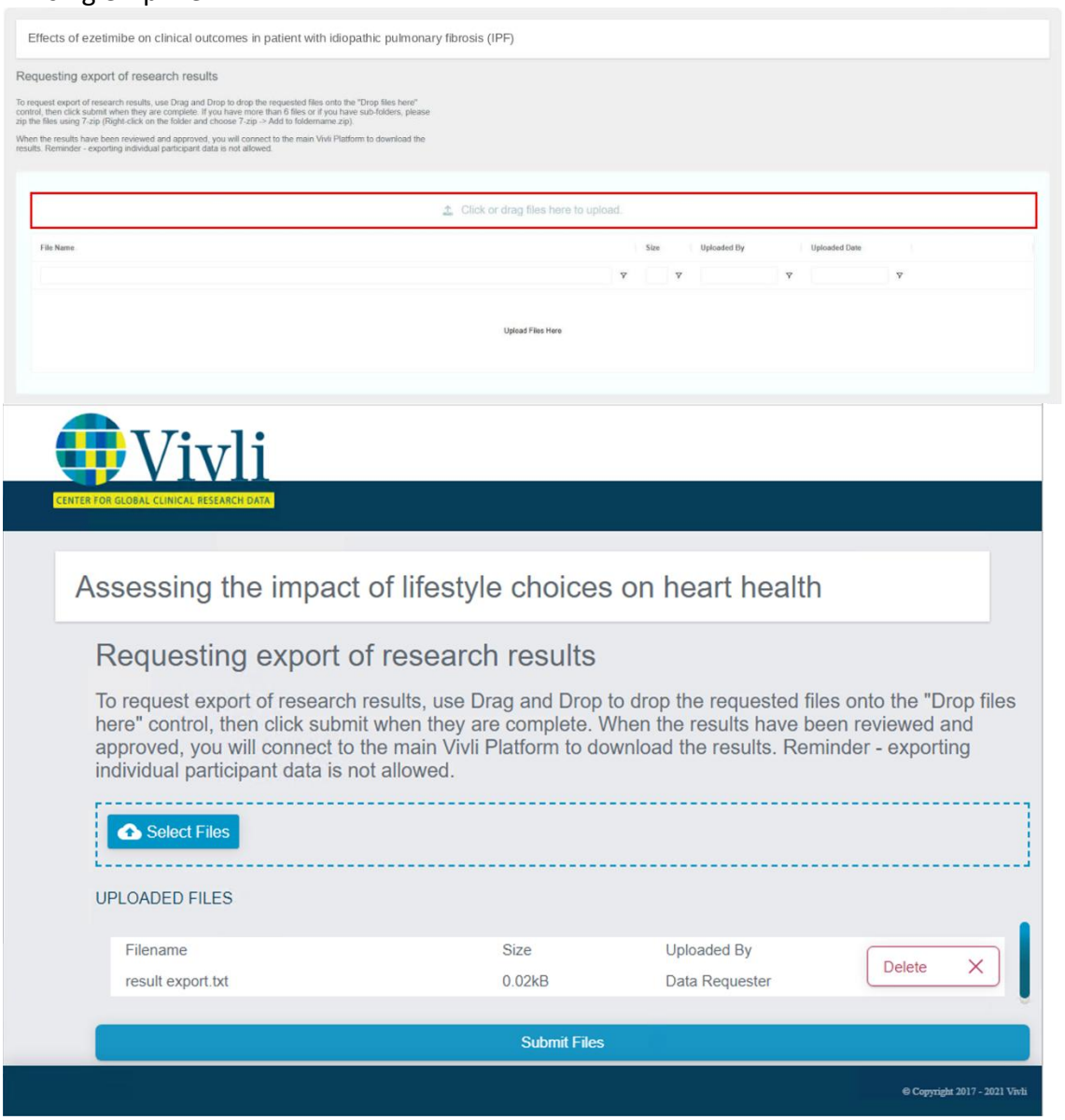


5. Create a new results request.




Create New Result Request?
Yes
No

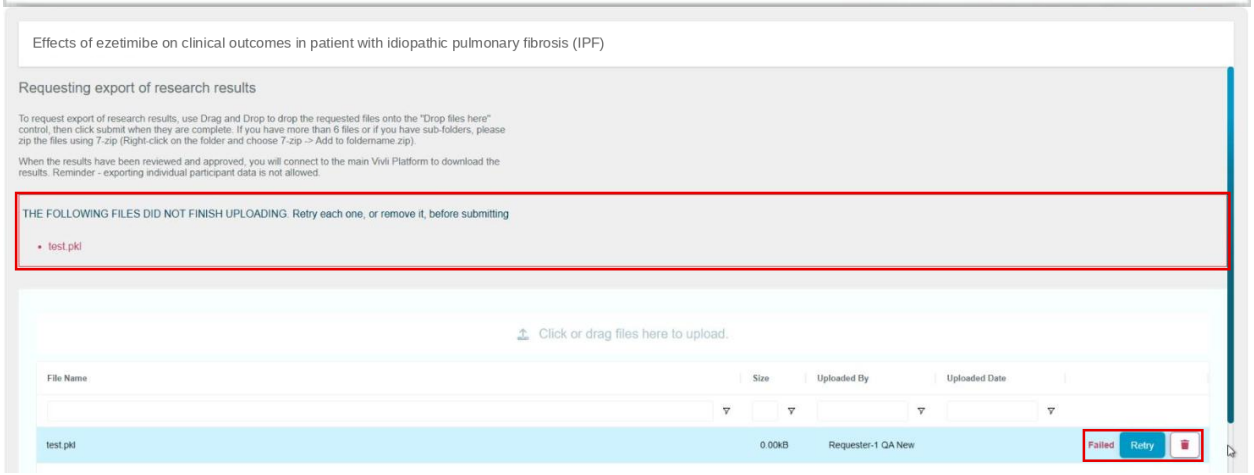
6. Drag and drop, or select files, to copy your files into the export folder. If your results are organized into more than one folder, we recommend that you place the files into a single zip file before placing them in the results folder. 7-zip is included on the research environment for that purpose. Similarly, if you have more than 5-10 files, place them into a single zip file.



Note, certain file types are not permitted to be exported from the secure Vivli research environment (e.g., .Rdata, .rda, .rds, .pkl and similar formats). If an export request includes one or more of these files, the user will receive the following error on attempt to upload Please

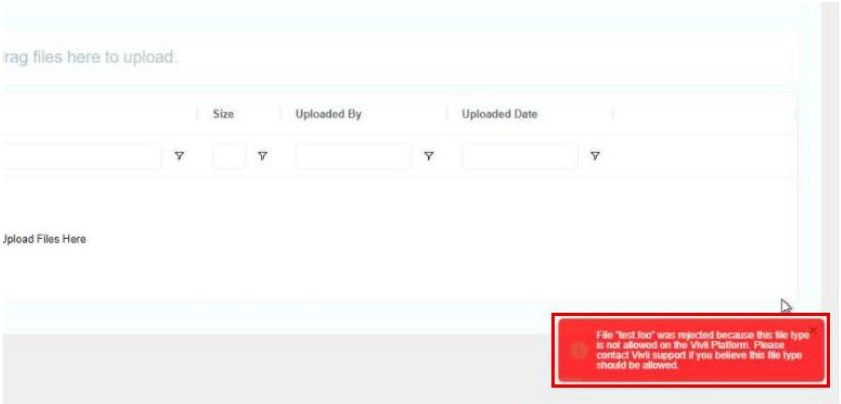
remove the disallowed file and retry submitting the export request



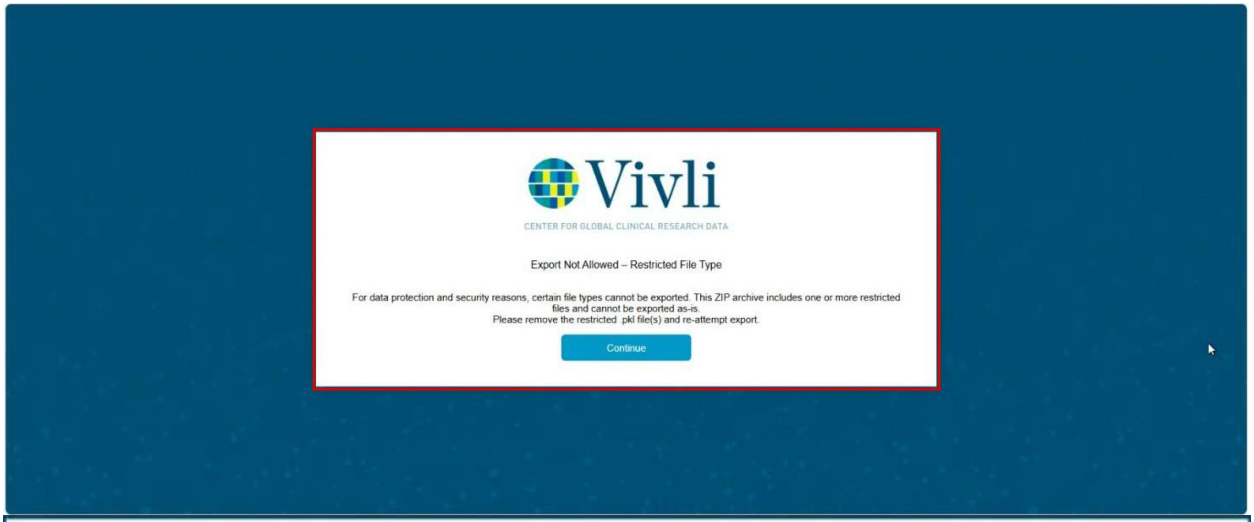


The file will be marked as Failed in the file list. Click the red trash can icon to remove it before submitting.

If a file type is not recognized, or a file has no extension (for example, README), the file will be rejected when you upload it, and the following message will appear in the lower right corner of the screen. If you believe the file type should be permitted, contact support@vivli.org.



If a zipped file includes a prohibited file type, it will produce an error on attempts to submit. Please remove the disallowed file and retry submitting the export request.

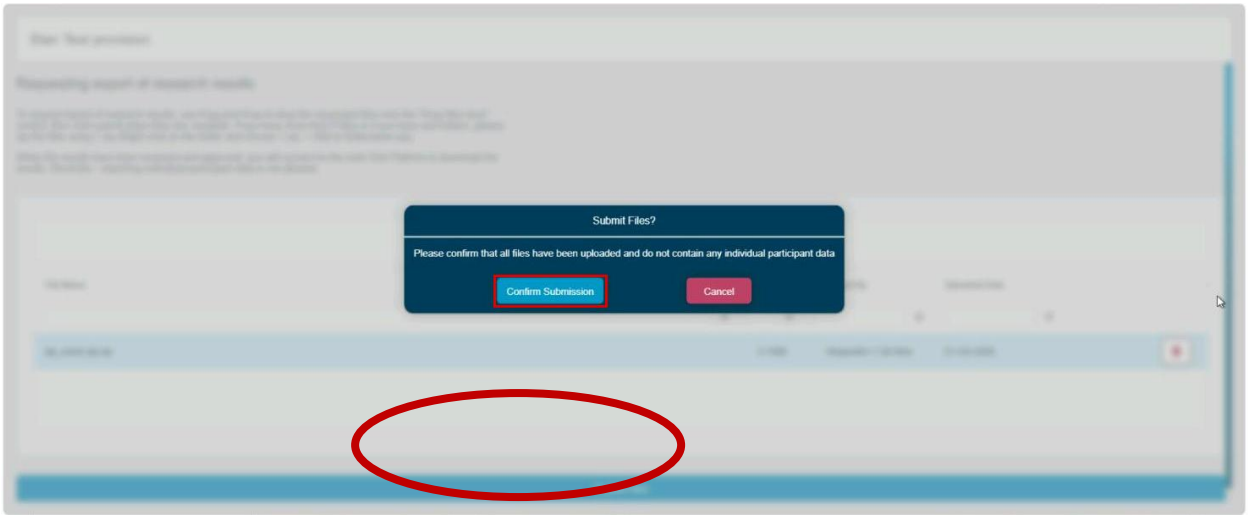


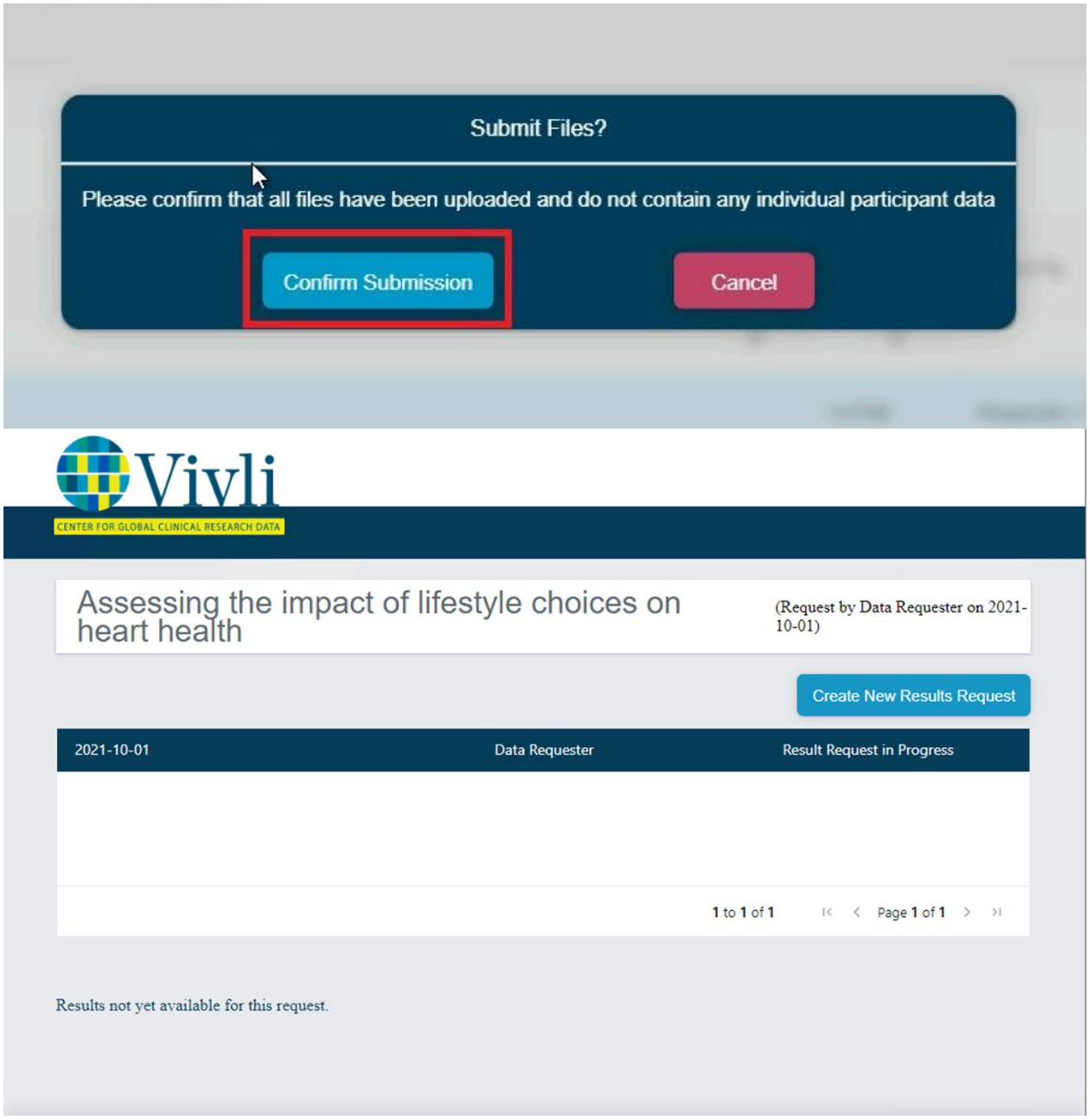


If a zipped file includes a file type that is not recognized, or a file with no extension, the following message will appear when you click Submit. Please remove the file from the zip file and retry submitting the export request.



7. Submit files for review. Click Confirm Submission to confirm that all files have been uploaded and do not contain any individual participant data.





Please note, the processing time for a results export request is 5-7 business days. You will receive an email notification when a decision is recorded on the platform and can also monitor by checking the Research Results tab on the platform.

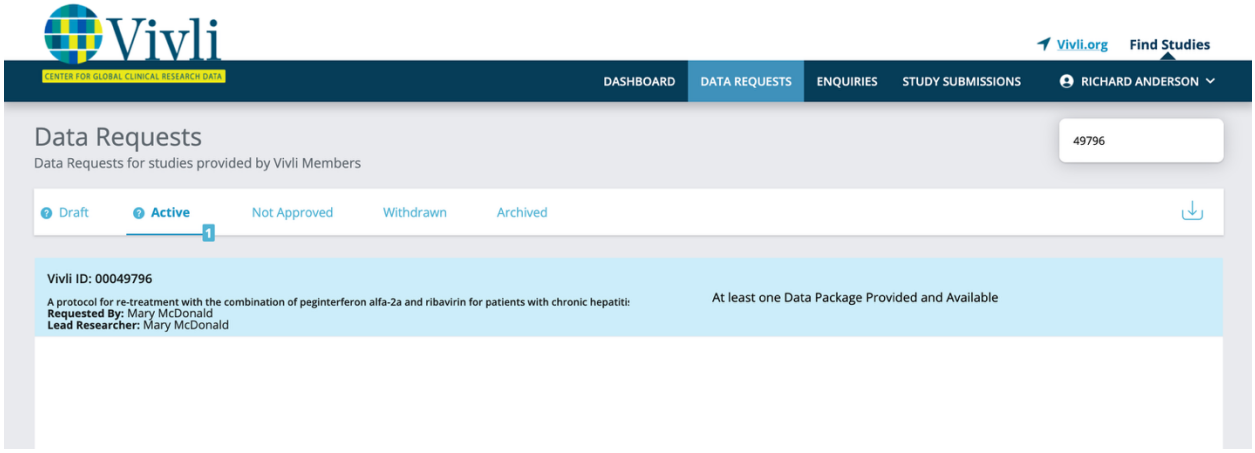
7.2 Downloading Approved Results

Once the request to export results is approved, the data requestor may download their results.

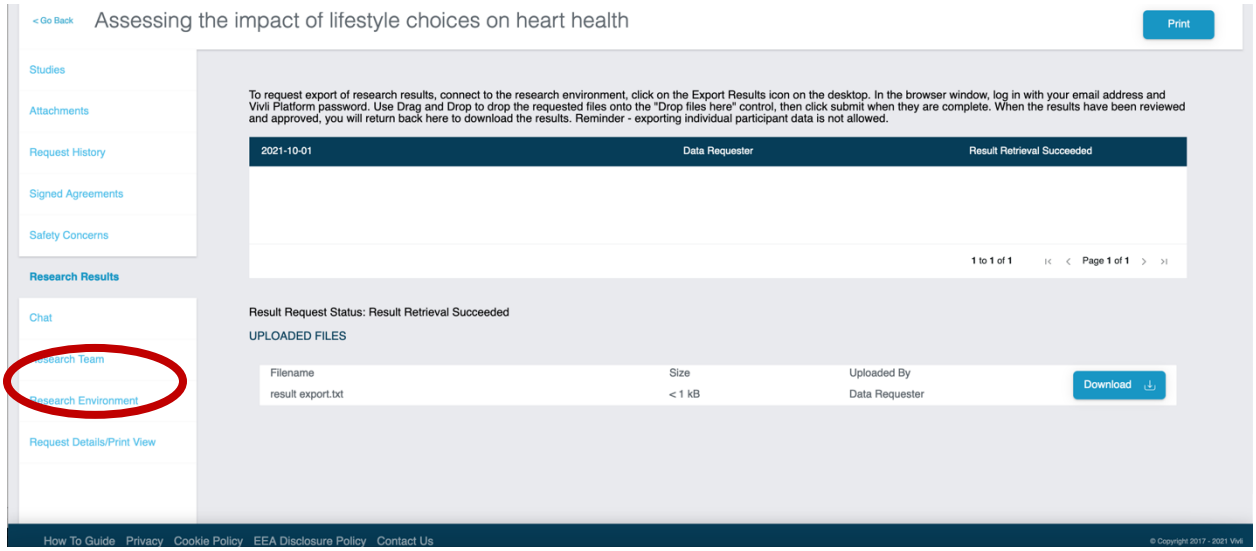
7.2.1 Steps, Exporting Results:

1. Login to the Vivli Platform

2. Navigate to **Data Requests and select the request:**

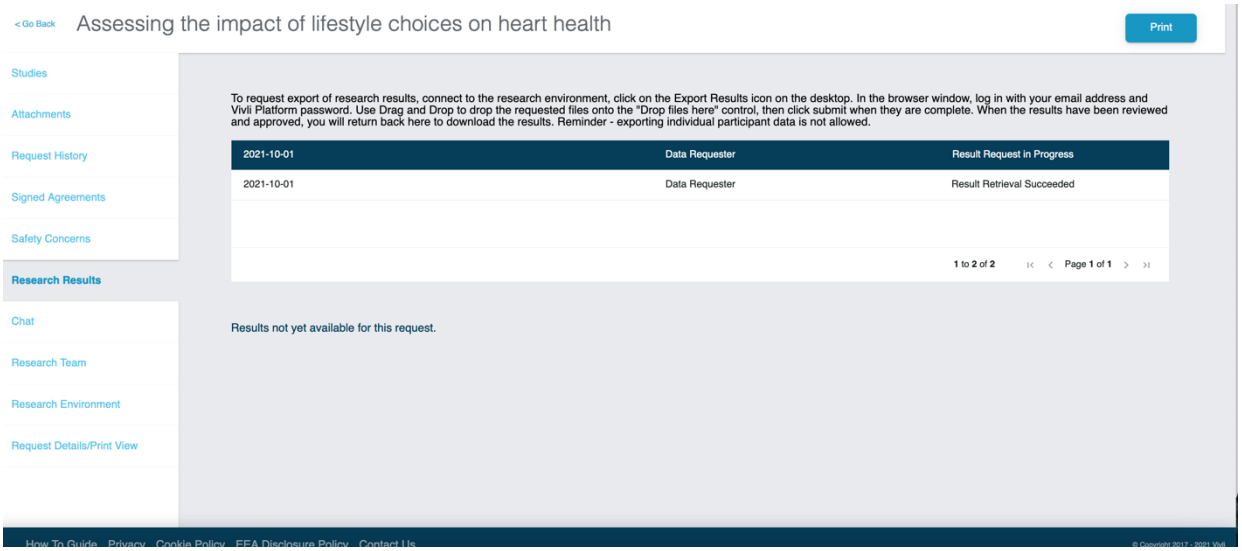


3. Click on **Research Results:**

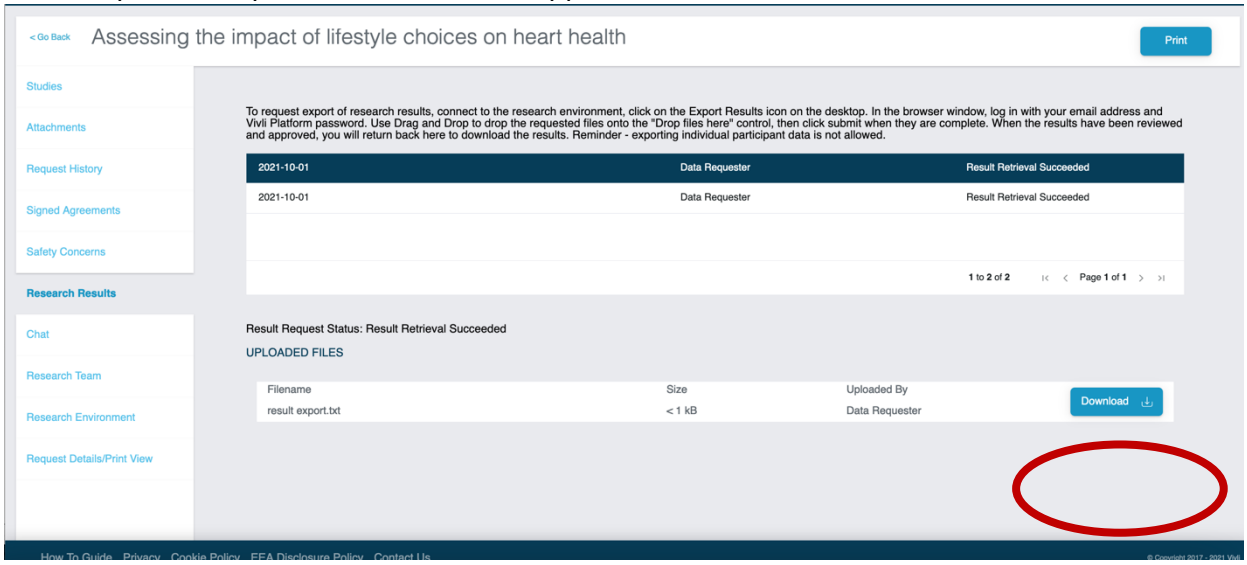


If you have made more than one request, click on the row corresponding to your most recent request – this will be on the top of the list. The row you have selected will be shown in dark blue.

4. Here, you will see if the request to export results has been approved:



5. If the request to export results has been approved, click on **Download**:



If a review of the results identifies the presence of Individual Participant Data (IPD) in the result files, the Result Requests screen will display a message indicating that, and you will need to remove the IPD from the results files before requesting subsequent export of results again.

6. Once the ***final*** results are exported, please reach out to the Vivli Team via chat and we will provide next steps for deprovisioning the research environment and progression to publication.

8.0 Publication Review

8.1 Publication Follow up by Vivli

The Vivli administrator sends periodic reminders (at 3 months, 9 months and 1 year) to the researchers to get an update on the status of any potential publications from the time final

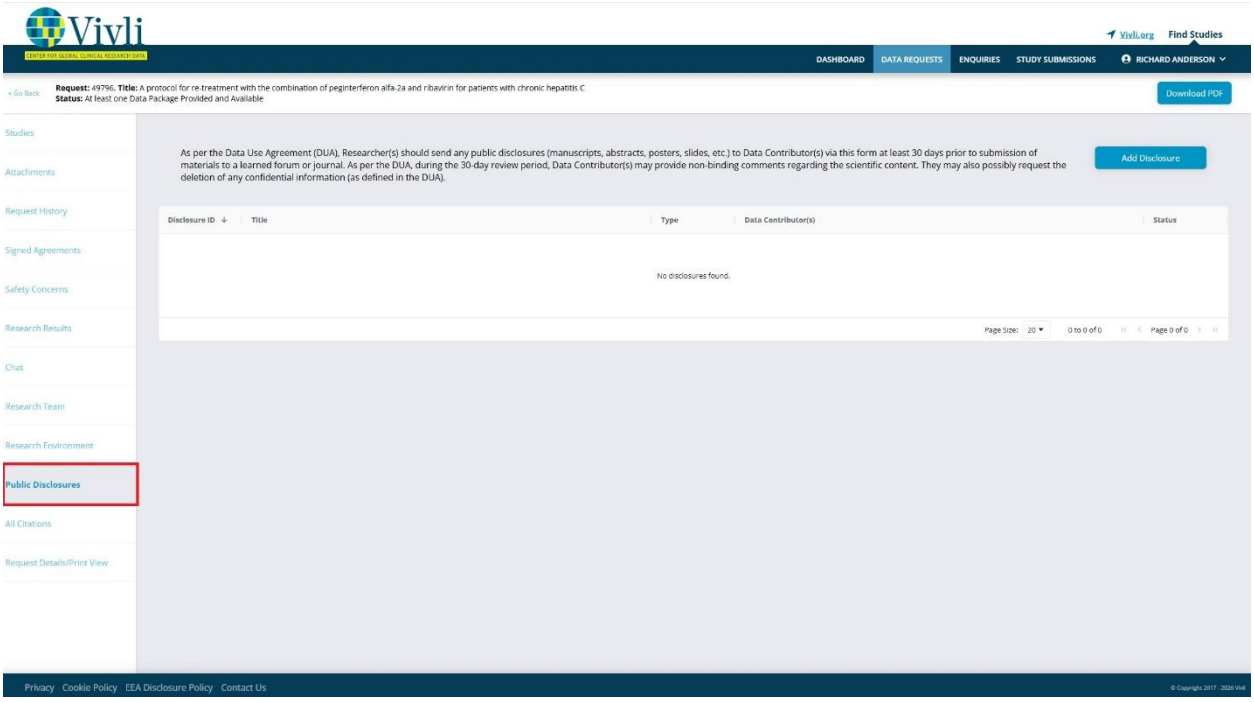
results from the research environment are downloaded or a year after the downloadable data package was made available to the Data Requestor.

8.2 Publication Reviews by Data Contributors

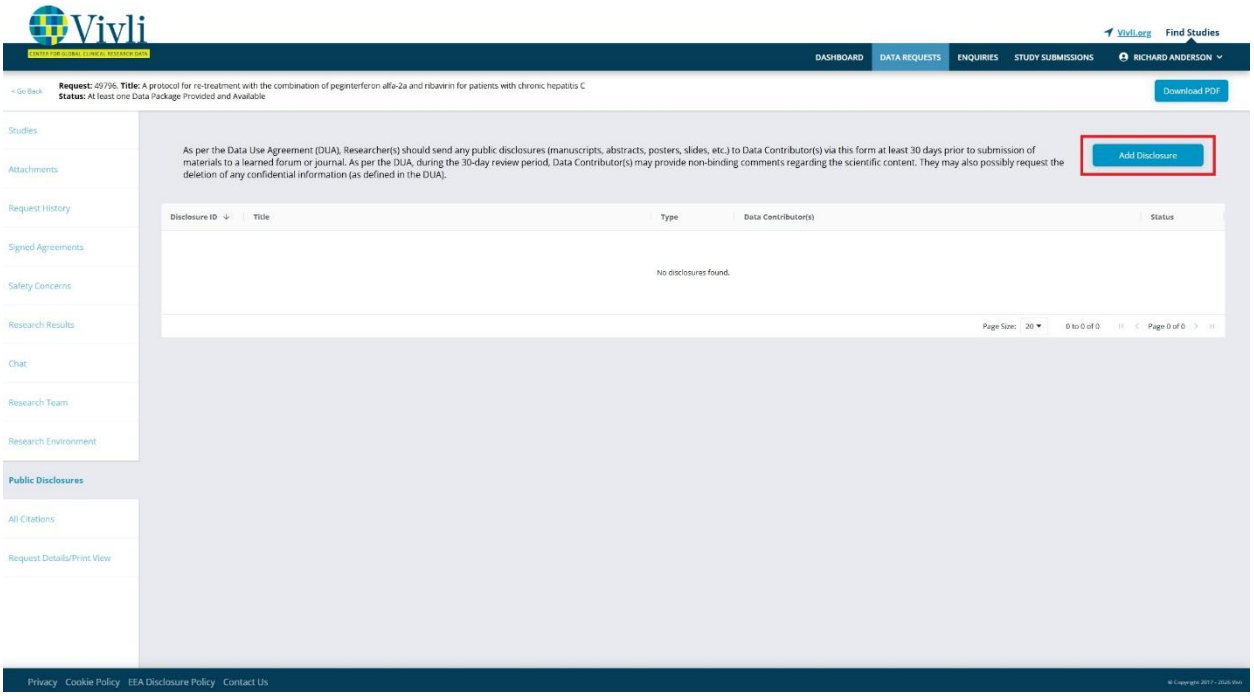
- Once your research team has completed your analysis and you are ready to submit your findings for dissemination, either through a learned forum such as a publication or conference abstract, requestors must submit to Vivli a copy of any Publication materials at least 30 days prior to submission.
- During this 30-day review period, data contributors may provide you with non-binding comments regarding the scientific content. They may also possibly request the deletion of any confidential information (confidential information as defined in the signed DUA).
- Once the 30-day publication review period is up or once all data contributors have commented on the manuscript, whichever comes first, the research team may submit their publication to a learned forum. The Vivli team will follow up quarterly to check on the status and progress toward publication.
- If you are submitting an abstract to a conference or learned forum and it is accepted as a poster or presentation, the new material (poster, presentation, etc.) must be submitted for the 30-day review period.
- If you have completed a revision of a previously reviewed public disclosure the revised material must be provided.
    - If there are significant changes, the submitted material will undergo an additional 30-day review period.
    - If there are only minor changes, an additional 30-day review is not necessary.
    - You may provide the revised material via chat if the 30-day review period has passed.

- 8.2.1 Submit your publication materials through the Vivli platform for review

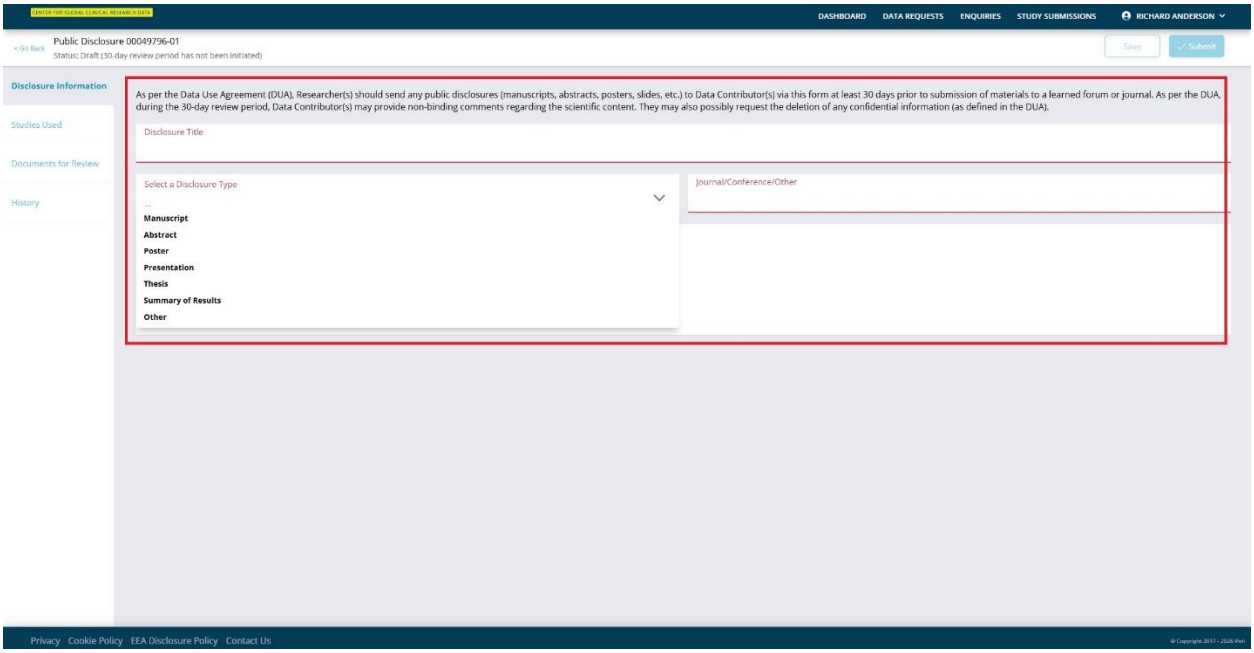
1. Navigate to the “Public Disclosures” tab within your data request.



2. Click “Add Disclosure” to add a new public disclosure for review.



3. Fill out all required information from the tabs on the left. A unique ID that begins with the Vivli Request ID followed by a two-digit sequence will be generated for your public disclosure.

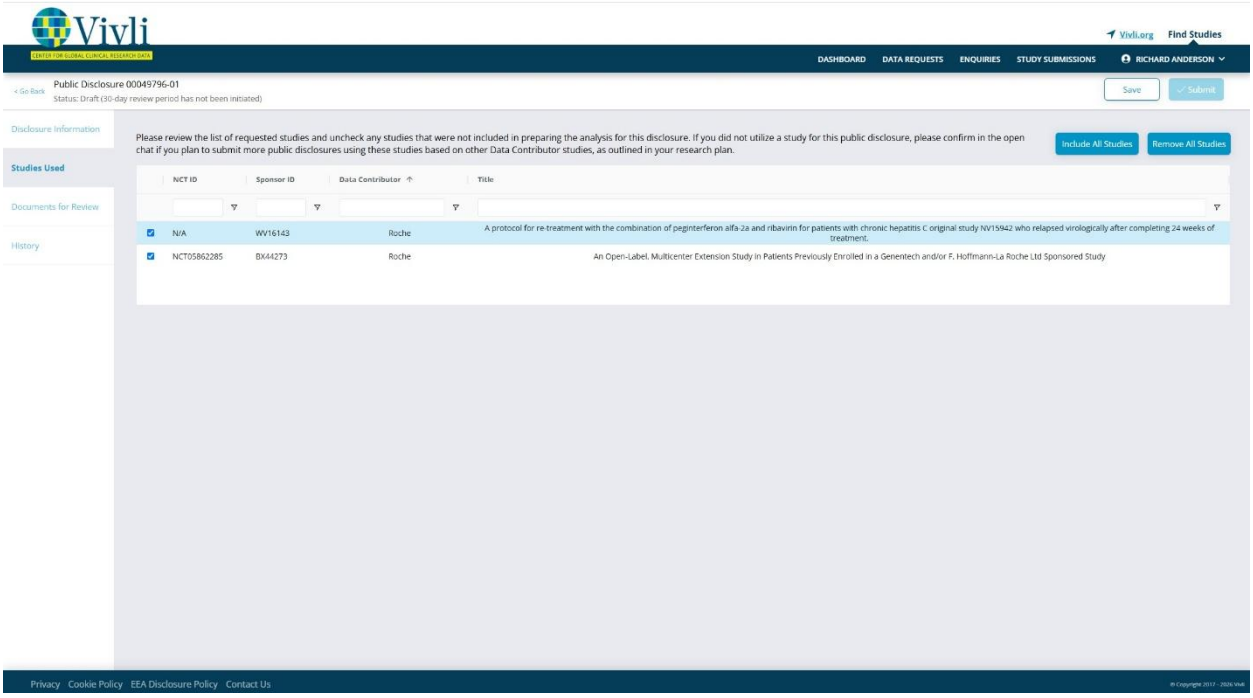


4. Disclosure Information tab:
    a. Disclosure Title
    b. Disclosure Type (Manuscript, Abstract, Poster, Presentation, Thesis, Summary of Results)
        i. If “Other”, specify the disclosure type in the field that will appear “Please enter your Disclosure Type”

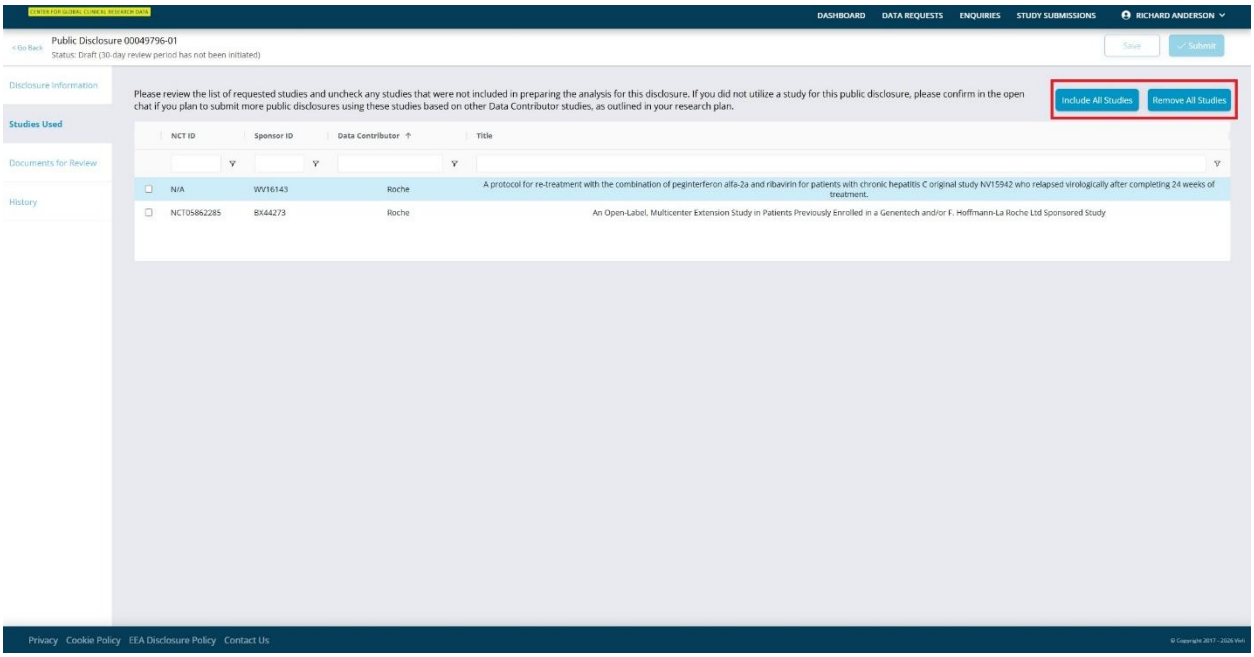
    c. Journal/Conference/Other: Provide the name of the learned forum where your public disclosure will be submitted

Researcher comments: Provide any relevant comments in this field, for example: the provided disclosure is a revised version of a previously reviewed disclosure, the poster/presentation relates to a previously reviewed abstract, etc.

5. Studies Used:
    a. Review the list of requested studies and uncheck any studies that were not included in preparing the analysis for this disclosure.

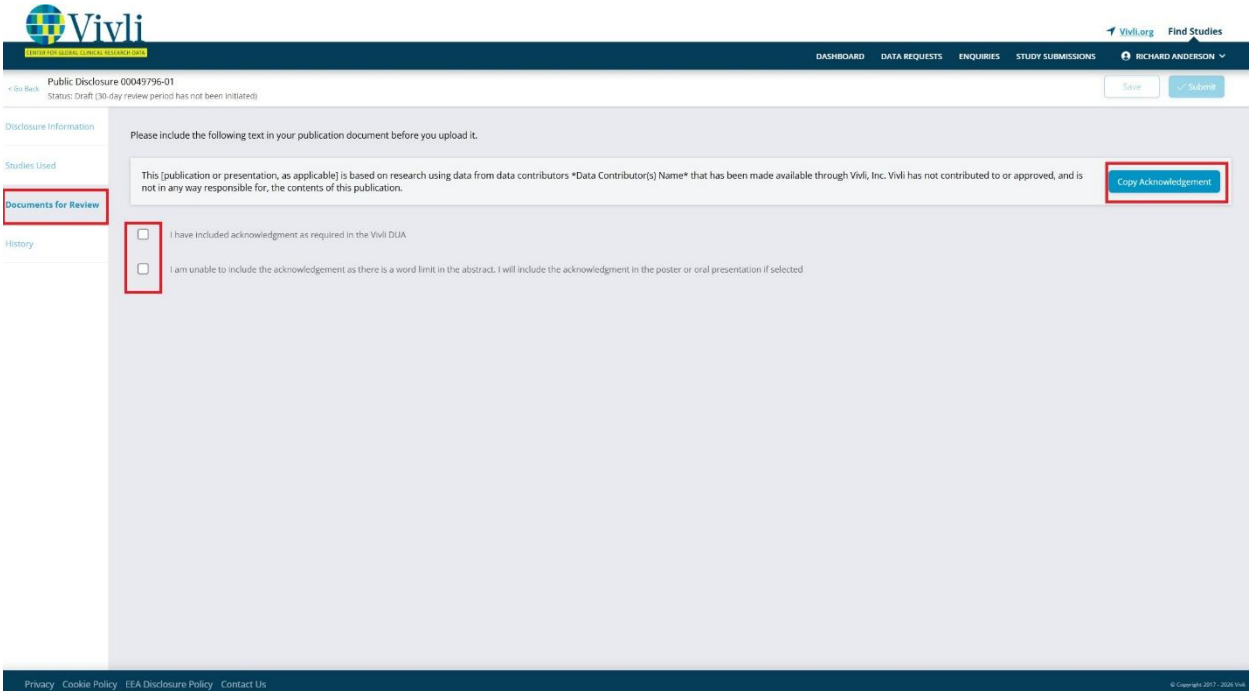


b. If you did not utilize a study for this public disclosure, please confirm in the open chat if you plan to submit more public disclosures using these studies based on other Data Contributor studies, as outlined in your research plan.
c. To select all studies from your request, click the button “Include All Studies”
d. To remove or deselect all studies from your request, click the button “Remove All Studies”

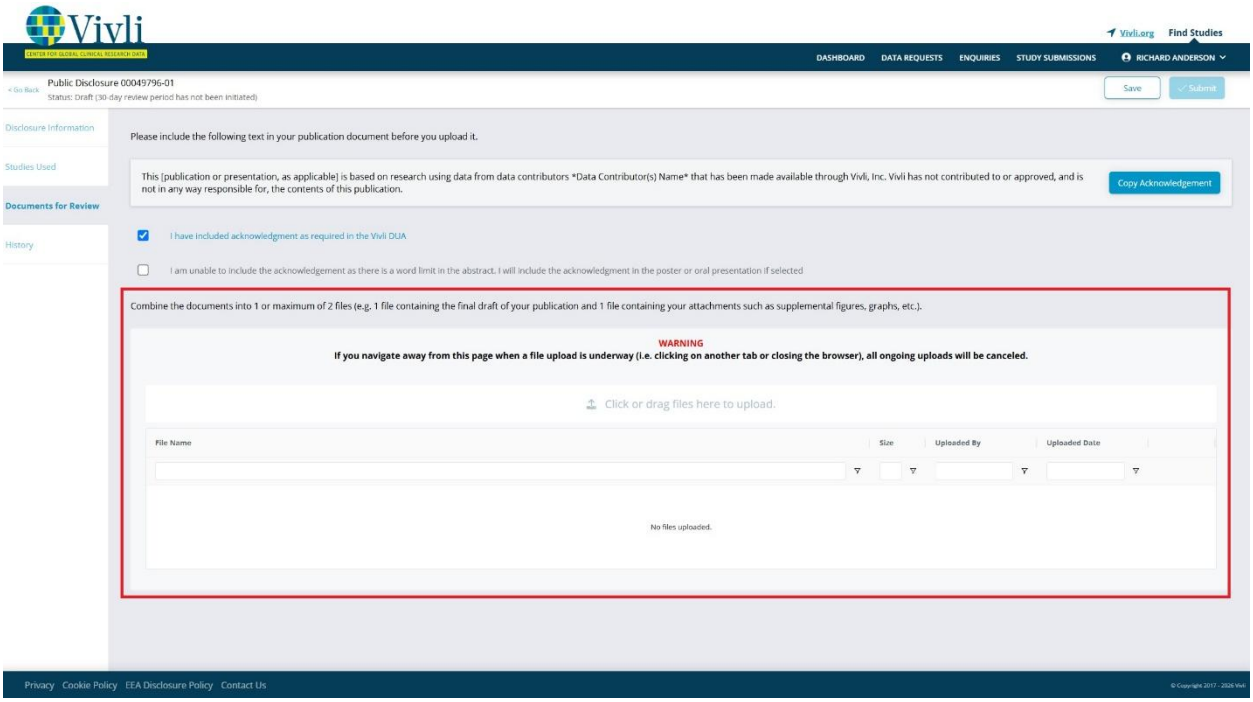


e. You may use the search criteria “NCT ID”, “Sponsor Id”, “Data Contributor” and “Title” to filter and search and the select individual studies by checking the box on the left.

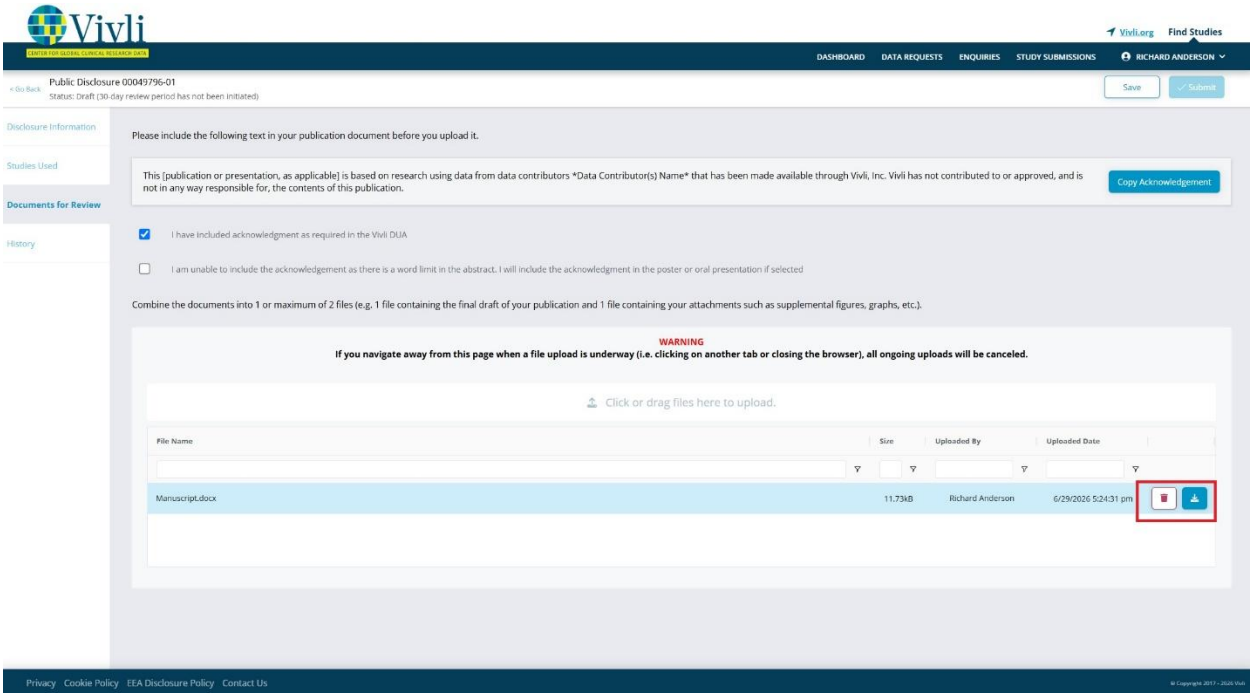
6. Documents for Review
    a. Ensure the following acknowledgement is included in your publication and uses the language below:
        i. This [publication or presentation, as applicable] is based on research using data from data contributors *Data Contributor(s) Name* that has been made available through Vivli, Inc. Vivli has not contributed to or approved, and is not in any way responsible for, the contents of this publication.
    b. To add the acknowledgment to your publication, you may click “Copy Acknowledgment”. This will copy the text to your clipboard so you may paste it into your document.
    c. Select the checkbox “I have included acknowledgment as required in the Vivli DUA” to confirm the acknowledgment is present.
        i. Exception: If you are submitting an abstract and there is a word limit, you may include the acknowledgment in the subsequent presentation or poster. Check the box “I am unable to include the acknowledgment as there is a word limit in the abstract. I will include the acknowledgement in the poster or oral presentation if selected.”



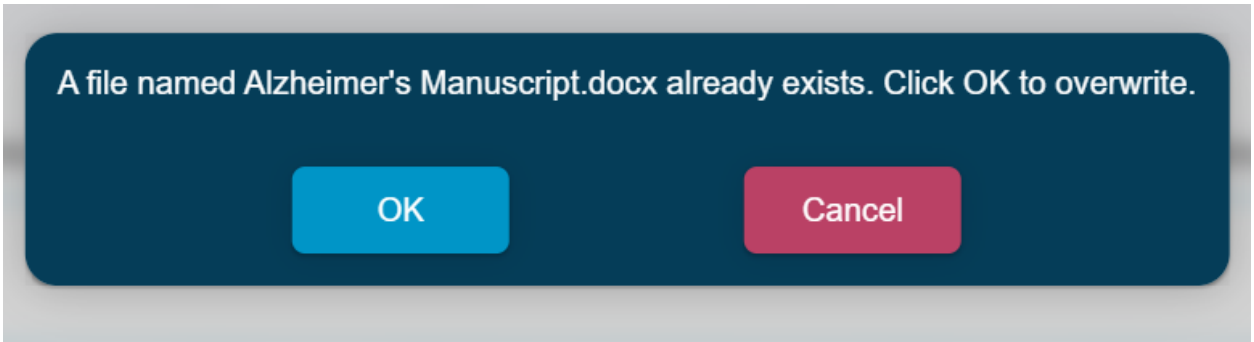
d. Upload your documents for review.
    i. Click “Select Files” or drag and drop your files into the white box to upload your publication for review.
    ii. Combine the documents into 1 or maximum of 2 files (e.g. 1 file containing the final draft of your publication and 1 file containing your attachments such as supplemental figures, graphs, etc.) before uploading.



iii. To remove an uploaded file, click the red trashcan icon. To download your uploaded file, click the download icon to the right.

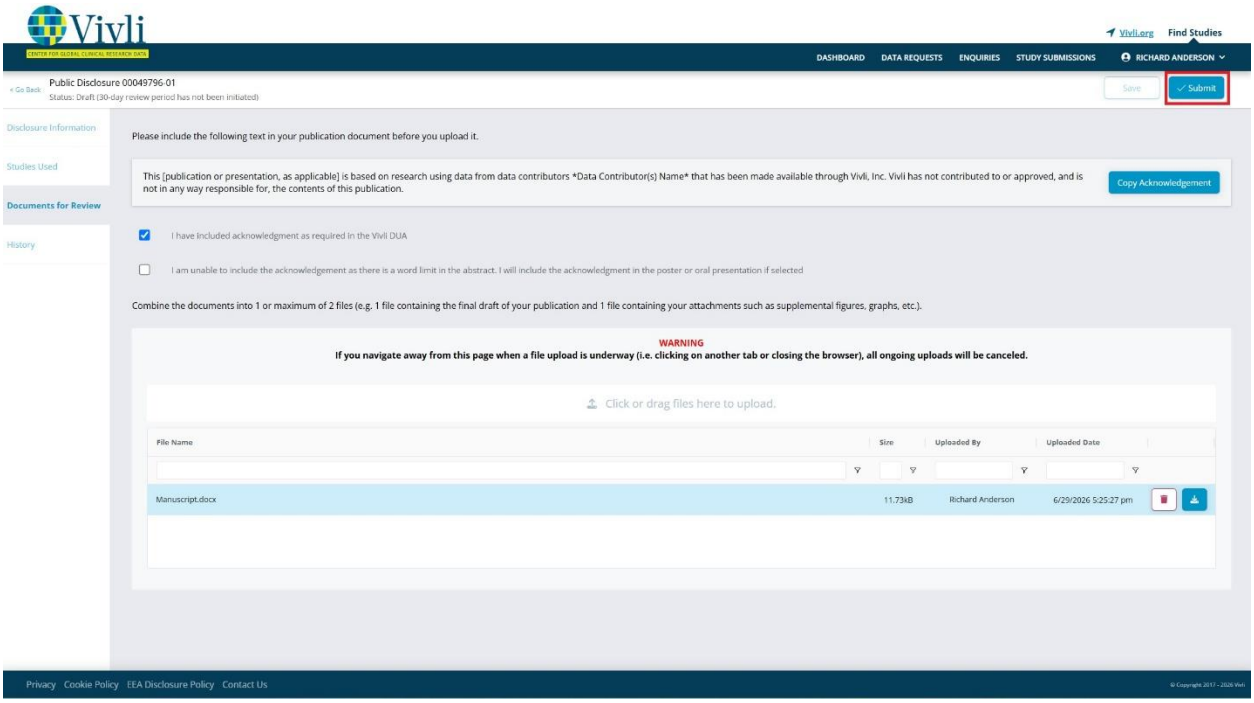


iv. If you upload duplicate files, you will receive an error “A file name “XXXX” already exists. Click OK to overwrite”. Click “Cancel” to exit if this was in error.



If you navigate away from this page when a file upload is in progress, all ongoing uploads will be canceled.

7. Click “Submit” to submit your public disclosure for review.
    a. Your public disclosure will be sent to data contributors to complete a 30-day review and the status will be “Status: In Review (30-day review started, 30 days remaining)”

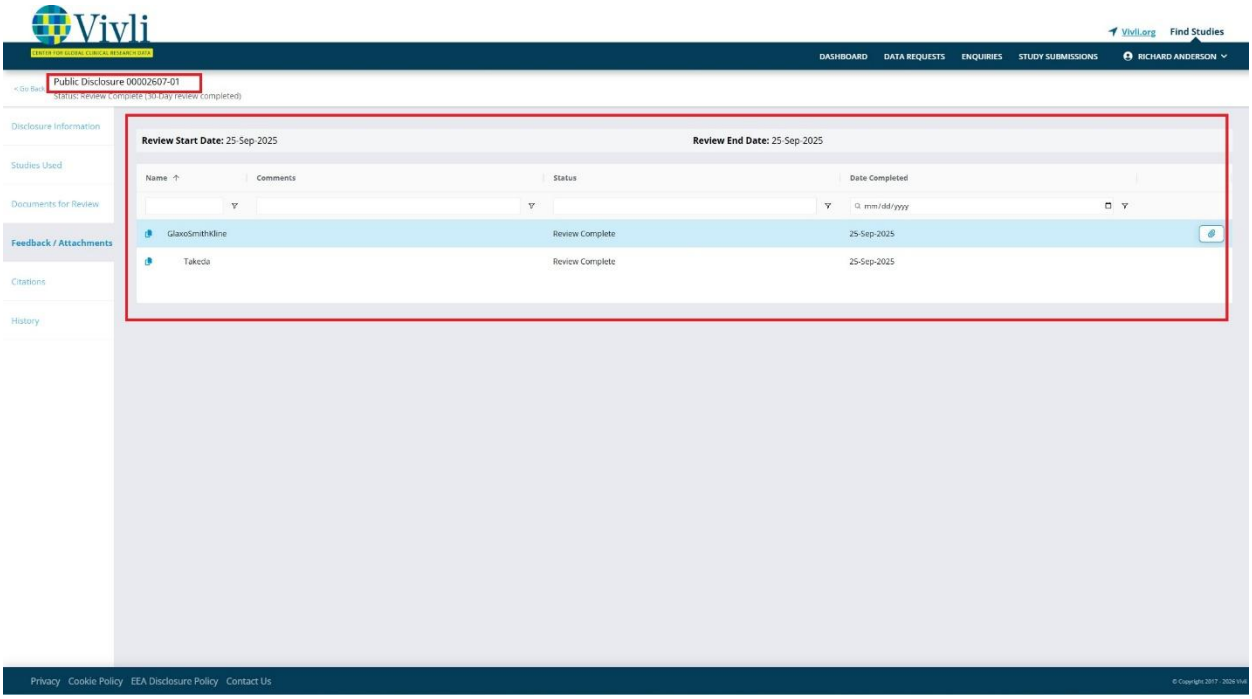


    b. The Vivli team may reach out with follow up questions via the Open chat if additional information is needed, which will not impact the “start” date for the 30-day review.

8.2.2 Status of Review

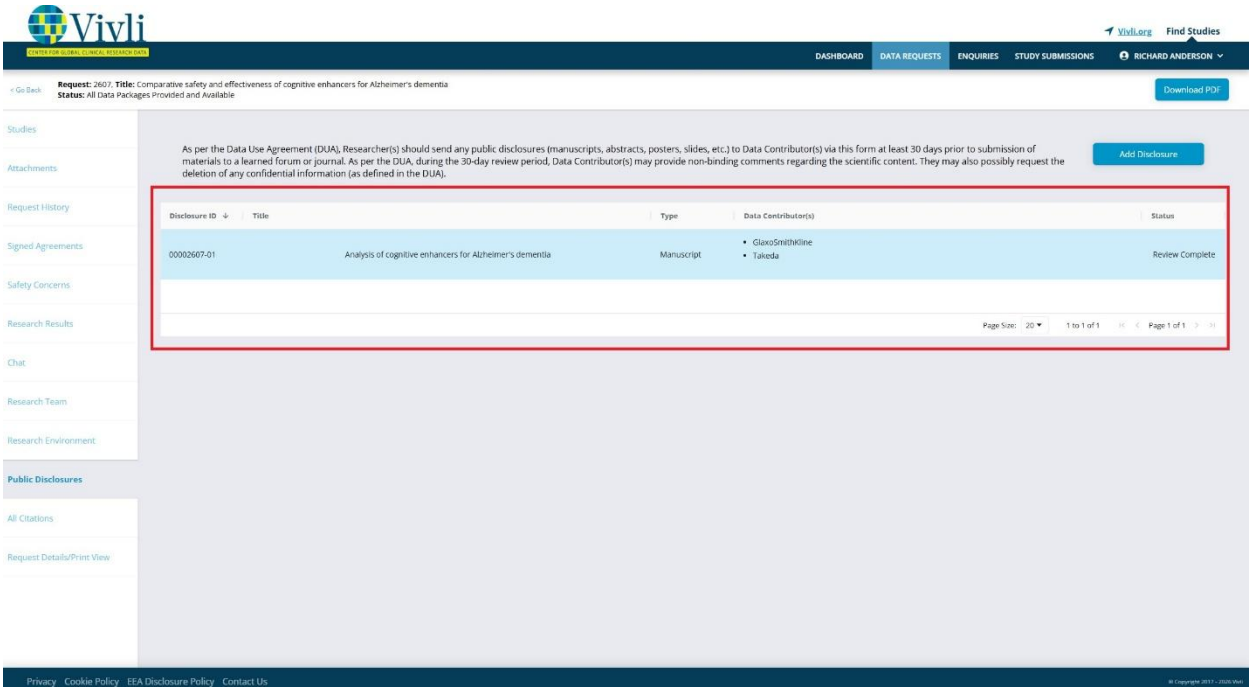
The 30-day review begins the day publication materials are submitted for review through the "Public Disclosure" tab and ends once the 30-day period is complete, or once all data contributors provide comments or confirm the review is complete, whichever is first.

- To view the status of the review and feedback received:
    - View "Status" at the top of your public disclosure entry to view the number of days left in the 30-day review of your publication
    - Click the tab "Feedback and Attachments" to view the individual status of each data contributors review and the feedback provided
    - In the table, you will see the name of the data contributor, the comments provided by the data contributor, the status of the review, and the date completed (once review is complete)
        - Data contributors may provide comments in free-text form, or upload attachments which you may download from this page
        - If there is an attachment, the paperclip icon will appear on the right side
        - Click on the paperclip icon to download the file
        - Use the Open chat, if needed, to respond to data contributor comments or questions during the review.



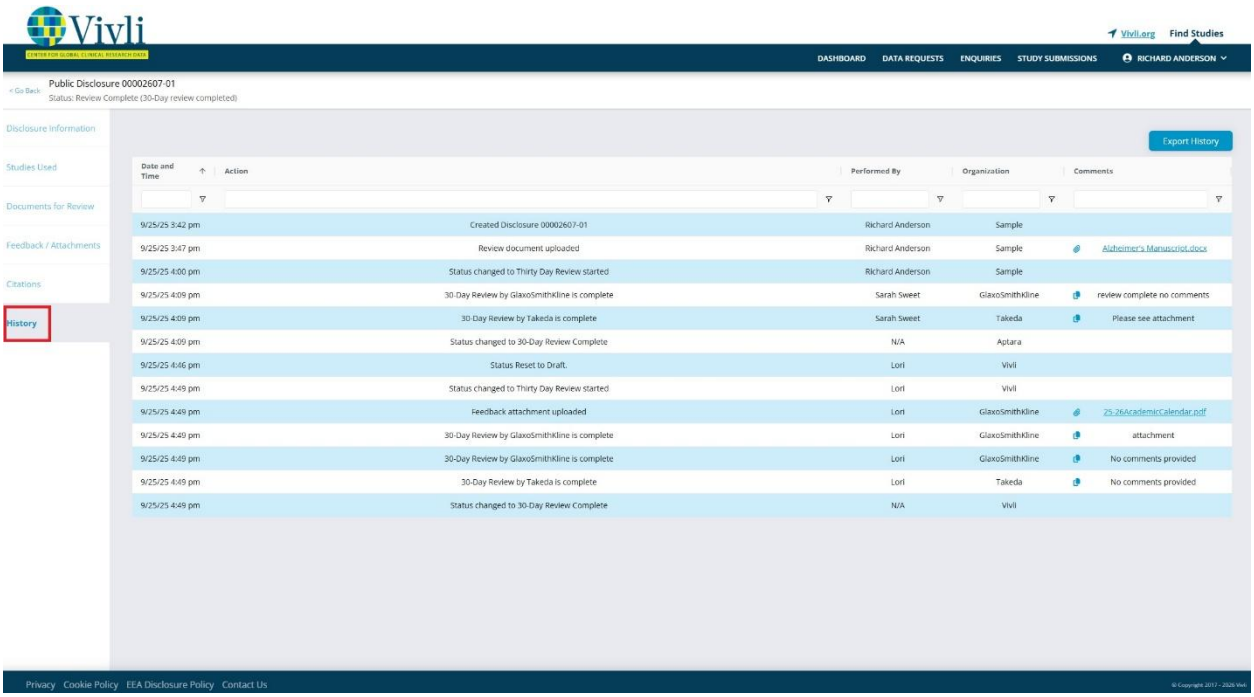
- You may also view the status of all public disclosures you have submitted from your data request page.

- Navigate to your data request and click on the “Public Disclosures” page
- On this page, you will see all the disclosures you have submitted for your data request, including the ID, Title, Type, Data Contributor(s), and the status of the review.



- Statuses:
  - Review Complete – The review has been completed, or the 30-Day review period has expired.
  - Not Published – Review has been completed but the disclosure will not be published.
  - Published – The disclosure has been cited and published.
  - Draft – The disclosure is in a draft state and has not been submitted for review.
    - If there a draft disclosure needs to be removed, inform the Vivli team via the request chat and a Vivli admin may delete the draft disclosure on your behalf.

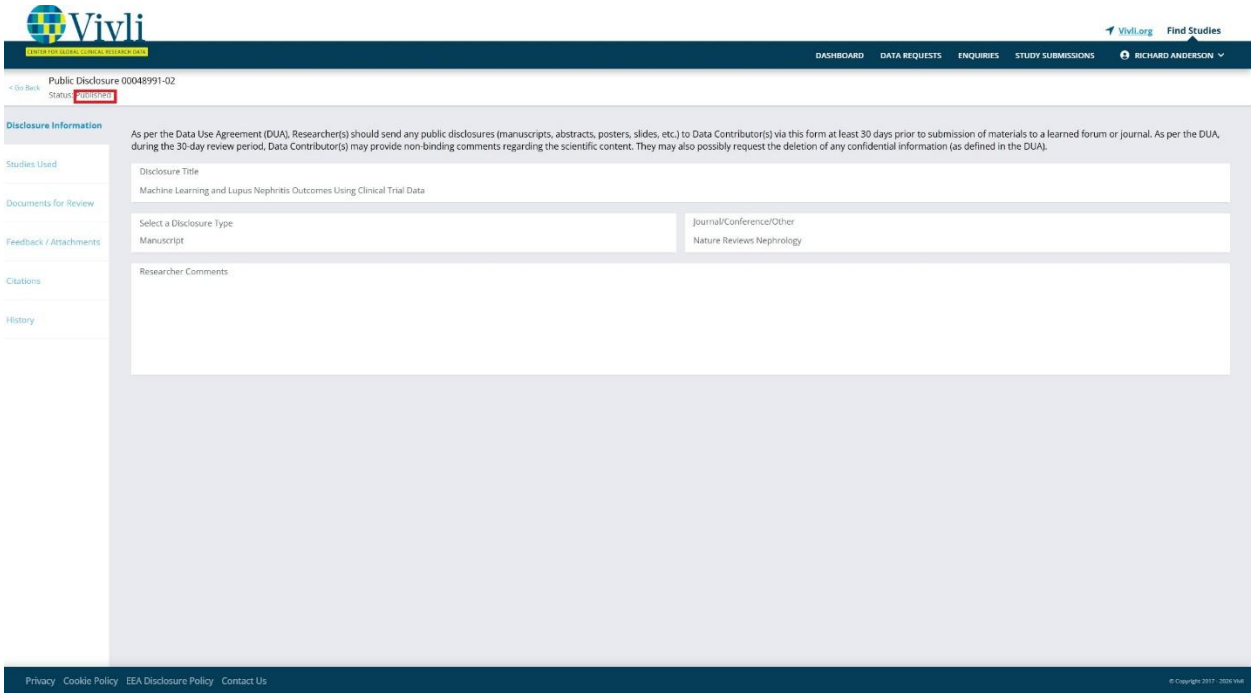
- History
  - Use the “History” tab to view the history of all disclosures created or submitted for your data request. You may also download any attachments associated with the public disclosure from this page.
  - History may be downloaded by clicking the “Export History” button



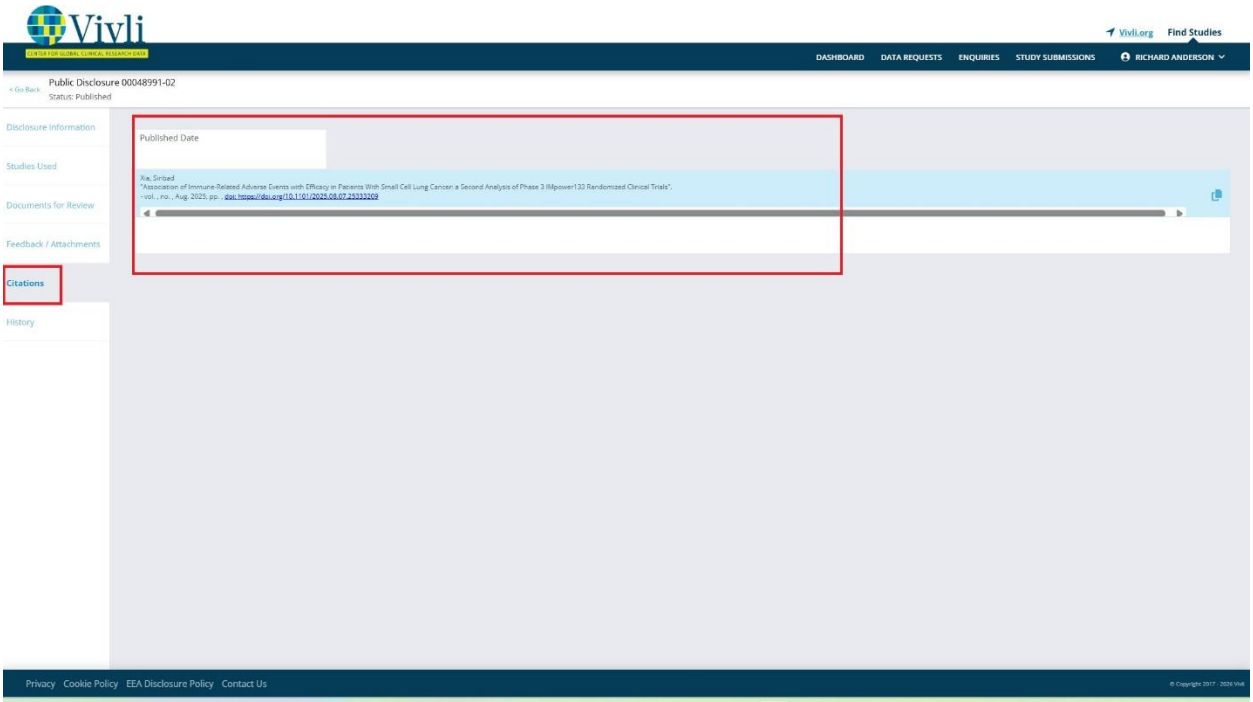
- Emails
    - The research team will receive the following emails from the Vivli platform related to the public disclosures:
        - When a disclosure is submitted for courtesy review
        - When a public disclosure is reset to draft by the Vivli Admins
        - Once a disclosure reaches the end of the review stage (once all data contributors have reviewed the publication or at the end of the 30-day period)
        - When a public disclosure is published by a Vivli Admin on the Vivli website

8.3 Publication Notification by Data Requestor

- Once your team has been notified that your publication has been accepted by the journal, notify the Vivli team via the Open chat. The Vivli team will then follow up on the progress toward publication and for the DOI and citation.
- When your publication has been published and the DOI for your citation made available, please let the Vivli team know via Open chat.
- The Vivli team will then update your data request on the Vivli website by including the statistical analysis plan and the DOI to the publication.
- The status of the public disclosure will be “Published”



- The Vivli team will also add the citation to your data request on the Vivli platform in the "Citations" tab of your public disclosure. The citation will be linked to the study(s) involved in your request as well and will be viewable when viewing study details on the Vivli platform.



- If this is your final analysis for the research project, please let Vivli know and if so, we will move your analysis to long-term storage and archive your request on the Vivli platform. See

section 12.0 Stopping the Research Environment. Vivli team will send you a survey about your experience on Vivli platform.

- If you have more publications linked to this research project, please follow step 9.2 Publication Reviews by Data Contributors for each subsequent publication.

8.4 Public disclosure not possible

If for whatever reason you are unable to publish your results, you must provide a summary report of your findings and Vivli will publish this report on its website. For an example see: https://vivli.org/identification-of-biomarkers-associated-with-specific-sleep-variables/. Vivli will then de-provision your research environment and your project will be complete

- Alternatively, you may fulfill the obligations under the Vivli DUA and submit to a pre-print server such as https://www.medrxiv.org/. This preprint server was started by the BMJ and Yale and is a free distribution server for preprints of articles covering all aspects of research. Once posted you would receive a DOI so it would be citable and discoverable. You can cite this on your CV and continue to submit to other journals if you like.
    - Once your publication is posted on a pre-print server, please let the Vivli Team know via chat.
    - The Vivli team will then update your data request on the Vivli website by including the statistical analysis plan and the DOI to the publication. If your public disclosure is then published in a peer-reviewed journal, the Vivli team will replace the pre-print citation with the peer-reviewed citation.
    - The Vivli Team will follow up to check the status of publication in a peer-review journal.
    - Summary of results and disclosures for pre-print servers must be submitted via the 'Public Disclosure' tab for a 30-day review following the steps outlines in 9.2.1
        - For summary of results submissions, enter "N/A" in "Name of Journal" as this field does not apply

8.4.1 Reasons why analysis may not be completed

If the analysis is not completed, this fact and the reason that it was not completed, should be stated as a summary of the research.
The analysis may not be performed or completed due to the following reasons:

- Technical - e.g. datasets can't be combined, the research questions can't be answered, data mapping isn't possible
- Scientific - e.g. the studies can't be combined due to design differences or endpoint differences
- Logistical - e.g. the Data Requestor loses funding or key research personnel

According to Vivli policy, if a user fails to meet their DUA obligations and does not respond with reasons why their analysis has not been completed, the Vivli team will escalate to your institutional official who has signed off on the DUA and the team may be unable to submit a subsequent request on Vivli.

9.0 Extensions to the Data Use Agreement via the Data Request Progress Report

- Access to the data listed in the approved research proposal is valid for one year from when the Data Use Agreement (DUA) is executed.
- Prior to the 1-year DUA expiration, the Vivli team will reach out to the Data Requestors for an update on the data request and analysis by asking if the team would like to extend their access, beyond the DUA expiration date.
- If the team responds that they wish to extend access, the Vivli team will send the lead investigator the Data Request Progress Report via DocuSign.
- The Lead Researcher fills out the Data Request Progress Report to request an extension. If additional team members from other institutions have a signed DUA, they will acknowledge the completed Data Request Progress Report to extend their access as well.
- Vivli team will follow up on the Data Request Progress Report 1 week prior to the DUA expiration.
- Based on the response, Vivli makes the decision regarding extending access to the data in 1-year intervals. These extensions are only granted due to extenuating circumstances. Vivli will respond in 10 business days with a decision that has been reached and upload the document via Signed Agreements on the Vivli platform.
- If no response is received before the end of the Data Use Agreement, Vivli team stops the Research Environment and remove the team's access to the research environment on the day of DUA expiration.
- Note: For any requests for downloadable data, Vivli team will request evidence of data destruction as per the data security addendum.
- Note that an extension to the Data Use Agreement (a legal agreement) is entirely separate from the No Charge period on the Research environment and does not extend the No Charge period.

9.1 Failure to meet DUA obligations

According to Vivli policy, if a user fails to meet their DUA obligations, they are unable to submit a subsequent request from Vivli.

10.0 Paying for a Research Environment

The cost and length of no charge periods for the Secure Research Environment access are available on the Vivli website. Please note these charges are subject to change.

Note that the no charge period (i.e., the length of time where you will not be charged) begins on the date you first provision the Research Environment, which usually is later than the date that the Data Use Agreement is signed. Per Vivli policy, the no charge period for the Vivli Research Environment begins at initiation and is not impacted by the days you actually use the

environment; billing is not impacted by pausing. Renewing the Data Use Agreement does not extend the no charge period.

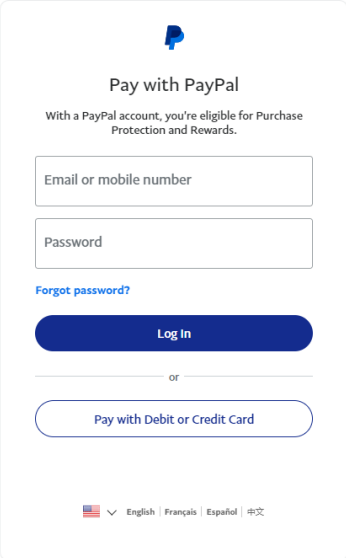
As you near the end of your no charge period, Vivli will send you notices via email to the email addresses of the research team members on the data request. In these notices we will remind you of the end date of your no charge period. **We will ask you to provide payment via a credit card once your no charge period has ended.** Charges will be automatically completed on the same day of the month, approximately every 30 days, as when payment is first submitted for the next month's usage. A constant 30 days per month will be charged, and your subscription will be cancelled and no further charges made as soon as you submit a public disclosure for courtesy review and confirm with the Vivli team you wish to stop using your research environment.

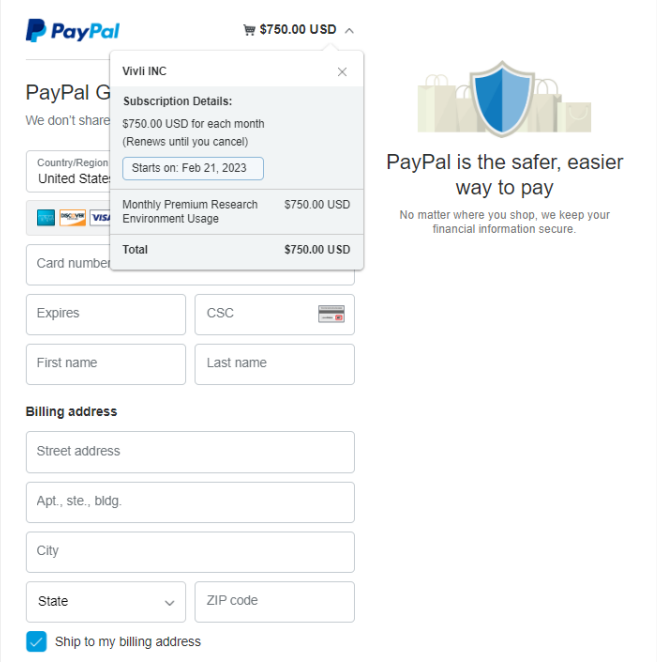
If no payment method is arranged, access to the Research Environment will be revoked.

Please note that you will be responsible for all charges once your no charge usage period has ended. Once you have submitted a public disclosure for courtesy review and confirmed with the Vivli team that you wish to stop your secure research environment then this will stop the accrual of additional fees. See section 11.0 for further information about stopping the research environment.

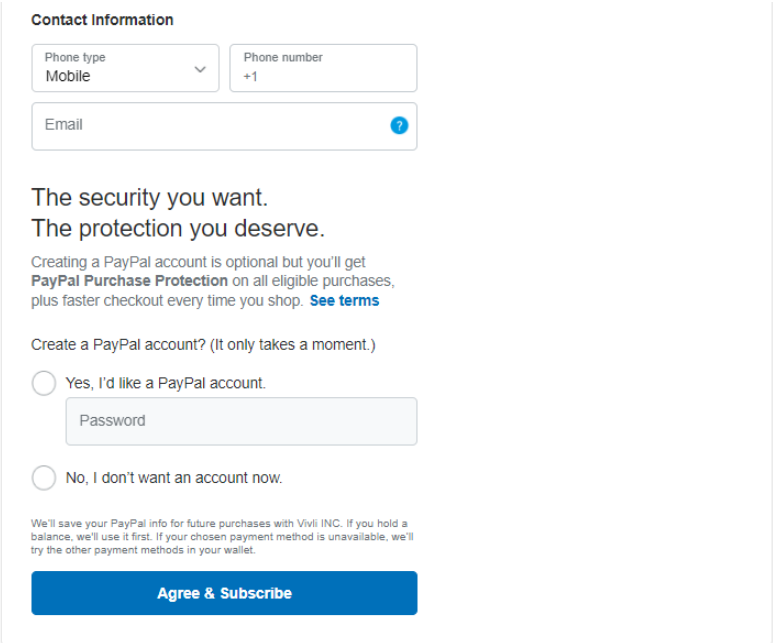
1. At the end of your no charge period, the Vivli team will email you with the appropriate link to sign up for subscription billing for the secure Research Environment within 1 week of your no charge period end date. The subject line will be "Action Required: Vivli Research Environment ALERT – Payment Request to Maintain Access to data request"

2. Upon opening the link, you will be directed to the PayPal page where you can login with your PayPal account or enter the credit/debit card number to be used for billing.





3. After entering the credit card details, click the Agree & Subscribe button. Please note that you will be charged every 30 days on approximately the same date each month going forward.



4. Lastly, you should receive confirmation from PayPal that you have successfully signed up for your subscription for the Research Environment and also a receipt of your first payment to the email address shared with PayPal.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Vivli at support@vivli.org.

11.0 Pausing the Research Environment

- When you have submitted your publication for review and are awaiting feedback, you may reach out to the Vivli Team in chat to request a "pause" of your research environment. This will preserve any remaining no charge period days for subsequent analysis from peer review feedback. If you are actively paying for your environment, requesting to "pause" will stop the accrual of additional fees.
- Once your research environment has been stopped, this will stop the accrual of additional fees until a request to re-access has been submitted.
- **Important:** Before requesting to "pause" the environment, please copy any data that you might need later access to onto the Network Drive (Drive V:\). Once disabled, access to content in the Research Environment will be terminated. Note that long-term archive will ONLY save the contents of drive V. Data saved in any other drive will be deleted: so please place any essential data to Drive V. Remember to check your desktop and documents folders for any data you wish to be archived.
- If you need access to data while your request is "paused", simply reach out to the Vivli Team in chat or via support@vivli.org and will provide next steps for resuming your analysis.

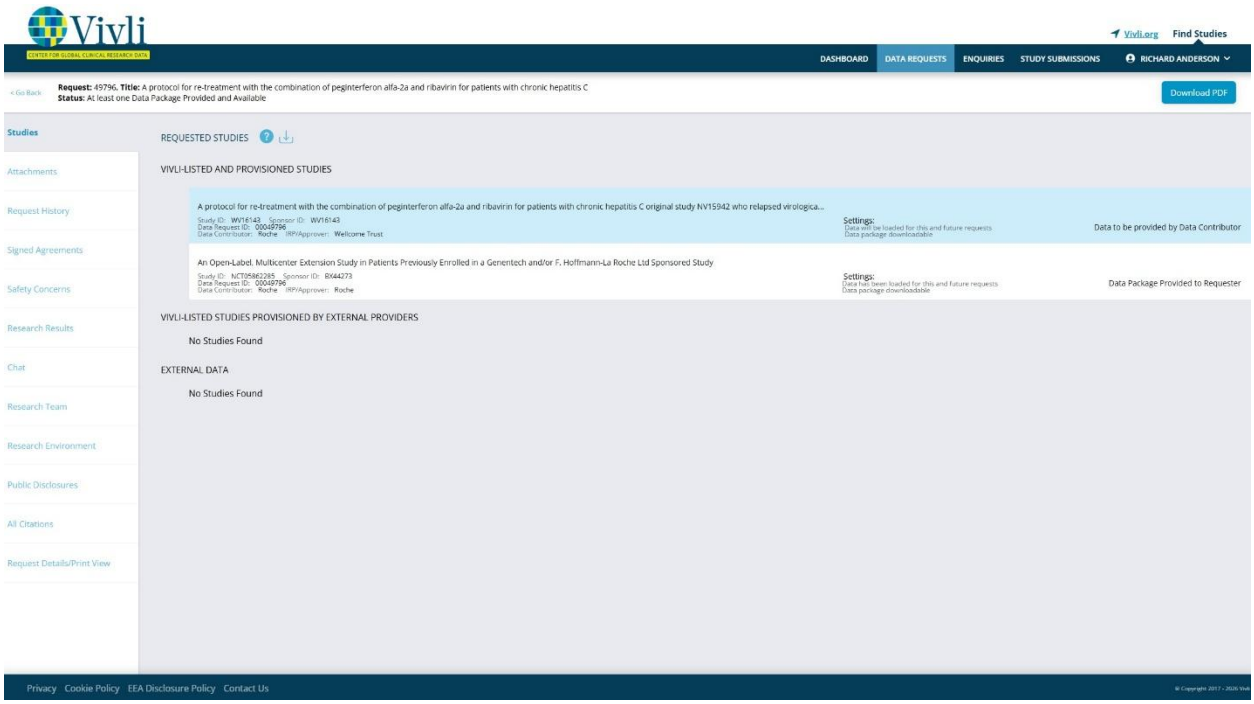
12.0 Deprovisioning the Research Environment

- When you have completed your research, exported your final results and published your findings, the Vivli team will provide next steps, as needed, to deprovision your research environment and prepare data for long term archive. Please reach out when you have saved all data to which you may need future re-access to the V:drive then reach out to the Vivli Team via support@vivli.org to request deprovisioning.
- **Important:** Before requesting to deprovision the environment, please copy any data that you might need later access to onto the Network Drive (Drive V:\). Once disabled, access to content in the Research Environment will be terminated. Note that long-term archive will ONLY save the contents of drive V. Data saved in any other drive will be deleted: so please place any essential data to Drive V.
- Shortly after your research environment has been marked for deprovisioning, Vivli will place a copy of the contents of the data disk into long-term archive.
- If you need access to data held in the Vivli long-term archive, please send a request to the Vivli Team via support@vivli.org including the Data Request number and Project Name. Processing this request takes 5-7 days.
- If you need access to long-term storage data for a new research project, to address a different question and/or if you are requesting additional data, you will need to create and submit a new data request on the Vivli platform. In the Narrative, reference the original data request, including the request number.

13.0 Downloadable data

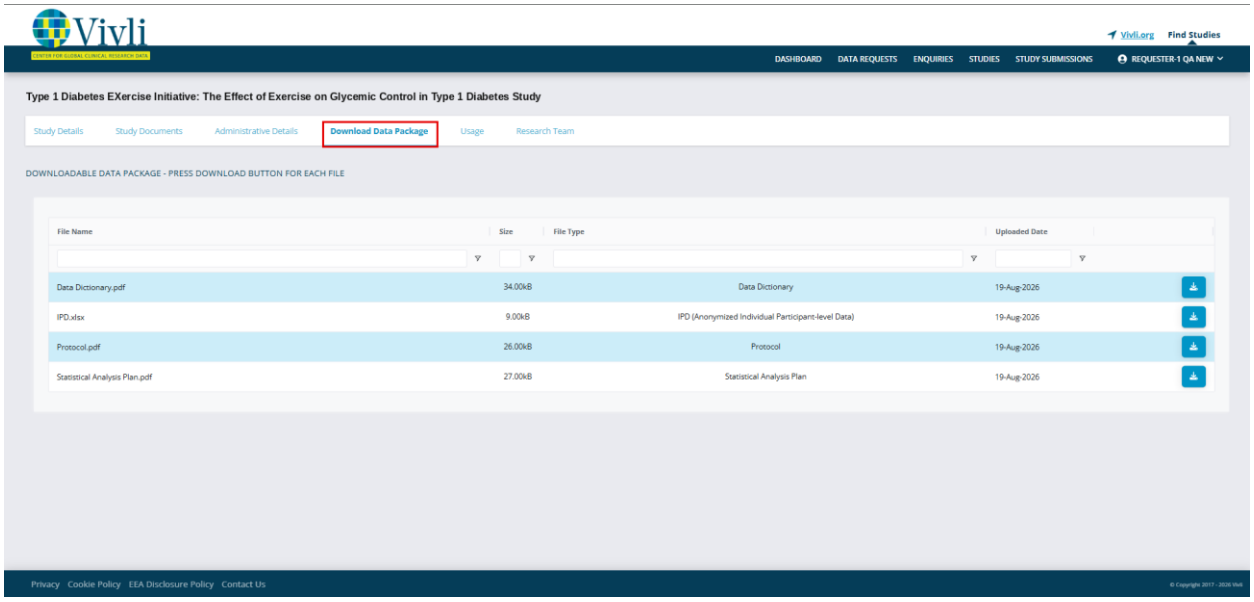
Some Data Contributors will allow you to download their data directly from the Vivli Platform using the following process:

1. Log in and open your approved data request:

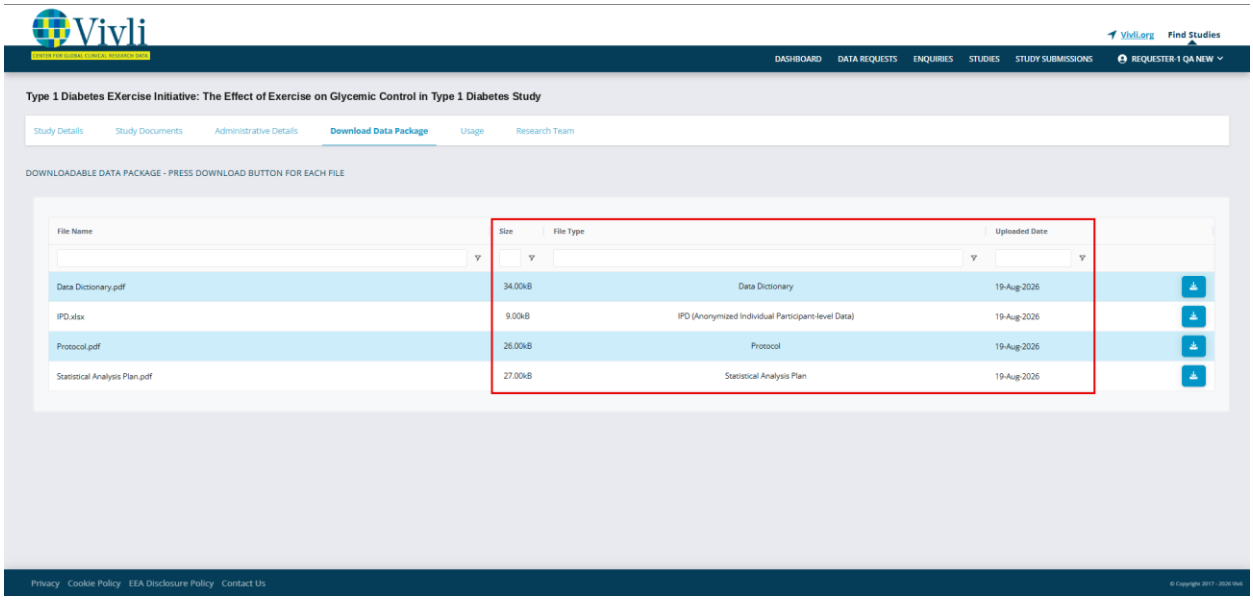


2. Click on the study to get to the **Study details** screen:

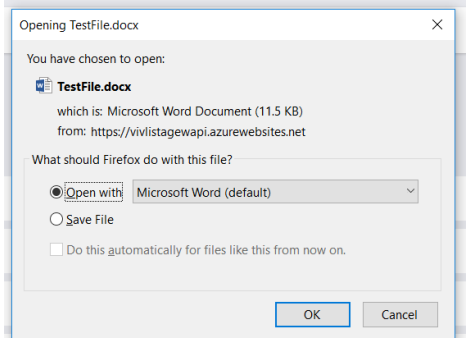
3. Click on Download Data Package:



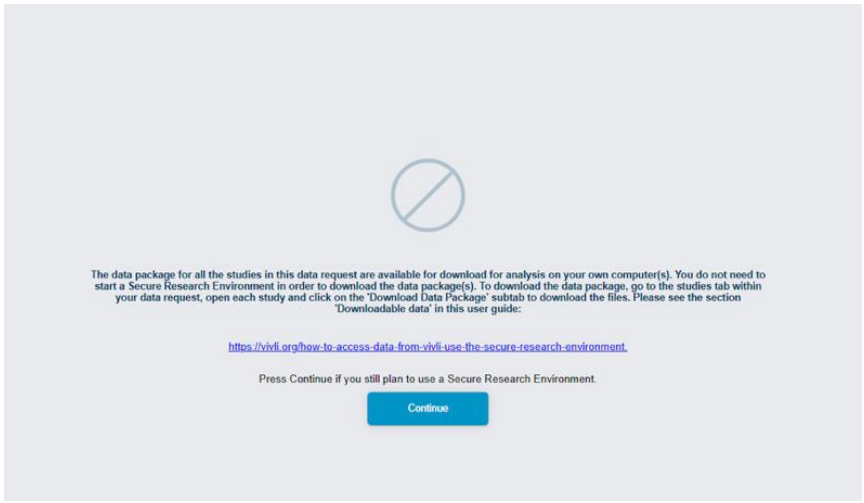
4. This will take you to the Download screen, which lists the size, file type and uploaded date of each file:



5. Depending on your browser, a pop-up will appear:

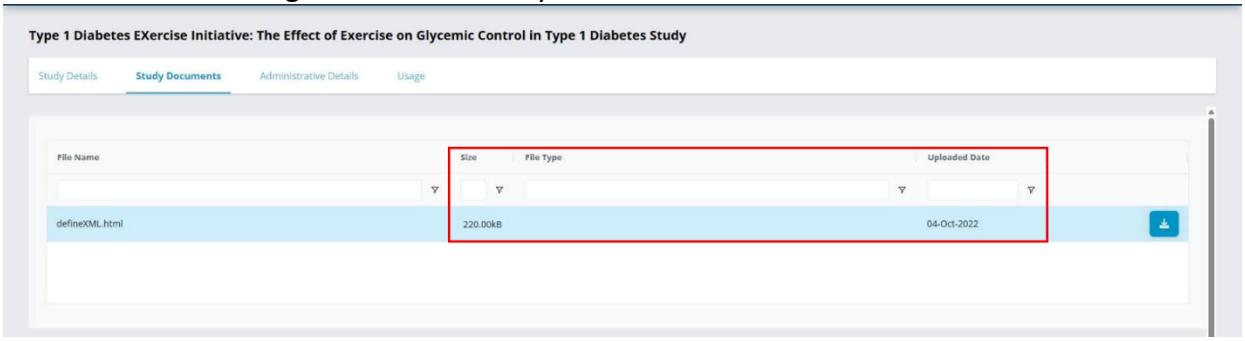


6. Select the target file, choose whether you would like to Save or Open the files and click **Ok**.
7. Repeat Step 6 for any additional files.
8. The following reminder will appear if you select a secure research environment for downloadable studies.



13.1 Tips for downloading files from Vivli

When files are available for direct download from the Vivli platform, the usual approach to downloading files is to open the approved data request, open the studies tab, click on the "card" for the study, go the download data package tab and click "Download" for each individual file that you need to download. The Study Documents and Download Data Package tabs list the size, file type and uploaded date of each file, so you can tell which file you need and estimate how long the download may take.



If the size of the file is more than 1000MB, you should take a few extra precautions before starting the download

- In your computer settings, set Power Plan to sleep "Never" when plugged in. (sleeping will interrupt the download)
- Once you start the download, leave the computer running and the browser open.
- The progress of the download is shown in different places depending on the browser (for example for Chrome it is shown in the lower left, and for Firefox it is show in the upper right - note that for Firefox, the progress pop-up is taken down after a few minutes - you can check back on progress by clicking on the download icon on the upper right)
- If the download takes more than 30 minutes, the Vivli Platform will automatically log you out, but the download will continue until it is complete.
- Do not download more than one file at a time

14.0 Feedback and Support

If you need technical help with your research environment, please email Vivli at support@vivli.org and we will assist you as soon as possible. Please provide as much information as you can to the problem, including the research proposal number, the time the problem and any messages you received from the platform occurred as this will make it easier for Vivli to diagnose and fix the issue.

If you ever have thoughts on how to improve the system or processes, please email support@vivli.org or reach out to Vivli via chat. When you have completed your project, Vivli will ask you to complete a short survey to help us continue to improve.

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