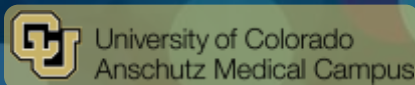


If we cannot count rare disease patients, they will not count

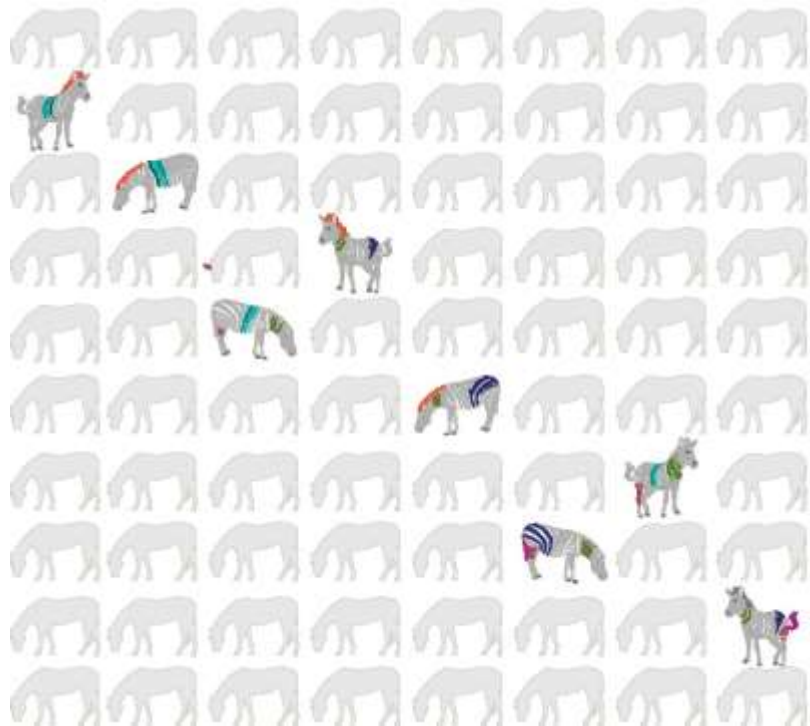
Melissa Haendel, PhD, FACMI



Gold Lab Symposium
20 May, 2022 | These slides:

1/10 americans (400M globally) affected

**each patient's characteristics are akin to the
variation in zebra stripes**



The case for open science: rare diseases

<https://academic.oup.com/jamiaopen/article/3/3/472/5904414>

**“When you hear hoof beats,
think horses, not zebras.”**

“There are ~7000 rare diseases”

- per Orphan Drug Act (1983);

**This number is demonstrably
wrong.**

Why the number of rare diseases is hard to determine (and is not 7000!)

We don't have the same criteria for "rare" around the world:

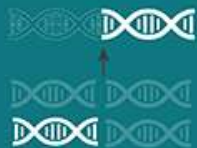
- 1983: From the Orphan Drug Act: A rare disease affects fewer than 200,000 people
- 2000: European Union considers a disease to be rare when it affects fewer than 1 in 2,000 people.

We add new diseases all the time, but don't update the number:

- New rare diseases are discovered every week by organizations such as the Undiagnosed Disease Network
- The literature and public databases abound with new weekly entries
- N-of-1s are matched, defining new diseases

We don't define or IDENTIFY diseases in the same way

- Dozens of terminologies and disease registries exist, each with their own identifier systems or lack thereof
- Rare diseases are often not included in standard clinical terminologies (such as ICD)
- Fundamentally, the definition of a rare disease and how to model it computationally has remained more an art than a science, preventing interoperability



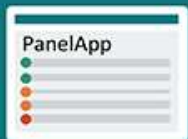
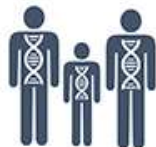
6,414,934
variants in Jessica's
genome

677,556
are rare



2,826
predicted to cause
change in a protein

67
different
to her parents



1
was in a gene
listed in PanelApp

Jessica

- Jessica (age 4) has a rare condition which causes epilepsy, affects her movement and developmental delay. Standard genetics tests negative.
- De novo deletion in *SLC2A1* identified as the cause of her Glut 1 deficiency syndrome
- Now being successfully treated with a ketogenic, low-carb diet
- Low risk for future pregnancies

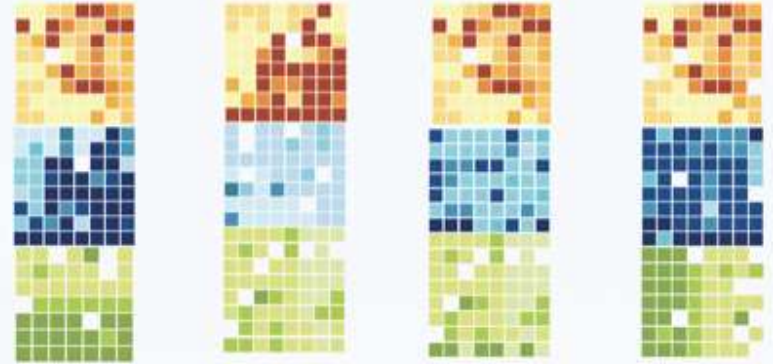
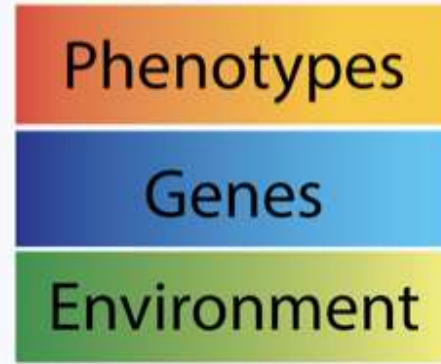


It can take patients
4-7 yrs to get a
diagnosis



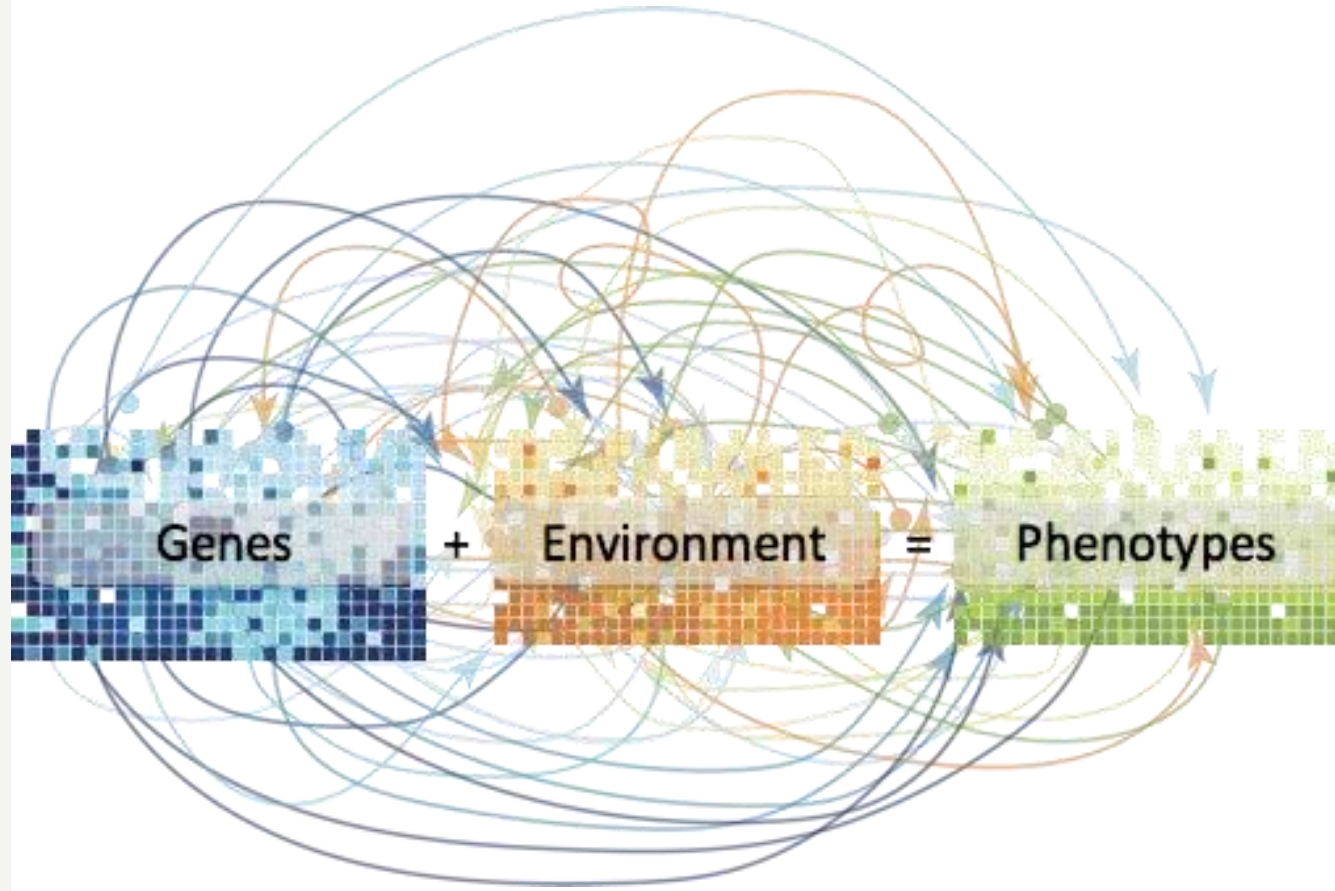
Every person is
an n-of-one
disease (this is
the promise of
precision
medicine)

The question is
what are
meaningfully
groupings of
patients?



signs and
symptoms,
demographics,
exposure, diet,
traits, etc.

We need to
leverage **ALL**
biological
knowledge
about the
relationships



Turning information into meaning

Flat List



e.g., Problem lists, drugs

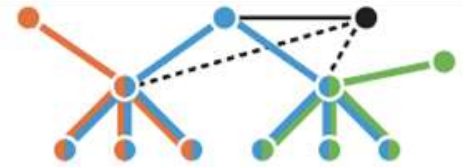
We are mostly here

Taxonomy



e.g., ICD

Graph



We need to be here

The challenges start with the basics: Phenotyping

1. Bacteraemia
5. Post-nares. infection - Antrum of Highmore.
Frontal cells, Sphenoids.
Results of otitis media.
1. Rupture of drum membrane early - favorable
2. No rupture of drum but a localized empyema
of tympanic cavity with rise in temp.
as soon as you strike it the temp. <
∴ ALLWAYS EXAMINE EARS IN SCARLET FEVER
3. Extension upwards thru mastoid cells
" Temp. Sphen. Fissure
Cerebral symptoms following.
Sore throat + High Fever + Sore ears always
think of S.F.
With a suppurative otitis media - look out for
Broncho-Pneumonia in 48 hrs.
4. Extension into thoracic cavity
E.g. Broncho-Pneumonia.
2. Embolism.



Patients and families should be empowered to work as partners...

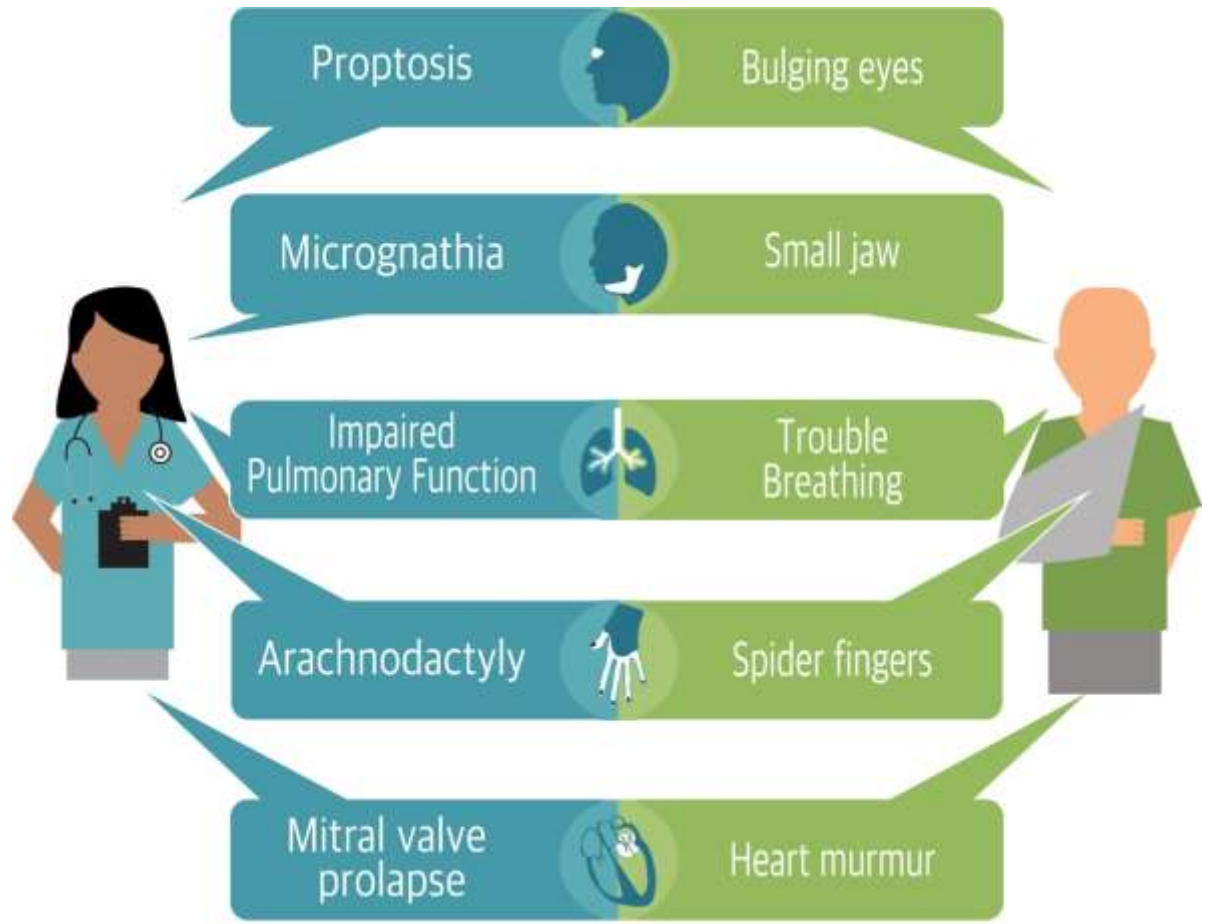


The time is now!

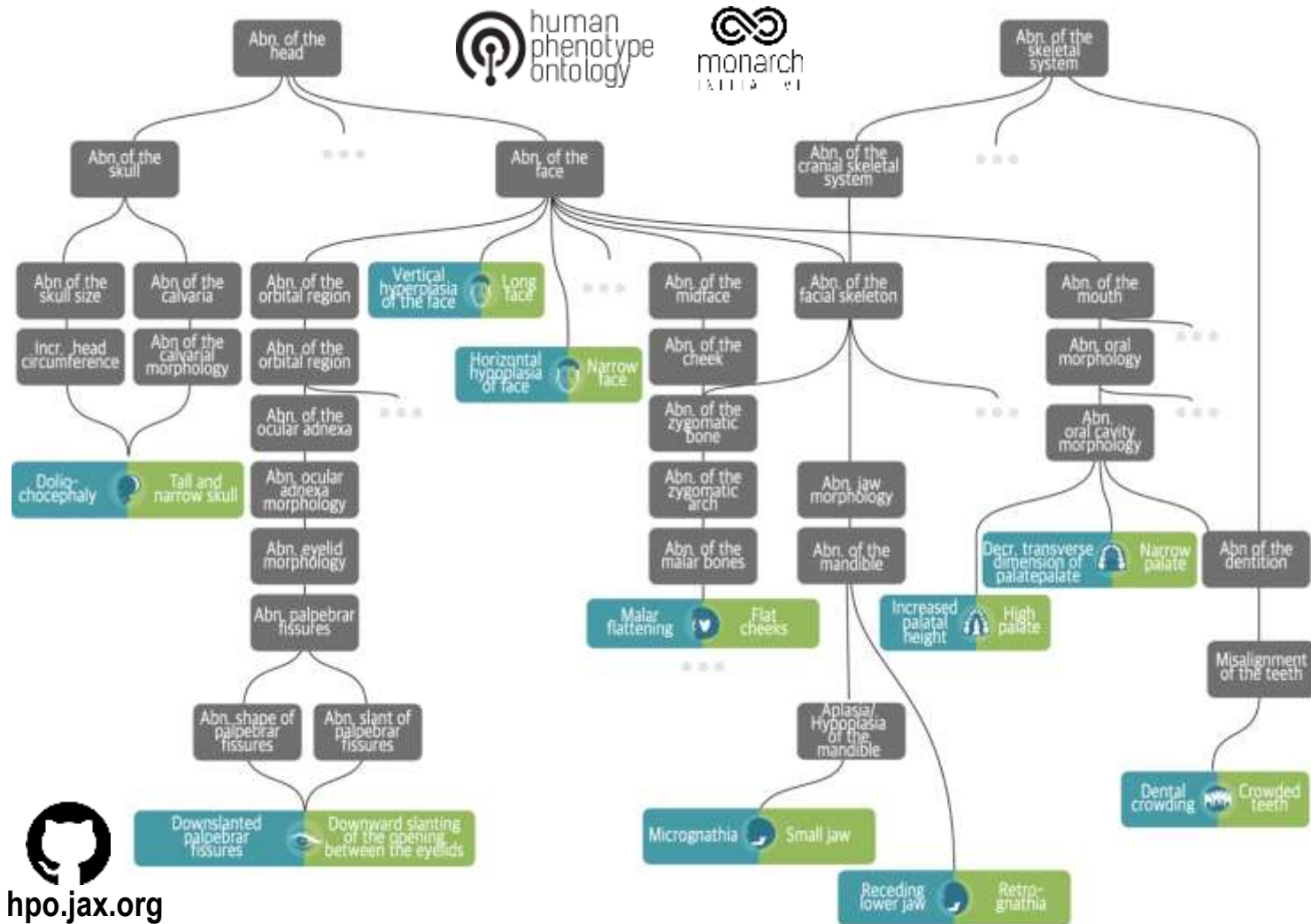
- Provider time constraints
- Care fragmentation
- Knowledge democratization
- Tools and standards emerging to help

Answer:

Give patients the ability to describe their conditions in their own words while leveraging formal vocabularies used by clinicians.



- **Widely adopted in rare disease genomic diagnostic tools**
100,000 Genomes Project, SOLVE-RD, NIH-UDP, etc.



When describing a patient, how many terms can you take away and still diagnose the disease?

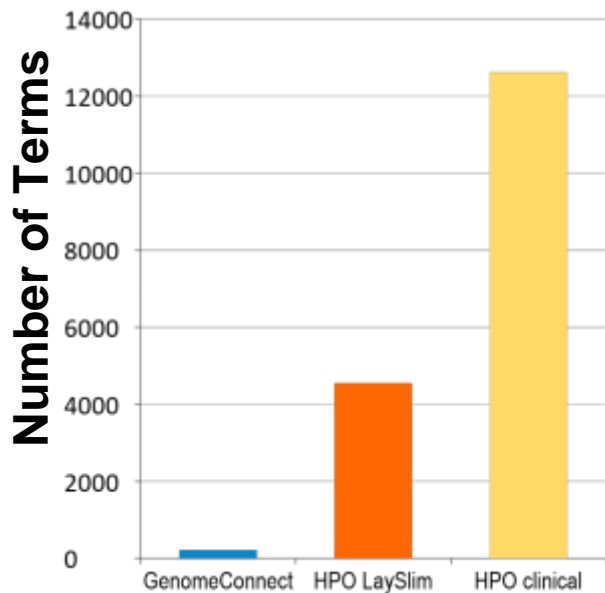


An example comparison of simulated profiles relative to gold standard



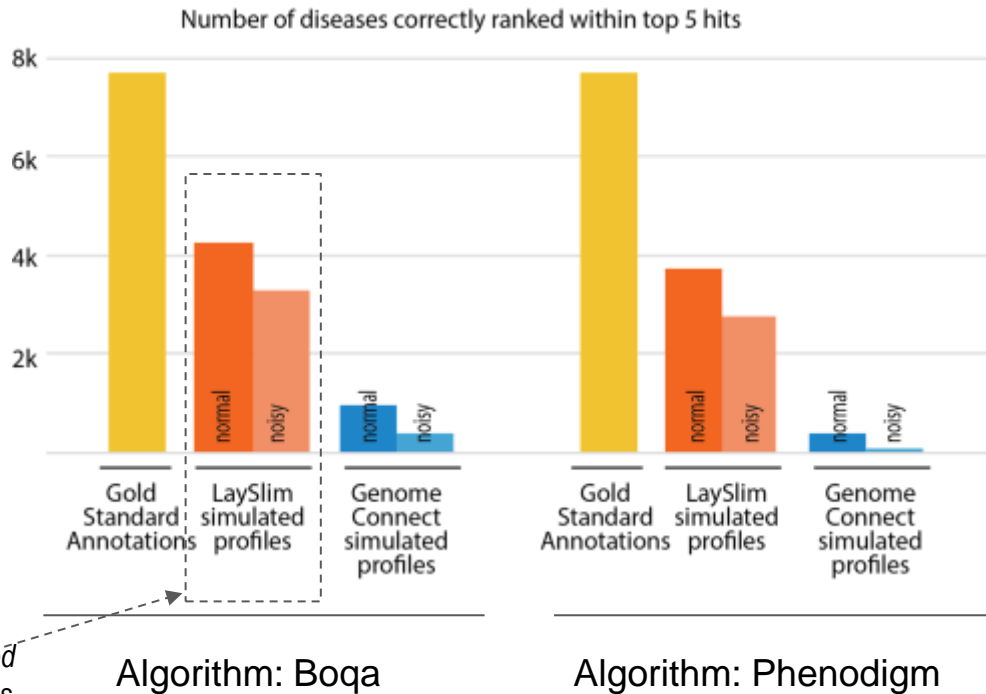
doi:10.6084/m9.figshare.5513356.v2

What is the diagnostic power of the layperson HPO?



When any profile is further constrained by deleted terms or less specific terms general, the diagnostic power reduces as expected.

Number of Diseases






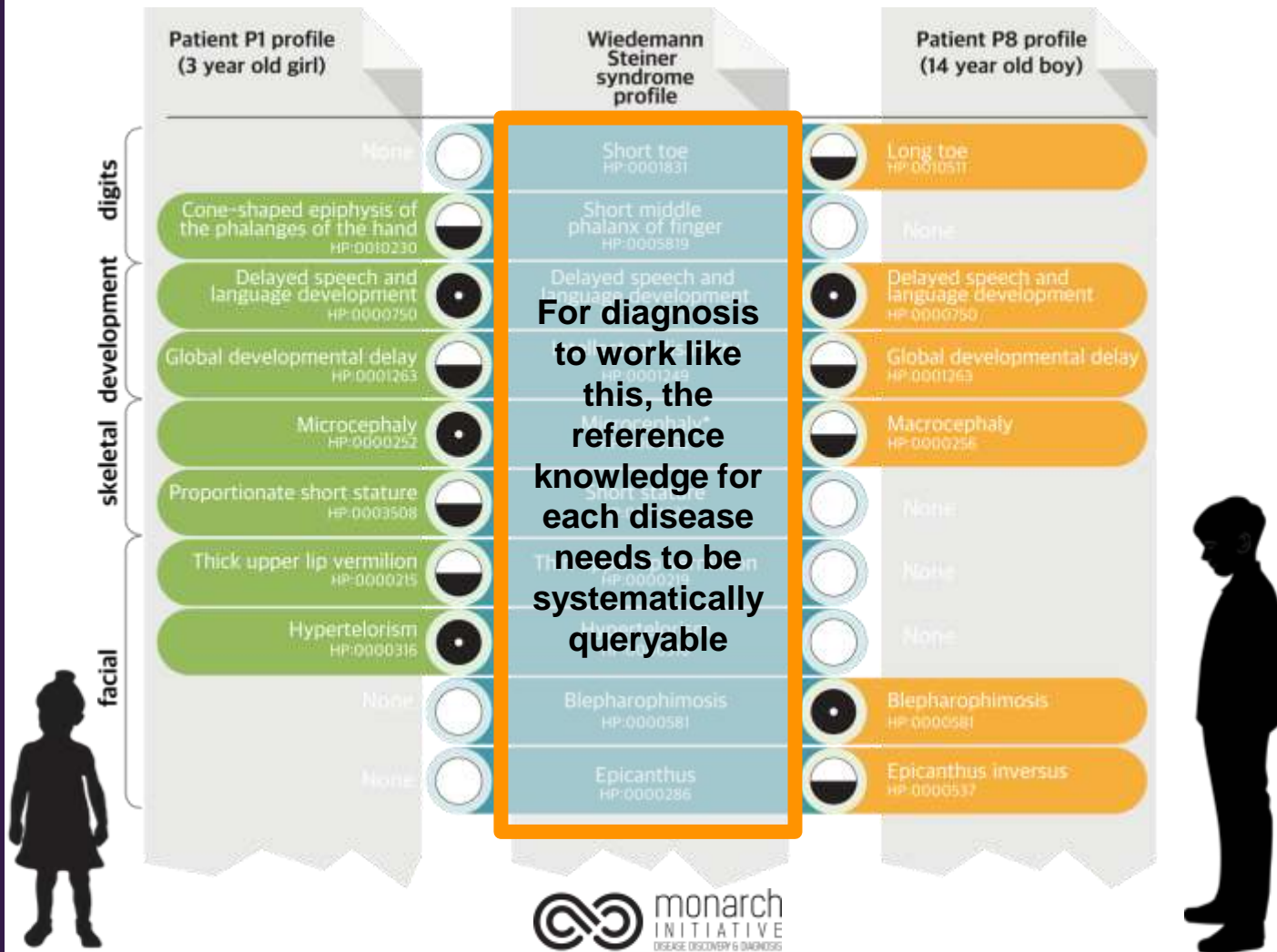
Phenotype-assisted diagnosis in action

Not same variant, but same disease and gene, KMT2A.

DOI: 10.1126/scitranslmed.3009262

Legend

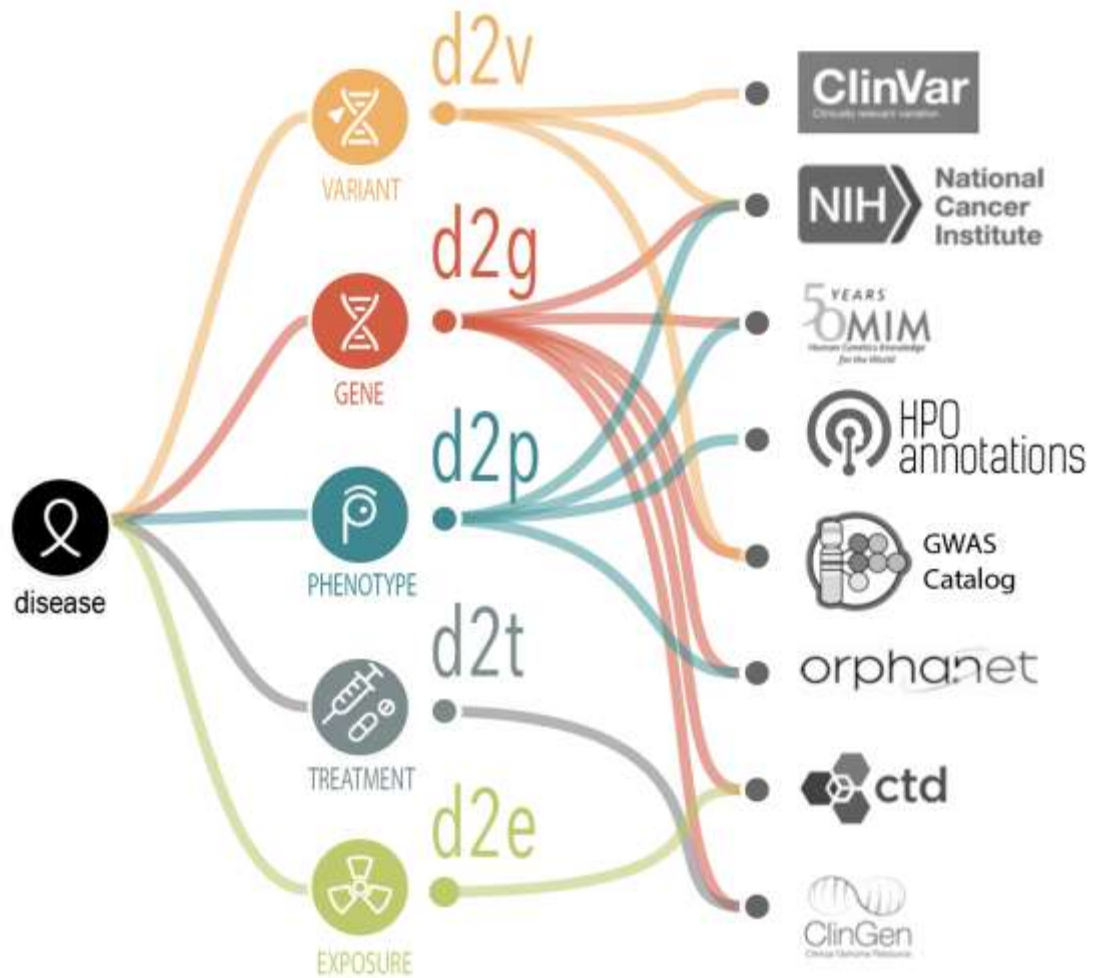
-  Perfect Match
-  Fuzzy Match
-  No Match



But ...

Assembling a
comprehensive source of
disease definitions (and
annotations) is hard.

Different communities annotate different relationships, at different levels of granularity and using different vocabularies



The knowledge about diseases come from different sources / communities, often siloed by the type of disease

We needed:

- Disease concepts spanning multiple categories
- A systematic way of relating these concepts and resolving inconsistencies, especially where 1:1 equivalence not possible

CANCER

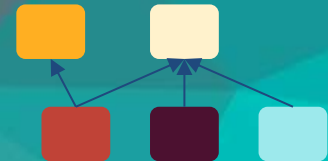
COMPLEX

INFECTIOUS

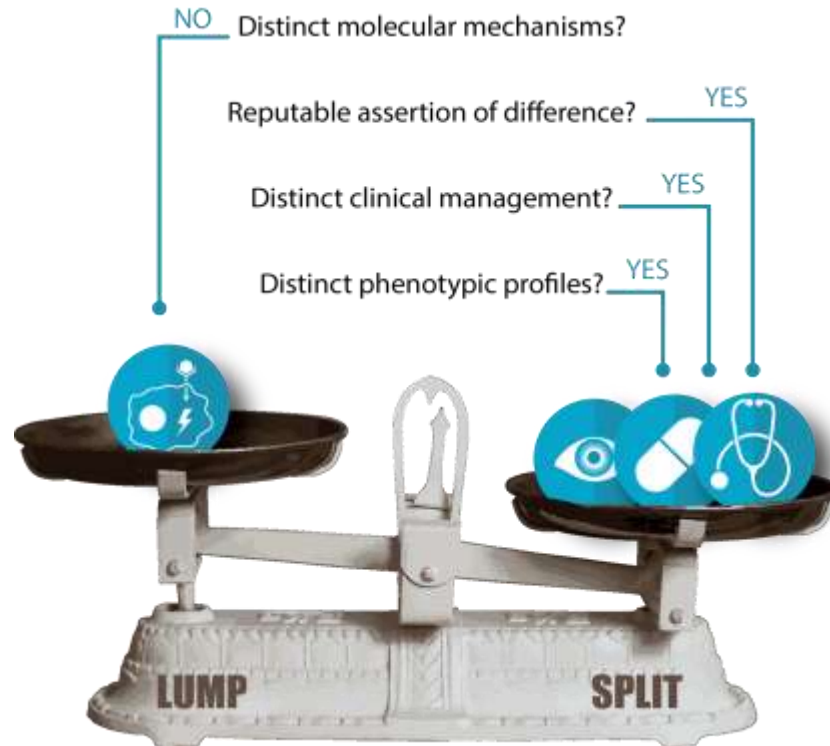
RARE

MENDELIAN

mondo.monarchinitiative.org



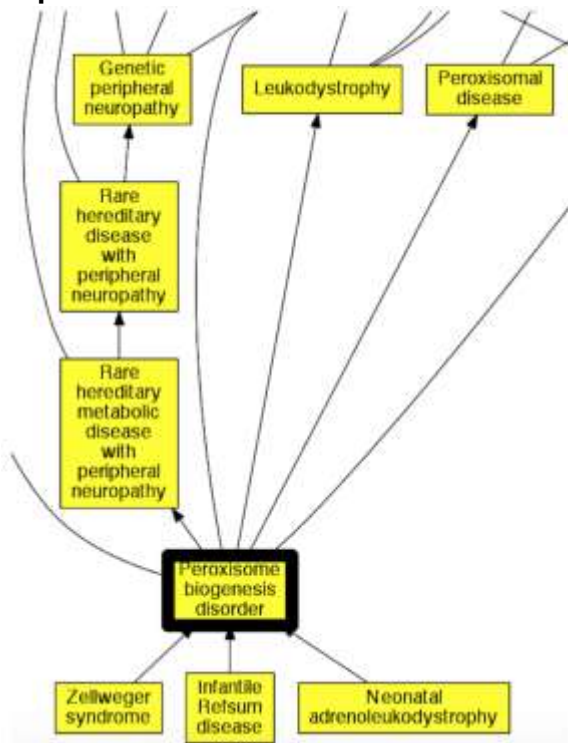
Defining diseases: Lumping and splitting



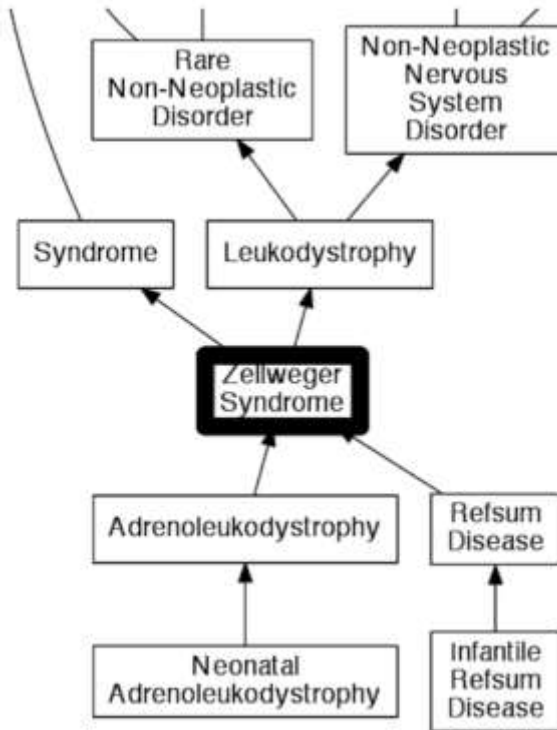
 bit.ly/lump-split

Are they the same disease?

Orphanet



NCIt



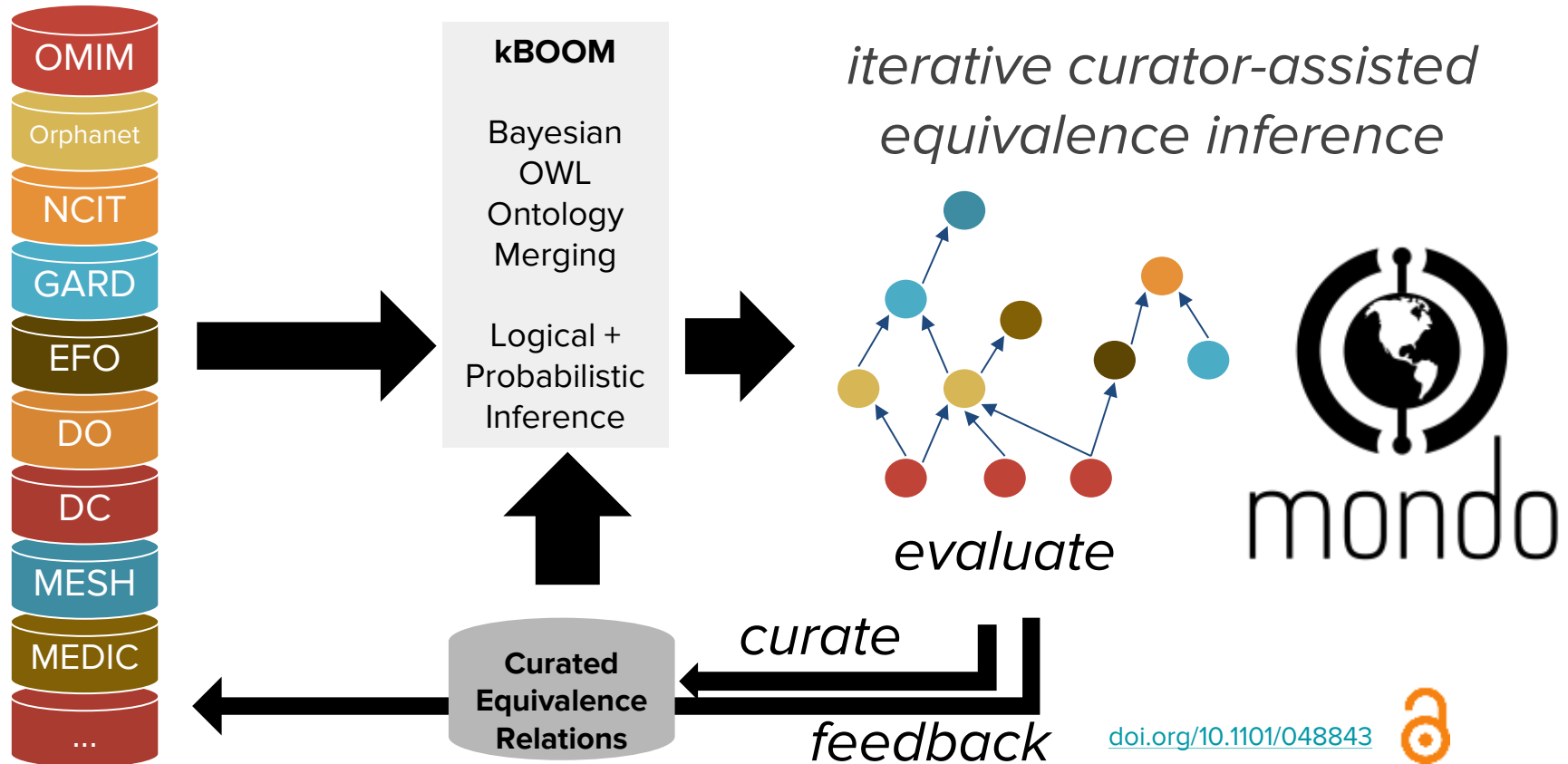
DO

```
is_a DOID:0014667 ! disease of metabolism
is_a DOID:655 ! inherited metabolic disorder
is_a DOID:906 ! peroxisomal disease
is_a DOID:0050444 ! infantile Refsum disease
is_a DOID:0050452 ! mevalonic aciduria
is_a DOID:0050797 ! peroxisomal acyl-CoA oxidase deficiency
is_a DOID:0060602 ! alpha-methylacyl-CoA racemase deficiency
is_a DOID:0090031 ! D-bifunctional protein deficiency
is_a DOID:2582 ! acatalasia
is_a DOID:905 ! Zellweger syndrome ***
```

- Different labels
- Different parents
- Different children
- Different synonyms
- Different text definitions

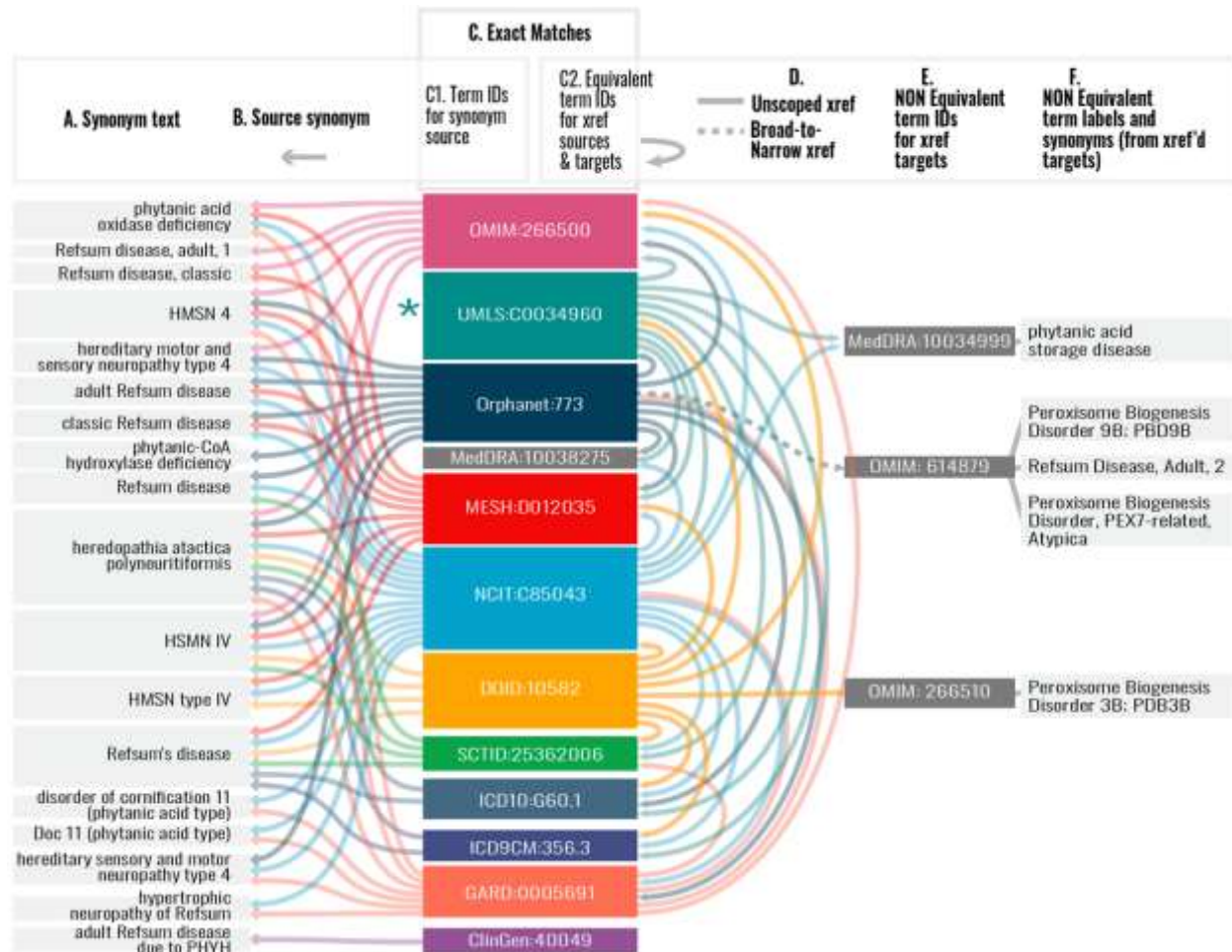
Are they equivalent?

Evidence-based, curated merging of equivalent disease concepts




Aligning disease knowledge across sources and tracking provenance:

Mondo concept for adult Refsum disease (MONDO:0009958)



**A curated,
evidence-based
merging to
harmonize
diseases and
phenotypes
across sources**





monarch

INITIATIVE

Home

Ontologies

MOLS / Mondo Disease Ontology

MONDO

MONDO:0005133

Copy

endometriosis (disease)

http://purl.obolibrary.org/obo/MONDO_0005133

Copy

The growth of functional endometrial tissue in anatomic sites outside th

Synonyms: endometriosis

Tree view

Term mappings

disease or disorder

disease by anatomical system

disease of genitourinary system

reproductive system disease

female reproductive system disease

uterine disease

endometrial disease

endometriosis (disease)

Term information

database cross reference

HP:0030127 (MONDO:otherHierarchy)

ICD9:617 (EFO:0001065)

EFO:0001065 (MONDO:equivalentTo)

ICD9:617.9 (i2s)

ICD9:617.8 (i2s)

SCID:129103003 (MONDO:equivalentTo)

ICD10:N80 (MONDO:equivalentTo)

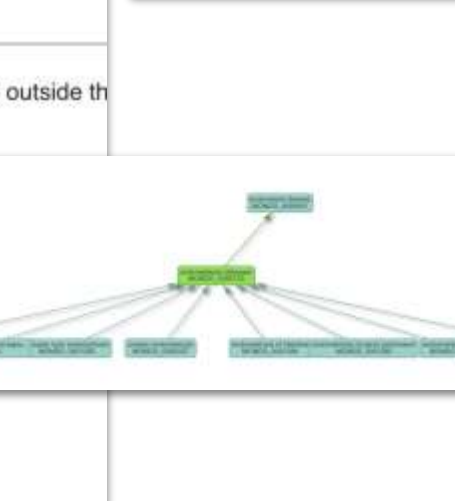
ICD10:N80.9 (DOID:289)

DOID:289 (MONDO:equivalentTo)

COHD:433527 (MONDO:equivalentTo)

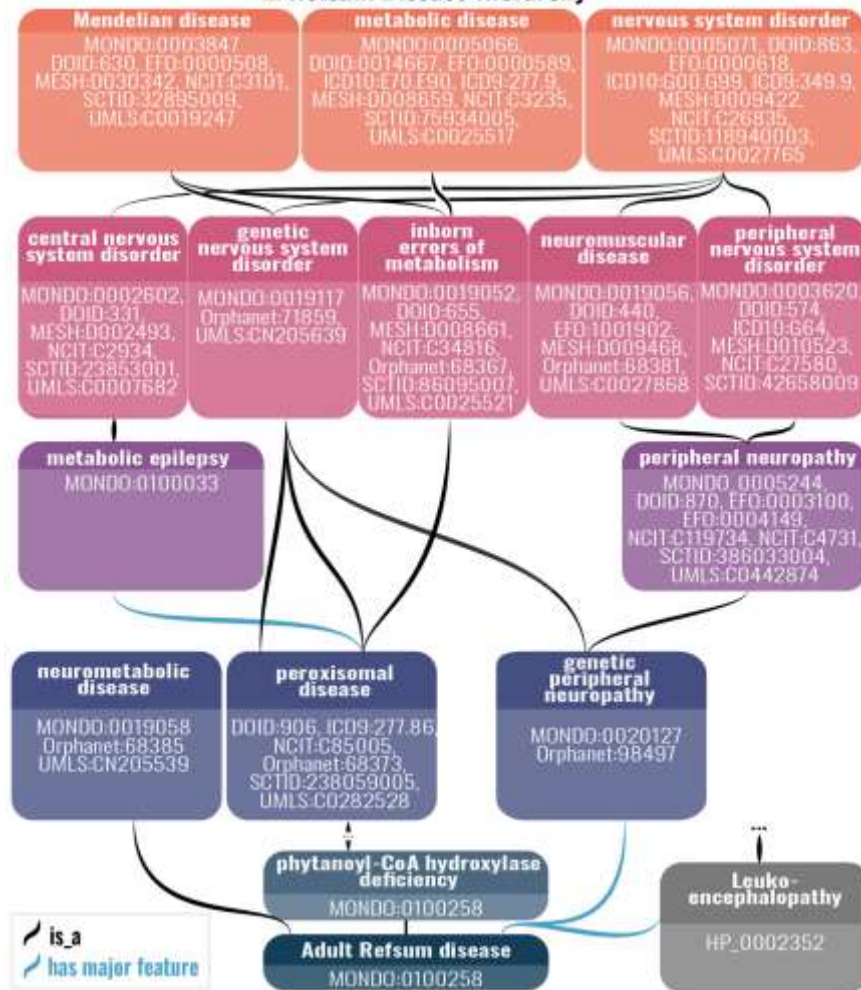
MESH:D004715 (MONDO:equivalentTo)

NCIT:C3014 (MONDO:equivalentTo)



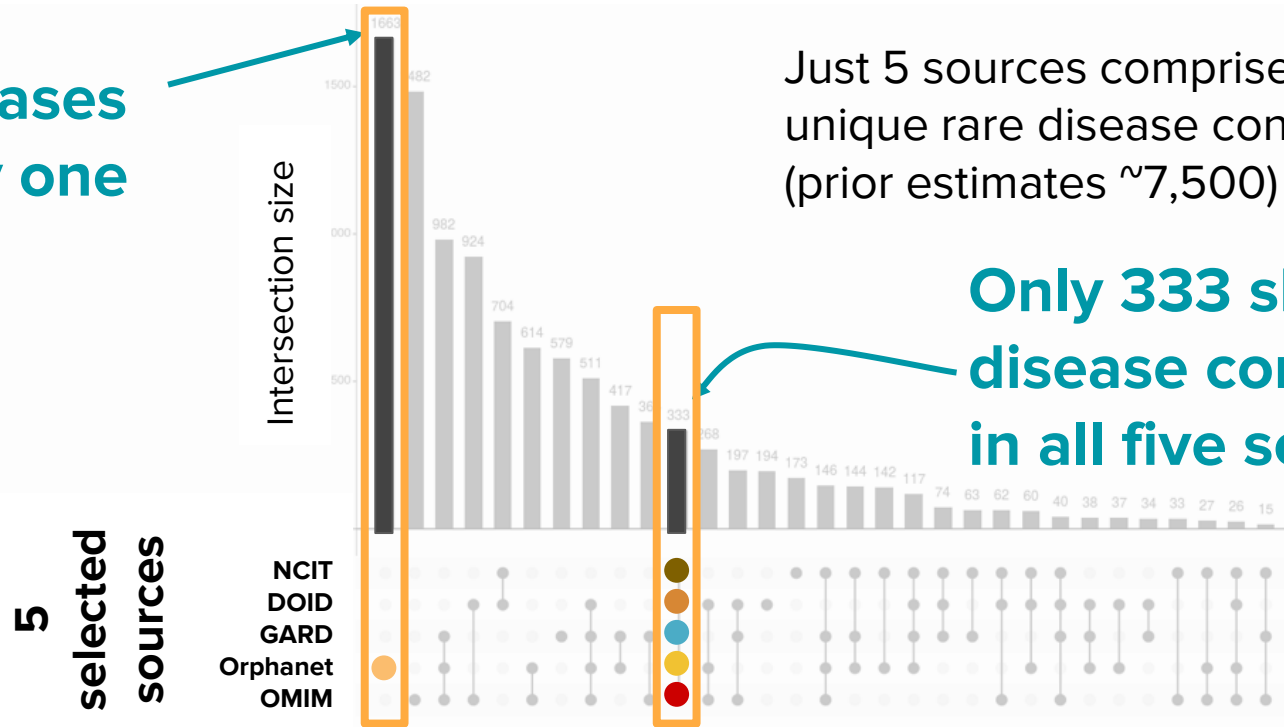
Hierarchical classification of adult Refsum disease

E. Refsum Disease Hierarchy



If rare diseases are not counted, rare disease patients will not count

Many diseases
are in only one
source



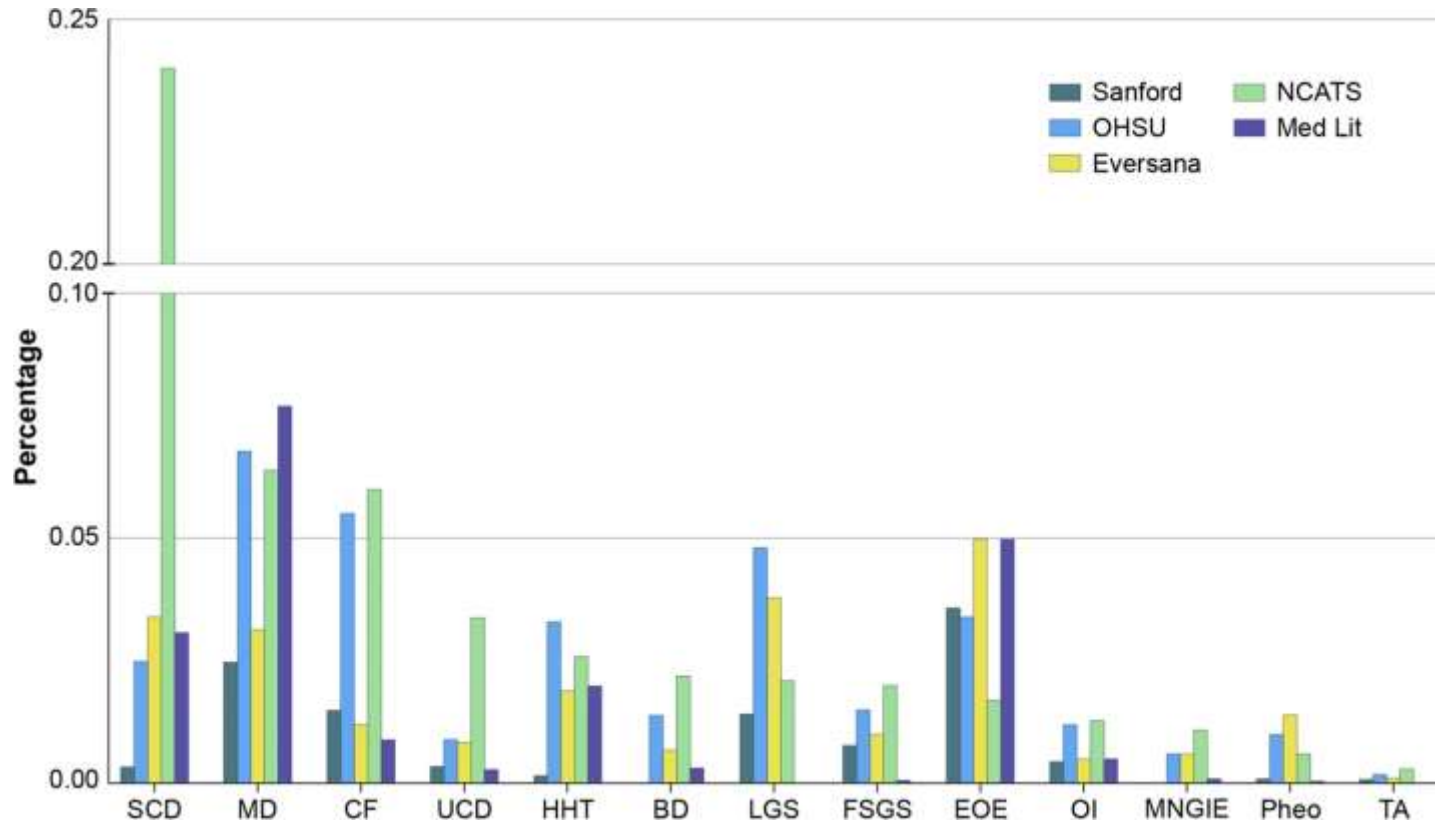
How many undiagnosed patients
are there in your hospital?

From EHR data, we can estimate rare disease prevalence (for those with ICD codes) in a single system.

Results often at odds with the published estimates

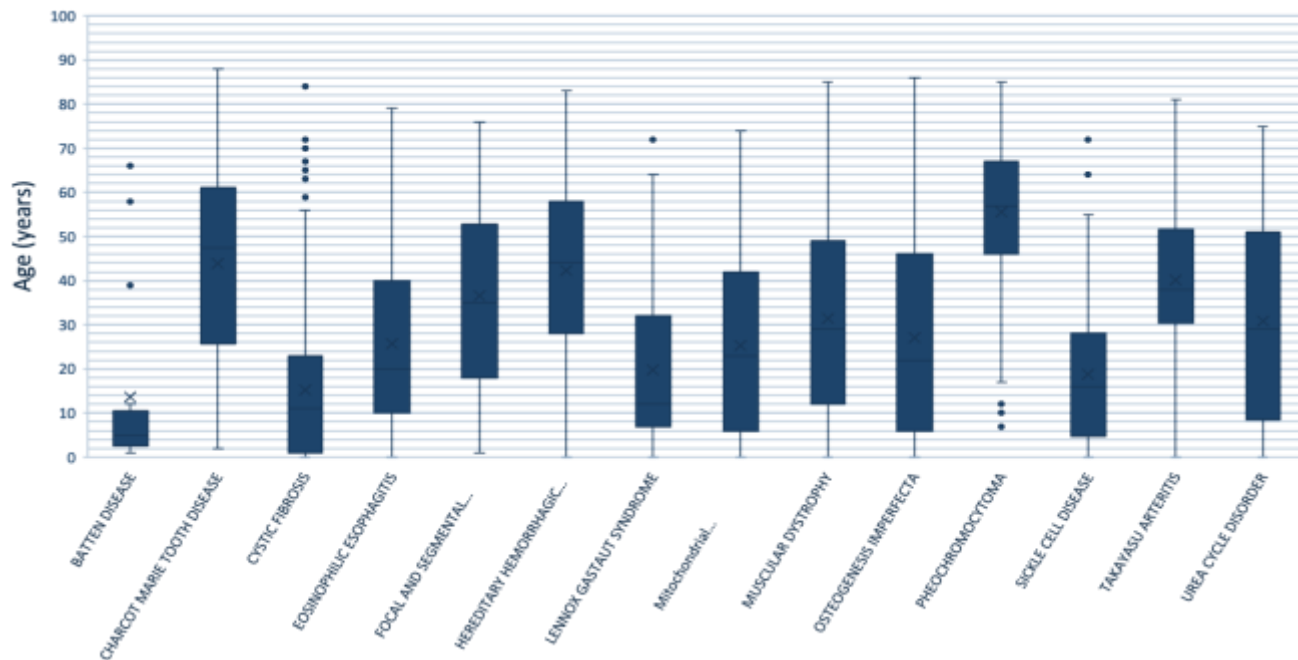
Rare Disease	Patient Count	OHSU Patient Prevalence (1,039,213 total patient count)	Published estimate of population prevalence
Cystic Fibrosis	567	0.0151%	0.0090%
Sickle Cell Disease	259	0.0250%	0.0308%
Muscular Dystrophy	709	0.0680%	0.0769%
Lennox Gastaut Syndrome	503	0.0480%	0.0001%
Urea Cycle Disorder	93	0.0090%	0.0029%
Takayasu's Arteritis	24	0.0020%	0.0002%
Pheochromocytoma	100	0.0100%	0.0005%
Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia	341	0.0330%	0.0200%
Osteogenesis Imperfecta	122	0.0120%	0.0050%
Eosinophilic Esophagitis	354	0.0340%	0.0500%
Batten Disease	145	0.0140%	0.0030%
Focal and Segmental Glomerulosclerosis	153	0.0150%	0.0007%
Mitochondrial Neurogastrointestinal Encephalopathy	66	0.0060%	0.0010%

Rare disease prevalence varies across healthcare systems & public sources



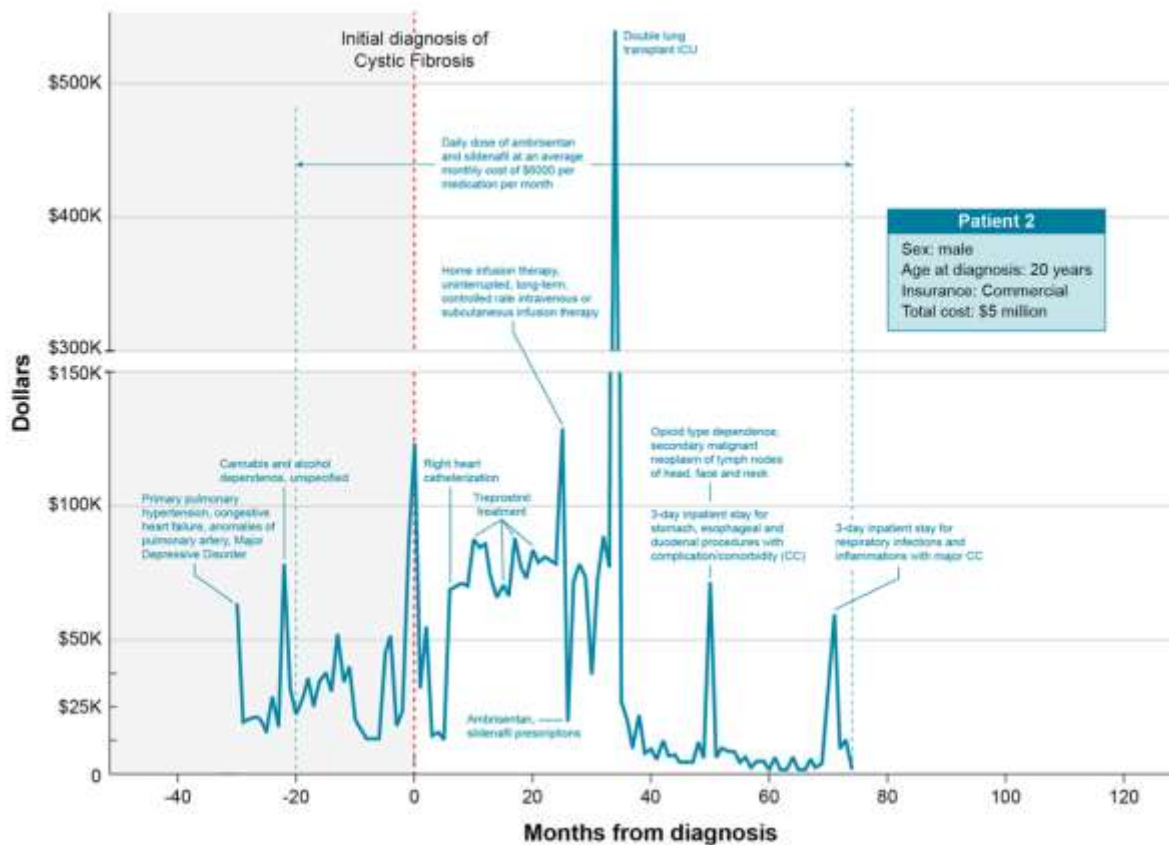
Differences in prevalence across healthcare systems are in part due to rarity and diagnostics, but also due to differences in coding

Age at First Diagnosis Varies by Rare Disease



Large spread of initial diagnosis is due to both challenges in diagnosis, but also in obtaining correct information from the EHR

Each patient is different: what are the patterns?



Patient diagnostic journey maps reveal patterns & differences across health care systems and diseases

Research | Open Access | Published: 22 October 2021

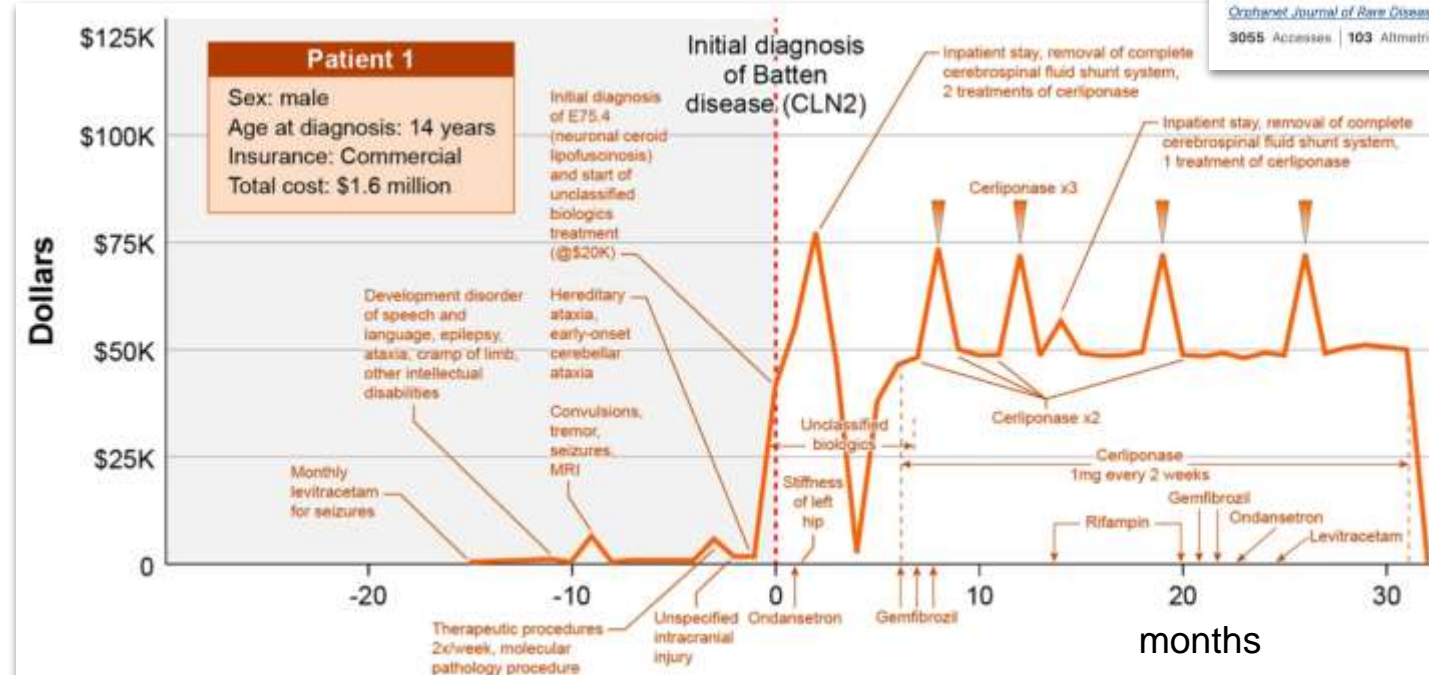
The IDEA initiative: pilot study to assess the impact of rare diseases on patients and healthcare systems

Ainslie Tisdale, Christine M. Cuttito, Ramana Nathan, Pierantonio Russo, Bryan Laraway, Melissa Haendel, Douglas Nowak, Cindy Hasche, Chun-Hung Chan, Emily Griese, Hugh Dawkins, Odaya Shukla, David A. Pearce, Joni L. Rutter & Anne R. Pariser

Orphanet Journal of Rare Diseases 16, Article number: 429 (2021) | [Cite this article](#)

3055 Accesses | 103 Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

bit.ly/ideas-initiative-rd



What about all the Rare Diseases
without a ICD code?

We must get rare disease definitions into the EHR, but we have to start where we are

It's a Mad Max Sitch.

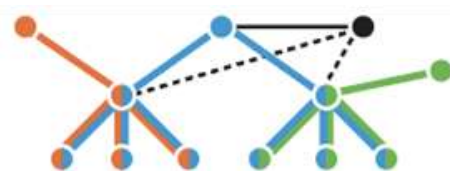


Image: <https://www.trucks.com/2015/05/05/vehicles-of-mad-max/>

Peter Robinson (PI)
Chris Mungall (PI)
Bryan Laraway
 Damian Smedley
 David Osumi-Sutherland
Ada Hamosh
 Chris Chute
 Julie McMurry
 Jules Jacobsen
 Monica Munoz-Torres
 Nomi Harris
 Sebastian Koeller
 Tim Putman
 Anne Thessen
 Harry Caufield
 Harshad Hedge
 Justin Reese
 Kevin Schaper
 Lauren Chan
 Matt Brush
Nico Matentzoglou
Nicole Vasilevsky
Sabrina Toro
 Sarah Gehrke
 Seth Carbon
 Shawn O'Neil
 Sierra Moxon
 Tudor Groza
 Victoria Soesanto

Thank you!

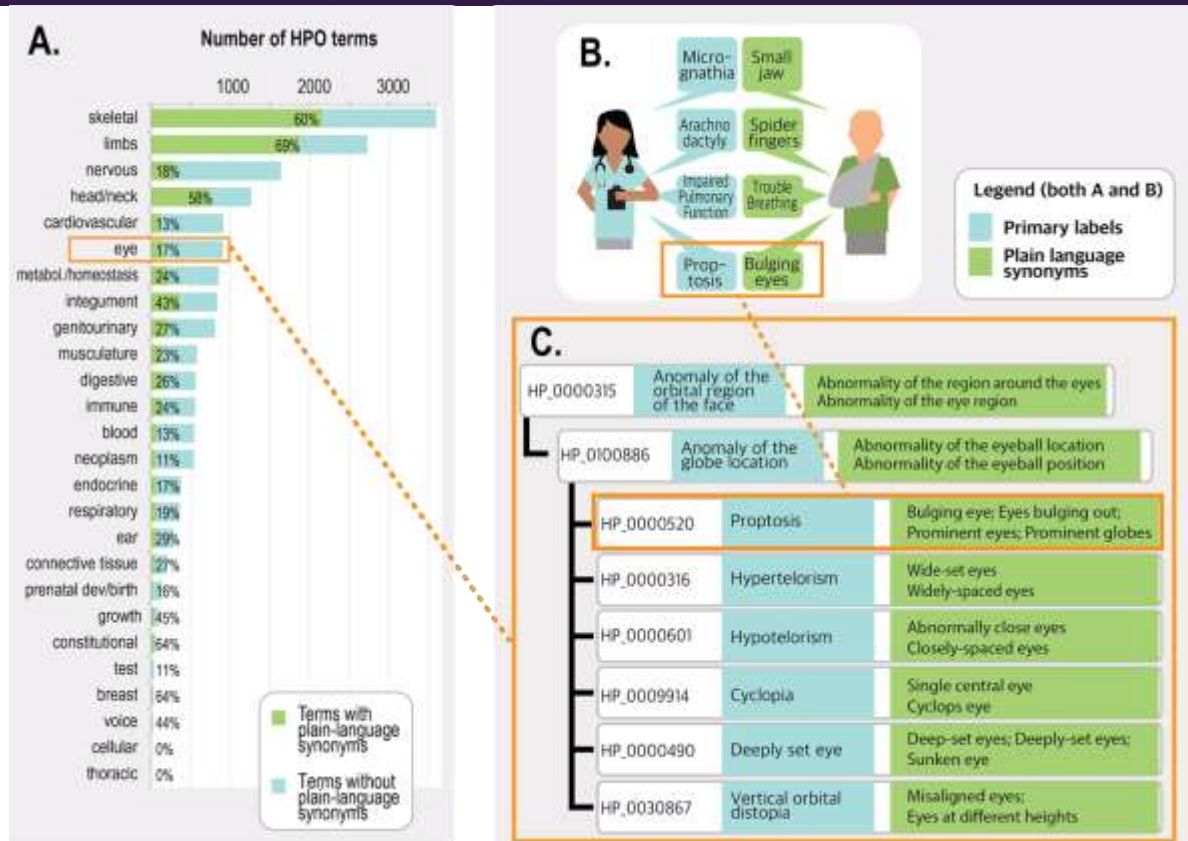
monarchinitiative.org



Funded by NIH OD R24 OD011883, NHGRI CEGRS RM1,
 U24HG011449

Extra

Plain language synonyms for patients to use



4887 of 13823 HPO terms have lay synonyms

Open access.
Open source.
Open science.



bit.ly/case-for-rd-open-science

The case for open science: rare diseases

Yaffa R Rubinstein , Peter N Robinson, William A Gahl, Paul Avillach, Gar
Helene Cederroth, Rebecca M Goodwin, Stephen C Groft, Mats G Hansson,
Vojtech Huser, Deborah Mascalzoni, Julie A McMurry, Matthew Might, Chri
Barend Mons, Dina N Paltoo, Jonathan Pevsner, Manuel Posada, Alison P
Marco Roos, Tamar B Rubinstein , Domenica Taruscio, Esther van Encke
Melissa A Haendel

[Author Notes](#)

JAMIA Open, Volume 3, Issue 3, October 2020, Pages 472–486,
<https://doi.org/10.1093/jamiaopen/ooaa030>

Published: 11 September 2020 **Article history** ▼



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Split View

Cite

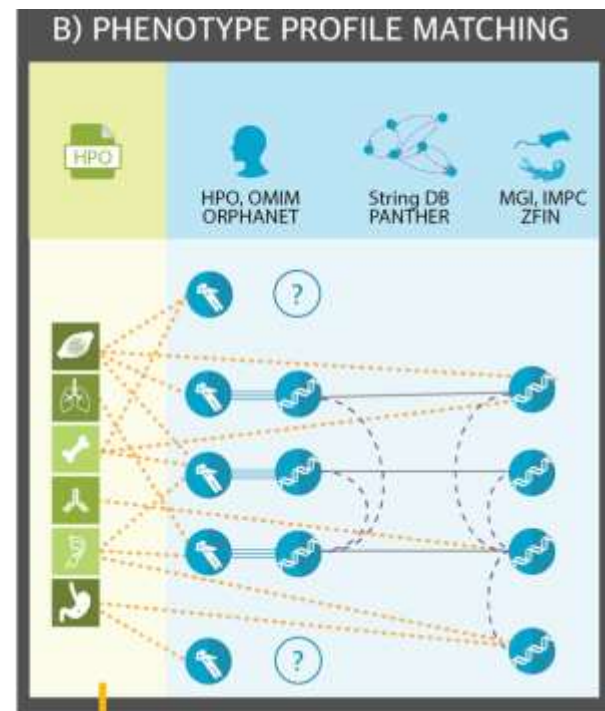
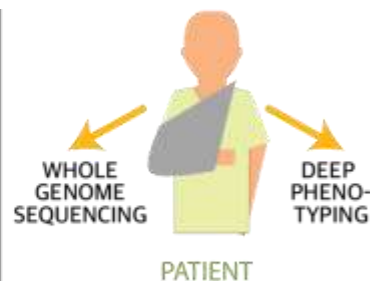
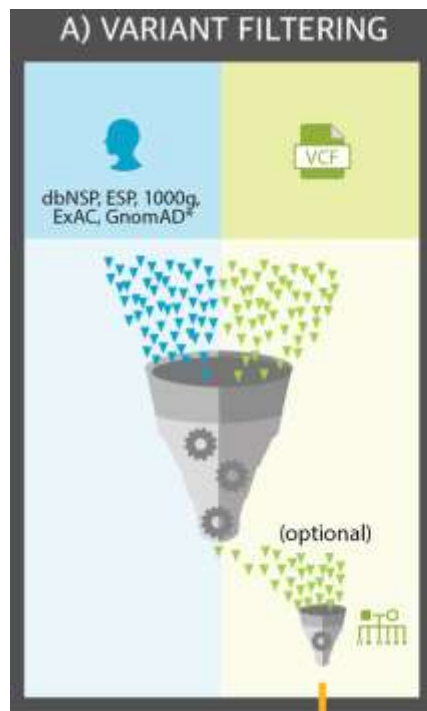
Permissions

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Abstract

The premise of Open Science is that research and medical management progress faster if data and knowledge are openly shared. The value of Open Science is nowhere more important and appreciated than in the rare diseases (RD) community. Research into RDs has been limited by insufficient

Combining genomic and phenomic data improves variant prioritization for diagnosis



github.com/exomiser
[doi: 10.1038/gim.2015.137](https://doi.org/10.1038/gim.2015.137)



Evaluation
of Exomiser
in 100K
genomes
project:

Made
possible by
open science

The 100,000 Genomes Pilot on Rare-Disease Diagnosis

U.K. PATIENTS WITH RARE DISEASES AND NO DIAGNOSIS — PRELIMINARY REPORT

2183 Probands with **161** undiagnosed disorders

Diagnostic yield	25% of probands received a genetic diagnosis	
Diagnostic pipeline	86% of diagnoses were identified through automated pipeline	14% of diagnoses required additional research
Novel discoveries	3 new disease genes discovered	19 new disease-gene associations identified
25% of genetic diagnoses had immediate ramifications for clinical decision making.		

November 11, 2021

<https://www.nejm.org/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMoa2035790>

Mondo community paper with ClinGen OMIM, and the rest of the village!

<https://www.medrxiv.org/content/10.1101/2022.04.13.22273750v3>

medRxiv

THE PREPRINT SERVER FOR HEALTH SCIENCES



Cold
Spring
Harbor
Laboratory

BMJ Yale

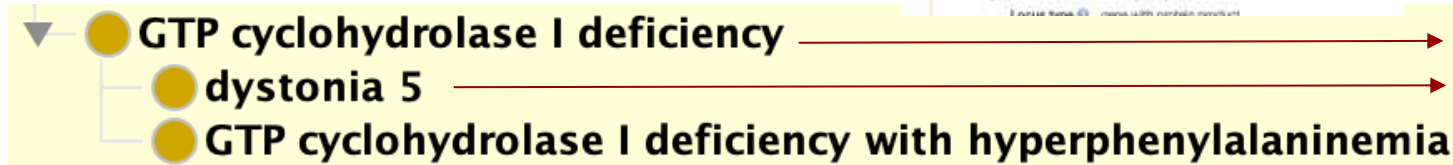
Mondo: Unifying diseases for the world, by the world

10 Nicole A Vasilevsky, 10 Nicolas A Matentzoglou, 10 Sabrina Toro, 10 Joseph E Flack IV, 10 Harshad Hegde, 10 Deepak R Unni, Gioconda F Alyea, 10 Joanna S Amberger, 10 Larry Babb, 10 James P Balhoff, 10 Taylor I Bingaman, 10 Gully A Burns, 10 Orion J Buske, 10 Tiffany J Callahan, 10 Leigh C Carmody, 10 Paula Carrio Cordo, 10 Lauren E Chan, 10 George S Chang, 10 Sean L Christiaens, 10 Louise C Daugherty, 10 Michel Dumontier, 10 Laura E Failla, 10 May J Flowers, 10 H. Alpha Garrett Jr., 10 Jennifer L Goldstein, 10 Dylan Gratton, 10 Tudor Groza, 10 Marc Hanauer, 10 Nomi L Harris, 10 Jason A Hilton, 10 Daniel S Himmelstein, 10 Charles Tapley Hoyt, 10 Megan S Kane, 10 Sebastian Köhler, 10 David Lagorce, 10 Abbe Lai, 10 Martin Larralde, 10 Antonia Lock, 10 Irene López Santiago, 10 Donna R Maglott, 10 Adriana J Malheiro, 10 Birgit H M Meldal, 10 Monica C Munoz-Torres, 10 Tristan H Nelson, 10 Frank W Nicholas, 10 David Ochoa, 10 Daniel P Olson, 10 Tudor I Oprea, 10 David Osumi-Sutherland, 10 Helen Parkinson, 10 Zoë May Pendlington, 10 Ana Rath, 10 Heidi L Rehm, Lyubov Remennik, 10 Erin R Riggs, 10 Paola Roncaglia, 10 Justyne E Ross, 10 Marion F Shadbolt, 10 Kent A Shefchek, 10 Morgan N Similuk, Nicholas Sioutos, 10 Damian Smedley, 10 Rachel Sparks, 10 Ray Stefancsik, 10 Ralf Stephan, 10 Andrea L Storm, 10 Doron Stupp, 10 Gregory S Stupp, 10 Jagadish Chandrabose Sundaramurthi, 10 Imke Tammen, 10 Darin Tay, 10 Courtney L Thaxton, 10 Eloise Valasek, 10 Jordi Valls-Margarit, 10 Alex H Wagner, 10 Danielle Welter, 10 Patricia L Whetzel, 10 Lori L Whiteman, 10 Valerie Wood, 10 Colleen H Xu, 10 Andreas Zankl, 10 Xingmin Aaron Zhang, 10 Christopher G Chute, 10 Peter N Robinson, 10 Christopher J Mungall, 10 Ada Hamosh, 10 Melissa A Haendel

doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.04.13.22273750>

Mondo accommodates gene-based names AND groups terms based on gene-based etiology

For example, GTP cyclohydrolase I deficiency



ClinGen curation
target

Mondo terms
mapped to
OMIM

Symbol report for GCH1

Report: HGGP homology predictions

HGNC data for GCH1

Approved symbol: GCH1

Approved name: GTP cyclohydrolase 1

Enzyme name: GTP cyclohydrolase 1

128230

DYSTONIA, DOPA-RESPONSIVE; DRD

Alternative titles: symbols

DYSTONIA 5; DYT5

DYSTONIA 5, DOPA-RESPONSIVE; DYSTONIA 5, DOPA-RESPONSIVE

233910

HYPERPHENYLALANINEMIA, BH4-DEFICIENT, B; HPABH4B

Alternative titles: symbols

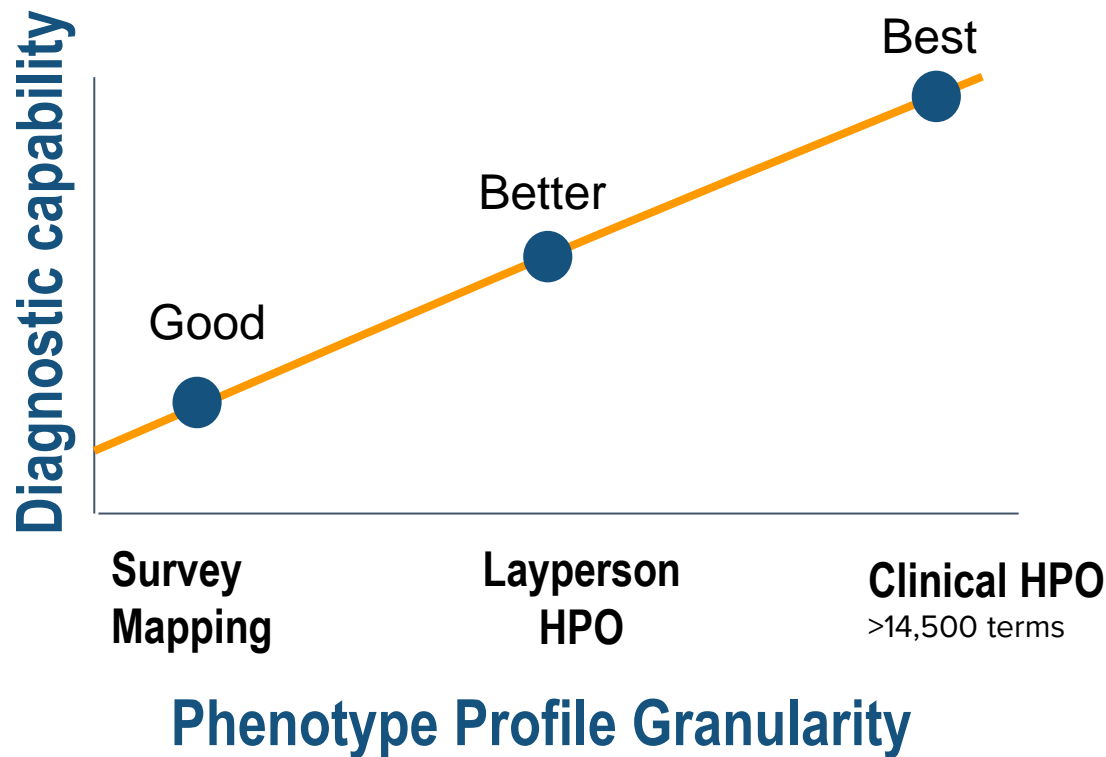
HYPERPHENYLALANINEMIA, TETRAHYDROBIOPTERIN-DEFICIENT, DUE TO GTP
CYCLOHYDROLASE I DEFICIENCY

GTP CYCLOHYDROLASE I DEFICIENCY

How diagnostically useful are the HPO terms generated by patients?

Actual mileage (for a given disease) may vary depending on its layperson-coverage of the corresponding phenotypes

60% of diseases are covered with HPO plain language subset terms





A Census of Disease Ontologies

Annual Review of Biomedical Data Science

Vol. 1:305-331 (Volume publication date July 2018)

First published as a Review in Advance on May 9, 2018

<https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev-biodatasci-080917-013459>

Melissa A. Haendel,^{1,2} Julie A. McMurry,¹ Rose Relevo,¹ Christopher J. Mungall,³ Peter N. Robinson,⁴ and Christopher G. Chute⁵

¹Department of Medical Informatics and Clinical Epidemiology, Oregon Health and Science University, Portland, Oregon 97239, USA; email: haendel@ohsu.edu

²Linus Pauling Institute, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331, USA

³Environmental Genomics and Systems Biology, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Berkeley, California 94720, USA

⁴The Jackson Laboratory, Farmington, Connecticut 06032, USA

⁵School of Medicine, School of Public Health, and School of Nursing, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland 21205, USA



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Total Costs of Rare Disease Vary By Disease and Health System

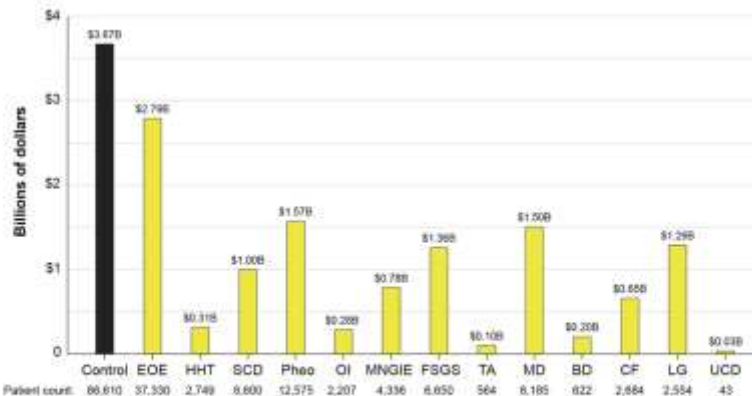


Fig. 3 Eversana RD versus control total costs of 13 RD over 15-year time period. Total costs within the 15-year time period 2005–2020 calculated from the Eversana HCS database for 13 representative RD. Costs were calculated by taking the average PPPY cost by disease (Fig. 2a) and multiplying by the number of patients with the disease (Table 3). SCD sickle cell disease, MD muscular dystrophy, CF cystic fibrosis, HHT hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia, BD Batten disease, LGS Lennox Gastaut syndrome, FSGS focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, EOE eosinophilic esophagitis, OI osteogenesis imperfecta, MNGIE mitochondrial neurogastrointestinal encephalopathy, Pheo pheochromocytoma, TA Takayasu's arteritis

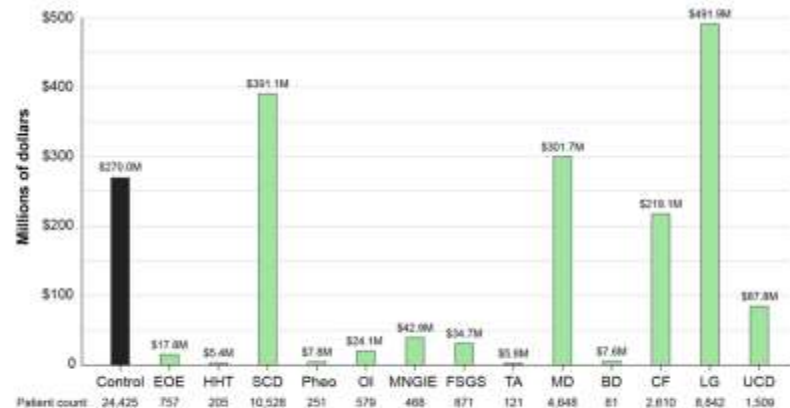


Fig. 4 NCATSHS RD versus control total costs of 13 RD over 5-year time period. Total costs within the 5-year time period 2002–2007 calculated from the NCATSHS database for 13 representative RD. Costs were calculated by taking the average PPPY cost by disease (Fig. 2b) and multiplying by the number of patients with the disease (Table 3). SCD sickle cell disease, MD muscular dystrophy, CF cystic fibrosis, HHT hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia, BD Batten disease, LGS Lennox Gastaut syndrome, FSGS focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, EOE eosinophilic esophagitis, OI osteogenesis imperfecta, MNGIE mitochondrial neurogastrointestinal encephalopathy, Pheo pheochromocytoma, TA Takayasu's arteritis

Total costs incurred at a organization are dependent on the size of the patient population. While total costs for an individual rare disease cohort may not exceed an age-matched control cohort, collectively the rare disease cohort costs are greater than controls.

Rare Diseases Patients Have Increased Per-Patient Medical Costs

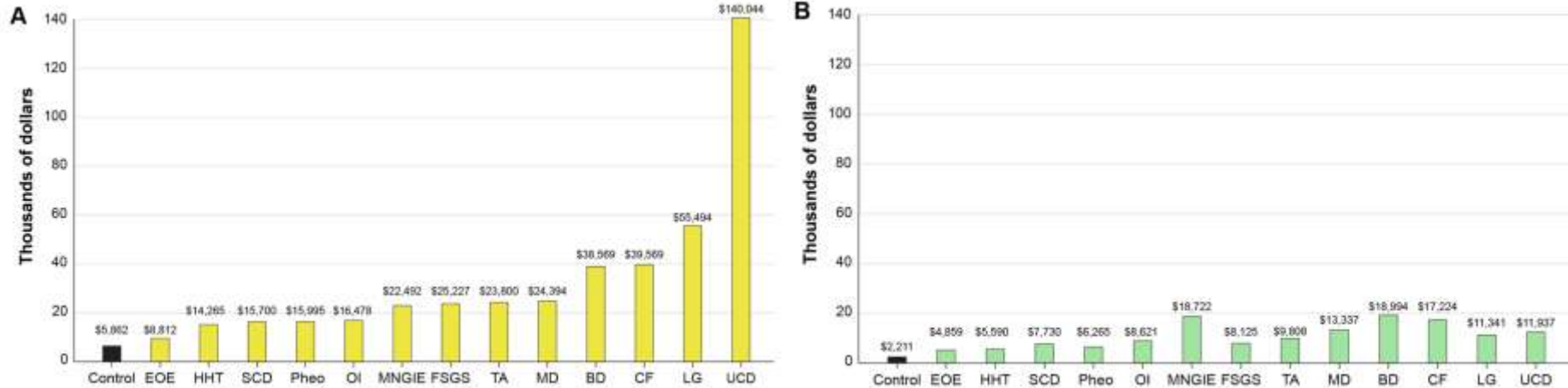
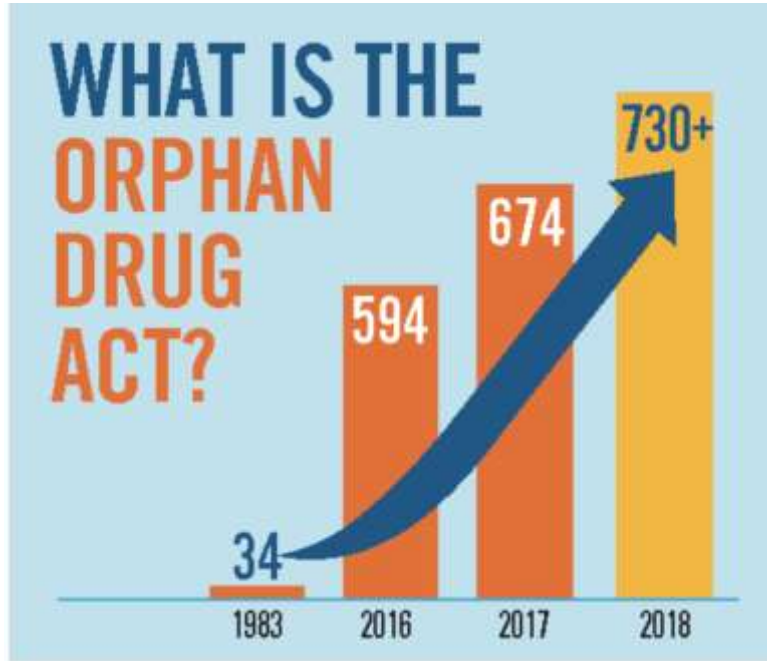


Fig. 2 PPPY cost of care of 13 RD versus control. Average per patient per year costs calculated within 2 different healthcare systems databases **A** Eversana and **B** NCATS, versus an age-matched control. *SCD* sickle cell disease, *MD* muscular dystrophy, *CF* cystic fibrosis, *HHT* hereditary hemorrhagic telangiectasia, *BD* Batten disease, *LG* Lennox Gastaut syndrome, *FSGS* focal segmental glomerulosclerosis, *EOE* eosinophilic esophagitis, *OI* osteogenesis imperfecta, *MNGIE* mitochondrial neurogastrointestinal encephalopathy, *Pheo* pheochromocytoma, *TA* Takayasu's arteritis

Rare disease patients have increased healthcare utilizations compared to control patients.
While costs are not available in N3C,
the healthcare utilizations (encounters, medications, procedures, etc.) are available.

Orphan Drug Act of 1983



<https://rarediseases.org/orphan-drug-act-resolution-introduced-in-congress/>



<https://globalgenes.org/rare-facts/>

Rare Diseases collectively are an unrecognized public health crisis

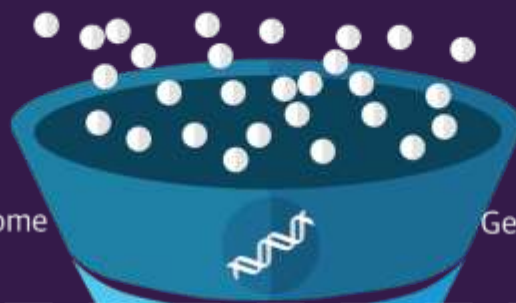
Patient

Candidate Diseases

Population & Cohort



Exome/Genome



Genomic reference

Under-utilized data →
Loss of discriminatory power

Let's change this



RESEARCH

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The IDeaS initiative: pilot study to assess the impact of rare diseases on patients and healthcare systems

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