

# The Open Science Experience of the Rare Disease Community

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With the contribution of Marc Hanauer and Charlotte Rodwell  
from Orphanet

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# Sharing Data and Knowledge is a must in the field of Rare Diseases

- Direct difficulties
  - Knowledge is scarce
  - Experts are rare
- Derived obstacles
  - No single centre gather enough data to conduct clinical research
  - Funding is difficult to obtain
- Targets for action
  - Increasing awareness is a necessity
  - Every piece of data is precious
  - Stakeholders have interests in common
  - Society should provide solutions based on the equity principle

# Implemented Solutions so far

- Repository of knowledge: Orphanet -1997
- Incentives for Industry : the Orphan Drug Regulation - 2000
- Funding of rare disease registries (national and EC) - 2004
- Funding of multidisciplinary networks for research (national and EC) - 2004
- International Rare Disease Research Consortium-IRDIRC - 2012
- National Plans for Rare Disease in European countries - 2015
- Establishment of Centres of Expertise at country level
- European Reference networks of Centres of Expertise- ERN-2018

# The ecosystem matters It is in place for Rare Diseases

*A community*



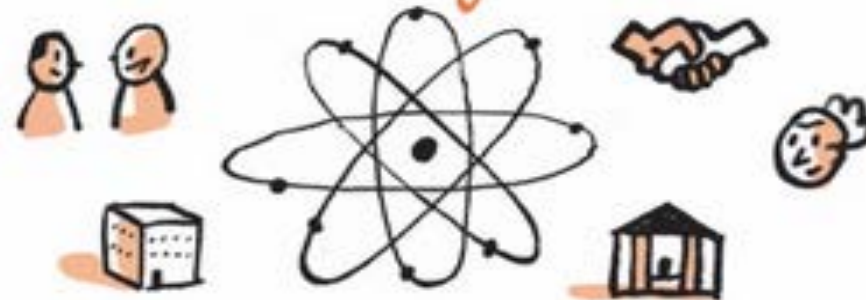
*Computational tools*



*Data sets*



*An ecosystem*



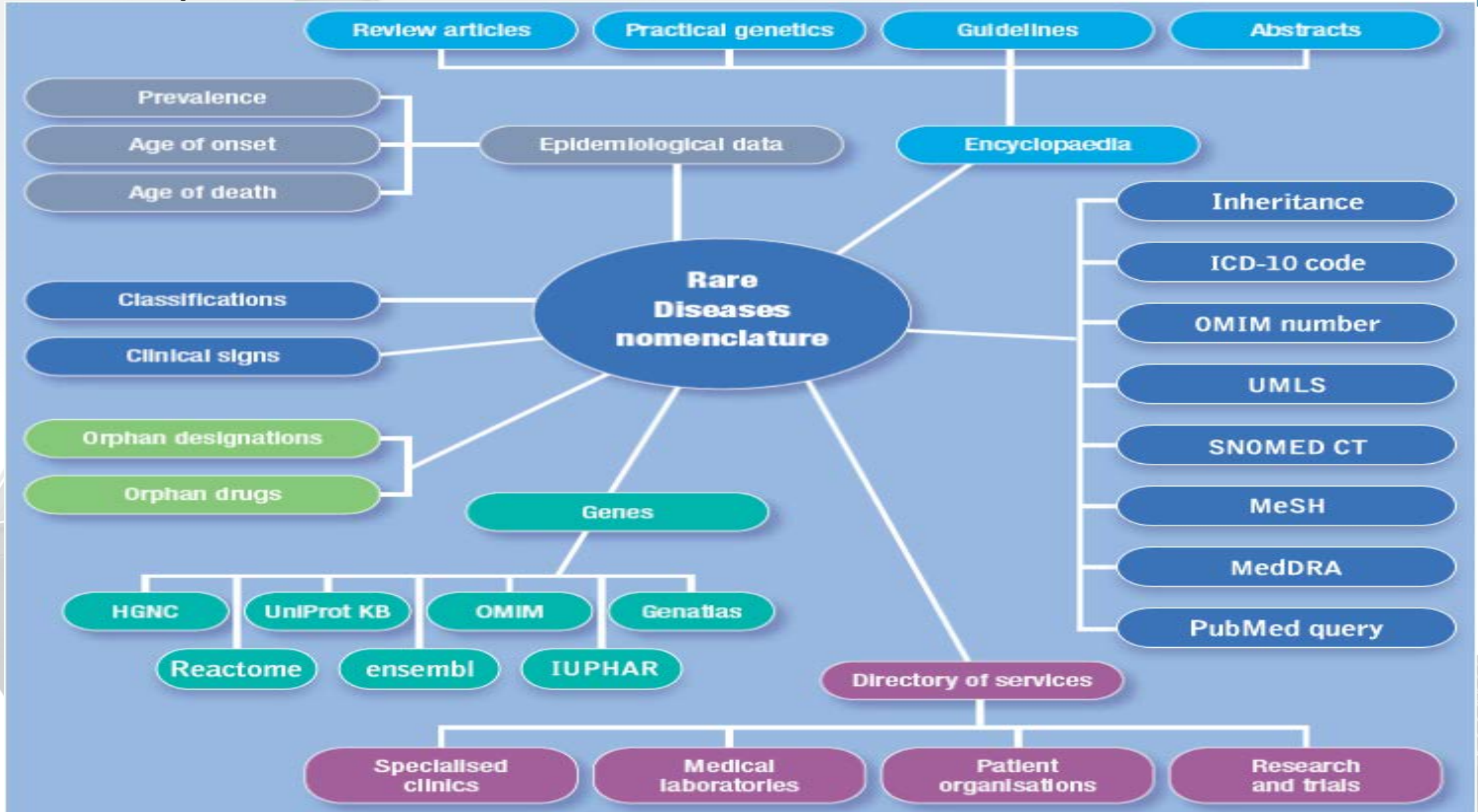


# The Experience of Orphanet

[www.orpha.net](http://www.orpha.net)

[www.orphadata.org](http://www.orphadata.org)

# Orphanet is a Curated Relational Database



# From Orphanet to Orphadata in June 2011

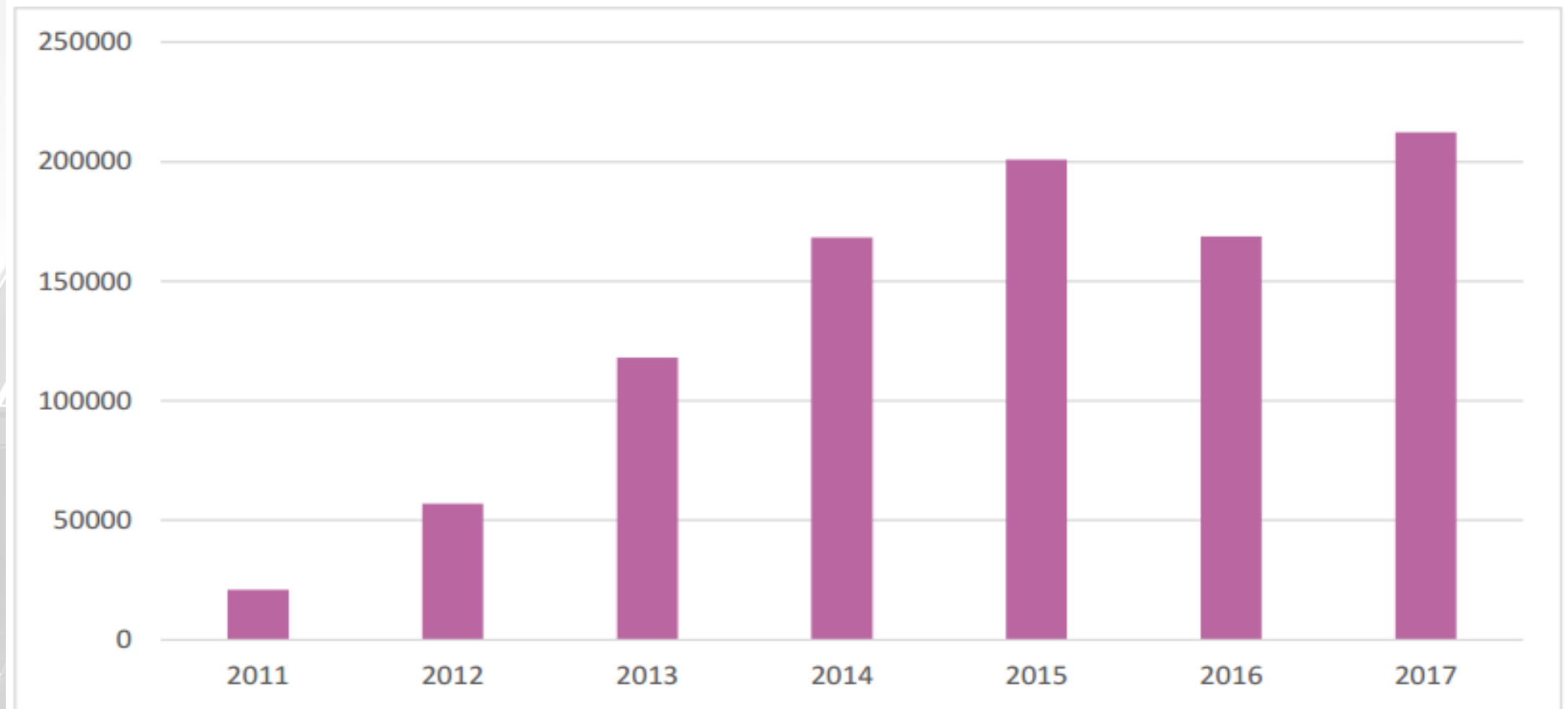
- Orphanet provides access to knowledge and data sources on 7,000 single rare disease entities to 1 Million monthly users
- Questions:
  - How to boost Research & Development in the field ?
  - how to unify the community and provide tools for interoperability ?
- Response: Orphadata.org
  - Make the whole Orphanet dataset accessible, either freely, or on request

# ORPHADATA:an Elixir Core Resource

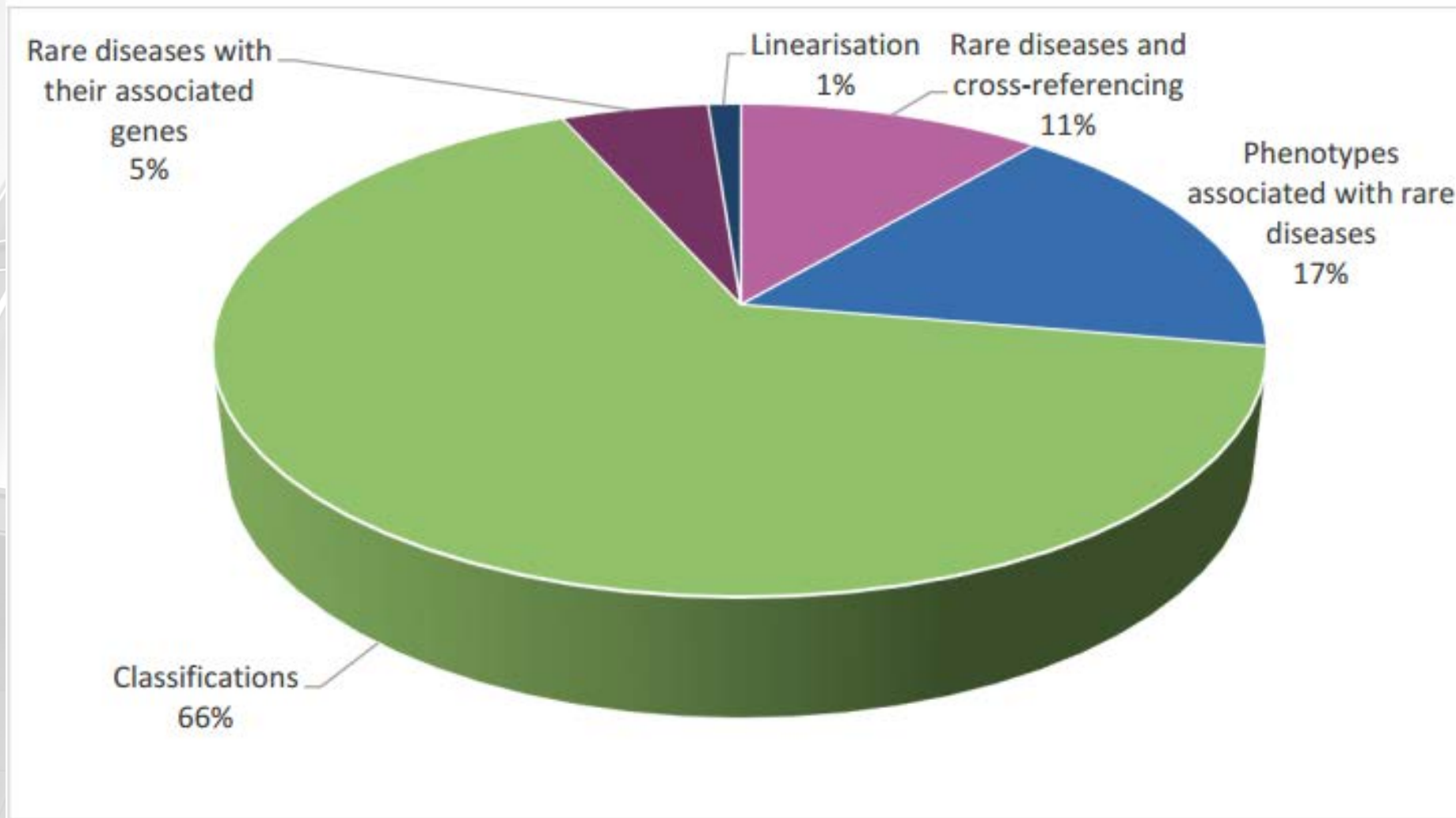
- License
  - [Commons Attribution-NoDerivatives 4.0 International Licence](#) 2011-2018
  - free to copy, distribute, display and make commercial use of the data in all legislations, providing credit attribution to Orphanet- No distribution of a modified version, unless authorized by Orphanet
  - Creative commons by Orphanet since January 2019
- Free access products
  - Inventory, classification, linked genes, ontology
- On Request
  - All other tables: signs and symptoms, epidemiology, drugs in development or on the market, registries, research projects, diagnostic labs, centres of expertise, abstracts, encyclopedia
  - Free of Charge for Academics
  - For Fees for Industry: 120 K Euros/year



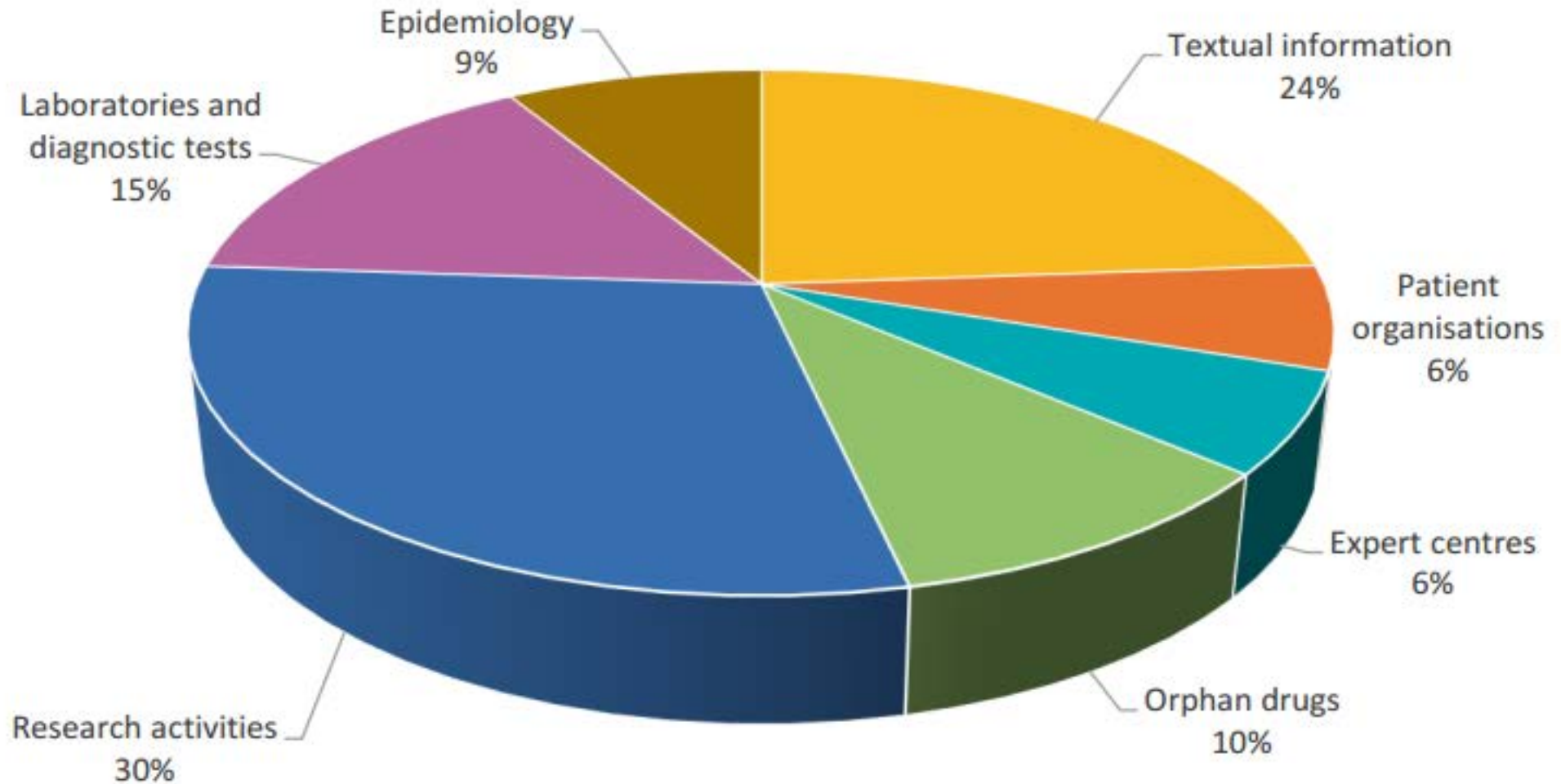
# Number of Downloads of Orphadata products 2011- 2017



# Distribution of 209,028 Downloaded Free Access Products in 2017 (JSON format)



# Distribution of 3,243 Downloaded On Demand Products in 2017




# Impact of Orphadata on Publications

Resource name mentioned in Europe PMC  
(citation of resource name)

- **2014**      **75 articles**
- **2015**      **111 articles**
- **2016**      **93 articles**
- **2017**      **142 articles**
- **2018**      **111 articles**

# Lessons from ORPHADATA


- Massive use of the dataset
- Establishment of the Orphanet nomenclature as the International standard (adopted by WHO for ICD 11)
- Establishment as and International infrastructure: IRDiRC and Elixir
- Many more collaborations + invitation to join EC funded and NIH funded grant applications
- Too complicated to respond to all academic requests
  - more should be directly accessible without DTA
  - Necessity to trace the users for activity reports
- Prices are too high and process (through INSERM-Transfert) too complicated
- Best approach: and API management system to charge above a given threshold –to come



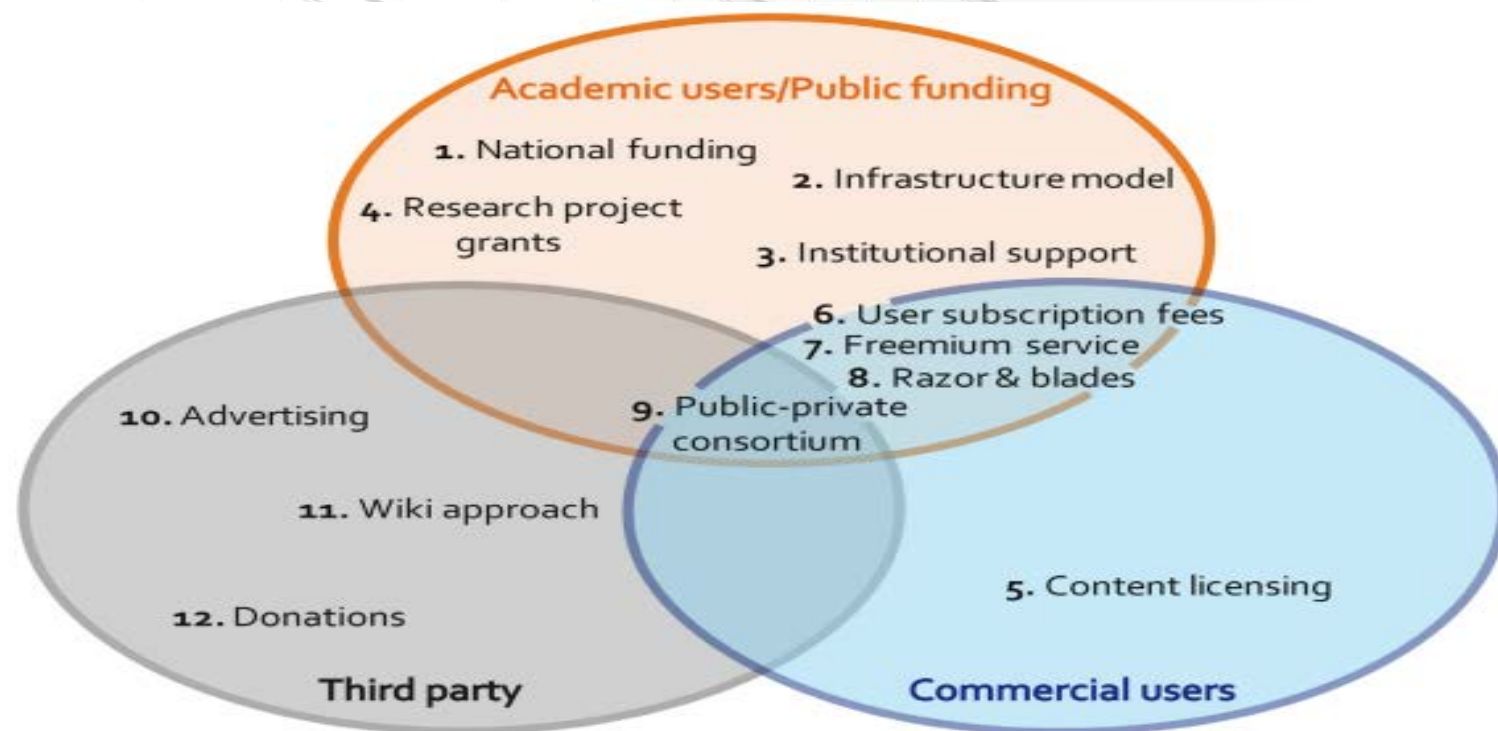
Business models proposed so far



## RESEARCH ARTICLE

**REVISED** Funding knowledgebases: Towards a sustainable funding model for the UniProt use case [version 2; referees: 3 approved]Chiara Gabella , Christine Durinx , Ron Appel

ELIXIR-Switzerland, SIB Swiss Institute of Bioinformatics, Lausanne, 1015, Switzerland



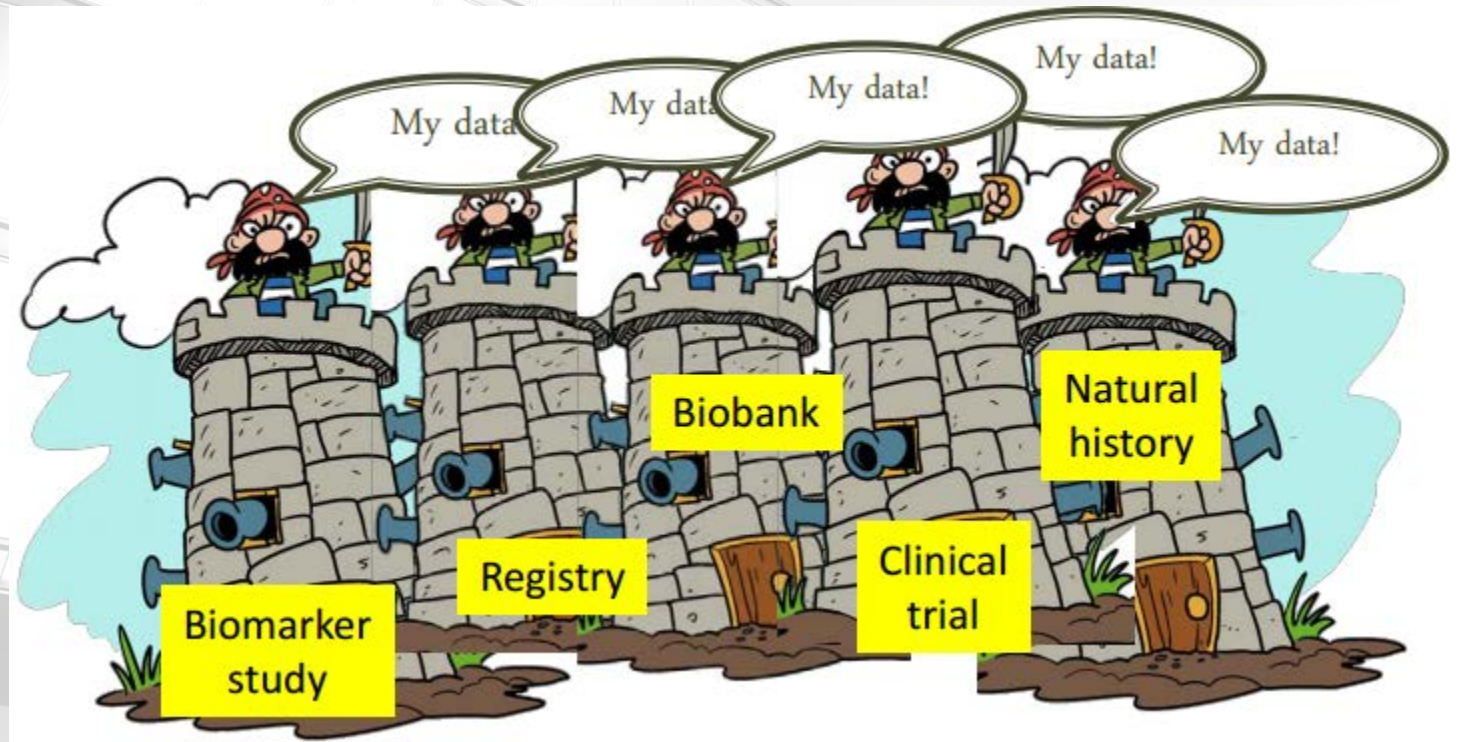
**Figure 1. Funding models sources.** The 12 considered models are represented depending on the origin of the revenues.

# Funding models for public databases proposed by UniProt

#	Name of the model	Compatible with open access?	Potential for equity of users or institutions	Stability forecasted over time	Key dependency
1	National funding	Yes	High	Stable	National economic situation
2	Infrastructure model	Yes	High	Stable	Research spending by funding agencies
3	Institutional support	Yes	High	Stable or Cyclic	Institutional funds availability
4	Research project grants	Yes	High	Cyclic - grants renew every 3–5 years	Infrastructure/research spending by funding agencies
5	Content licensing/industrial support model	No	Low	Function of usage	Commercial partner
6	User subscription fees	No	Low	Function of usage	Usage
7	Value-added/asymmetrical pricing model (or freemium service)	Not completely	Low	Function of usage	Usage
8	Infrastructural razor & blades	No	Low	Function of usage	Usage
9	Public-private consortium	Yes	High	Potentially stable	Commercial partner
10	Online advertising & Corporate sponsorship	Yes	High	Function of usage	Usage, commercial partners
11	Open source volunteer (wiki approach)	Yes	High	Highly dependent on participation	Willingness to contribute
12	Donations	Yes	High	Potentially stable	Partners



The advantages of providing access to scientific data is evident , even for the provider, but psychological resistance is still well-established

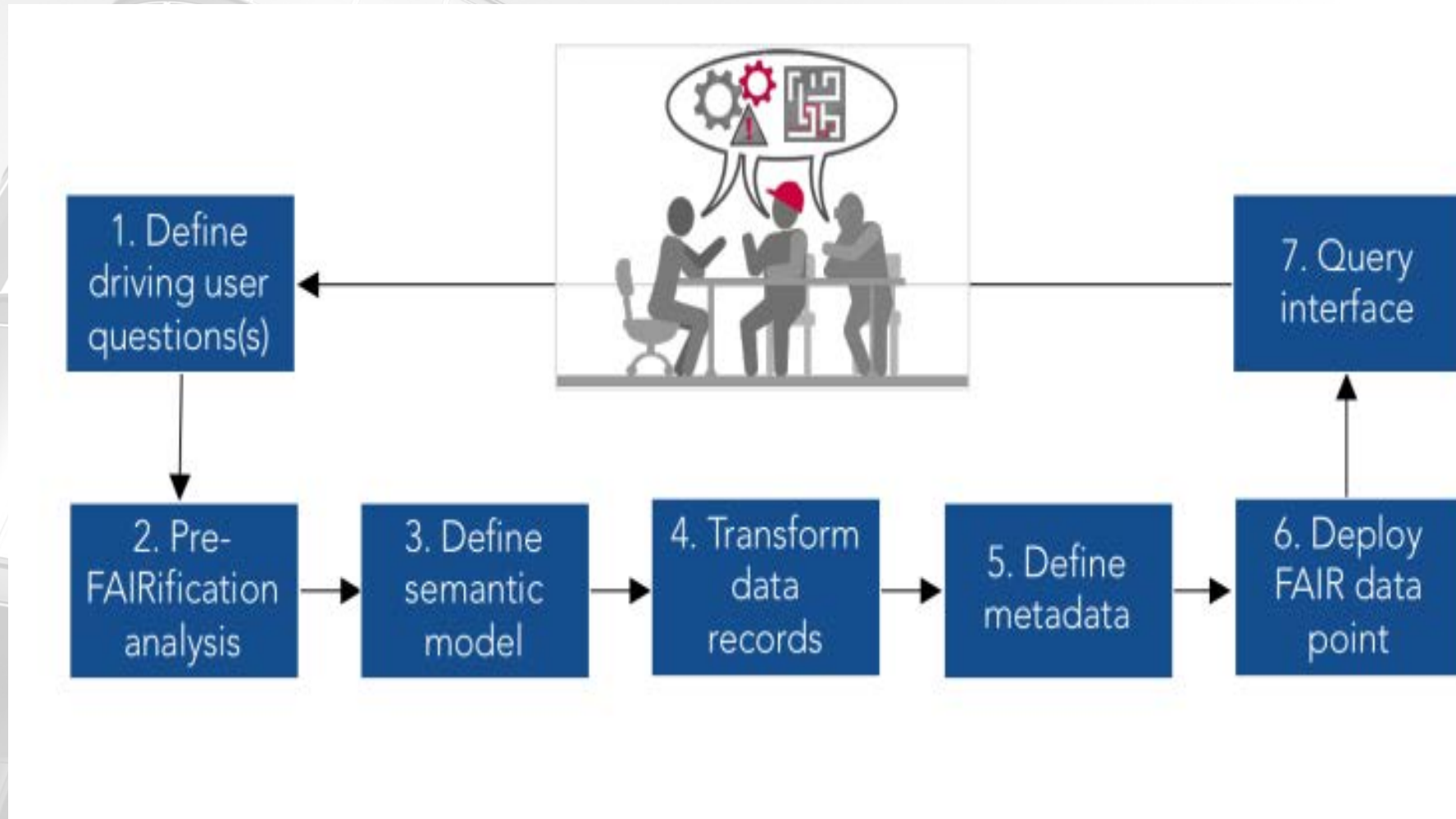


# Open Science does not mean Open Bar

## Open data means FAIR data

- **FINDABLE**
  - Means that the existence of data sets is public information
- **ACCESSIBLE**
  - Means that the rules to access the dataset are defined and public
  - From free access to restricted access to team members
- **INTEROPERABLE**
  - Means that the dataset respect the standards when available
  - Semantic standards (ontologies) + technical standards
- **REUSABLE**
  - Means that the dataset is annotated enough as to be re-used by third parties, and research results are publishable because the source is reliable

# FAIRification process



# ICM is on the way for a fairification of its data sets !

*A community*



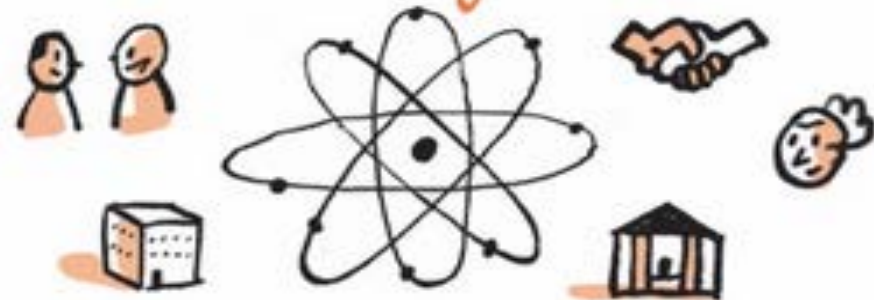
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Thank you