

# Giving metabolites (and lipids) a chemical and biological context with open science

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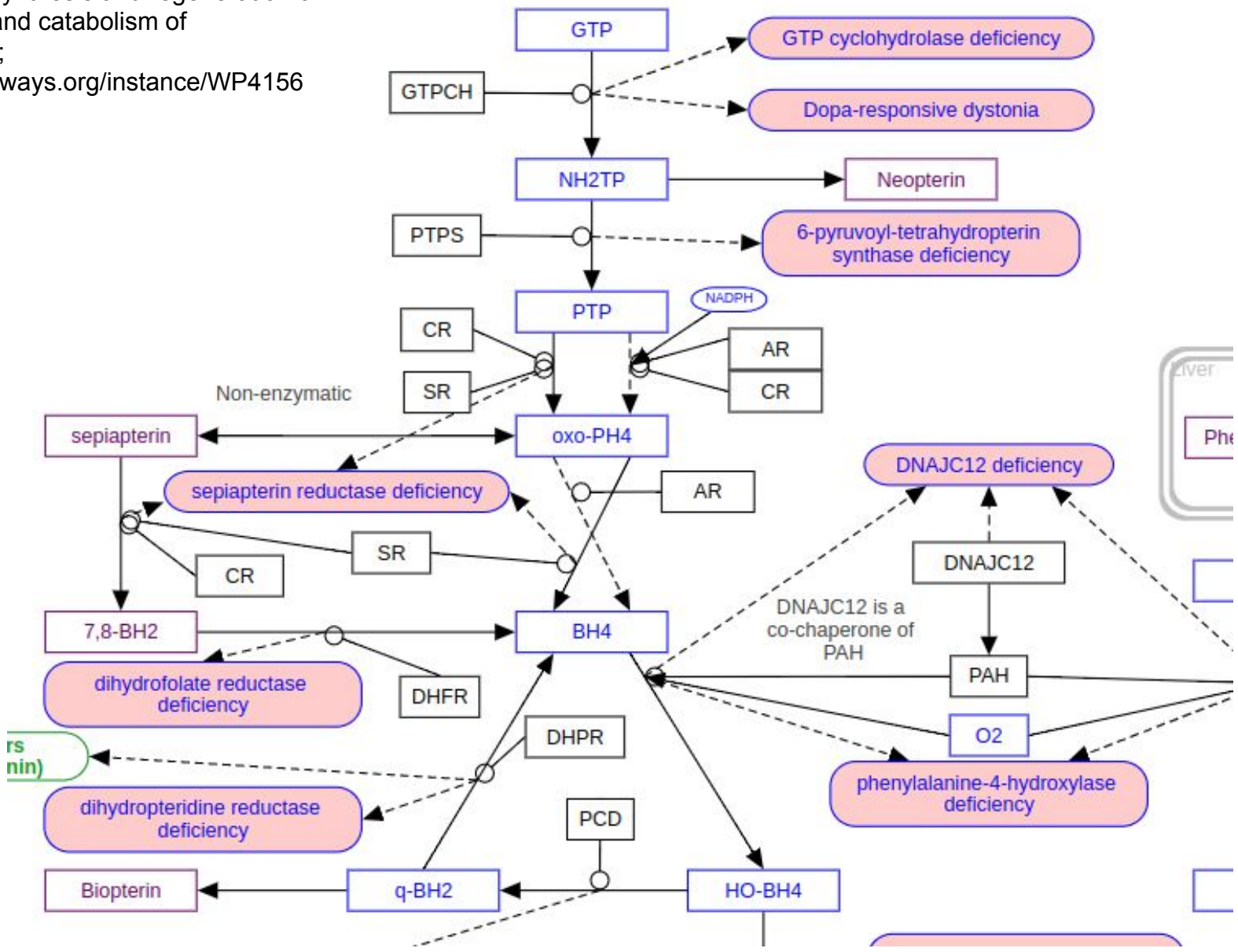
NMetC, Turku 2024-08-26  
doi:10.5281/zenodo.13373746



# Abstract

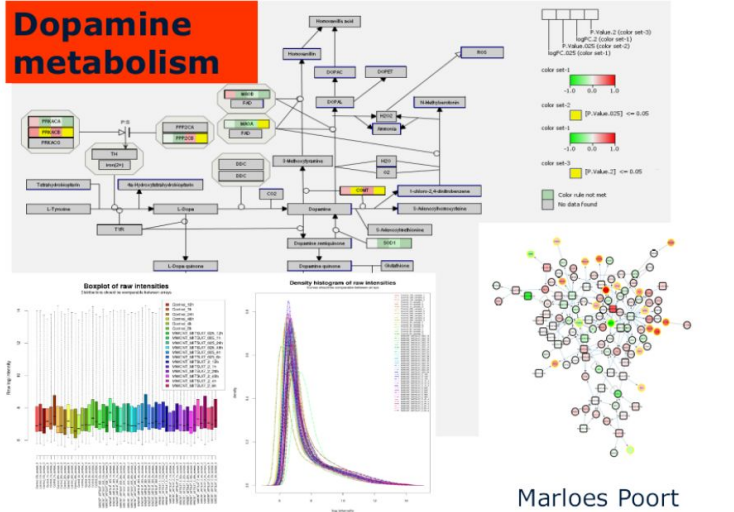
A metabolite or lipid in vacuum is nice to look at, but when it comes into contact with other chemicals, things become interesting. However, finding and accessing knowledge about single chemicals is already not trivial, let alone that of multiple interacting chemicals. Maybe it was possible 100 years ago to know everything in your field, we now need to bridge many domains and many resources. This talk will sketch the roles open science is playing in giving metabolites and lipids their needed chemical and biological context. It will cover open source cheminformatics for linking metabolite and lipid databases (SMILES, InChI, CXSMILES), open standards for interoperability of knowledge (semantic web), open data to support metabolite and lipid identification (Wikidata and linked data), and linking knowledge via publications to their original research. Furthermore, it will explore mechanisms to describe the interactions these chemicals have in open biological pathway databases (WikiPathways).

Slenter D, et al. Biosynthesis and regeneration of tetrahydrobiopterin and catabolism of phenylalanine. 2023; <https://www.wikipathways.org/instance/WP4156>



# Integrative Systems Biology

## Dopamine metabolism

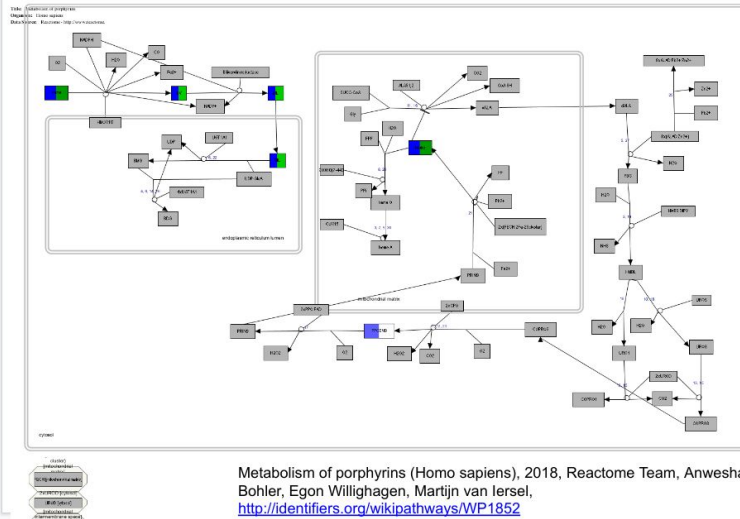


Marloes Poort



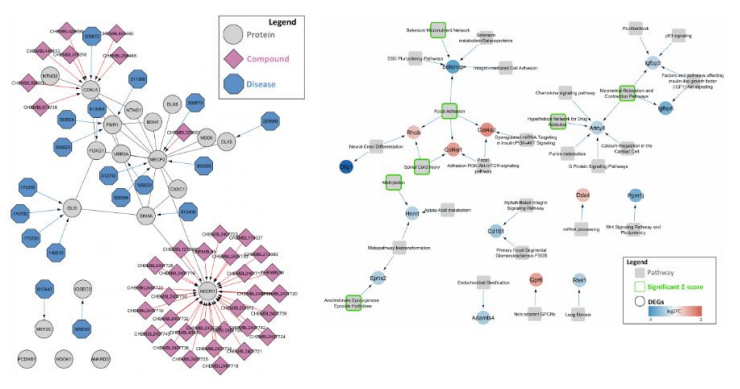
The effect of Multi-walled carbon nanotubes on gene expression in bronchial epithelial BEAS 2B cells, B.Sc. Thesis, 2015

## The effect of troglitazone on heme biosynthesis



Metabolism of porphyrins (Homo sapiens), 2018, Reactome Team, Anwesa Bohler, Egon Willighagen, Martijn van Iersel, <http://identifiers.org/wikipathways/WP1852>

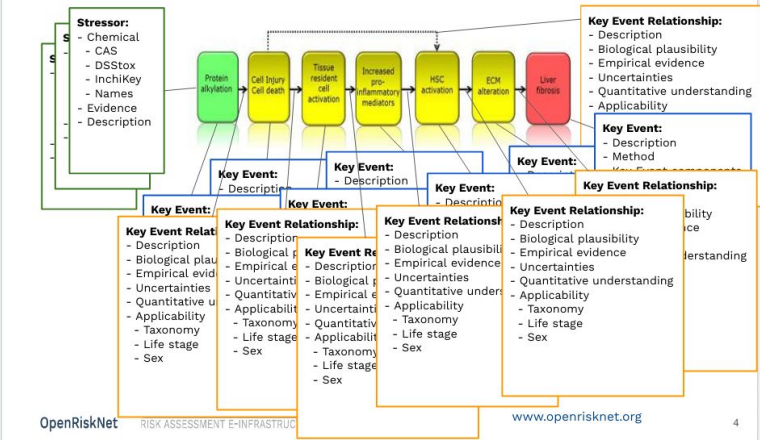
## CyTargetLinker



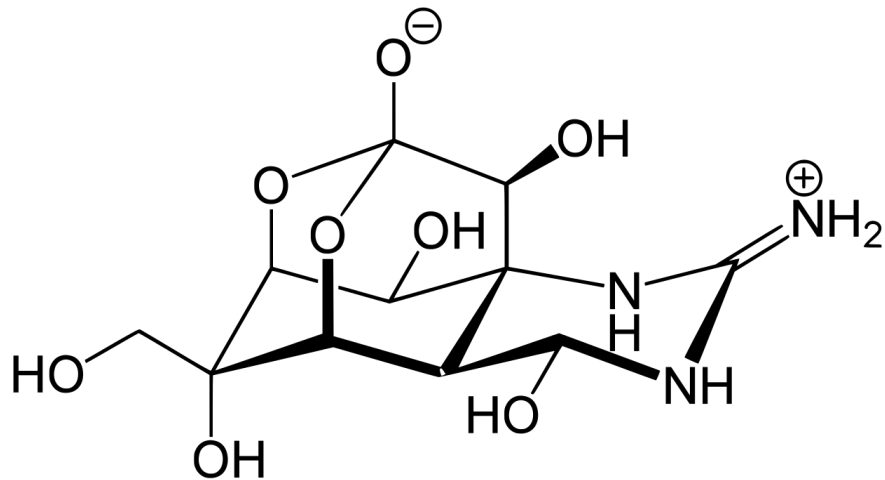
CyTargetLinker app update: A flexible solution for network extension in Cytoscape. 2018. F1000Research. 7, 743. 10.12688/f1000research.14613.1



## AOPs in AOP-Wiki contain diverse types of info



# A random compound...



- What exactly did we measure and what was it before the experiment started?
- Where do we find knowledge and/or can we make predictions?

# Some concepts...

Theory behind modern data analysis and aspects essential to chemical and biological context

# Semantics and Scientific Thinking

- **Meaning of concepts, of measured data**
  - Melting point
  - What is a “Metabolite”? Do we mean the same?
  - Implications on how to understand data and knowledge
- **Ontologies formalize meaning**
  - Name, definition, identifier
- **Representation**
  - Name, file format, data model, “shape”, ...

# Three types of computation

- **Statistics finds correlation (not causation)**
  - Same for machine learning, deep learning, AI
  - Numbers
  - Explainable AI?
- **Knowledge graphs**
  - Logic based: from facts to arguments
- **Algorithms (“Programming”)**
  - Solve physical equations
  - Converting representations
    - *Descriptors*, e.g. for predictive toxicology



# Usable data and Explainable AI

- **Data exploration for *biological plausibility***
  - Multivariate statistics to find variance
    - Visualisation
  - Compare with existing knowledge
  - Find correlations, hopefully causation
- ***Garbage in, garbage out***
  - “Minimal reporting standards”
  - Experimental design
- ***Black boxes***

# Open, FAIR, and used

- Open
  - Not just theoretical reuse, real reuse
  - Needed rights: use, modify, reshare
- Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable
  - Interoperable: we have solutions for most
  - Reusable: it works. we need a lot more
- Used
  - How can we encourage reuse and resharing?

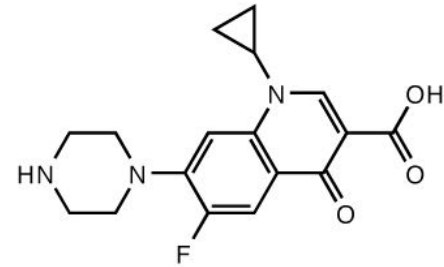
# Being precise in your uncertainty

Cheminformatics

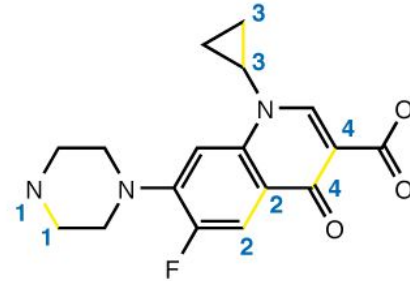
# Identifiers: SMILES

## Simplified molecular-input line-entry system

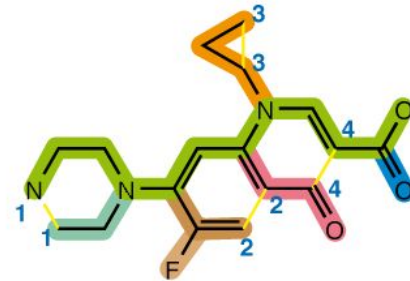
A



B



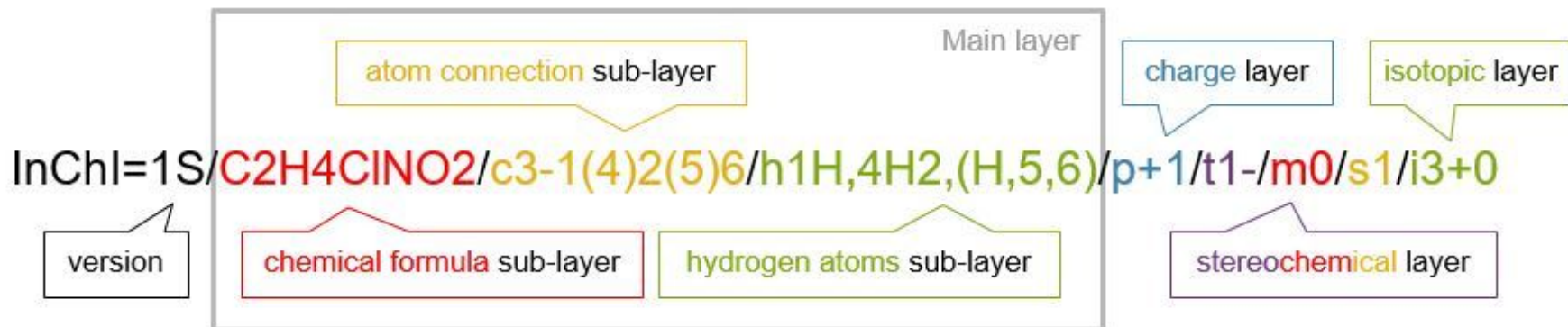
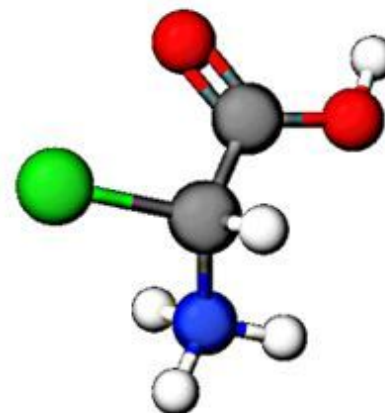
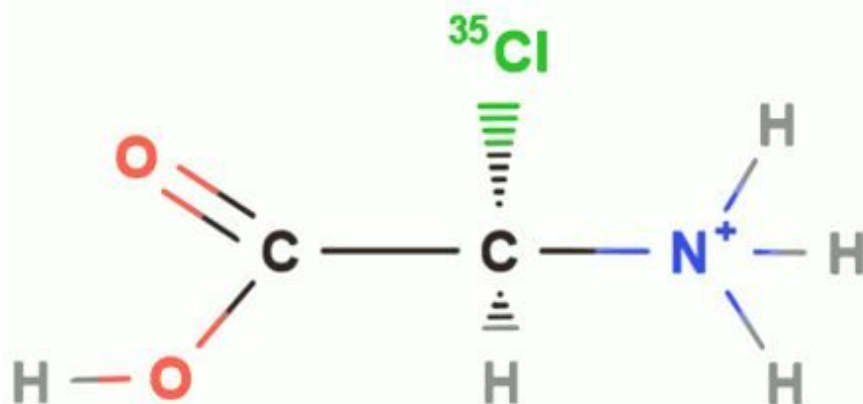
C



D

N1CCN(CC1)C(C(F)=C2)=CC(=C2C4=O)N(C3CC3)C=C4C(=O)O

# Identifiers: (Standard) InChI



[https://chem.libretexts.org/Courses/Fordham\\_University/Chem1102%3A\\_Drug\\_Discovery\\_-\\_From\\_the\\_Laboratory\\_to\\_the\\_Clinic/05%3A\\_Organic\\_Molecules/5.08%3A\\_Line\\_Notation\\_\(SMILES\\_and\\_InChI\)](https://chem.libretexts.org/Courses/Fordham_University/Chem1102%3A_Drug_Discovery_-_From_the_Laboratory_to_the_Clinic/05%3A_Organic_Molecules/5.08%3A_Line_Notation_(SMILES_and_InChI))

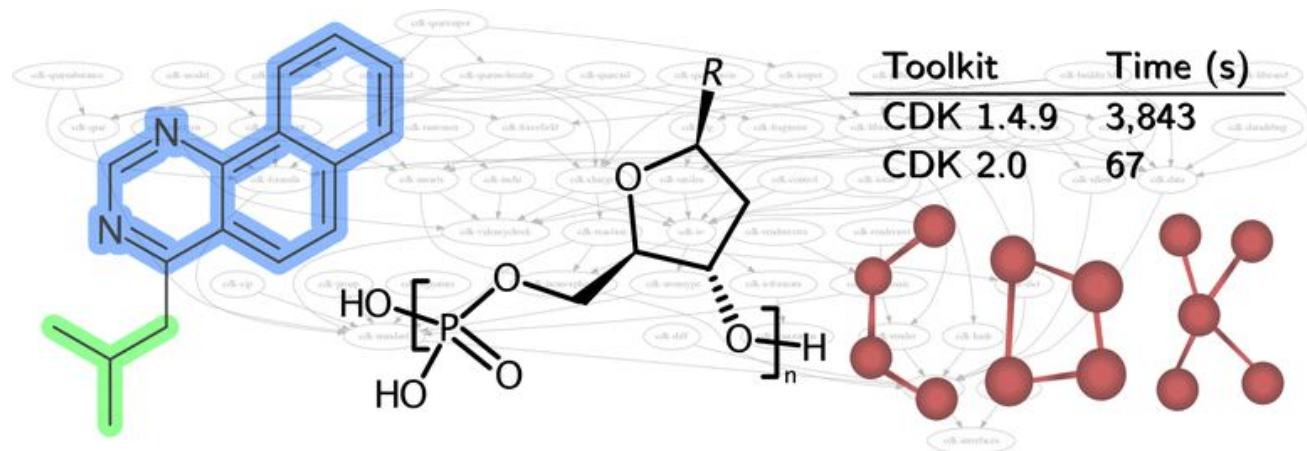
Software | [Open Access](#) | Published: 06 June 2017

## The Chemistry Development Kit (CDK) v2.0: atom typing, depiction, molecular formulas, and substructure searching

[Egon L. Willighagen](#) , [John W. Mayfield](#), [Jonathan Alvarsson](#), [Arvid Berg](#), [Lars Carlsson](#), [Nina Jeliaskova](#), [Stefan Kuhn](#), [Tomáš Pluskal](#), [Miquel Rojas-Chertó](#), [Ola Spjuth](#), [Gilleain Torrance](#), [Chris T. Evelo](#), [Rajarshi Guha](#) & [Christoph Steinbeck](#)

*Journal of Cheminformatics* 9, Article number: 33 (2017) | [Download Citation](#) ↓

7825 Accesses | 50 Citations | 55 Altmetric | [Metrics](#) >>



# Identifiers: other identifiers

INFO: old database is HMDB-CHEBI-WIKIDATA HMDB5.0.20211102-CHEBI224-WIKIDATA20230807 [build: 20230807]  
INFO: new database is HMDB-CHEBI-WIKIDATA HMDB5.0.20240416-CHEBI232-WIKIDATA20240416 [build: 20240416]  
INFO: Number of ids in Ch [HMDB]: 297251 [unchanged]  
INFO: Number of ids in Gpl [Guide to Pharmacology]: 7506 [0 added, 3 removed -> overall changed -0.0%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Cpc [PubChem-compound]: 1273488 [50399 added, 22 removed -> overall changed +4.1%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Ce [ChEBI]: 386946 [67162 added, 20 removed -> overall changed +21.0%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Ck [KEGG Compound]: 16258 [46 added, 20 removed -> overall changed +0.2%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Cl [ChEMBL compound]: 50331 [10 added, 0 removed -> overall changed +0.0%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Cs [Chempid]: 187969 [26207 added, 26 removed -> overall changed +16.2%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Sl [SwissLipids]: 20341 [unchanged]  
INFO: Number of ids in Wd [Wikidata]: 1405361 [4440 added, 3308 removed -> overall changed +0.1%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Dr [DrugBank]: 12036 [25 added, 2 removed -> overall changed +0.2%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Cks [KNAPSAcK]: 5014 [36 added, 0 removed -> overall changed +0.7%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Lm [LIPID MAPS]: 45139 [3150 added, 0 removed -> overall changed +7.5%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Ect [EPA CompTox]: 850027 [29 added, 5 removed -> overall changed +0.0%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Kd [KEGG Drug]: 4109 [14 added, 0 removed -> overall changed +0.3%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Ca [CAS]: 944585 [515 added, 28 removed -> overall changed +0.1%]  
INFO: Number of ids in Ik [InChIKey]: 1508499 [27550 added, 85 removed -> overall changed +1.9%]

# Identifiers: InChIKey

Show  entries

Search:

Mol	InChIKey	CAS	ChemSpider	PubChem CID
<a href="#">acetic acid</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQO-UHFFFAOYSA-N	64-19-7	171	176
<a href="#">deuterated acetic acid</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQO-GUEYOVJQSA-N	1186-52-3	2006083	2723903
<a href="#">acetic acid c-14</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQO-HQMMCQRPSA-N	2845-03-6	144444	164769
<a href="#">acetic acid c-13</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQO-VQEHIDDOSA-N	1563-79-7	8329490	10153982
<a href="#">acetic acid c-11</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQO-JVVVGQRLSA-N	78887-71-5	396653	450349
<a href="#">acetate ion</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQO-UHFFFAOYSA-M	71-50-1	170	175

[Edit on query.Wikidata.org](#)

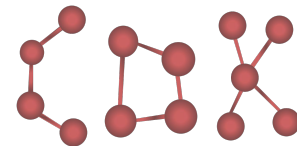
Showing 1 to 6 of 6 entries

Previous

1

Next





# Visualization

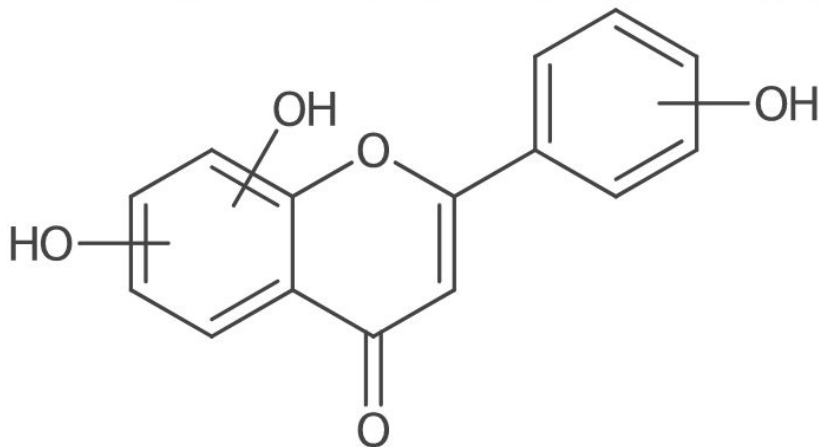
- Input: SMILES
- Output: drawing

E. Willighagen, A. Rutz, 2022, CDK CxSMILES,  
<https://egonw.github.io/cdk-cxsmiles/>

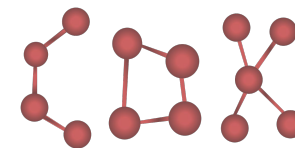
## Flavonoid

Or for a flavonoid with known number of hydroxy groups on each rings, but with position uncertainty:

```
0*.0*.C1=C(C(=C2C(=C1)OC(=CC2=O)C3=CC(=C(C=C3)))) .0* |m:3:4.5,m:1:8.9,m:22:18.19|
```



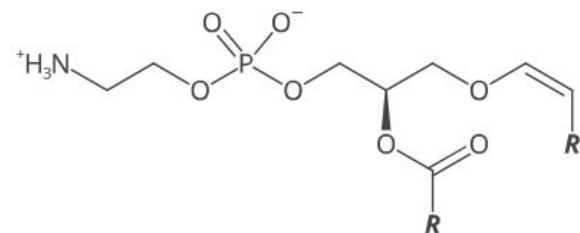
# CXSMILES (a *de facto* standard)



## R-groups

A common application of CXSMILES is the use of R-groups. This is done with the following CXSMILES

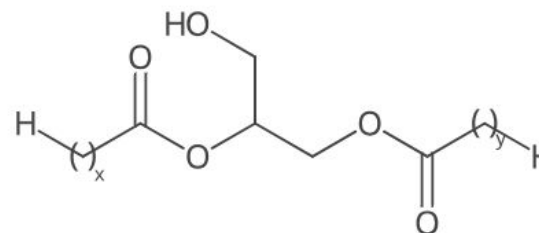
pattern like [NH3+]CCOP([O-])(=O)OC[C@H](C/C=C/[\*])OC([\*])=O |\$;;;;;;;;;;;;;R;;R\$| :



## Lipids with two tails

Sometimes experimental data does not provide enough information to decide how long the individual lipid tails are, but only provide the total length. Then a template like occ(oc(=O)c[H])coc(=O)c[H]

|Sg:n:6:x:ht,Sg:n:12:y:ht| x+y=28 can be useful:



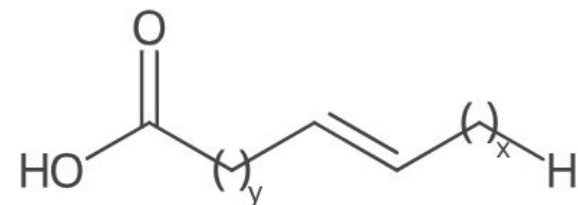
$x+y=28$

## Lipids [↗](#)

### Lipids with a double bond somewhere in the tail

If we have a single tail lipid with  $x+y+2$  carbons in the tail but we do not know the location of the double

bond, we can use a CXSMILES like [H]C\C=C\C\CC(=O)O |Sg:n:1:x:ht,Sg:n:4:y:ht| x+y=15 :



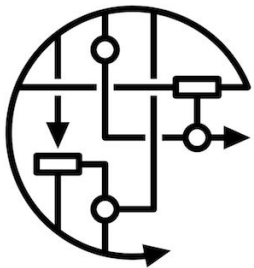
$x+y=15$

E. Willighagen, A. Rutz, 2022, CDK CxSMILES,  
<https://egonw.github.io/cdk-cxsmiles/>



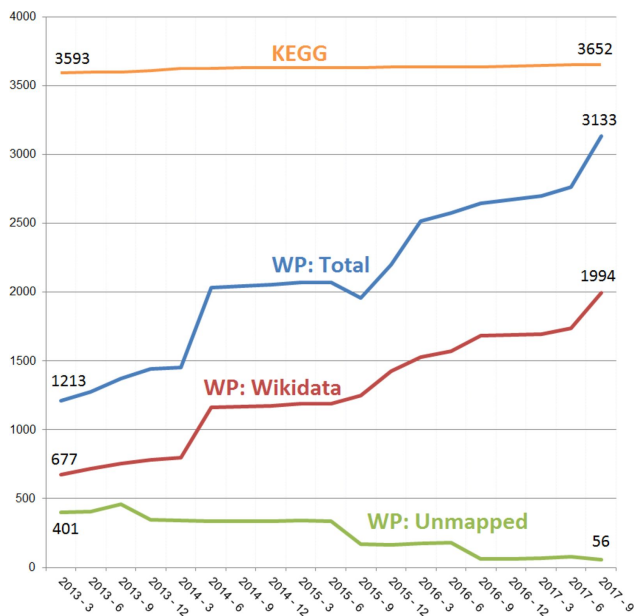
# WikiPathways

Biological context



# WIKIPATHWAYS

Pathways for the People



Agrawal *et al*, WikiPathways 2024:  
next generation pathway database,  
10.1093/nar/gkx1064



Eoin Fahy

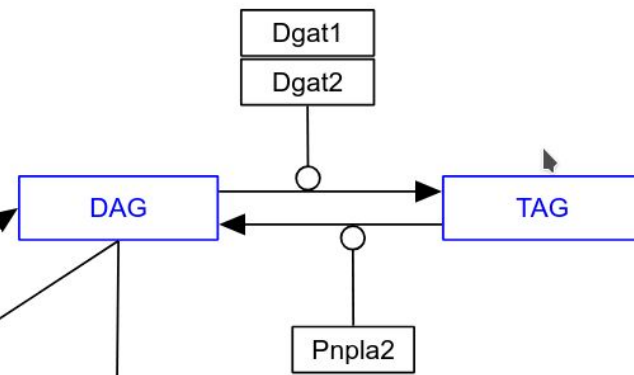
**DAG**

Annotated with: LMGL02010000 (LIPID MAPS)

Find pathways with DAG...

**External references:**

- ▶ ChEBI
- ▶ KEGG Compound
- ▼ LIPID MAPS
  - LMGL02010000
- ▶ Wikidata



Eoin Fahy

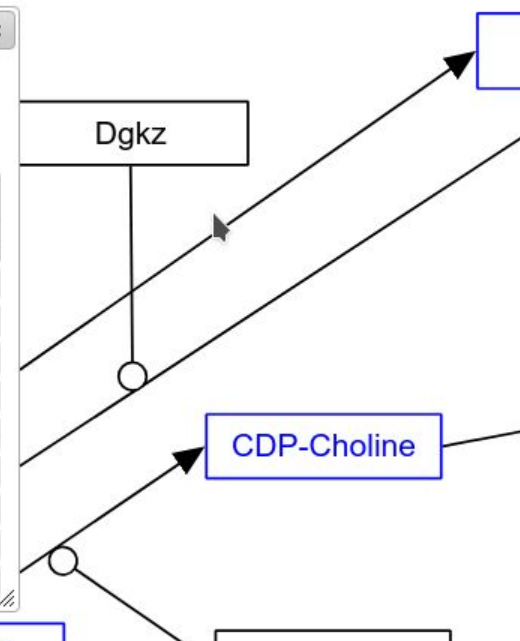
**CDP-Choline**

Annotated with: 13804 (PubChem-compound)

Find pathways with CDP-Choline...

**External references:**

- ▼ CAS
  - 987-78-0
- ▶ ChEBI
- ▶ Chempidder
- ▶ HMDB
- ▶ InChIKey
- ▶ KEGG Compound
- ▶ KEGG Drug
- ▶ KNApSAcK
- ▶ PubChem-compound
- ▶ Wikidata



# Lipid Pathways

## Community Pathways

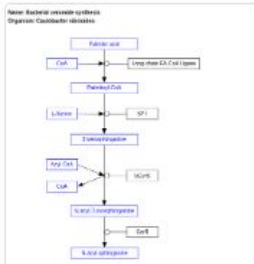
Gallery [List](#)

[Filters](#) [Table](#)

This community helps to curate 39 pathways:



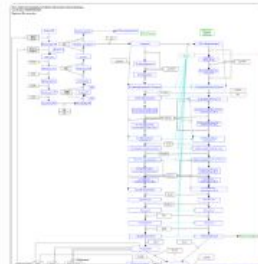
7-oxo-C and 7-beta-HC pathways (*Homo sapiens*)



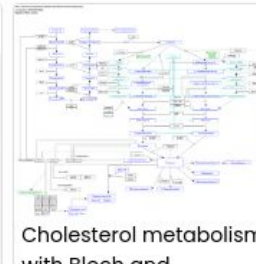
Bacterial ceramide synthesis (*Caulobacter vibrioides*)



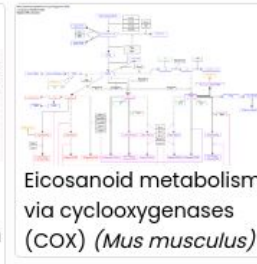
Beta-oxidation of unsaturated fatty acids (*Caenorhabditis elegans*)



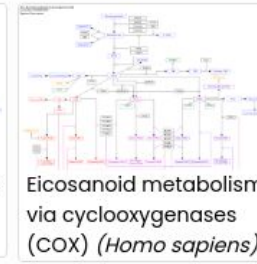
Cholesterol metabolism with Bloch and Kandutsch-Russell pathways (*Mus musculus*)



Cholesterol metabolism with Bloch and Kandutsch-Russell pathways (*Homo sapiens*)



Eicosanoid metabolism via cyclooxygenases (COX) (*Mus musculus*)



Eicosanoid metabolism via cyclooxygenases (COX) (*Homo sapiens*)



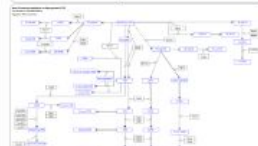
Eicosanoid metabolism via cytochrome P450 monooxygenases (*Mus musculus*)



Eicosanoid metabolism via cytochrome P450 monooxygenases pathway (*Homo sapiens*)



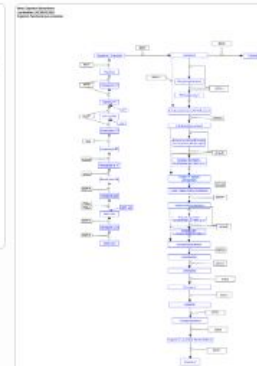
Eicosanoid metabolism via lipoxygenases (LOX) (*Homo sapiens*)



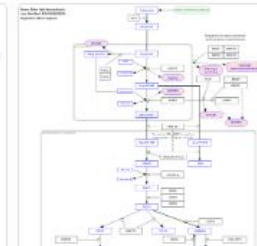
Eicosanoid metabolism via lipoxygenases (LOX) (*Mus musculus*)



Eicosanoid synthesis (*Homo sapiens*)



Ergosterol biosynthesis (*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*)



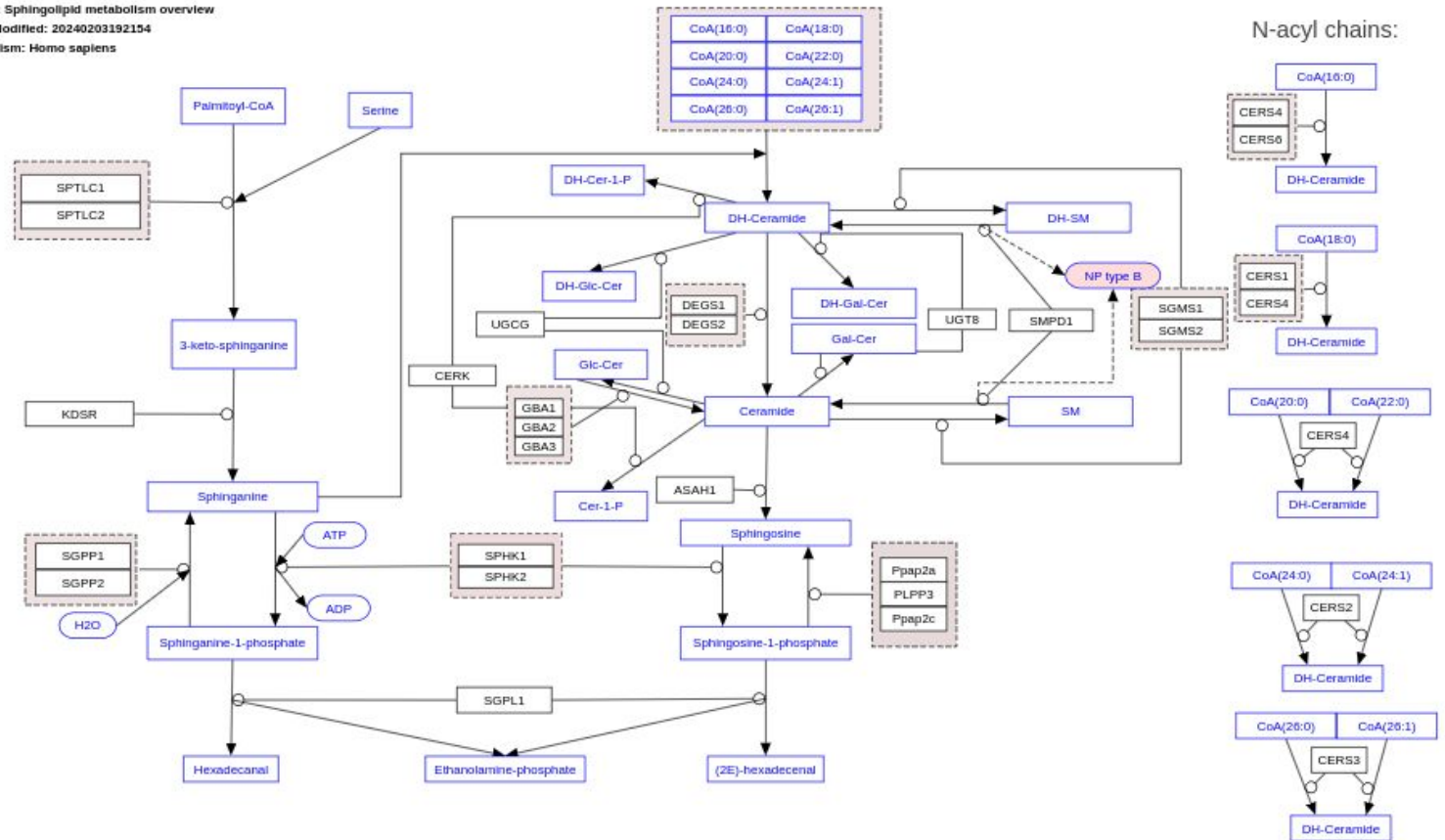
Ether lipid biosynthesis (*Homo sapiens*)

# Sphingolipid metabolism overview (WP4725)

*Homo sapiens*



Name: Sphingolipid metabolism overview  
Last Modified: 20240203192154  
Organism: Homo sapiens



New PW, homology converted

## Authors

Denise Slenter, Eric Weitz, Conroy lipids, and Ash Iyer

# Links to other databases

## Participants

Label	Type	Compact URI	Comment
ATP	Metabolite	<a href="#">chebi:30616</a>	
3-keto-sphinganine	Metabolite	<a href="#">lipidmaps:LMSP01020002</a>	
Palmitoyl-CoA	Metabolite	<a href="#">lipidmaps:LMFA07050360</a>	aka CoA(16:0)
Serine	Metabolite	<a href="#">pubchem.compound:5951</a>	
Hexadecanal	Metabolite	<a href="#">lipidmaps:LMFA06000088</a>	

more rows

## References

1. Characterization of murine sphingosine-1-phosphate phosphohydrolase. Le Stunff H, Peterson C, Thornton R, Milstien S, Mandala SM, Spiegel S. *J Biol Chem.* 2002 Mar 15;277(11):8920–7. [PubMed Europe](#) [PMC](#) [Scholia](#)
2. De novo sphingolipid biosynthesis: a necessary, but dangerous, pathway. Merrill AH Jr. *J Biol Chem.* 2002 Jul 19;277(29):25843–6. [PubMed Europe](#) [PMC](#) [Scholia](#)
3. Identification of small subunits of mammalian serine palmitoyltransferase that confer distinct acyl-CoA substrate specificities. Han G, Gupta SD, Gable K, Niranjanakumari S, Moitra P, Eichler F, et al. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A.* 2009 May 19;106(20):8186–91. [PubMed Europe](#) [PMC](#) [Scholia](#)
4. A mouse macrophage lipidome. Dennis EA, Deems RA, Harkewicz R, Quehenberger O, Brown HA, Milne SB, et al. *J Biol Chem.* 2010 Dec 17;285(51):39976–85. [PubMed Europe](#) [PMC](#) [Scholia](#)

# Pathway and Network Analysis



Status **Public** Release Date **2016-07-13**

## MTBLS360: Metabolomics and lipidomics reveal perturbation of sphingolipid metabolism by a novel anti-trypanosomal 3-(oxazolo[4,5-b]pyridine-2-yl)anilide

Darren J Creek

Trypanosoma brucei is the causative agent of human A therapies are limited and there is an urgent need to dev (OXPA), was initially identified in a phenotypic screen a shown to be non-toxic and to be active against a numb

Trypanosoma brucei blank

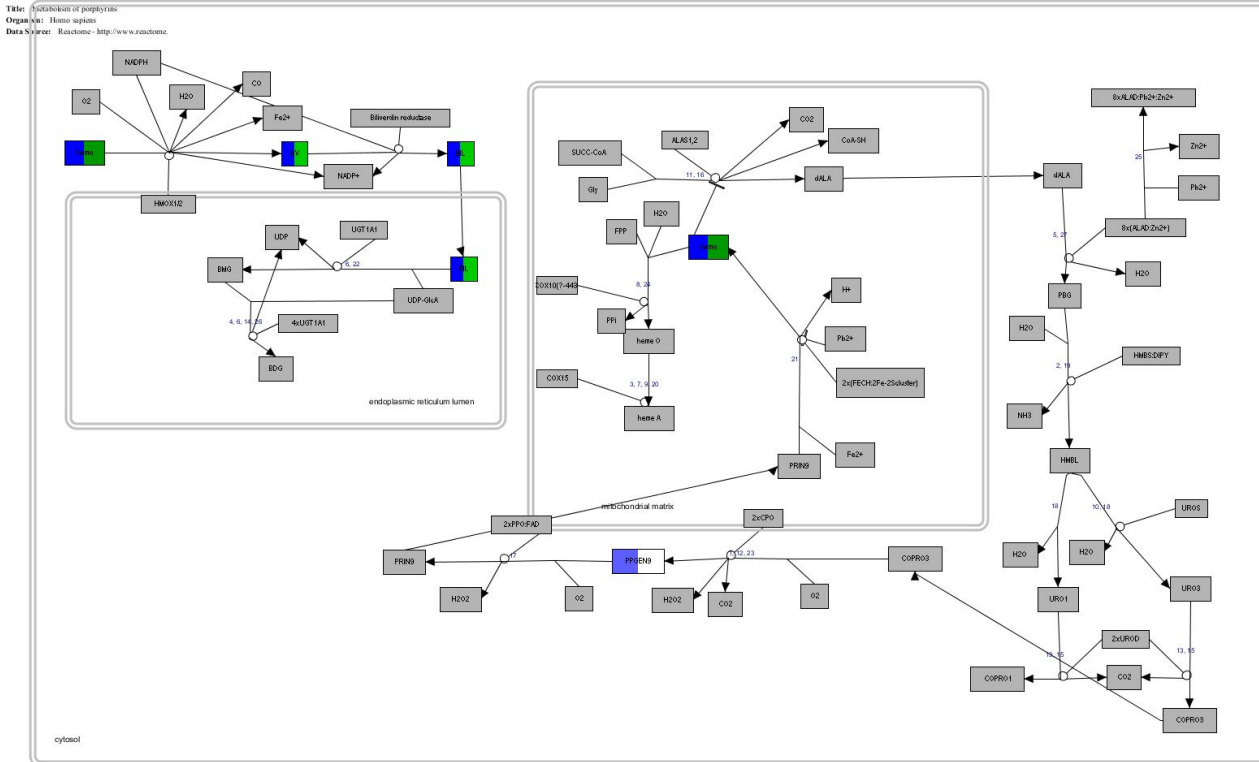
### PUBLICATIONS

**Metabolomics and lipidomics reveal perturbation of sphingolipid metabolism by a novel anti...**

👤 Daniel Stoessel, Cameron J. Nowell, Amy J. Jones, Lori Ferri...

Structure	Database identifier	Chemical formula	SMILES
	CHEBI:77996	C36H69NO3	<chem>CCCCCCCCCCCCC=C[C@@H](O)[C@H](CO)NC(=O)CCCCCCCC=C/CCCCCCC</chem>
	CHEBI:138507	C33H65NO3	<chem>[C@]([C@@](/C=C/CCCCCCCCC)(O)[H])(NC(=O)CCCCCCCCCCCCC)([H])CO</chem>
	CHEBI:67035	C36H73NO4	

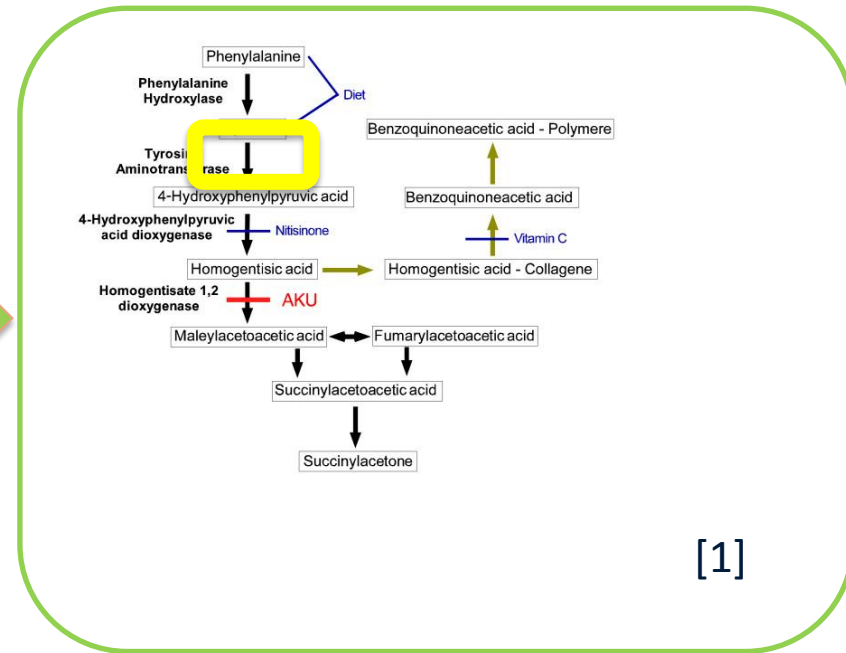
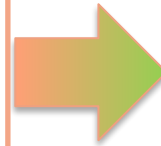
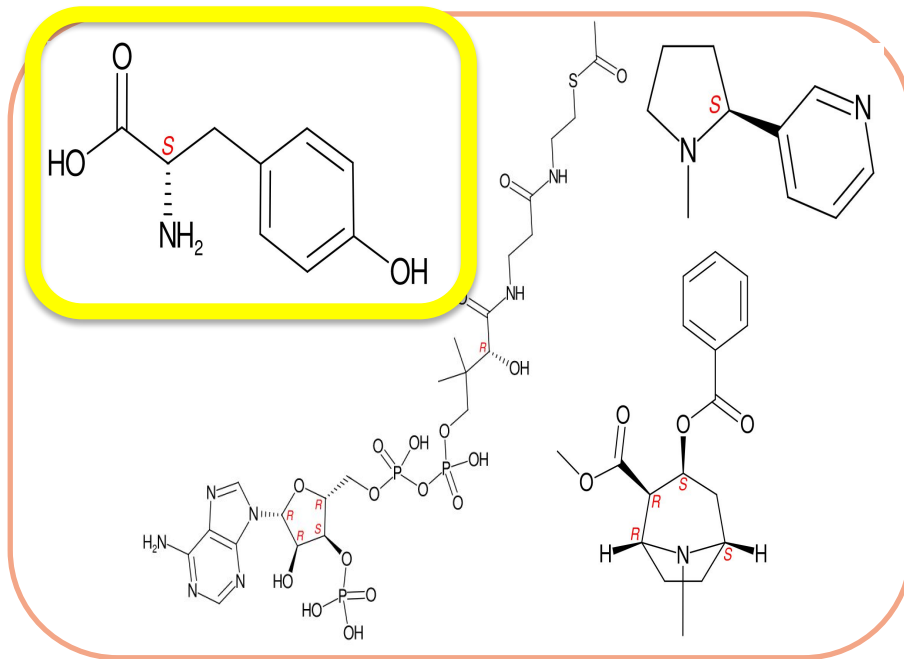
# The effect of troglitazone on heme biosynthesis



Metabolism of porphyrins (Homo sapiens), 2018, Reactome Team, Anwasha Bohler, Egon Willighagen, Martijn van Iersel, <http://identifiers.org/wikipathway/s/WP1852>



# Linking metabolomics data to pathways...

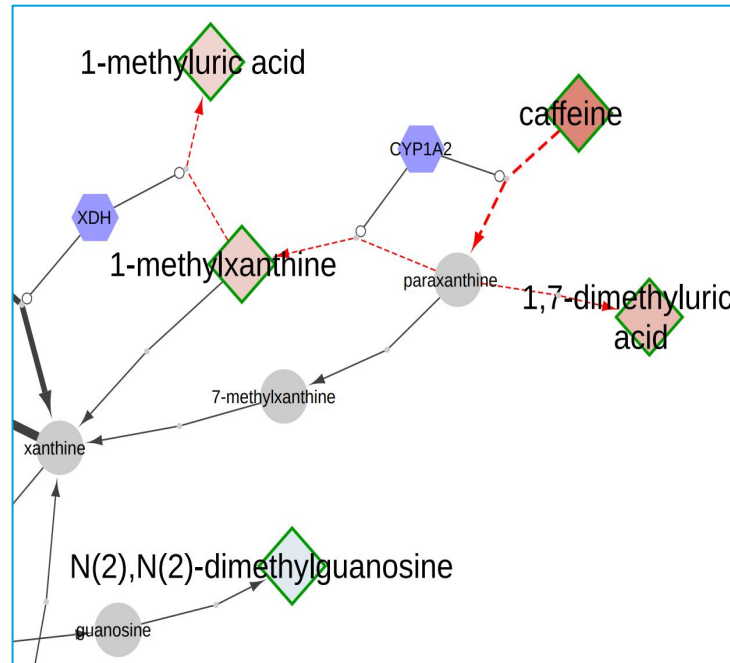
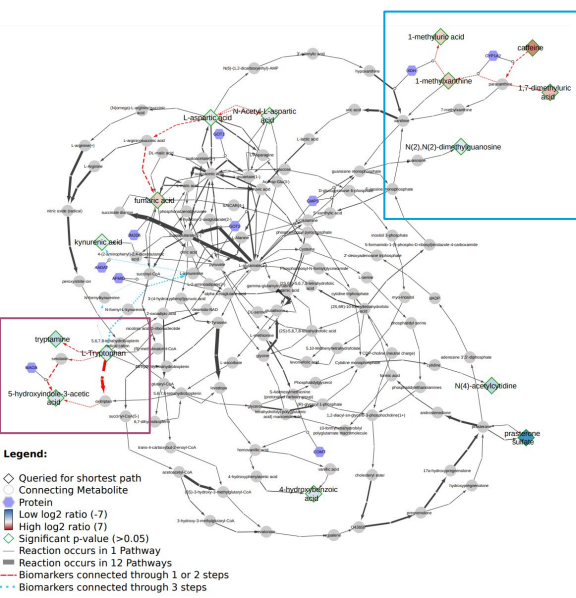


## Sparseness of Data

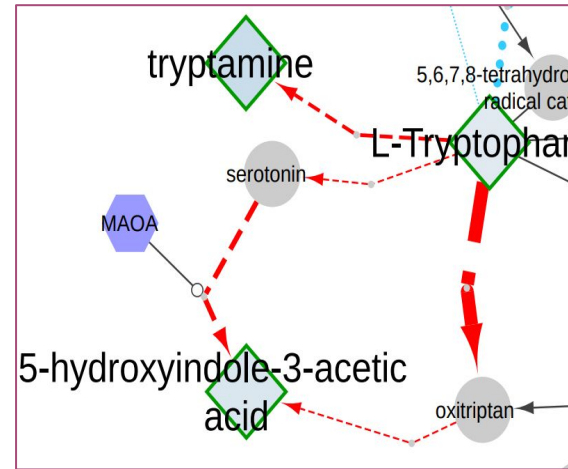
Amount of data

Identifier mapping

Name	Technique	Matrix	Metabolites of interest detected with:	Male/ Female	Age range (y)	# Identified metabolites	# age related	shortest path linked biomarkers
MTBLS404 [1]	LC-HRMS	Urine	Spearman rank correlation test, Orthogonal partial least-squares (OPLS)	100/83	40.9 ± 10.3	120	30	14



“These metabolites cannot be regarded as individual variables in modeling approaches”



“Oxitriptan is an immediate precursor to serotonin, known to decline with age [2]”

Slenter D, et al. Discovering life’s directed metabolic (sub)paths to interpret human biochemical markers using the DSMN tool. Digital Discovery. 2023; DOI [10.1039.D3DD00069A](https://doi.org/10.1039/D3DD00069A).

[1] Thévenot, Etienne A., et al., J. Prot. Res. (2015). DOI: [10.1021/acs.jproteome.5b00354](https://doi.org/10.1021/acs.jproteome.5b00354)  
 [2] R. Peters, Postgrad. Med. J. (2006). DOI: [10.1136/pgmj.2005.036665](https://doi.org/10.1136/pgmj.2005.036665)

# Wikidata and Scholia

Open infrastructure

# Retinoic acid receptor alpha (Q254943)

mammalian protein found in Homo sapiens  
Nuclear receptor subfamily 1 group B member 1 | RARA

## Statements

**molecular function**

**molecular function** (P680)  
represents gene ontology function annotations

Wikipedia (7 entries)

ar	مستقبل حمض الريتينويك ألفا
en	Retinoic acid receptor alpha
es	Receptor de ácido retinoico alfa
sh	Receptor retinoinske kiseline alfa
sr	Receptor retinoinske kiseline alfa
uk	RARA
zh	视黄酸受体α

**retinoic acid binding** (Q14901431)  
Interacting selectively and non-covalently with retinoic acid, 3,7  
GO:0001972

**Statements**

subclass of **retinoid binding** [1 reference](#)

**retinoic acid binding**  
determination method **IDA**

**1 reference**

retrieved **3 January 2017**

stated in **A human retinoic acid receptor which belongs to the family of nuclear receptors**

curator **British Heart Foundation**

reference URL <http://www.ebi.ac.uk/QuickGO/GAnotation?protein=P10276>

determination method **IDA**

**transcription corepressor activity**

determination method **IDA**

**1 reference**

[+ add reference](#)

**IDA** (Q23174122)

Gene Ontology evidence code  
Inferred from Direct Assay

**Statements**

instance of **Gene Ontology Evidence code**

**manual assertion**

**A human retinoic acid receptor which belongs to the family of nuclear receptors** (Q24339631)

**Statements**

instance of **scientific article**

**Identifiers**

PubMed ID **2825025**

**British Heart Foundation** (Q4970039)

**Statements**

instance of **organization**

official website **<http://www.bhf.org.uk/>**

**Identifiers**

GRID ID **grid.452924.c**

## Enabling Open Science: Wikidata for Research (Wiki4R)

Daniel Mieschen<sup>1</sup>, Gregor Hagadorn<sup>2</sup>, Egon Willighagen<sup>3</sup>, Mariano Rico<sup>4</sup>, Ascunio Gómez-Pérez<sup>5</sup>, Eduard Albal<sup>6</sup>, Karina Rafea<sup>7</sup>, Cécile Germain<sup>8</sup>, Alastair Dunning<sup>9</sup>, Lydia Pritschner<sup>10</sup>, Daniel Kinzler<sup>11</sup>

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<sup>4</sup> Universitat Oberta de Catalunya, Barcelona, Spain  
<sup>5</sup> INRA, Paris, France  
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RESEARCH ARTICLE

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Citation: Mieschen D, Hagadorn G, Willighagen E, Rico M, Gómez-Pérez A, Albal E, Rafea K, Germain C, Dunning A, Pritschner L, Kinzler D (2019) Enabling Open Science: Wikidata for Research (Wiki4R). Research Ideas and Outcomes 1: e7573. doi: 10.3897/rio.1.67573

### Abstract

Wiki4R will create an innovative virtual research environment (VRE) for Open Science at scale, engaging both professional researchers and citizen data scientists in new and potentially transformative forms of collaboration. It is based on the realizations that (1) the structured parts of the Web itself can be regarded as a VRE, (2) such environments depend on communities, (3) closed environments are limited in their capacity to nurture thriving communities. Wiki4R will therefore integrate Wikidata, the multilingual semantic backbone behind Wikipedia, into existing research programmes to enable transdisciplinary research and reduce fragmentation of research in and outside Europe. By establishing a

### SCIENCE FORUM

## Wikidata as a knowledge graph for the life sciences

**Abstract** Wikidata is a community-maintained knowledge base that has been assembled from repositories in the fields of genomics, proteomics, genetic variants, pathways, chemical compounds, and diseases, and that adheres to the FAIR principles of findability, accessibility, interoperability and reusability. Here we describe the breadth and depth of the biomedical knowledge contained within Wikidata, and discuss the open-source tools we have built to add information to Wikidata and to synchronise it with source databases. We also demonstrate several cases for Wikidata, including the cross-referencing of biomedical ontologies, phenotype-based disease of disease, and drug repurposing.

ANDREA WAAGMEESTER<sup>1</sup>, GREGORY STUPP<sup>2</sup>, SEBASTIAN BURGSTALLER<sup>3</sup>, MUEHLSCHACHER<sup>4</sup>, BENJAMIN M GOOD<sup>5</sup>, MALACHI GRIFPITH<sup>6</sup>, OBI L GRIFPITH<sup>7</sup>, KRISTINA HANSFERS, HENNING HERMIAKJAK<sup>8</sup>, TOBY S HUDSON, KEVIN HYBISKE, SARAH M KEATING, MAGNUS MANSKE, MICHAEL MAYERS, DANIEL MIETZCHEN, ELVIRA MITRACA, ALEXANDER PICO, TIMOTHY PUTNAM, ANDRÉS RINTEL, NURIA GONZALEZ-ROSNACH, LYNN M SCHIRILL, THOMAS SHAFEE, DENISE SLEETER, BAL STEPHAN, KATHERINE THORNTON, BRIGITTE TUSING, ROBERT TU, SABAH UL-HASAN, EGON WILLIGHAGEN, CHUNLIE WU AND ANDREW I SU<sup>9</sup>

### Introduction

Integrating data and knowledge is a formidable challenge in biomedical research. Although new scientific findings are being discovered at a rapid pace, a large proportion of this knowledge is either locked in data silos (where integration is hindered by differing nomenclature, data models, and licensing) or in structured text. The lack of an integrated and structured version of biomedical knowledge hinders efficient querying or mining of this information, thus preventing the full utilization of our accumulated scientific knowledge.

Recently, there has been a growing emphasis within the scientific community to ensure all pub-

lic data is made available to the scientific community to build a rich and heterogeneous network of scientific knowledge. This knowledge network, known in turn, to be the foundation for many computational tools, applications and analyses. Most data- and knowledge-integration initiatives fall on either side of a spectrum. At one end, centralized efforts seek to bring multiple knowledge sources into a single database (see, for example, Mangal et al., 2017); this approach has the advantage of data alignment according to a common data model and of finding high performance queries. However, centralized resources are difficult and expensive to maintain and expand (Chandrasekhar et al., 2009; Gaballa et al., 2018), at least in part because

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These authors contributed equally to this work.

Competing interests: The authors declare that no competing interests exist.

Funding: See page 12

Reviewing editor: Peter Rodgers, eLife, United Kingdom

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European Semantic Web Conference  
ESWC 2017: The Semantic Web, ESWC 2017 Satellite Events pp 237–259 | Cite as

## Scholia, Scientometrics and Wikidata

Finn Arup Nielsen<sup>1</sup>, Daniel Mieschen<sup>2</sup> & Egon Willighagen

Conference paper | Open Access | First Online: 08 November 2017

8316 Accesses | 36 Citations | 30 Altmetrics

Part of the Lecture Notes in Computer Science book series (LNIS, volume 10577)

### Abstract

Scholia is a tool to handle scientific bibliographic information through Wikidata. The Scholia Web service creates on-the-fly scholarly profiles for researchers, organizations, journals, publishers, individual scholarly works, and for research topics. To collect the data, it queries the SPARQL-based Wikidata Query Service. Among several display formats available in Scholia are lists of publications for individual researchers and organizations, plots of publications per year, employment timelines, as well as co-author and topic networks and citation graphs. The Python package implementing the Web service is also able to format Wikidata bibliographic entries for use in LaTeX/BIBTeX. Apart from detailing Scholia, we describe how Wikidata has been used for bibliographic information and we also provide some scientometric statistics on this information.

### Keywords

Wikidata | Wikispaces | Functional Requirements For Bibliographic Records (FRBR)

Public Library of Science (PLOS)

Waagmeester et al. BMC Biology (2021) 19:12

https://doi.org/10.1186/s12915-020-00949-y

## BMC Biology

### METHODY ARTICLE

Open Access

## A protocol for adding knowledge to Wikidata: aligning resources on human coronaviruses

Andrea Waagmeester<sup>1</sup>, Egon L. Willighagen<sup>2</sup>, Andrew L. Su<sup>3</sup>, Martina Kurton<sup>4</sup>, Jose Emilio Lbra Gayo<sup>5</sup>, Daniel Fernández-Álvarez<sup>6</sup>, Quentin Groom<sup>7</sup>, Peter J. Schaap<sup>8</sup>, Lisa M. Verhagen<sup>9</sup> and Jasper J. Koehn<sup>10</sup>

### Abstract

**Background:** Pandemics, even more than other medical problems, require swift integration of knowledge. When caused by a new virus, understanding the underlying biology may help finding solutions. In a setting where there are a large number of loosely related projects and initiatives, we need common ground, also known as a “commons”. Wikidata, a public knowledge graph aligned with Wikipedia, is such a commons and uses unique identifiers to link knowledge in other knowledge bases. However, Wikidata may not always have the right schema for the urgent questions. In this paper, we address this problem by showing how a data schema required for the integration can be modelled with entity schemas represented by Shape Expressions.

**Results:** As a telling example, we describe the process of aligning resources on the genomes and proteomes of the SARS-CoV-2 virus and related viruses as well as how Shape Expressions can be defined for Wikidata to model the knowledge, helping others studying the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic. How this model can be used to make data between various resources interoperable is demonstrated by integrating data from NCBI (National Center for Biotechnology Information), Taxonomy, KEGG genes, UniProt, and WikiPathways. Based on that model, a set of automated applications or bots were written for regular updates of these sources in Wikidata and added to a platform for automatically running such updates.

**Conclusions:** Although this workflow is developed and applied in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, to demonstrate its broader applicability, it was also applied to other human coronaviruses: MERS, SARS, human coronavirus NL63, human coronavirus 229E, human coronavirus HKU1, human coronavirus OC-43.

**Keywords:** COVID-19, Wikidata, Linked data, SPARQL, Open Science

### Background

The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. In response to the pandemic, many research groups

have started projects to understand the SARS-CoV-2

## Wikidata and Scholia as a hub linking chemical knowledge

Egon Willighagen<sup>1</sup>, Denise Sleeter<sup>2</sup>, Daniel Mietzchen<sup>3</sup>, Chris Eveloff<sup>4</sup>, Finn Nielsen<sup>5</sup>

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### Introduction

Making chemical databases more FAIR (findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable) benefits computational chemistry and cheminformatics. We discuss how Wikidata, a public knowledge base, can be used to link chemical topics. It uses SPARQL queries against the Wikidata Query Service (WQS, query.wikidata.org) and visualizes the data in various forms. Furthermore, we used a combination of Biopython (Biopython.org) and Qeios (Qeios.org) to add missing chemical compounds for biological pathways from Wikidataways (5). Where needed, new Wikidata properties were proposed.

### Methods

Scholia is a Python/Flask-based server system that creates webpages using a template approach (5). It defines templates for concepts around knowledge links, such as publications, publications, publications, and so on. It uses SPARQL queries against the Wikidata Query Service (WQS, query.wikidata.org) and visualizes the data in various forms. Furthermore, we used a combination of Biopython (Biopython.org) and Qeios (Qeios.org) to add missing chemical compounds for biological pathways from Wikidataways (5). Where needed, new Wikidata properties were proposed.

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Department of Bioinformatics - BIGCAT, Maastricht University, The Netherlands

## CAS Common Chemistry in 2021: Expanding Access to Trusted Chemical Information for the Scientific Community

Andrea Jacobs<sup>1</sup>, Dustin Williams, Katherine Hickey, Nathan Patrick, Antony J. Williams, Stuart Chalk, Leah McEwen, Egon Willighagen, Martin Walker, Evan Bolton, Gabriel Sinclair, and Adam Sanford

Cite This | Open | Meet | 2021, 62, 237–243 | Read Online

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**ABSTRACT:** CAS Common Chemistry (<https://commonchemistry.com/>) is an open web resource that provides access to reliable chemical substance information for the scientific community. Having served millions of visitors since its inception in 2009, the resource was extensively updated in 2021 with significant enhancements. The underlying dataset was expanded from 8000 to 58000 chemical substances and includes additional associated information, such as basic properties and complete available chemical structure information. New uses are supported with enhanced search capabilities and an integrated application programming interface. Reliable licensing of the content is provided through a Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial (CC-BY-NC) 4.0 license allowing other public sources to ingest the data into their systems. This paper provides an overview of the enhancements to data and functionality, discusses the benefits of the contribution to the chemistry community, and summarizes recent progress in leveraging the resource to strengthen other information sources.

### INTRODUCTION

CAS is a division of the American Chemical Society, has collected, curated, and analyzed the world's published science as part of its vision to improve people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry since 1907.<sup>1</sup> Scientists, manufacturers, regulators, and data scientists around the world rely on CAS for essential information on chemical substances. CAS Common Chemistry, an open resource based on a subset of chemical substance information on chemical substances, CAS Common Chemistry, is a subset of chemical substance information on chemical substances. CAS Common Chemistry was first launched in 2009 by CAS to strengthen the accuracy of publicly available scientific information.

CAS Common Chemistry was established to provide a reliable source of chemical identities and associated information to the general public as part of the mission of the ACS. It enables millions of visitors to obtain reliable scientific information on nearly 500,000 substances through search or application programming interface (API) functionality. Users leverage this information in a variety of ways, including in teaching and learning to promote safe practices, and to support research. Additionally, Wikidata has leveraged the resource since its inception in 2009 to provide accurate CAS Registry Numbers for the most ubiquitous chemical substances. For each included substance, a substance detail page provides key attributes as well as a citation to support referencing in academic publications. Examples of how CAS Common Chemistry is used for caffeine, aspirin, and benzene, as well as Figures 1 and 2.

tion, related CAS Registry Numbers, and additional chemical representations.

**Expanded Dataset Sourced from CAS REGISTRY.** CAS Common Chemistry contains substances and related data from CAS REGISTRY,<sup>2</sup> the largest scientific chemical substance database in the world, covering 250 million chemical substances as of April 2021 and growing daily.<sup>3</sup> In response to requests from the scientific community, the number of substances openly related in CAS Common Chemistry was recently expanded to nearly 580,000 substances. This is a dramatic increase from the 8000 substances initially available. The collection represents substances and related data for chemical substances, consumer product ingredients, commonly regulated chemicals, and chemicals frequently used in undergraduate chemistry education.

**Enhanced Accessibility and Information.** Each substance in the resource includes its chemical name, chemical structure image, molecular formula, and molecular weight. The resource is further enriched by chemical properties, which include nomenclature, chemical names, common names, and trade names for each chemical substance. Basic substance properties—boiling point, melting point, and density—are also included where available. This is demonstrated in Figure 3a,b.

For users of CAS Software,<sup>4</sup> a quick link is also included to facilitate examples of how CAS Common Chemistry is used for caffeine, aspirin, and benzene, as well as Figures 1 and 2.

Received: March 4, 2021



## Complex Portal 2022: new curation frontiers

Brigit H. M. Meldal<sup>1</sup>, Livia Peretto<sup>1,2</sup>, Colin Coburn<sup>3</sup>, Tiago Lubiana<sup>4</sup>, João Vitor Ferreira Cavalcante<sup>5</sup>, Hema Bye-A-Jee<sup>6</sup>, Andrea Waagmeester<sup>6</sup>, Noemi del-Toro<sup>6,1</sup>, Anjali Shrivastava<sup>6,1</sup>, Elisabeth Barrera<sup>7</sup>, Edith Wong<sup>8</sup>, Bernhard Hlenni<sup>9</sup>, Gabriela Binda<sup>10,11</sup>, Kalpana Pannesarvelam<sup>12</sup>, Egon Willighagen<sup>12</sup>, Juri Rappasber<sup>13,14</sup>, Pablo Porras<sup>15</sup>, Henning Hermjakob<sup>16,17</sup> and Sandra Orchard<sup>18,19</sup>

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### ABSTRACT

**The Complex Portal ([www.ebi.ac.uk/complexportal/](http://www.ebi.ac.uk/complexportal/)) is a manually curated, eukaryotic database of macromolecular complexes with known function from a range of model organisms. It summarizes complex composition, topology and function along with links to a large range of domain-specific resources (i.e., wwPDB, EMBD and Ensembl). Since the last update in 2019, we have produced a first draft complete for *Escherichia coli*, maintained and updated that of *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, added over 40 coronavirus complexes and increased the human complextome to over 1100 complexes that include approximately 200 complexes that act as targets for viral proteins or are part of the immune system. The display of protein features in ComplexViewer has been improved and the participant a-**

new CCO to encourage data reuse. Users are encouraged to get in touch, provide us with feedback and send curatorial requests through the 'Support' link.

### INTRODUCTION

Protein complexes, assembled functional assemblies consisting of two or more associated polypeptide chains, are responsible for driving and regulating many cellular processes. Multi-chain assemblies perform many functions, including (a) positioning molecules involved in the same process in close proximity (by bringing structure to disordered regions of protein and/or (c) creating novel substrate binding sites at subunit interfaces. These assemblies can contain additional molecules, such as nucleic acids and small molecules. In budding yeast (1), around one in three proteins have a function in stable heteromeric complexes and in bacteria around one in five (see below).







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27	<a href="#">Sphingosine-1-phosphate phosphohydrolase in regulation of sphingolipid metabolism and apoptosis</a>	
24	<a href="#">Sphingosine-1-phosphate as second messenger in cell proliferation induced by PDGF and FCS mitogens</a>	
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19	<a href="#">Sphingosine-1-phosphate as a ligand for the G protein-coupled receptor EDG-1</a>	
19	<a href="#">Suppression of ceramide-mediated programmed cell death by sphingosine-1-phosphate</a>	
18	<a href="#">Dual actions of sphingosine-1-phosphate: extracellular through the Gi-coupled receptor Edg-1 and intracellular to regulate proliferation and survival</a>	

[Wikidata Query Service](#)[work: related-works.sparql](#)

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401	2013-12-01	<a href="#">The Concise Guide to PHARMACOLOGY 2013/14: enzymes.</a>
304	2008-06-13	<a href="#">"Inside-out" signaling of sphingosine-1-phosphate: therapeutic targets</a>
168	2003-09-03	<a href="#">Phosphorylation and action of the immunomodulator FTY720 inhibits vascular endothelial cell growth factor-induced vascular permeability.</a>
83	2002-09-16	<a href="#">Sphingosine-1-phosphate phosphohydrolase in regulation of sphingolipid metabolism and apoptosis</a>
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74	2007-03-22	<a href="#">Intracellular generation of sphingosine 1-phosphate in human lung endothelial cells: role of lipid phosphate phosphatase-1 and sphingosine kinase 1.</a>
71	2003-01-10	<a href="#">Identification and characterization of a novel human sphingosine-1-phosphate phosphohydrolase, hSPP2</a>
64	2009-02-27	<a href="#">FTY720 inhibits ceramide synthases and up-regulates dihydrosphingosine 1-phosphate formation in human lung endothelial cells</a>
39	2012-06-23	<a href="#">Shaping the landscape: metabolic regulation of S1P gradients</a>

[Wikidata Query Service](#)

work: citations.sparql

Showing 1 to 10 of 41 entries

# Wikidata / Scholia



## Redirecting

If you know the identifier then Scholia can make a lookup based on the identifier:

[cas/50-00-0](#)

Lookup CAS 50-00-0. This will identify formaldehyde and redirect to its Scholia page.

[inchikey/QTBSBXVTEAMEQ-UHFFFAOYSA-N](#)

Redirect also works for InChIKeys, here for acetic acid.

Show  entries

Search:

Mol	InChIKey	CAS	ChemSpider	PubChem CID
<a href="#">acetic acid</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQ-UHFFFAOYSA-N	64-19-7	171	176
<a href="#">deuterated acetic acid</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQ-GUEYOVJQSA-N	1186-52-3	2006083	2723903
<a href="#">acetic acid c-14</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQ-HQMMCQRPSA-N	2845-03-6	144444	164769
<a href="#">acetic acid c-13</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQ-VQEHIDDOSA-N	1563-79-7	8329490	10153982
<a href="#">acetic acid c-11</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQ-JVVVGQRLSA-N	78887-71-5	396653	450349
<a href="#">acetate ion</a>	QTBSBXVTEAMEQ-UHFFFAOYSA-M	71-50-1	170	175

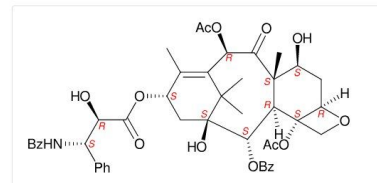
[Edit on query.Wikidata.org](#)

Showing 1 to 6 of 6 entries

Previous  Next

## paclitaxel (Q423762)

Paclitaxel (PTX), sold under the brand name Taxol among others, is a chemotherapy medication used to treat a number of types of cancer. This includes ovarian cancer, breast cancer, lung cancer, Kaposi sarcoma, cervical cancer, and pancreatic cancer. It is given by injection into a vein. ... (from the [English Wikipedia](#))



## Identifiers

Show  entries

Search:

IDpred	Id
<a href="#">ATC code</a>	L01CD01
<a href="#">CAS Registry Number</a>	33069-62-4

2019: 10.3897/rio.5.e35820  
2017: 10.6084/m9.figshare.6356027.v1

# What I want you to remember

# What I want you to remember

- Metabolomics needs more cheminformatics and knowledge graphs
- We can be really precise in our uncertainties
  - but we tend not to
- Need to bridge different information sources
  - thus, models (of reality) and language we use
- Too much knowledge is published unFAIR
- Open Science continues to build up
  - the open license makes reuse practically feasible

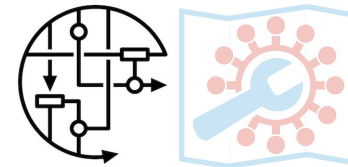
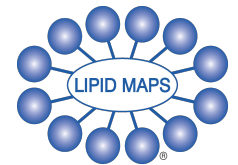
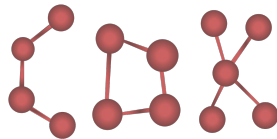
# Giving metabolites (and lipids) a chemical and biological context with open science

Egon Willighagen, BiGCaT team and collaborations  
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NMetC, Turku 2024-08-26  
doi:10.5281/zenodo.13373746



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European Union Funding  
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