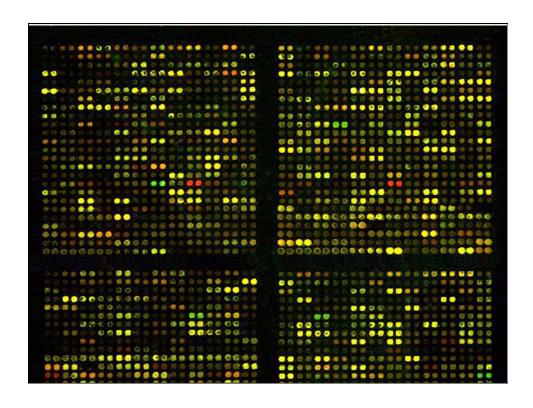
CEDAR

Making it Easier to Use Ontologies to Author Experimental Metadata

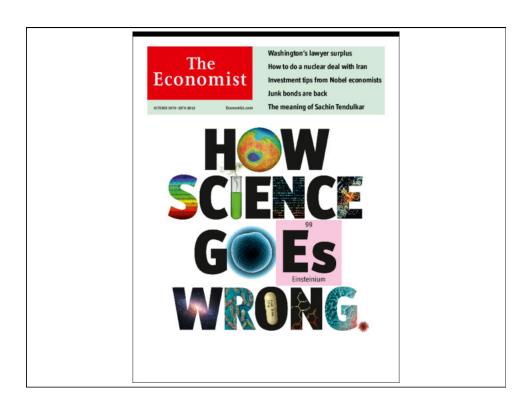
Mark A. Musen, M.D., Ph.D. Stanford University

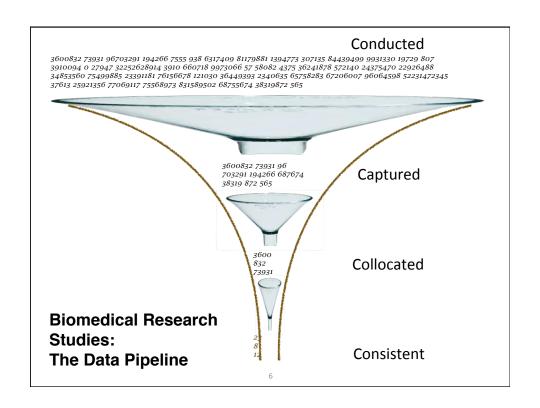












Minimum Information About a Microarray Experiment - MIAME

MIAME describes the Minimum Information About a Microarray Experiment that is needed to enable the interpretation of the results of the experiment unambiguously and potentially to reproduce the experiment. [Brazma et al., Nature Genetics]

The six most critical elements contributing towards MIAME are:

- 1. The raw data for each hybridisation (e.g., CEL or GPR files)
- The final processed (normalised) data for the set of hybridisations in the experiment (study) (e.g., the gene expression data matrix used to draw the conclusions from the study)
- 3. The essential sample annotation including experimental factors and their values (e.g., compound and dose in a dose response experiment)
- The experimental design including sample data relationships (e.g., which raw data file relates to which sample, which hybridisations are technical, which are biological replicates)
- Sufficient annotation of the array (e.g., gene identifiers, genomic coordinates, probe oligonucleotide sequences or reference commercial array catalog number)
- The essential laboratory and data processing protocols (e.g., what normalisation method has been used to obtain the final processed data)

For more details, see MIAME 2.0.

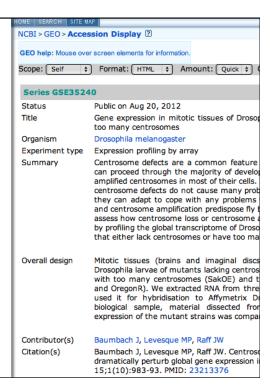
MIAME does not specify a particular format, however, obviously the data are more usable, if it is encoded in a way that the essential information specified by MIAME can be accessed easily. FGED recommends the use of MAGE-TAB format, which is based on spreadsheets, or MAGE-ML.

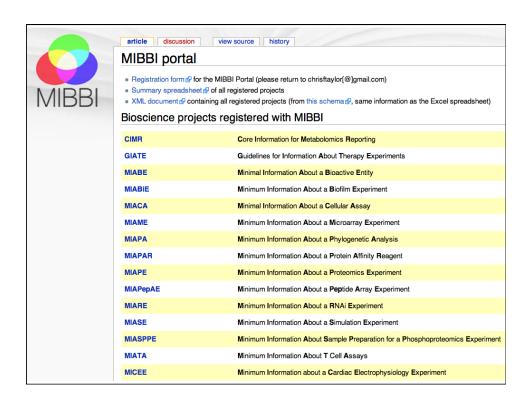
MIAME also does not specify any particular terminology, however for automated data exchange the use of standard controlled vocabularies and ontologies are desirable. FGED recommends the use of MGED Ontology for the description of the key experimental concepts, and where possible ontologies developed by the respective community for describing terms such as anatomy, disease, chemical compounds etc (see OBO page for more detail).

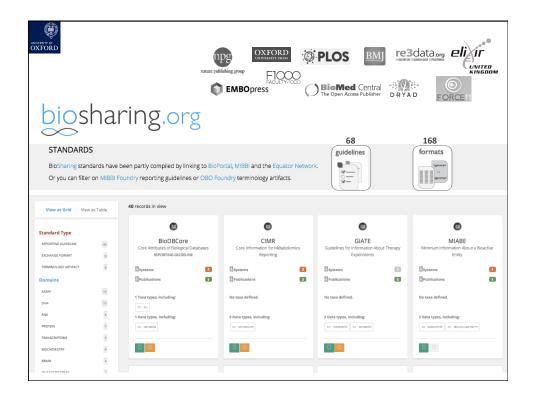
The Good News: Minimal information checklists, such as MIAME, are being advanced from all sectors of the biomedical community

The Bad News:

Investigators view requests for even "minimal" information as burdensome





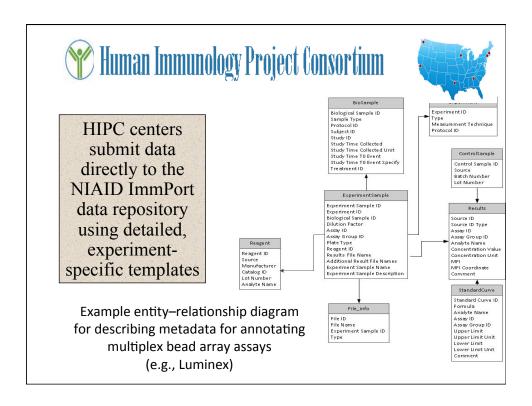


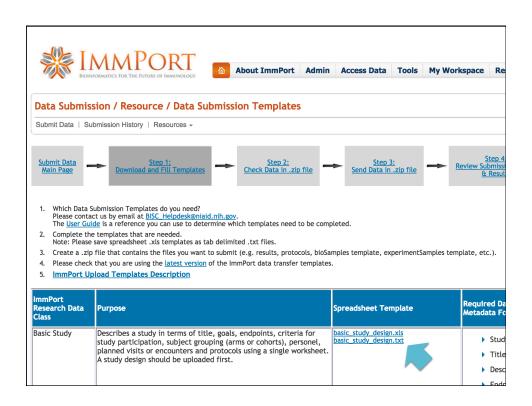
The Existing BioSharing Approach is Limited

- Emphasis traditionally has been on development of simple checklists of metadata elements
- Little practical consideration of
 - How to supply values for the metadata elements
 - Standard ontologies that might be used
- We need a more expressive—and computable framework for describing metadata

The ISA model

- Developed by BioSharing group and supported by a suite of tools
- Provides structure for metadata related to
 - Investigation
 - Study
 - Assay
- Is not easily extended within existing tool set
- Forms the foundation for the modeling of metadata in the CEDAR project





A Metadata Ecosystem

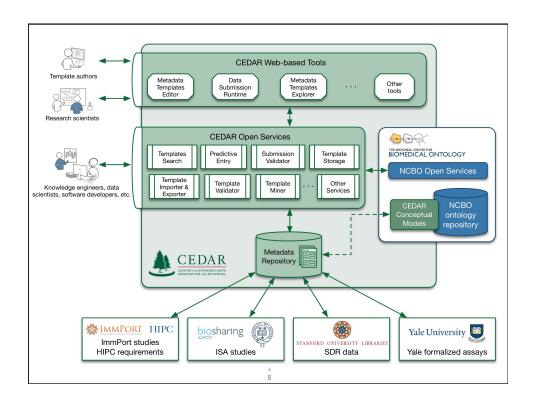


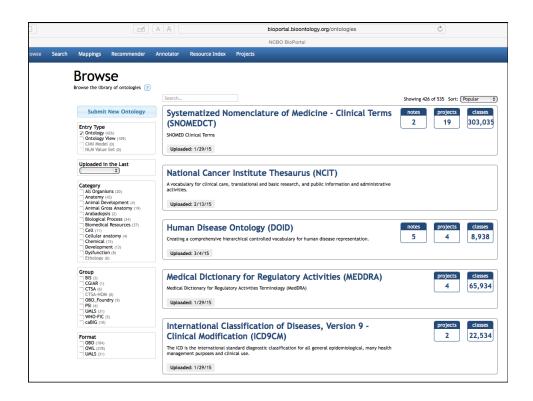
- HIPC investigators perform experiments in human immunology
- HIPC Standards Working Group creates metadata templates to annotate experimental data in a uniform manner
- ImmPort stores HIPC data (and metadata) in its public repository
- · CEDAR will ease
 - Template creation and management
 - The use of templates to author metadata for ImmPort
 - Analysis of existing metadata to inform the authoring of new metadata

The CEDAR Approach to Metadata Authoring of Annotation of **Exploration and** Metadata Templates **Reuse of Datasets** Metadata through Metadata Template authors HMP (e.g., standards committees) search Metadata Metadata Metadata tempates forms

CEDAR technology will give us

- Mechanisms
 - To author metadata template elements
 - To assemble them into composite templates
 - To fill out templates to encode experimental metadata
- A repository of metadata from which we can
 - Learn metadata patterns
 - Guide predictive entry of new metadata
- Links to the National Center for Biomedical Ontology to ensure that metadata are encoded using appropriate ontology terms

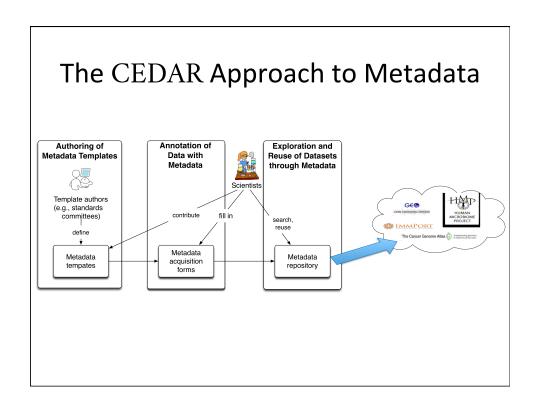


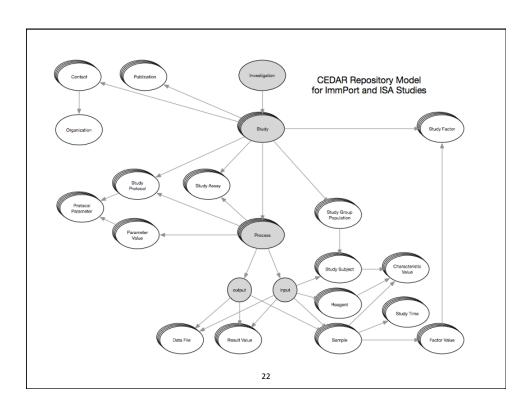


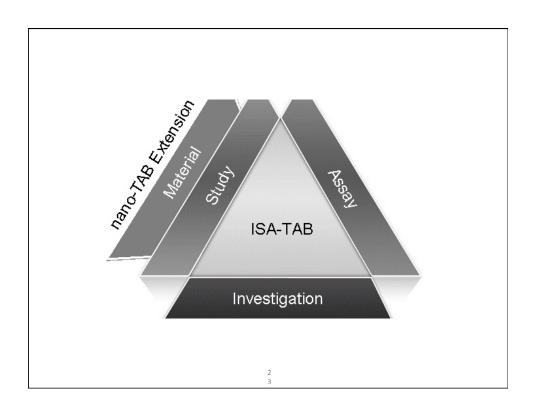
The National Center for Biomedical Ontology

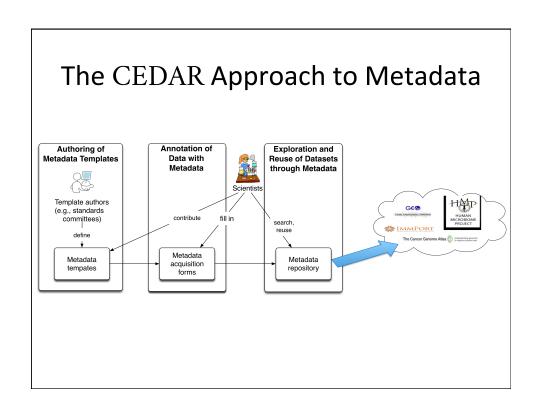
- We create and maintain a library of biomedical ontologies and terminologies.
- We build tools and Web services to enable the use of ontologies and terminologies.
- We collaborate with scientific communities that develop and use ontologies and terminologies in biomedicine.

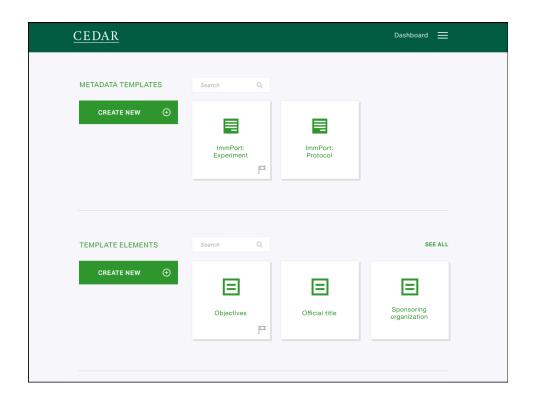


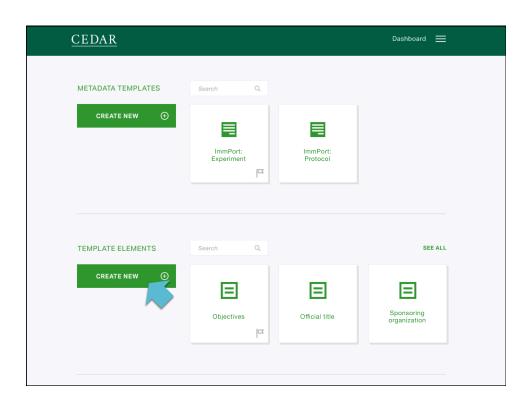


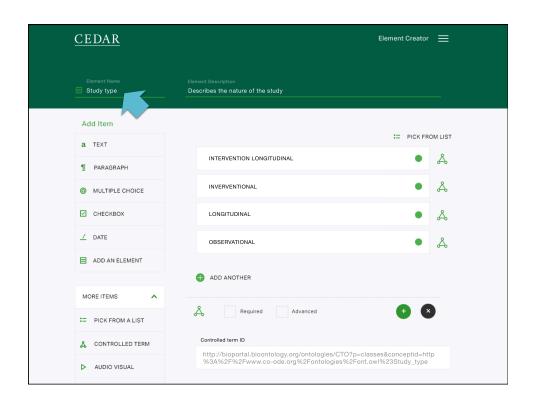


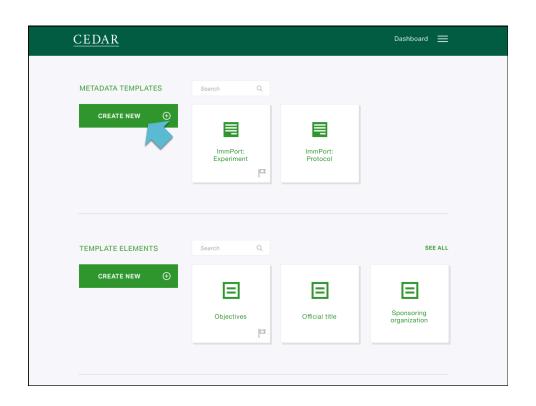


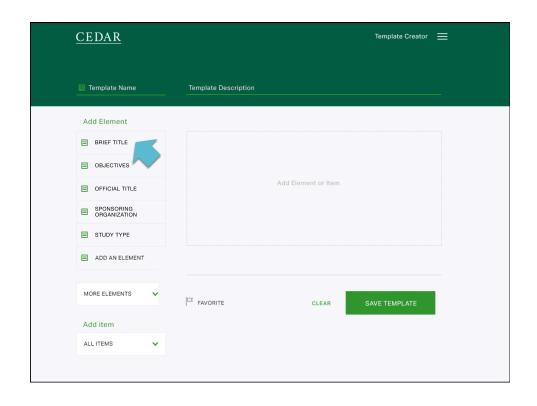


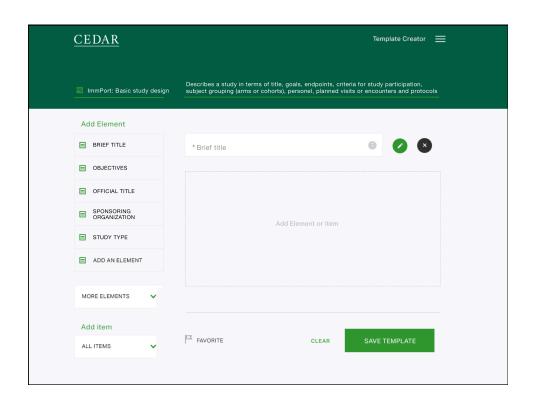


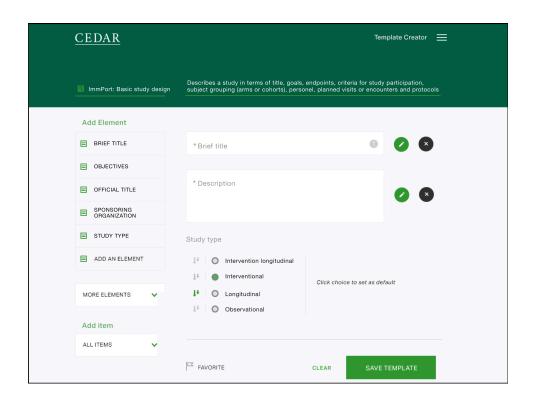


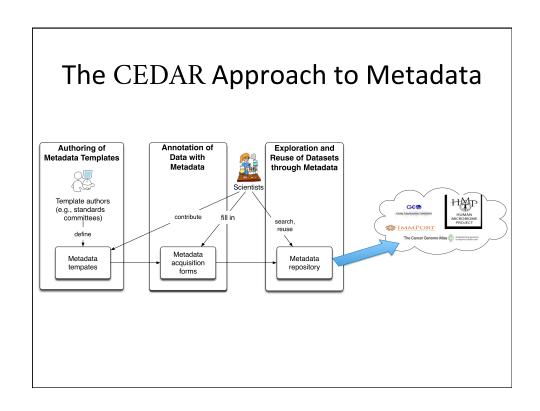


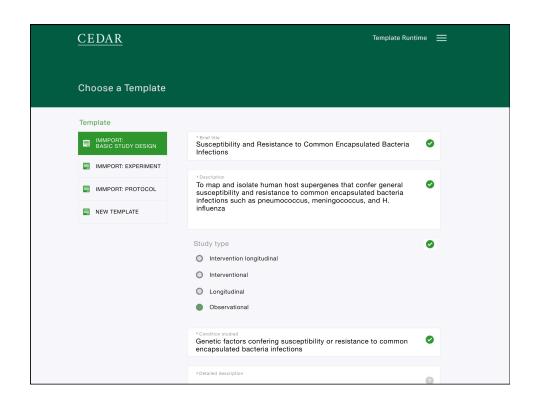


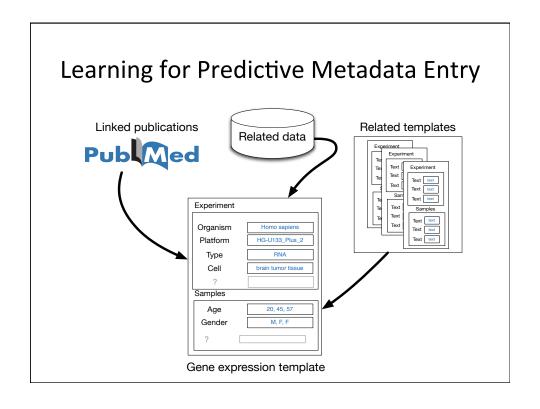












How can we make metadata authoring better?

- Create an ecosystem based on searchable, "smart" metadata templates
- Predefine standard value sets to fill in the blanks
- Use machine learning to enable predictive metadata entry
- Use text processing to acquire metadata from written descriptions of the experiment (e.g., from PubMed and PubMed Central)

How can we make metadata themselves better?

- Mirror metadata authored with CEDAR tools in our own metadata repository
- Augment those metadata with links to the published literature (including secondary analyses and retractions!)
- Augment those metadata with links to follow-up experiments (in online databases and in the literature)
- Allow the scientific community to comment on the experiment through structured metadata
- Learn from the metadata repository to ease the authoring of new metadata

