NLM resources for research and practice: an overview and an R&D application

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IGERT: From Data to Solutions

October 3, 2014

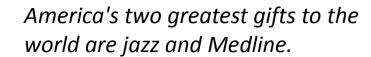


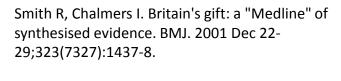


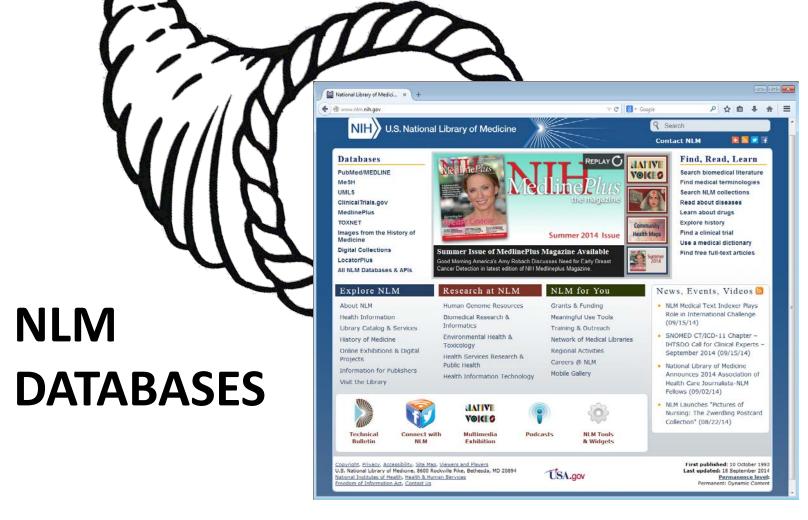


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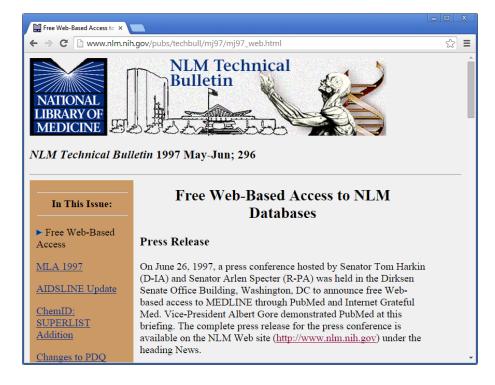




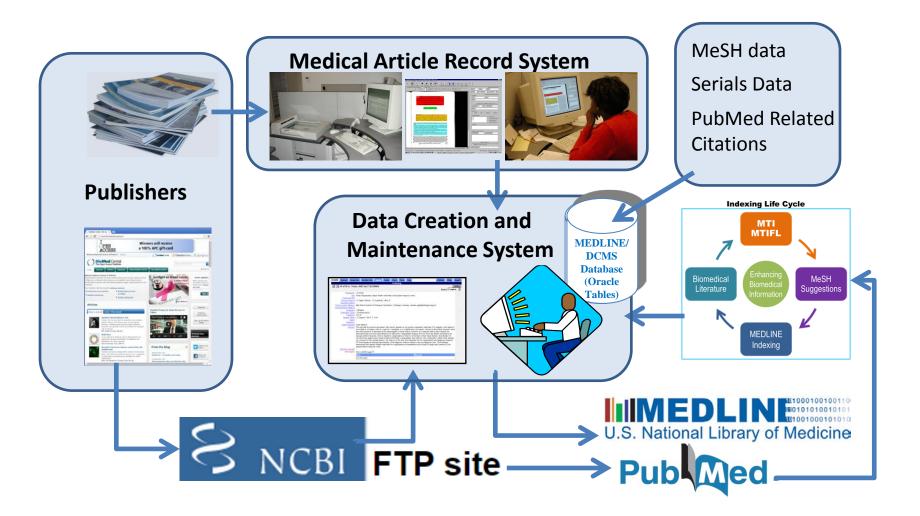
- MEDLINE® is the National Library of Medicine® (NLM®) journal citation database. Started in the 1960s and online since 1971, it now provides over 21 million references to biomedical and life sciences journal articles back to 1946.
- MEDLINE includes citations from over 5,600 worldwide journals in about 40 languages; about 60 languages for older journals.
 - The journals are selected based on the recommendation of the Literature Selection Technical Review Committee (LSTRC), an NIH-chartered advisory committee of external experts analogous to the committees that review NIH grant applications.
 - The LSTRC considers the quality of the scientific content of a journal, including originality and the importance of the content for the MEDLINE global audience.
- Since 2005, between 10,000-20,000 completed references are added each week.



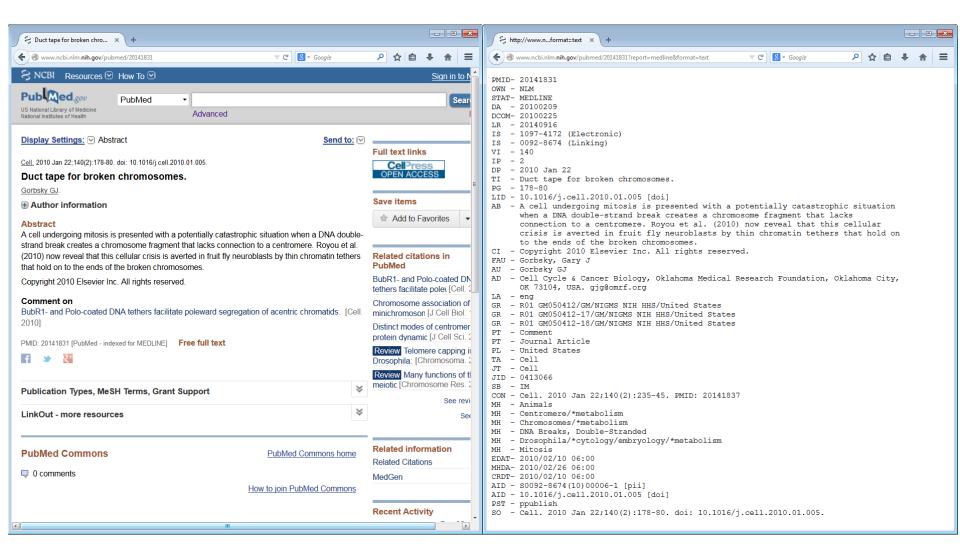
- Available since 1996
- Over 23 million references include
 - the MEDLINE database
 - In-process citations
 - Citations to articles that are out-ofscope (e.g., covering astrophysics) from MEDLINE journals
 - "Ahead of Print" citations that precede the article's final publication in a MEDLINE indexed journal.
 - Citations that precede the date that a journal was selected for MEDLINE indexing (when supplied electronically by the publisher).
 - Citations to author manuscripts of articles published by NIH-funded researchers.
 - Citations for the books available on the NCBI Bookshelf
 - (a citation for the book and in some cases each chapter of the book).



How do Citations get into MEDLINE/PubMed?



Human readable citation formats

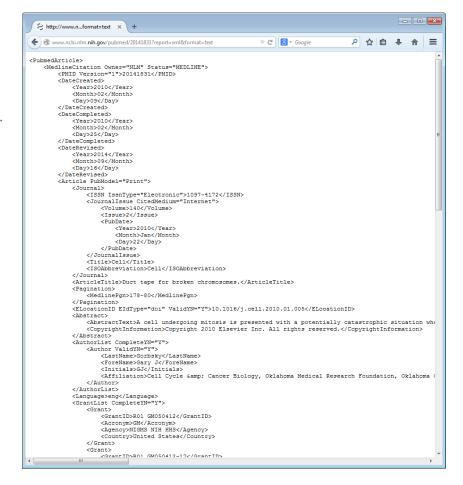


XML Publisher DTD tags and XML for the MEDLINE DTD example

The following is a glossary of the tags defined in the <u>PubMed DTD</u>. Click on each of the tag names below for more information. You can also view an Example of a Standard XML File.

Data Tags ($\mathbf{R} = \text{Required}$, $\mathbf{O} = \text{Optional O/R} = \text{Optional or Required}$). Tag names are **case sensitive**. Required tags must be included; optional tags must be included only if the data requested appears in the print or electronic article. Optional or Required tags are dependent on the use of other tags.

File Header (R)	Replaces (O)	Affiliation (O)
ArticleSet (R)	ArticleTitle (O)	Identifier (O)
Article (R)	VernacularTitle (O)	GroupList (O/R)
Journal (R)	FirstPage (O/R)	Group (R)
PublisherName (R)	LastPage (O)	GroupName (R)
JournalTitle (R)	ELocationID (O/R)	IndividualName (O)
Issn (R)	Language (O)	PublicationType (O)
Volume (O/R)	AuthorList (O/R)	ArticleIdList (O/R)
Issue (O/R)	Author (R)	ArticleId (R)
PubDate (R)	FirstName (O/R)	History (O)
Year (R)	MiddleName (O)	Abstract (O)
Month (O/R)	LastName (O/R)	OtherAbstract (O)
Season (O)	Suffix (O)	CopyrightInformation (O)
Day (O)	CollectiveName (O)	ObjectList (O)
		Object (O)
		Param (O)



Publisher DTD

PubMed Central

- A free archive for full-text biomedical and life sciences journal articles launched in 2000.
- A repository for journal literature deposited by
 - participating publishers
 - author manuscripts submitted in compliance with the NIH Public Access Policy
- Reciprocal links between the full text in PMC and citations in PubMed.
 - PubMed citations are created for content not already in MEDLINE
 - Some PMC content, e.g., book reviews, is not cited in PubMed
- The PMC Open Access Subset under a Creative Commons or similar license
 - FTP service to download a complete set of files XML, images, PDF, and supplementary data files.
 - Articles: 852,041; Images: 2,618,629; Articles containing no images: 246,066
 - An API to find articles by ID, or those that have been updated recently.

Entrez

Entrez is NCBI's primary text search and retrieval system that integrates the PubMed database of biomedical literature with 39 other literature and molecular databases including DNA and protein sequence, structure, gene, genome, genetic variation and gene expression.



Entrez Programming Utilities (E-utilities)

- A set of nine programs that provide an application programming interface (API) to Entrez
 - EInfo (database statistics) Provides the number of records indexed in each field of a given database, the date of the last update of the database, and the available links from the database to other Entrez databases.
 - ESearch (text searches) Responds to a text query with the list of matching UIDs in a given database (for later use in ESummary, EFetch or ELink), along with the term translations of the query.
 - EPost (UID uploads) Accepts a list of UIDs from a given database, stores the set on the History Server, and responds with a query key and web environment for the uploaded dataset.
 - ESummary (document summary downloads) Responds to a list of UIDs from a given database with the corresponding document summaries.
 - EFetch (data record downloads) Responds to a list of UIDs in a given database with the corresponding data records in a specified format.
 - ELink (Entrez links) Responds to a list of UIDs in a given database with list of external and internal links.
 - EGQuery (global query) Responds to a text query with the number of records matching the query in each Entrez database.
 - ESpell (spelling suggestions) Retrieves spelling suggestions for a text query in a given database.
 - ECitMatch (batch citation searching in PubMed) Retrieves PubMed IDs (PMIDs) corresponding to a set of input citation strings.

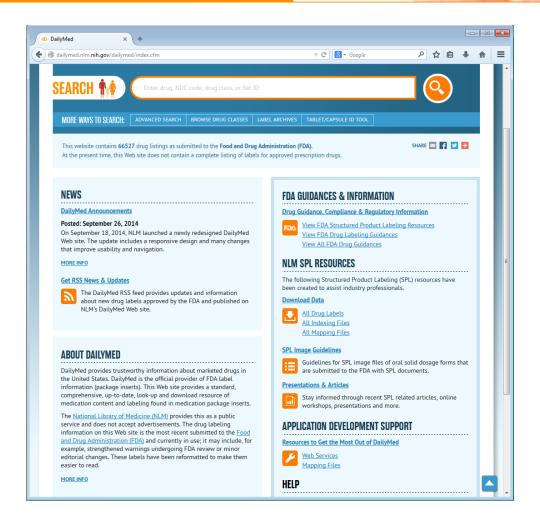
Platforms for "crowdsourcing"

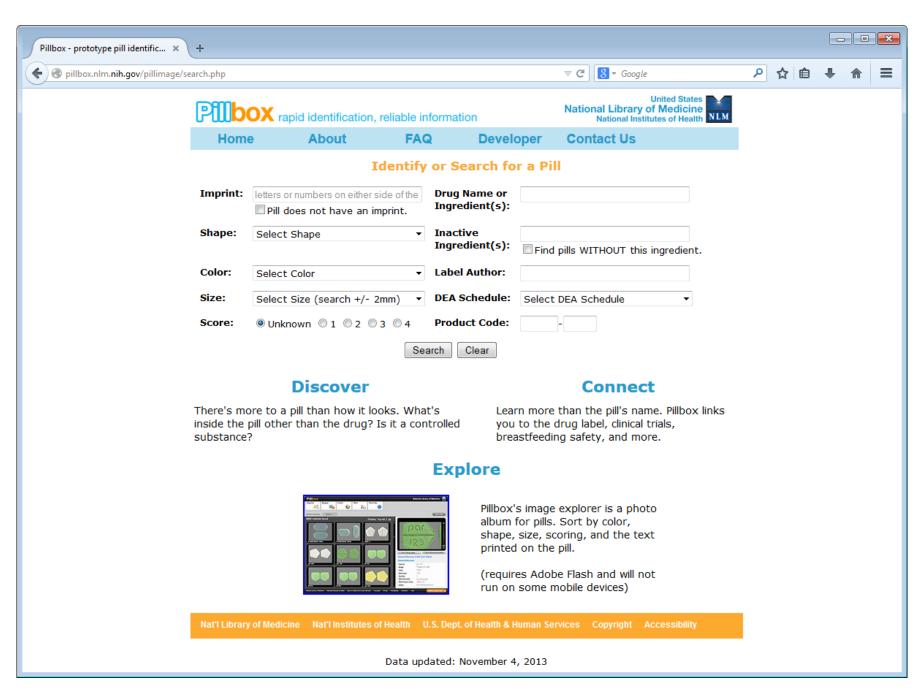
- dbGAP: the database of Genotypes and Phenotypes archives and distributes the results of studies that have investigated the interaction of genotype and phenotype.
 - Open access to some datasets:
 http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/projects/gap/cgi-bin/about.html#open
- Genetic Testing Registry (GTR): provides a central location for voluntary submission of genetic test information by providers. The scope includes the test's purpose, methodology, validity, evidence of the test's usefulness, and laboratory contacts and credentials. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/gtr/
- **clinVar**: a freely accessible, public archive of reports of the relationships among human variations and phenotypes, with supporting evidence. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/clinvar/

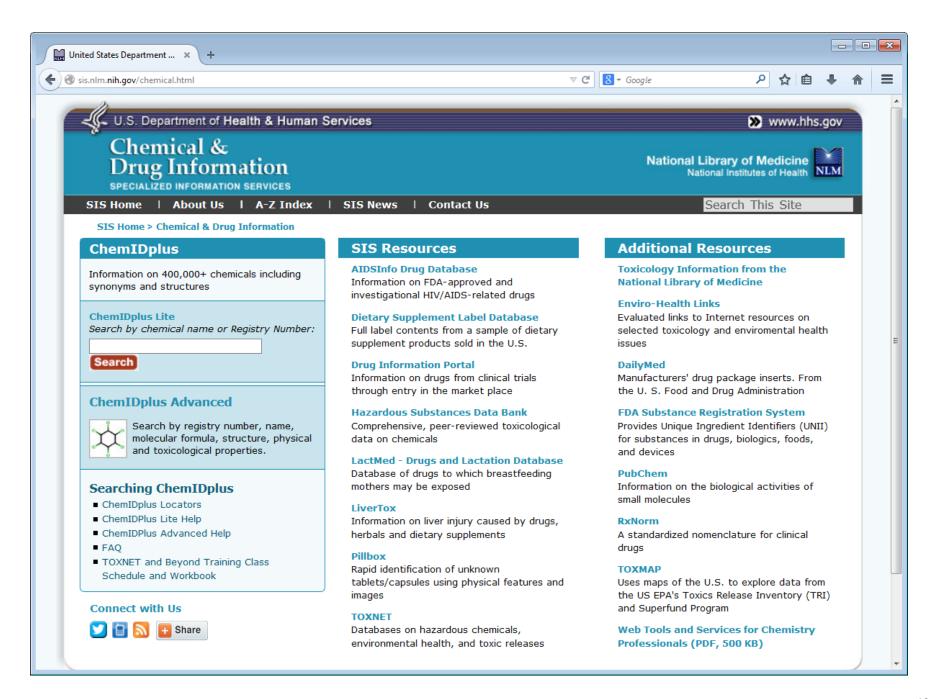
DRUG AND CHEMICALS INFORMATION



NIH U.S. NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE







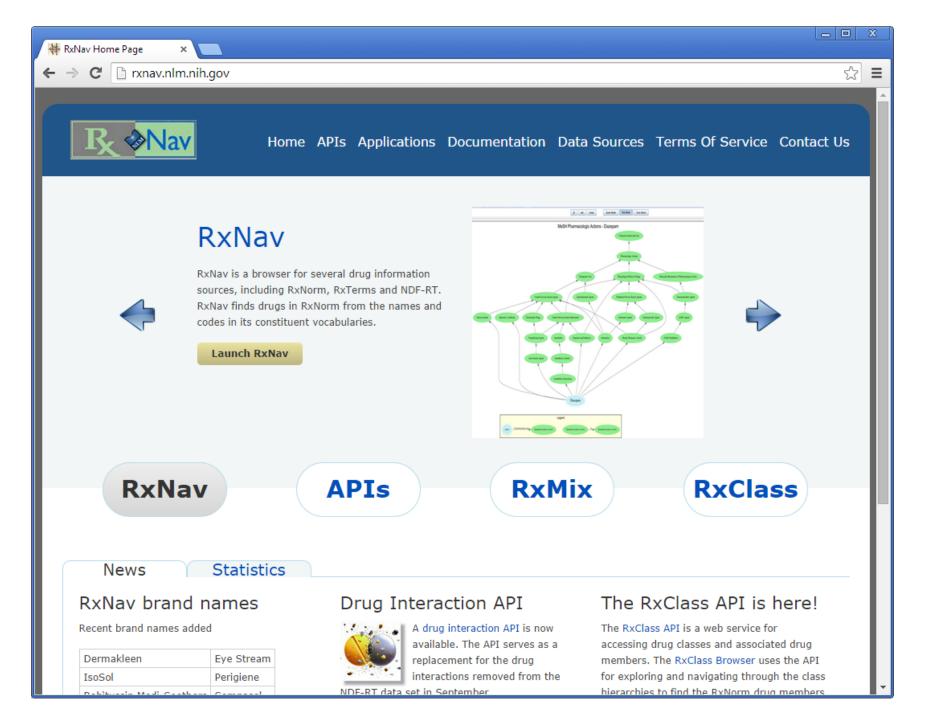


PubChem provides information on the biological activities of small molecules.

Pcsubstance contains more than 140 million records.

Pccompound contains more than 51 million unique structures.

PCBioAssay contains more than 1 million BioAssays. Each BioAssay contains a various number of data points.



INFORMATION FOR CONSUMERS



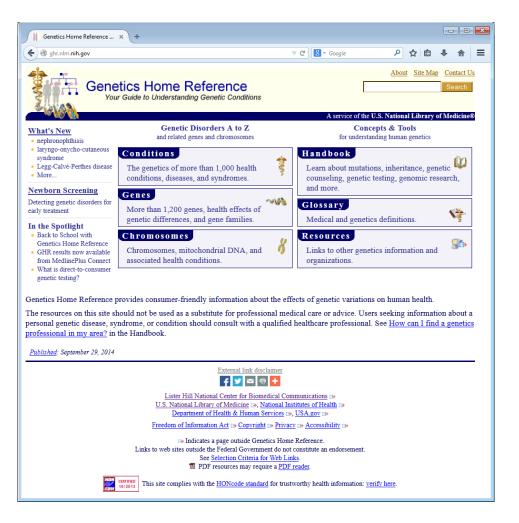
- Information for patients from the National Institutes of Health and other trusted sources on over 900 diseases and conditions, drugs and wellness issues.
- A medical encyclopedia and a medical dictionary, easyto-understand tutorials.
- Health information in Spanish and other languages.
- Health information from the media updated daily.
- No advertisement and no endorsement for any company or product.





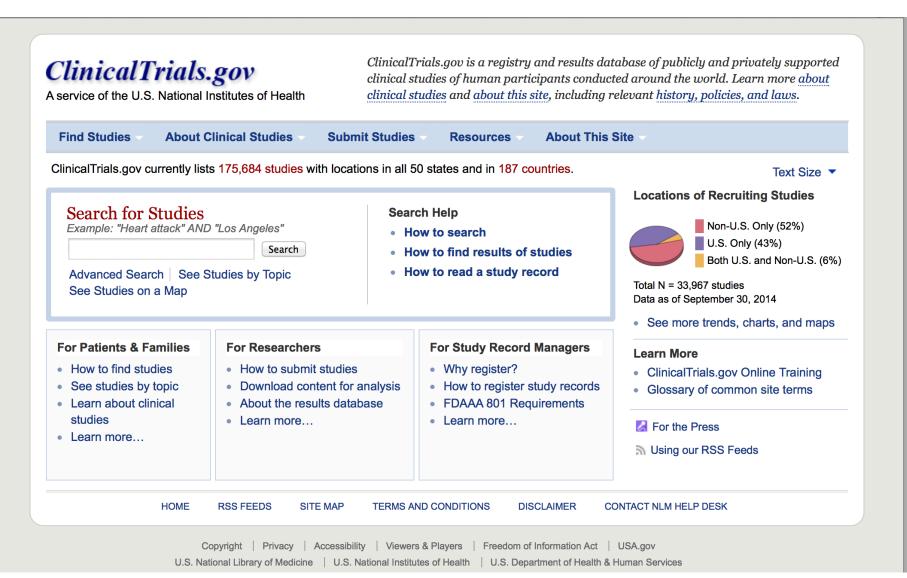
- Linking Patient Portals and EHRs to Consumer Health Information
- MedlinePlus Connect accepts requests for information on diagnoses (problem codes), medications, and lab tests, and returns related MedlinePlus information. It is available as a Web application or a Web service.
 - For problem code requests, MedlinePlus Connect supports: ICD-9-CM (International Classification of Diseases, 9th edition, Clinical Modification); ICD-10-CM, SNOMED CT® (Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine, Clinical Terms)
 - For medication requests, MedlinePlus Connect supports RXCUI (RxNorm Concept Unique Identifier); NDC (National Drug Code)
 - For lab test requests, MedlinePlus Connect supports: LOINC[®] (Logical Observation Identifiers Names and Codes)
- May help an EHR achieve one of the criteria for Meaningful Use of Health Information Technology.



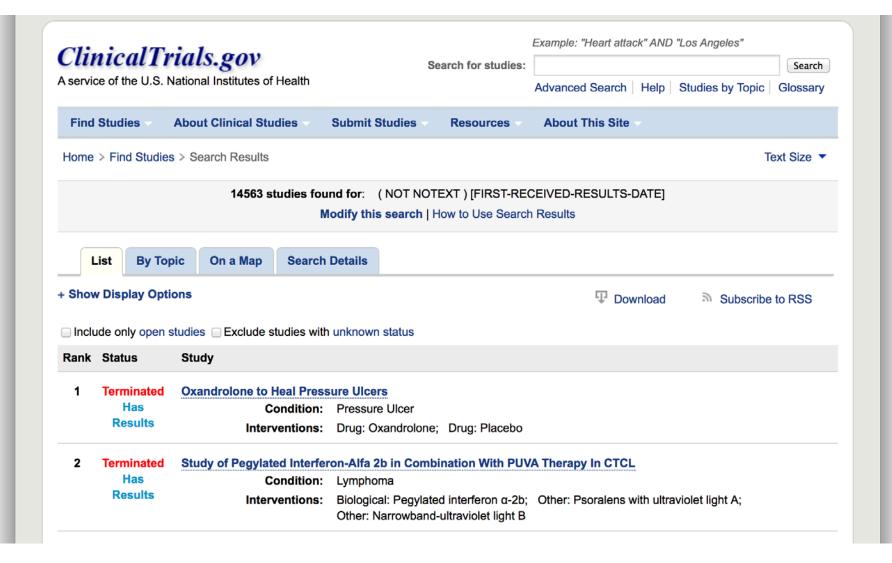


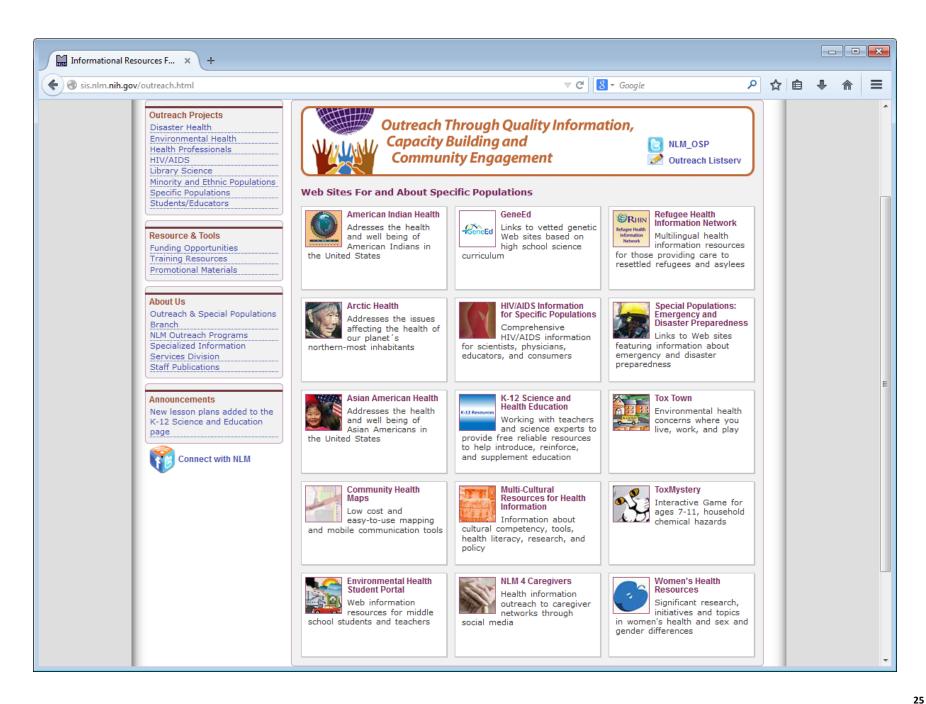
- Consumer information about genetic conditions and the genes or chromosomes associated with those conditions.
 - Genetic Condition
 Summaries
 - Gene Summaries
 - Gene Family Summaries
 - Chromosome Summaries
 - Handbook
 - explanations of how genes work and how mutations cause disorders; information about genetic testing, and gene therapy.
 - Glossary

Clinical Trials Registry



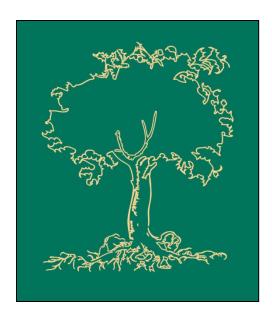
Clinical Trials Results



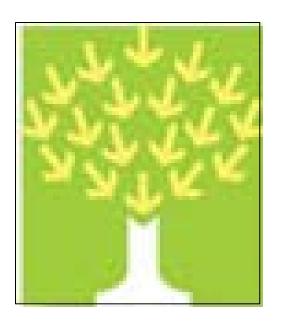


INFORMATICS RESOURCES

The UMLS was initiated in 1986 as a long-term research & development project of the National Library of Medicine to reduce system development problems caused by differences in medical terminologies



- Unified
- Medical
- Language
- System



UMLS®
Unified Medical Language System®

UMLS Knowledge Sources & Tools

Metathesaurus

- Clusters terms into concepts with unique identifier
 - Over 140 source vocabularies (82 in Active Release) in 21 languages
 - 2,973,458 million concepts (8,646,656 distinct normalized concept names)

Semantic Network

- Defines relationships between concepts, organizes concepts into categories
 - 133 Semantic types (broad categories)
 - 54 Semantic relations (between categories)

Lexical resources

- SPECIALIST Lexicon (over 476,000 records)
 - morphology(inflection, derivation); spelling variants; part of speech....
- Lexical tools (programs and databases)
 - Variant generation; spell check; POS tagger...
- MetamorphoSys (installation and customization)
- UMLS Terminology Services (UTS)
 - provide web interfaces and web services to search and retrieve UMLS data

UMLS Customization

- It is too broad for a specific purpose
- You are interested in only one of the 21 languages
- UMLS preserves the meanings, hierarchical connections, and other relationships between terms present in its source vocabularies
 - some of these make no sense in your context
 - some are generally suppressible
- You need to add your terms or relations
- You don't have licenses for copyrighted sources

UMLS-Based Resources & Use Examples

- Named Entity Recognition
 - MetaMap
- Automated indexing assistance
 - MTI

- Information retrieval
 - ClinicalTrials.gov
 - Open-i

MetaMap

- Purpose: Concept Identification (Named-Entity Recognition)
 - Identify UMLS Metathesaurus concepts in text

Examples:

Text gap, lexical variation: assay/assays

sister-chromatid exchange genotoxicity assays

C1519335:Sister Chromatid Exchange Assay

Composite phrases, word order, text gaps

pain on the left side of the chest

C0541828: chest pain left side(Left sided chest pain)

The Algorithm

- Parsing
 - SPECIALIST minimal-commitment parser
 - SPECIALIST lexicon
 - MedPost part-of-speech tagger
- Variant generation
 - SPECIALIST lexicon
 - Lexical Variant Generation (LVG)
- Candidate retrieval from the Metathesaurus
- Candidate evaluation
- Mapping construction

Use example

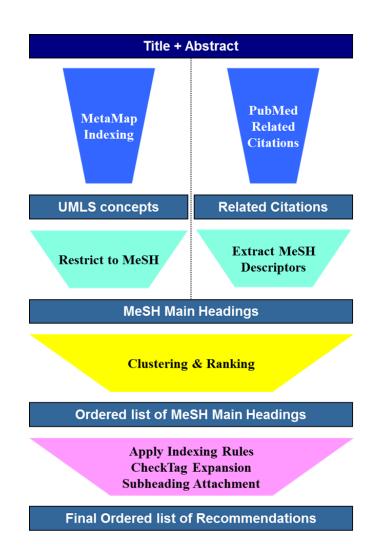
- With the help of MetaMap concept positional information XML tags we can now extract more than 130 different variations of the "kidney stone" string that are being documented within our sample corpus (Past Medical History section of 640,000 notes).
- These 137 trigger strings are matched by 10 UMLS synonyms.

Example:

- C0022650: Kidney Calculi:
 - calculi in bilateral kidneys; calculi in both kidneys; calculi in the left renal; calculi within the calices of the left kidney....

The NLM Medical Text Indexer (MTI)

- Product of Indexing Initiative
- Principal developer James Mork
- Assists NLM Indexers
- In use since mid-2002
- Uses article Title and Abstract
- Semi-Automatic MeSH Indexing Recommendations
- Performs initial indexing for small subset of journals (MTIFL)





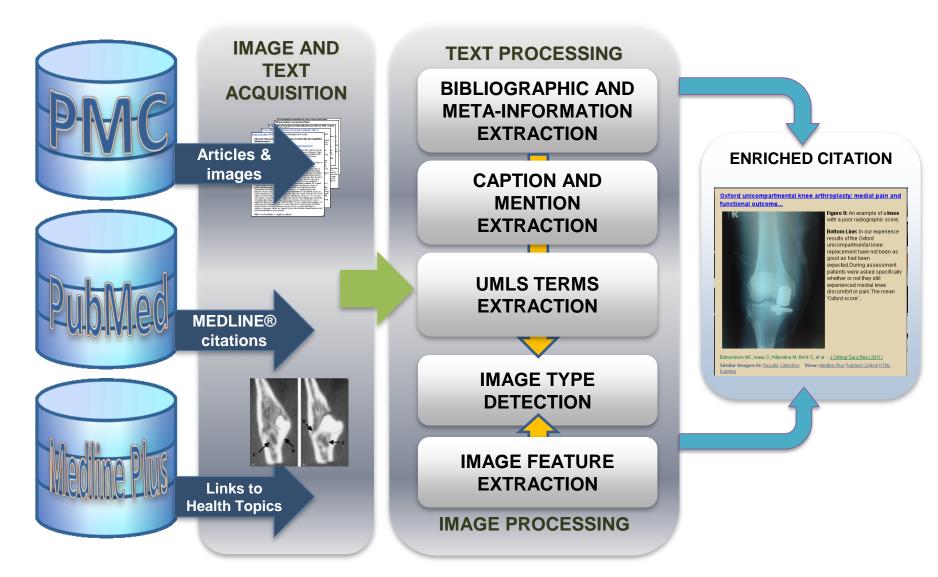
Combines UMLS-based

- Text processing
- Information retrieval
- With image processing
- To:
 - Prepare citation
 - Index with search engine

Provides:

- User interface for searching biomedical literature
 - By text and/or example images
 - Search filters (image type, limits, etc.)

Preparing citations for indexing



Enriched citations

- XML for indexing
- <EnrichedCitation>
 - <Title>....
 (other MEDLINE citation fields)
 - <ImageDocument>
 - <Modality>
 - <Caption>
 - <Mention>
 - <Panel>
 - <VisualWords>
 - <Modality>
 - < ROI >

On Optical Detection of Densely Labeled Synapses in Neuropil and Mapping Connectivity with Combinatorially Multiplexed Fluorescent Synaptic Markers

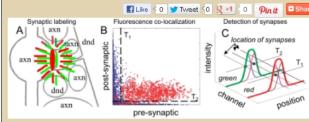
Mishchenko Y - PLoS ONE (2010)

Bottom Line: We simulate fluorescence from a population of densely labeled synapses in a block of hippocampal neuropil, completely reconstructed from electron microscopy data, and show that high-end LM is able to detect such patterns with over 95% accuracy. We conclude, therefore, that with the described approach neural connectivity in macroscopically large neural circuits can be mapped with great accuracy, in scalable manner, using fast optical tools, and straightforward image processing. Relying on an electron microscopy dataset, we also derive and explicitly enumerate the conditions that should be met to allow synaptic connectivity studies with high-resolution optical tools.

Affiliation: Department of Statistics and Center for Theoretical Neuroscience, Columbia University, New York, New York, USA. yuriy.mishchenko@gmail.com

Abstract: We propose a new method for mapping neural connectivity optically, by utilizing Cre/Lox system Brainbow to tag synapses of different neurons with random mixtures of different fluorophores, such as GFP, YFP, etc., and then detecting patterns of fluorophores at different synapses using light microscopy (LM). Such patterns will immediately report the pre- and post-synaptic cells at each synaptic connection. without tracing neural projections from individual synapses to corresponding cell bodies. We simulate fluorescence from a population of densely labeled synapses in a block of hippocampal neuropil, completely reconstructed from electron microscopy data, and show that high-end LM is able to detect such patterns with over 95% accuracy. We conclude, therefore, that with the described approach neural connectivity in macroscopically large neural circuits can be mapped with great accuracy, in scalable manner, using fast optical tools, and straightforward image processing. Relying on an electron microscopy dataset, we also derive and explicitly enumerate the

conditions that should be met to allow synaptic connectivity studies with high-resolution optical tools.



pone-0008853-g002: Schematic explanation of synapse detection using co-localization of fluorescence from different pre- and post-synaptic markers.A) Schematic diagram of the synaptic Brainbow, with a red fluorophore on the pre-synaptic side and a green fluorophore on the post-synaptic side of a synaptic cleft. Spatial correlation of the fluorescence from the preand post-synaptic fluorophores, occurring due to their proximity across synaptic cleft, allows detecting synapses optically without explicitly resolving them. Due to absence of the fluorophores in the bulk of the axonal and dendritic cytoplasm, nearby processes do not interfere with the detection process even when all neurons are labeled, unlike in regular Brainbow, B) Due to close spatial co-localization of the pre- and post-synaptic fluorophores across the synaptic cleft, their fluorescence intensity is closely correlated near labeled synapses. In this figure we show a simulated scatter plot of the fluorescence intensity in IDLM. Blue dots represent voxels far away from one labeled synapse (further than \$200 nm), and red dots represent voxels closer than \$200 nm. One can threshold this diagram with certain thresholds, T1 for the pre-synaptic marker and T2 for the post-synaptic marker (dashed lines), in order to separate the proximal (red) from distant (blue) voxels, and thus detect presence of a synapse. C) Using correlations in the fluorescence from the pre- and post-synaptic markers, synapses may be detected even when they cannot be explicitly resolved into isolated puncta. Illustrated here are three "synapses", fluorescence from which individually is shown with thin blue, magenta and brown lines. These are observed using two fluorescent markers, green and red. First synapse is tagged only with "green" marker, second synapse is tagged with "green" and "red" markers, and third synapse is tagged with "red" marker. Combined fluorescence from these synapses is shown with thick red and green lines, for the two markers respectively. Even though none of synapses can be seen separately in either green or red channels, by thresholding fluorescence with appropriate thresholds, T1 and T2, three different suprathreshold fluorescence patterns (black dots) indicate presence of three synapses.

Mentions: While one can detect synapses with LM by looking for explicitly isolated fluorescent puncta, one can also use a more powerful, yet simpler, prescription for detecting synapses implicitly. Specifically, consider a synapse labeled with two fluorophores, a fluorophore AFP on the pre-synaptic side and a fluorophore BFP on the post-synaptic side. Because of the spatial proximity of these two fluorophores across the synaptic cleft (i.e., ~10–50 nm apart), the fluorescence from these fluorophores will be tightly correlated in the region near labeled synapse, Figure 2A and 2B. This correlation may be quantified and used to detect the synapse even when it cannot be resolved as an isolated punctum, Figure 2C.

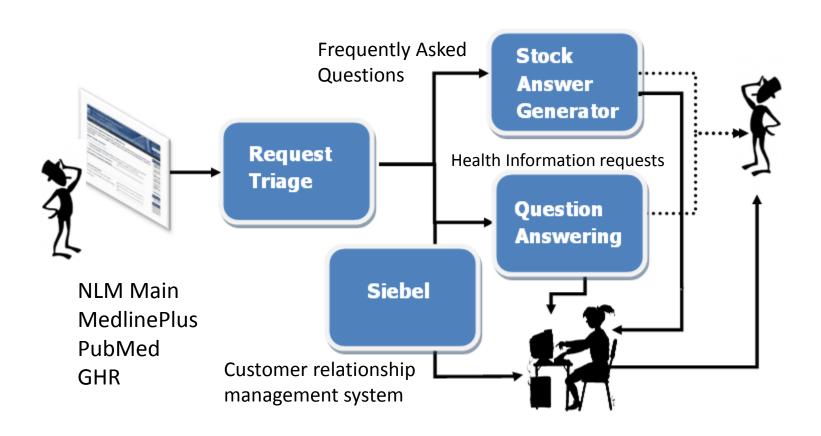
Open-i User Interface Functions

- Images as search input
- LinkOut resources
- Multiple views
- Filtering by image modality, journal type, clinical specialties
- Query expansion via UMLS synonymy *
- Re-rank according to specific task *
- Phrase search and complex queries *

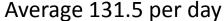
^{*} Essie indexing supports these functions. Essie is a search engine developed by Lister Hill Center for ClinicalTrials.gov

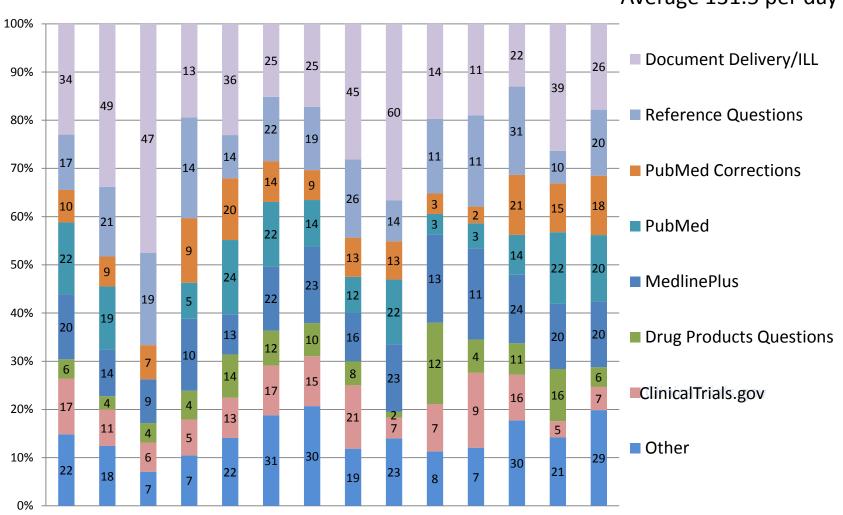
CASE STUDY: SUPPORTING NLM CUSTOMER SERVICES

Request Processing System



Incoming customers requests





Frequent requests

- PubMed corrections (about 20-25 a day)
 - In this pubmed reference:
 http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/23653210 there is a typo in the title from the pubmed database. The title should be "N6-formyladenosine" instead of "N4-formyladenosine". Thanks!
- Consumer health questions (about 15-20 a day)
 - My sister is diabitic since age 8, now age 20. she is not coping well with it, i've been to the nutrition DR.s with her and we have since change our diet at home just for her, but it's still too havy on her. i want to help her, maybe if i can get her a couselor or support group that understands her situation/diabits

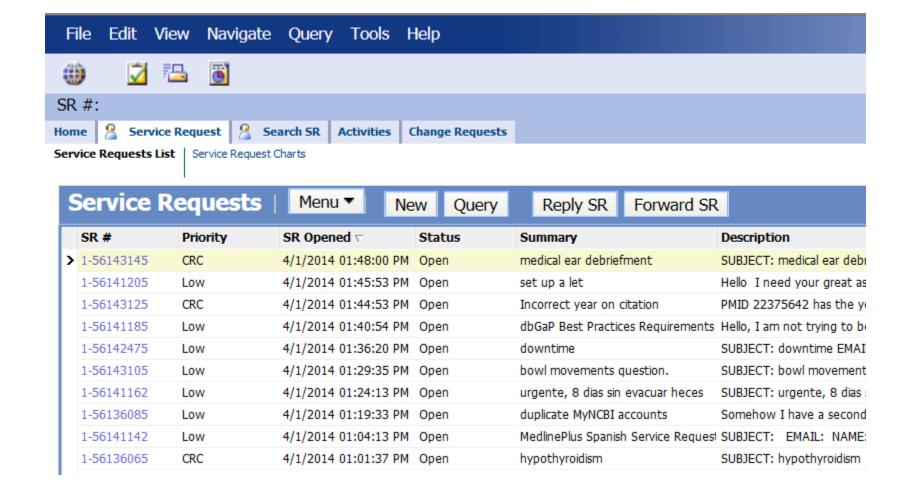
Request triage

- Classify incoming requests as PubMed corrections,
 Consumer health questions (limited to disorders), other
 - MaxEnt, SVM trained on 100K 2011 requests, 80 85% F-score
 - Ongoing / Future work
 - More classes: Junk; Other types of CHQ (e.g., medications);
 UMLS
 - Subclasses: Find a Doctor or Expert for a given disorder
 - Classes and distributions are changing
- PubMed Corrections Assistant:
 - Prepares stock replies for PubMed correction requests
- Question Answering module:
 - Prepares answers for consumer health questions

PubMed Corrections Assistant

- Searches the request for PMID(s) or reference(s)
- Retrieves PubMed citations using E-Utilities
- Extracts the citation status field:
 - PubMed
 - PubMed in process (now undergoing changes)
 - PubMed as supplied by Publisher
 - PubMed indexed for MEDLINE
- Using the status, finds an appropriate stock reply
- Adds the stock reply to the request
- Sends the augmented request to customer service agent for approval/editing

CRC answers in Siebel



Unexpected consequences: New PubMed corrections request form

Menu item	Look up	Citation field value	Form Action(s) Before	Siebel XML tag AREA	Siebel XML tag SUBAREA	Siebel XML tag
Misspelling or error in PubMed	PubMed Record Status	MEDLINE Lookup CitationSubset	sending to Siebel Add to SRDescriptionNotes: -current text/-correction text -PMID -Summary (text) citation	Quality Control of NLM DB	MEDLINE	Indexing
		For CitationSubset == OM	Same action as above	Quality Control of NLM DB	MEDLINE	MMS
Misspelling or error in PubMed	PubMed Record Status	In-Process OR In-data-review	Add to SRDescriptionNotes: -current text/-correction text -PMID -Summary (text) citation	Quality Control of NLM DB	In Process	Indexing
Misspelling or error in PubMed	PubMed Record Status	Publisher	Add to SRDescriptionNotes: -PMID -Summary (text) citation	Quality Control of NLM DB	Publisher Supplied	Customer Service
Misspelling or error in PubMed	PubMed Record Status	OLDMEDLINE	Add to SRDescriptionNotes: -current text/-correction text -PMID -Summary (text) citation	Quality Control of NLM DB	MEDLINE	MMS
Misspelling or error in PubMed	PubMed Record Status	PubMed-not-MEDLINE	Add to SRDescriptionNotes: -current text/-correction text -PMID -Summary (text) citation	Quality Control of NLM DB	PubMed Only	Indexing
Question about MeSH subject indexing	N/A	N/A	Add to SRDescriptionNotes: -PMID -Summary (text) citation	Quality Control of NLM DB	Assigned MeSH Headings	Indexing
Copy of Full Text	N/A	N/A	Add to SRDescriptionNotes: -PMID -Summary (text) citation	PubMed	Full- Text/Obtaining Articles	Customer Service
Forgot MyNCBI Password	N/A	N/A	Send question to Siebel Forward for action to info@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov	PubMed	MyNCBI	Customer Service

Question Answering Assistant

- Represents question in a structured form (frame) question understanding
- Uses the frame to generate queries to search engines
- Retrieves articles
- Extracts answers
- Ranks answers

Understanding consumer questions is hard

- Different styles
 - Education level
 - Native language
- Mostly informal language
 - Ungrammatical sentences
 - Inconsistent punctuation and capitalization
 - Abbreviations
 - Misspellings
 - Extraneous information
 - Abundance of anaphora and ellipses

Question understanding: question type

Question type	Question template(s) All questions could specify context				
Information	Information about <i>Disease</i>				
Person/Organization	Geo / internet location of organization / specialist for (testing treatment support) for <i>Disease</i>				
Anatomy	Body part/function affected by Disease				
Management	[Effects of Drug/Procedure as] treatment/prevention for Disease				
Diagnosis	[Procedure as] diagnosis for Disease				
Cause	Cause of <i>Disease</i>				
Susceptibility	Population affected by <i>Disease</i> ; Inheritance patterns				
Complications	Problems caused by <i>Disease</i>				
Prognosis	Outcome/life expectancy/quality of life [in patient] with Disease				
Other Effects	effects of a Disease that are not explicitly Complications or Manifestations				
Manifestations	Signs and symptoms of <i>Disease</i>				

Rule-based question understanding

- Find terms corresponding to entities of interest:
 - UMLS terms corresponding to Diseases, Anatomy, Drugs,
 Genes
 - Gazetteers for question cues & question type indicators
- Use syntactic patterns that establish relations between terms
- Translate relations to structured form (frames)
- Use methods for anaphora and ellipsis resolution

Example question frames

Are there treatments for trisomy 13?

What is the prognosis?

What is life like for those who have this condition?

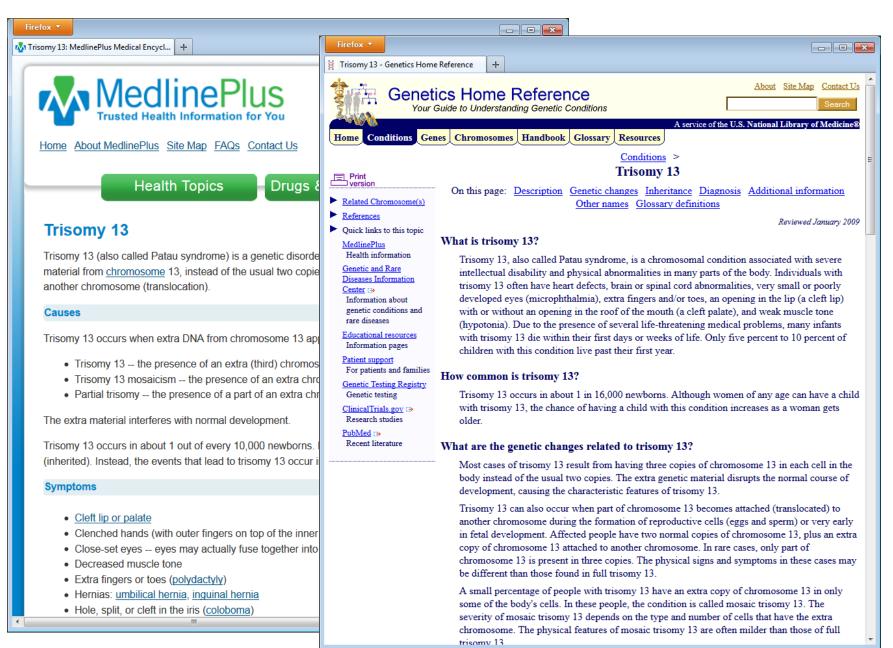
- Frame 1
 - Question type: Management
 - Indicated by: treatments
 - Theme (problem): trisomy 13
 - Question cue: are there
- Frame 3
 - Question type: Manifestations
 - Indicated by: life like
 - Theme (problem): trisomy 13
 - Anaphora resolution
 - this condition → trisomy 13
 - Question cue: what

- Frame 2
 - Question type: Prognosis
 - Indicated by: prognosis
 - Theme (problem): trisomy 13
 - Ellipsis resolution
 - Question cue: what

Frame construction

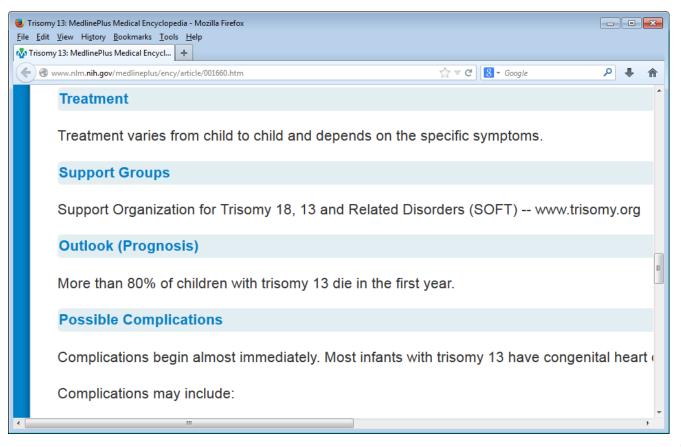
- Type and Theme argument are mandatory
- Stanford dependencies to identify theme and question cue arguments
 - direct object, passive nominal subject, noun compound modifier, relative clause modifier, etc.
- Transitivity on Information triggers
 - Is there information regarding prognosis of . . .
- Transitivity on population group terms
 - What is the life expectancy for a child with trisomy 13? . . .

Answer sources



Translating structured questions to search queries

- Search for the theme (problem) in titles
 - If found, return an appropriate section for question type



Selecting the best answer

- Rank articles and sections
- From the best sections, select paragraphs containing more answer type indicators
 - trim long paragraphs
- Due to the presence of several life-threatening medical problems, many infants with trisomy 13 die within their first days or weeks of life. Only five percent to 10 percent of children with this condition live past their first year.
- More than 80% of children with trisomy 13 die in the first year.

Unexpected consequences: Quality assurance for web resources

GHR

- Added a new Handbook page on genetic disorder prognosis:
 http://ghr.nlm.nih.gov/handbook/consult/prognosis
- Added AddThis links



MedlinePlus

- Revised topics:
 - Tuberculosis testing
 - Shingles
 - Tubal ligation ...

Anaphora, Coreference, Bridging Inferences, Ellipsis...

- my question is this: I was born w/a esophagus atresia w/dextrocardia.
 While the heart hasn't caused problems, the other has [caused problems]. I get food caught all the time. My question is... is there anything that can fix it cause I can't eat anything lately without getting it caught. I need help or will starve!
- Pronominal anaphora
 - it → esophagus atresia
 - it \rightarrow food
- Other-anaphora (Comparative anaphora)
 - the other → esophagus atresia
- Ellipsis
 - Omission of caused problems: VP ellipsis

Anaphora resolution for frame extraction

	# of frames	Recall	Precision	F1-score
Baseline	14	0.32	0.93	0.48
Anaphora	26	0.54	0.85	0.66

- Dependency-based frame extraction with simple dictionary lookup provides good precision but low recall
- Anaphora/ellipsis resolution helps significantly in recovering relevant frames with little negative effect on precision
- ❖ Better term identification → better anaphora/ellipsis resolution → better question understanding

Ongoing & future work

- Expand knowledge base
 - Link to relevant ClinicalTrials.gov
 - Mine NIH ICs, CDC, FDA consumer Web sites
 - Identify PubMed and PubMed Central articles for consumers
- Answer generation
- Understanding questions beyond "known disease"
- Addressing remaining request types