



University of Pisa, Italy
June 12, 2007



NETTAB 2007 - A Semantic Web for Bioinformatics

Tutorial T5

The Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) and the Semantic Web



Olivier Bodenreider

Lister Hill National Center
for Biomedical Communications
Bethesda, Maryland - USA

Outline

- ◆ Information integration in biomedicine
 - Some issues: naming, normalization, mapping
 - Semantic Web perspective
- ◆ Terminology integration in biomedicine
Unified Medical Language System
- ◆ Some differences between UMLS and SW

Information integration in biomedicine

Some issues: naming, normalization, mapping

1

Naming

- ◆ Many biomedical entities have several names (synonymy)
 - Drug names
 - Gene names
 - Disease names
 - ...
- ◆ A given name may refer to several different entities (polysemy)
 - Nail (body part)
 - Nail (medical device)

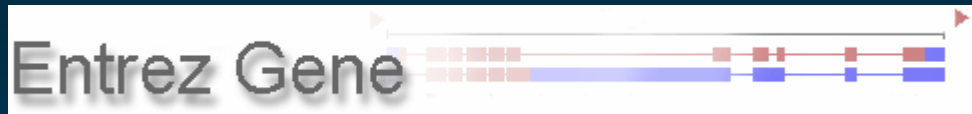
Brand names for paracetamol (acetaminophen)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_paracetamol_brand_names

| Brand name | Countries |
|-------------------|---|
| Acamol | Israel |
| Atamel | Venezuela |
| Adol | Oman |
| Aldolor | Israel |
| Alvedon | Sweden |
| APAP | Poland |
| Benuron | Portugal, Germany |
| Biogesic | Philippines |
| Buscapina | Argentina |
| Cemol | Thailand |
| Crocin | India |
| Dafalgan | Belgium, France, Portugal, Russia, Ukraine |
| Daleron | Slovenia |
| Depon | Greece |
| Dexamol | Israel |
| Dolex | Colombia |
| Doliprane | France, Portugal, Russia, Ukraine |
| Efferalgan | France, Italy, Portugal, Russia, Spain, Ukraine |
| FeverAll | United States |
| Gelocatil | Spain |
| Gripin | Turkey |
| Lekadol | Croatia, Slovenia |
| Metacin | India |

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Pamol | Denmark, Finland, France |
| Panado | South Africa |
| Panadol | Australia, Azerbaijan, Central America, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Indonesia, Ireland, Kenya, Lebanon, Macedonia, Malaysia, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Taiwan, Ukraine, Estonia, United Kingdom |
| Panamax | Australia, United Kingdom |
| Panodil | Denmark, Iceland, Sweden |
| Paracet | Norway |
| Paralen | Czech Republic, Slovakia |
| Paramed | Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe |
| Paramol | Israel, Taiwan |
| Perdolan | Belgium |
| Perfalgan | Germany |
| Pinex | Denmark, Iceland, Norway |
| Plicet | Croatia |
| Reliv | Sweden |
| Rokamol | Israel |
| Sara | Thailand |
| Tachipirina | Italy |
| Tylenol | Brazil, Canada, Japan, South Korea, Thailand, United States |
| Tempra | Philippines |

Names for dystrophin



<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez>

DMD

[Order cDNA clone](#), [Links](#)

Official Symbol DMD and **Name:** dystrophin (muscular dystrophy, Duchenne and Becker types) [*Homo sapiens*]

Other Aliases: GS1-19024.1, BMD, CMD3B, DXS142, DXS164, DXS206, DXS230, DXS239, DXS268, DXS269, DXS270, DXS272

Other Designations: Duchenne muscular dystrophy protein; dystrophin

Chromosome: X; **Location:** Xp21.2

Annotation: Chromosome X, NC_000023.9 (33267646..31047265, complement)

MIM: 300377

GeneID: 1756



Names for renal cell carcinoma

Details of 'clear cell carcinoma of kidney' Distributed Relationships

ConceptStatus **Current**

Descriptions

- F clear cell carcinoma of kidney (disorder)
- P clear cell carcinoma of kidney
- S adenocarcinoma of kidney
- S carcinoma of kidney
- S Grawitz tumor
- S renal cell adenocarcinoma
- S renal cell carcinoma


Fully defined by...

- Is a
 - malignant tumor of kidney parenchyma
 - primary malignant neoplasm of kidney
 - primary malignant neoplasm of retroperitoneum
- Group
 - Associated morphology
 - clear cell adenocarcinoma
 - Finding site
 - structure of parenchyma of kidney
- Laterality
 - side
 - side

Qualifiers

Legacy codes

- SNOMED: D7-F011C
- CTV3ID: X78Yx



Concept: (1491500) renal cell adenocarcinoma
Description: (17003017) renal cell adenocarcinoma

Search: renal cell adenocarcinoma
Renal cell adenocarcinoma
renal cell adenocarcinoma

Search for: renal cell carcinoma of kidney
malignant tumor of kidney parenchyma
primary malignant neoplasm of kidney
primary malignant neoplasm of retroperitoneum
renal cell adenocarcinoma

Details of 'renal cell carcinoma of kidney' Distributed Relationships

ConceptStatus: **Current**

Descriptions

- F clear cell carcinoma of kidney (disorder)
- P clear cell carcinoma of kidney
- S adenocarcinoma of kidney
- S carcinoma of kidney
- S Grawitz tumor
- S renal cell adenocarcinoma
- S renal cell carcinoma

Fully defined by...

- Is a
 - malignant tumor of kidney parenchyma
 - primary malignant neoplasm of kidney
 - primary malignant neoplasm of retroperitoneum
- Group
 - Associated morphology
 - clear cell adenocarcinoma
 - Finding site
 - structure of parenchyma of kidney
- Laterality
 - side
 - side

Qualifiers

Legacy codes

- SNOMED: D7-F011C
- CTV3ID: X78Yx

<http://www.clininfo.co.uk/clue5/clue.htm>

Entity recognition

- ◆ Identifying biomedical entities in text
 - Names entity recognition
 - Tagging “mentions”
 - Semantic annotation
- ◆ Supported by terminology
 - Collects the names used in the domain
 - Often incompletely
- ◆ Example: BioCreative
 - 1A – Gene name identification
 - 2GM – Gene mention tagging



2

Normalization

- ◆ Biomedical entities are identified by unique identifiers in various terminology systems
- ◆ Resolve names into identifiers (in a given namespace)
- ◆ Supported (in part) by terminology resources
- ◆ Example: BioCreative
 - 1B and 2GN – Gene Normalization



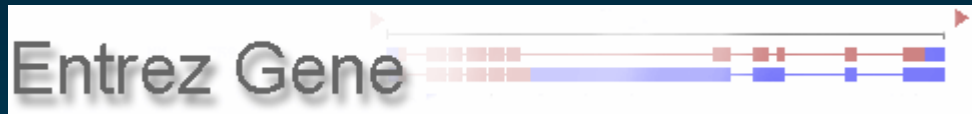
Identifier for paracetamol (acetaminophen)

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Master Drug Data Base. Medi-Span | 5005 | Acetaminophen |
| FDA National Drug Code Directory | 50612 | PARACETAMOL |
| FDA Structured Product Labels | 36209ITL9D | ACETAMINOPHEN |
| First DataBank NDDF Plus | 001605 | Acetaminophen |
| SNOMED Clinical Terms | 90332006 | Acetaminophen (product) |
| SNOMED Clinical Terms | 387517004 | Acetaminophen (substance) |
| VA National Drug File | 4017513 | ACETAMINOPHEN |

Source: RxNorm database (5/3/2007)



Identifier for dystrophin



<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez>

DMD

[Order cDNA clone](#), [Links](#)

Official Symbol DMD and Name: dystrophin (muscular dystrophy, Duchenne and Becker types) [*Homo sapiens*]

Other Aliases: GS1-19024.1, BMD, CMD3B, DXS142, DXS164, DXS206, DXS230, DXS239, DXS268, DXS269, DXS270, DXS272

Other Designations: Duchenne muscular dystrophy protein; dystrophin

Chromosome: X, **Location:** Xp21.2

Annotation: Chromosome X, NC_000023.9 (33267646..31047265, complement)

MIM: 300377

GeneID: 1756



Identifier for renal cell carcinoma

Details of 'clear cell carcinoma of kidney' Distributed Relationships

ConceptStatus **Current**

Descriptions

- F clear cell carcinoma of kidney (disorder)
- P clear cell carcinoma of kidney
- S adenocarcinoma of kidney
- S carcinoma of kidney
- S Grawitz tumor
- S renal cell adenocarcinoma
- S renal cell carcinoma

Fully defined by...

- Is a
 - maligant tumor of kidney parenchyma
 - primary malignant neoplasm of kidney
 - primary malignant neoplasm of retroperitoneum
- Group
 - Associated morphology
 - clear cell adenocarcinoma
 - Finding site
 - structure of parenchyma of kidney
- Laterality
 - side
 - side

Qualifiers

Legacy codes

- SNOMED: D7-F011C
- CTV3ID: X78Yx



Concept(254915003) renal cell adenocarcinoma

Description Id(379803017)

General Inlay

renal cell adenocarcinoma

Related search

- renal cell adenocarcinoma
- renal cell carcinoma
- maligant tumor of kidney parenchyma
- primary malignant neoplasm of kidney
- primary malignant neoplasm of retroperitoneum
- clear cell adenocarcinoma

Details of 'renal cell carcinoma of kidney' Distributed Relationships

ConceptStatus **Current**

Descriptions

- F clear cell carcinoma of kidney (disorder)
- P clear cell carcinoma of kidney
- S adenocarcinoma of kidney
- S carcinoma of kidney
- S Grawitz tumor
- S renal cell adenocarcinoma
- S renal cell carcinoma

Fully defined by...

- Is a
 - maligant tumor of kidney parenchyma
 - primary malignant neoplasm of kidney
 - primary malignant neoplasm of retroperitoneum
- Group
 - Associated morphology
 - clear cell adenocarcinoma
 - Finding site
 - structure of parenchyma of kidney
- Laterality
 - side
 - side

Qualifiers

Legacy codes

- SNOMED: D7-F011C
- CTV3ID: X78Yx

ConceptId 254915003 renal cell adenocarcinoma

Description Id 379803017

clinical finding

<http://www.clininfo.co.uk/clue5/clue.htm>



3

Mapping / Integration

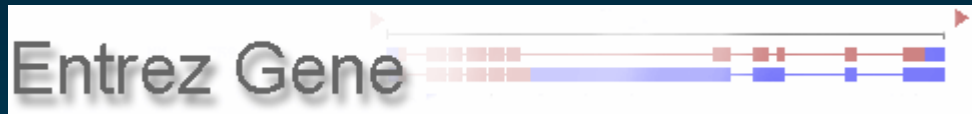
- ◆ Identify equivalent entities across systems (across namespaces)
 - Shared identifiers
 - Existing mappings (e.g., SNOMED CT to ICD-9-CM)
 - Ontology alignment techniques (lexical + structural)
- ◆ Align equivalent entities
 - Pairwise: mapping
 - More broadly: integration
- ◆ Forms the basis for information integration in the Semantic Web (mashups)

Identifier for paracetamol (acetaminophen)

| | | |
|----------------------------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Master Drug Data Base. Medi-Span | 5005 | Acetaminophen |
| FDA National Drug Code Directory | 50612 | PARACETAMOL |
| FDA Structured Product Labels | 36209ITL9D | ACETAMINOPHEN |
| First DataBank NDDF Plus | 001605 | Acetaminophen |
| SNOMED Clinical Terms | 90332006 | Acetaminophen (product) |
| SNOMED Clinical Terms | 387517004 | Acetaminophen (substance) |
| VA National Drug File | 4017513 | ACETAMINOPHEN |
| RxNorm | 161 | Acetaminophen |



Identifier for dystrophin



<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez>

DMD

Order cDNA clone, Links

Official Symbol DMD and Name: dystrophin (muscular dystrophy, Duchenne and Becker types) [*Homo sapiens*]

Other Aliases: GS1-19024.1, BMD, CMD3B, DXS142, DXS164, DXS206, DXS230, DXS239, DXS268, DXS269, DXS270, DXS272

Other Designations: Duchenne muscular dystrophy protein; dystrophin

Chromosome: X, **Location:** Xp21.2

Annotation: Chromosome X, NC_000023.9 (33267646..31047265, complement)

MIM: 300377

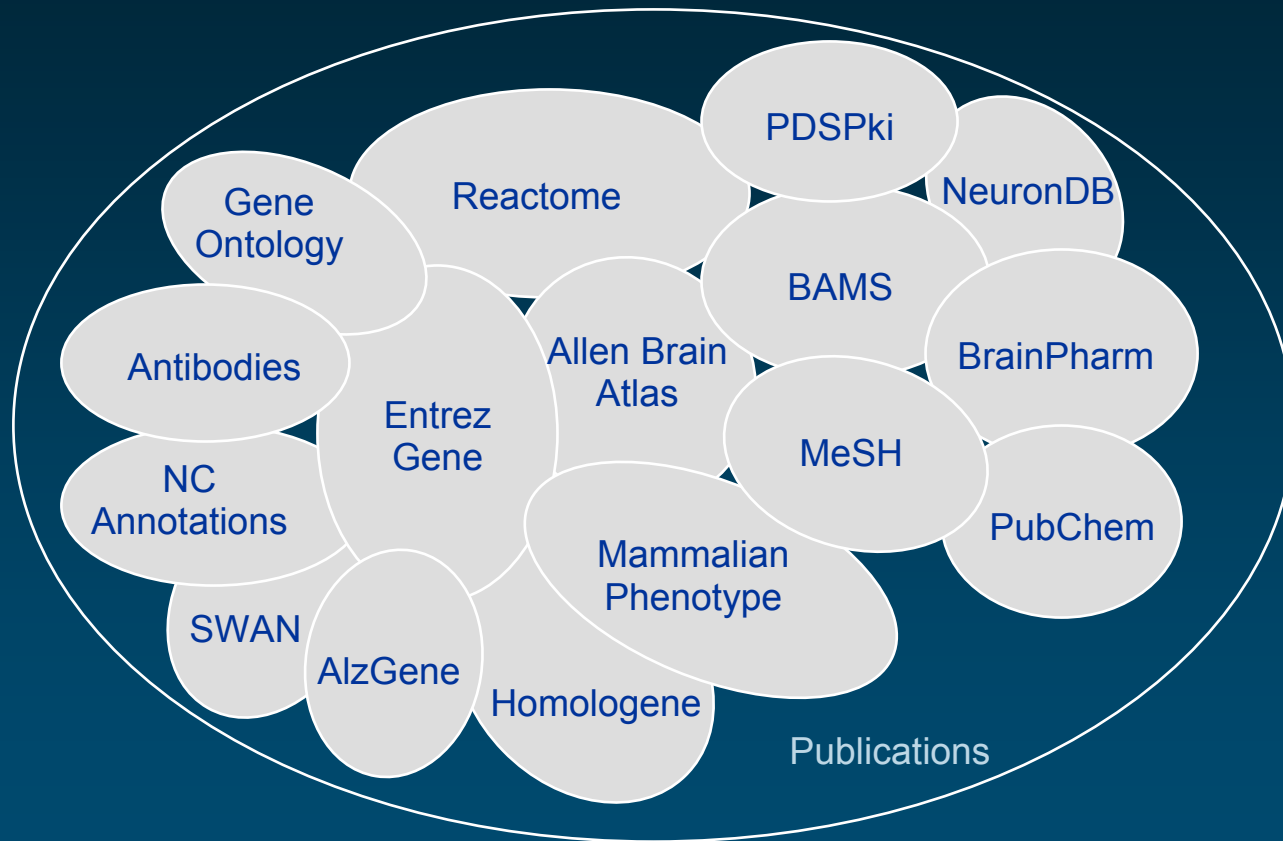
GeneID: 1756



Information integration in biomedicine

Semantic Web perspective

HCLS mashup



http://esw.w3.org/topic/HCLS/HCLSIG_DemoHomePage_HCLSIG_Demo



Shared identifiers Example

Entrez Gene

[CH25H](#)

[Order cDNA clone, Links](#)

Official Symbol **CH25H** and Name: cholesterol 25-hydroxylase [*Homo sapiens*]

Other Aliases: C25H

Chromosome: 10; Location: 10q23

Annotation: Chromosome 10, NC_000010.9 (90957050..90955509, complement)

MIM: 604551

GeneID: **9023**

Pathways

Reactome Event: Lipid and lipoprotein metabolism
73923

Homology

Mouse, Rat
[Map Viewer](#)

GeneOntology

Function

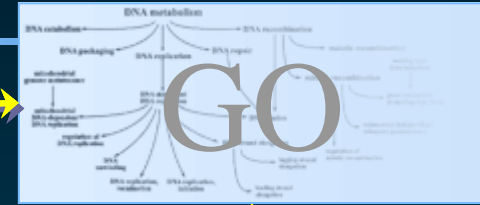
[iron ion binding](#)
[metal ion binding](#)
[steroid hydroxylase activity](#)

Process

[cholesterol metabolic process](#)
[lipid metabolic process](#)
[metabolic process](#)
[sterol biosynthetic process](#)

Component

[endoplasmic reticulum](#)
[integral to membrane](#)
[membrane](#)
[membrane fraction](#)



Cholesterol 25-hydroxylase [cytosol]



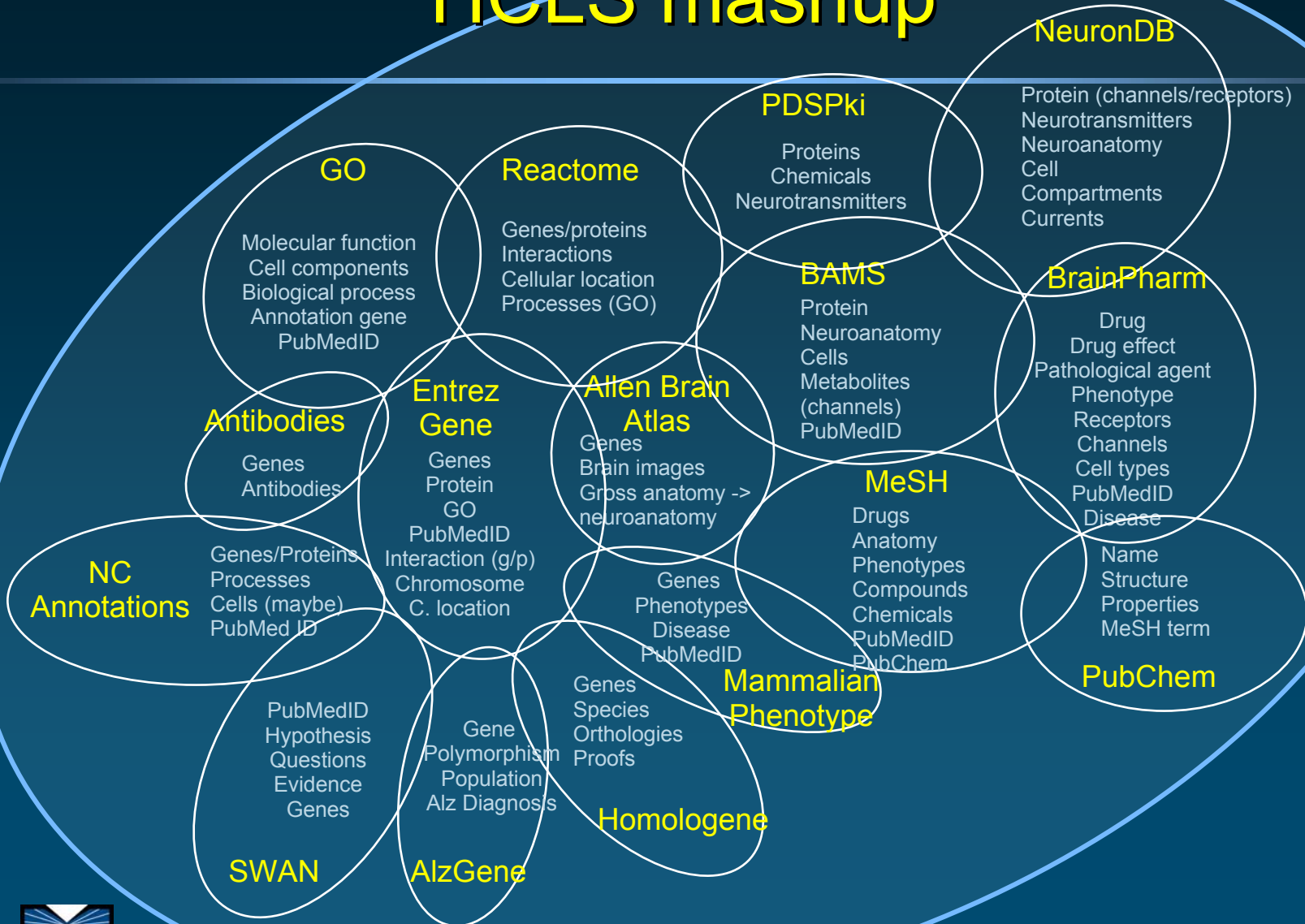
+ Details

| | |
|---|--|
| Name | Cholesterol 25-hydroxylase CH25H_HUMAN CH25H |
| Stable identifier | REACT_10656.1 |
| Link to corresponding entries in other databases | ENSEMBL:ENSG00000138135 Entrez Gene:9023 HapMap:NM_003956 KEGG Gene:9023 MIM:604551 RefSeq:NM_003956 RefSeq:NP_003947 UCSC:O95992 UniProt:O95992 |
| Other identifiers related to this sequence | CH25H_HUMAN, ENSG00000138135, ENST00000371852, ENSP00000360918, ENST00000260706, ENSP00000260706, 206932_at, 3236_at, 45019_at, g4502498_3p_at, A_14_P139081, A_23_P86470, CCDS7400, GE6210, AF059212, AF059214, AL513533, BC017843, BC072430, EntrezGene:9023, GI_31542304-S, LMN_8057, IPI00022560, MIM:604551, OTTHUMT0000049291, AAC97481, AAC97483, CAI13519, AAH17843, AAH72430, NM_003956, NP_003947, Hs.47357, Hs.597033, O95992, CH25H_HUMAN, IPR006088 |
| Reference entity | UniProt:O95992 Cholesterol 25-hydroxylase |
| Coordinates in the reference sequence | .. |
| Cellular compartment | cytosol GO |
| Organism | Homo sapiens |
| Component of | CH25H (Fe2+ cofactor) [endoplasmic reticulum membrane] |
| Participates in processes | Lipid and lipoprotein metabolism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> └ Steroid metabolism <ul style="list-style-type: none"> └ Metabolism of bile acids and bile salts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> └ Synthesis of bile acids and bile salts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> └ Cholesterol is hydroxylated to 25-hydroxycholesterol [Homo sapiens] |

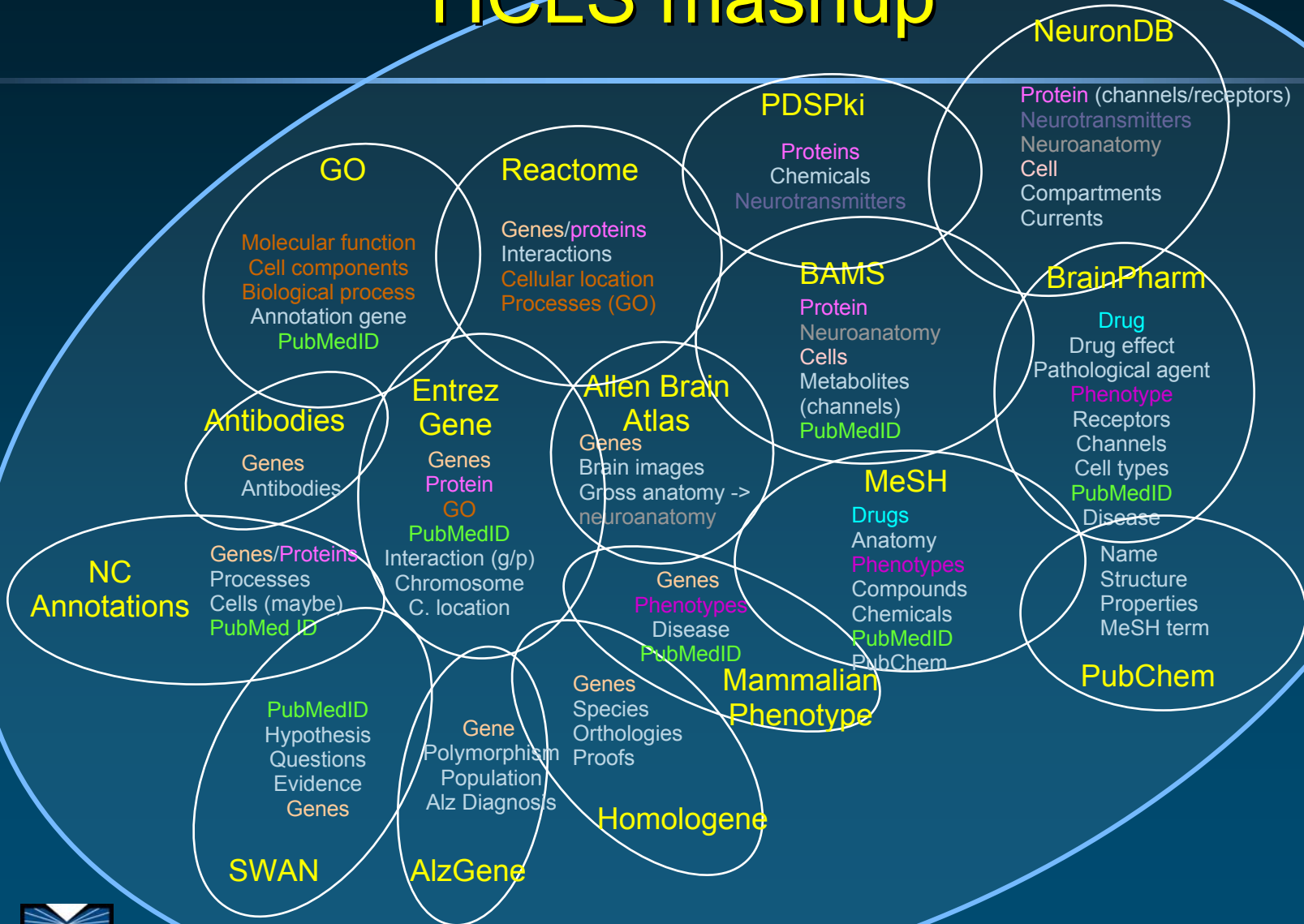


Lister Hill National

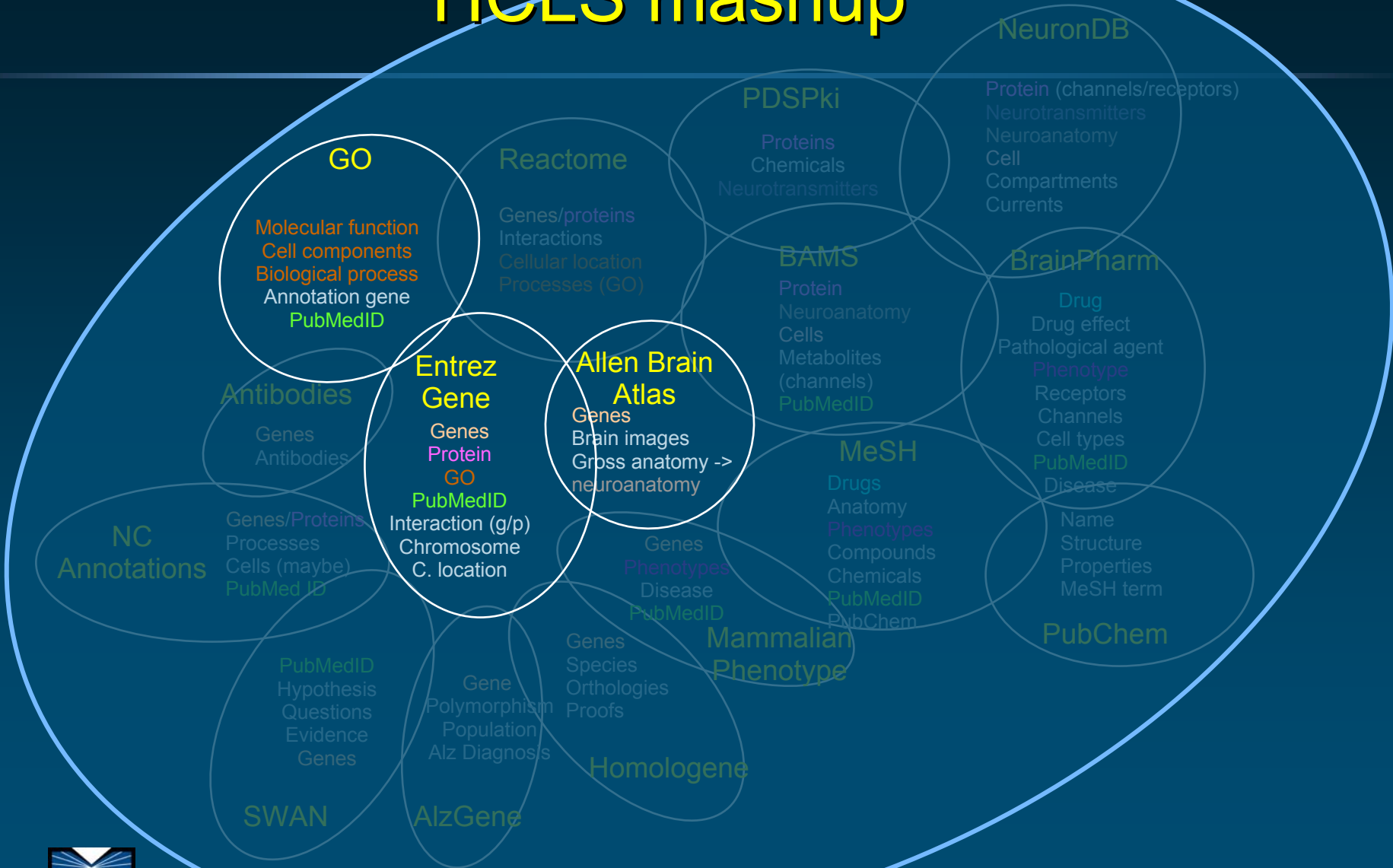
HCLS mashup



HCLS mashup

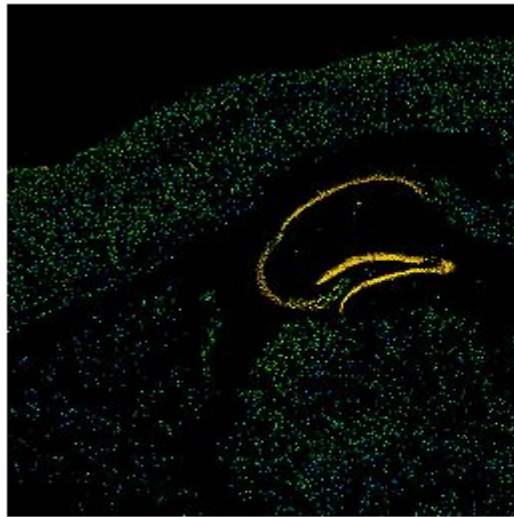


HCLS mashup



HCLS mashup

6.

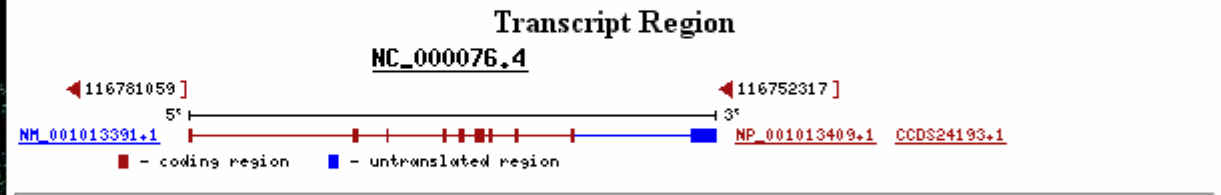


432508

[Entrez-Gene 432508](#)

cleavage and polyadenylation specific factor 6

location: nucleus

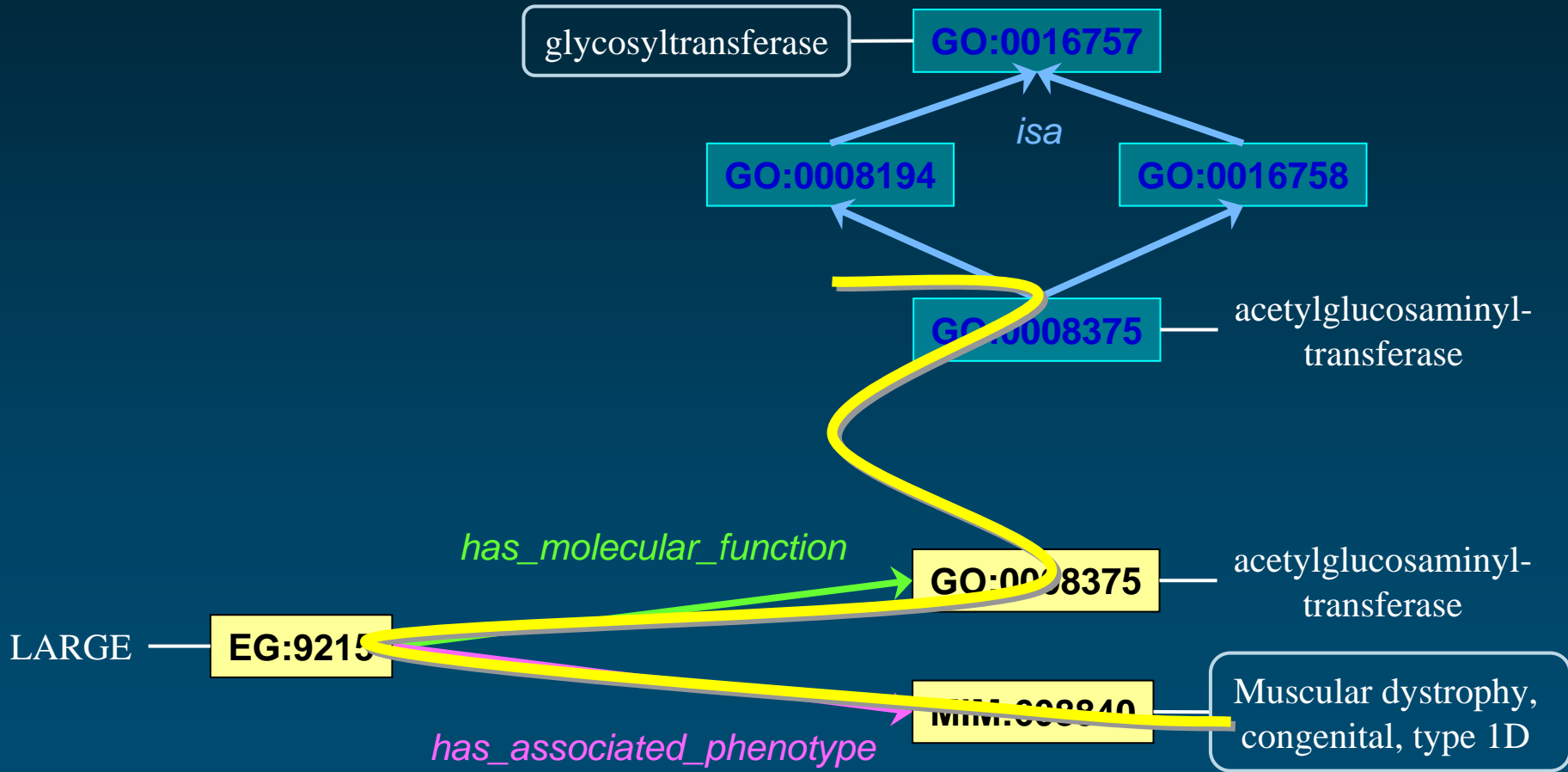


[Open Map View](#)

http://esw.w3.org/topic/HCLS/HCLSIG_DemoHomePage_HCLSIG_Demo



From *glycosyltransferase* to *congenital muscular dystrophy*



Terminology integration in biomedicine

Unified Medical Language System



Motivation

- ◆ Started in 1986
- ◆ National Library of Medicine
- ◆ “Long-term R&D project”

«[...] the UMLS project is an effort to overcome two significant barriers to effective retrieval of machine-readable information.

- The first is **the variety of ways the same concepts are expressed** in different machine-readable sources and by different people.
- The second is the **distribution** of useful information among many disparate databases and systems.»





Unified Medical Language System

◆ SPECIALIST Lexicon

- 200,000 lexical items
- Part of speech and variant information

◆ Metathesaurus

- 5M names from over 100 terminologies
- 1M concepts
- 16M relations

◆ Semantic Network

- 135 high-level categories
- 7000 relations among them

Lexical
resources

Terminological
resources

Ontological
resources



Addison's disease

Example



Addison's disease in medical vocabularies

◆ Synonyms

- Addisonian syndrome
 - Bronzed disease
 - Addison melanoderma
 - Asthenia pigmentosa
 - Primary adrenal deficiency
 - Primary adrenal insufficiency
 - Primary adrenocortical insufficiency
 - Chronic adrenocortical insufficiency
- } eponym
- } symptoms
- } clinical variants

Organize terms

- ◆ Synonymous terms clustered into a concept
- ◆ Preferred term
- ◆ Unique identifier (CUI)

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Addison Disease | MeSH | D000224 |
| Primary hypoadrenalism | MedDRA | 10036696 |
| Primary adrenocortical insufficiency | ICD-10 | E27.1 |
| Addison's disease (disorder) | SNOMED CT | 363732003 |

C0001403

Addison's disease



Metathesaurus Concepts (2007AA)

- ◆ Concept (~ 1.4 M) CUI
 - Set of synonymous concept names
- ◆ Term (~ 4.9 M) LUI
 - Set of normalized names
- ◆ String (~ 5.5 M) SUI
 - Distinct concept name
- ◆ Atom (~ 6.8 M) AUI
 - Concept name in a given source

A0000001 headache (source 1)
A0000002 headache (source 2)
S0000001

A0000003 Headache (source 1)
A0000004 Headache (source 2)
S0000002

L0000001

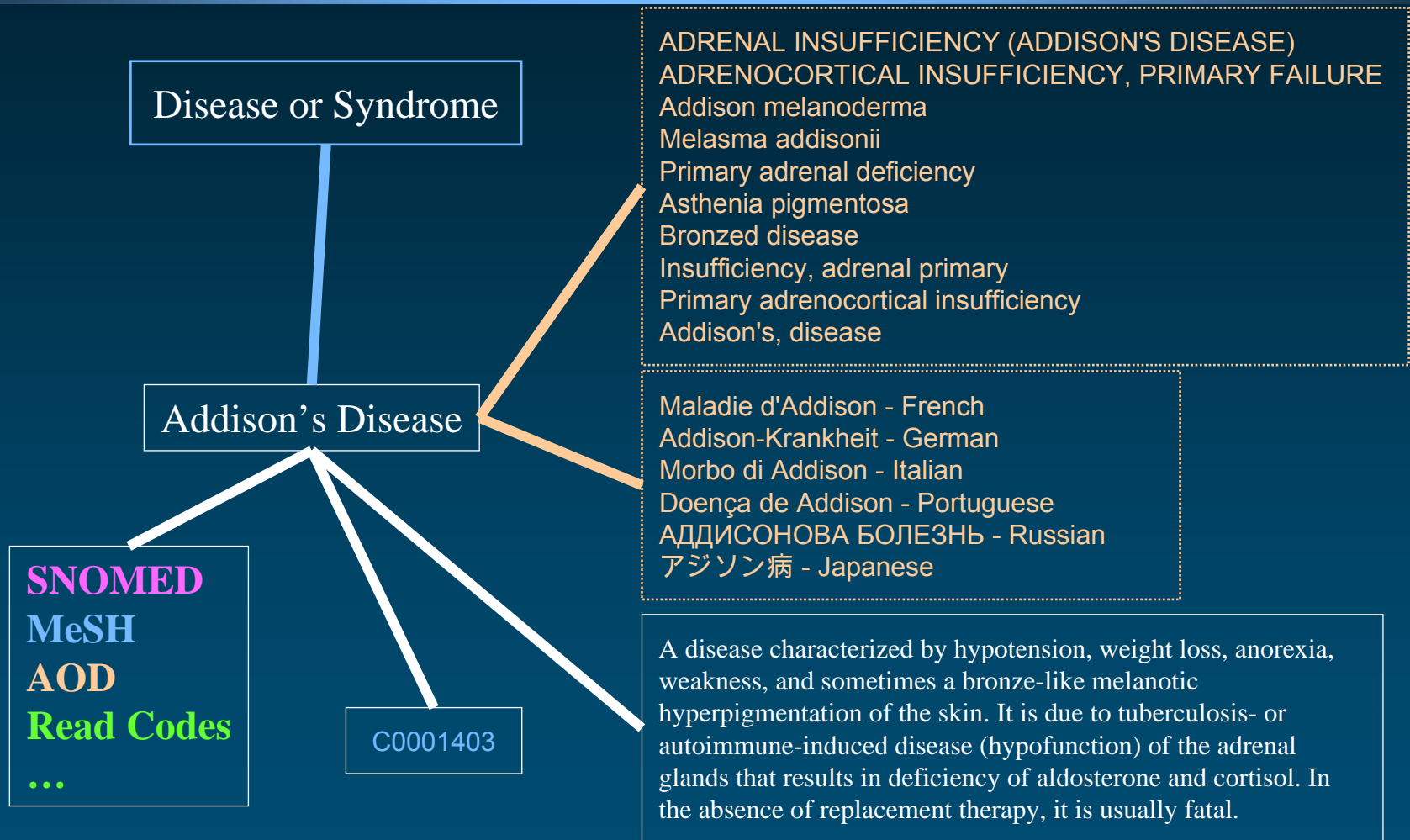
A0000005 Cephalgia (source 1)
S0000003

L0000002

C0000001

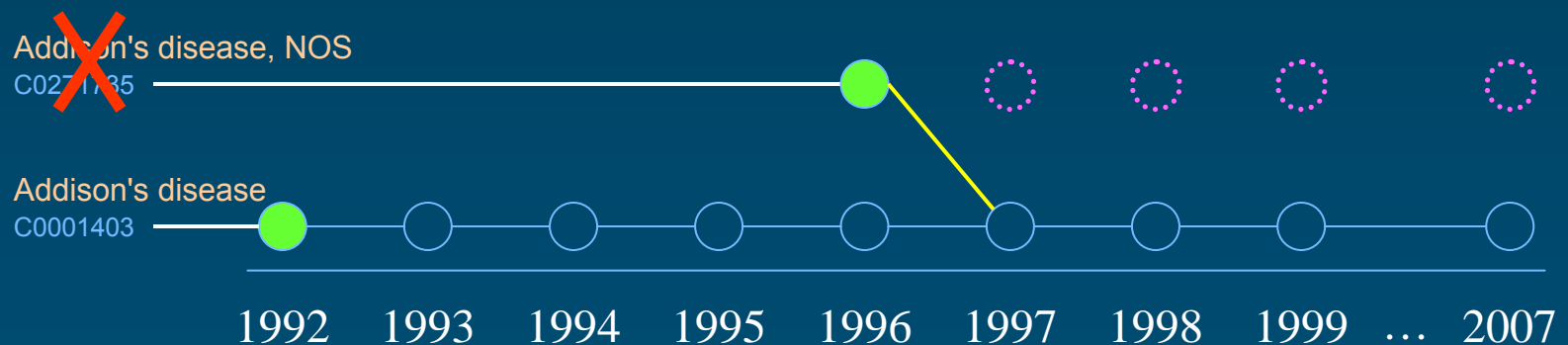


Addison's Disease: Concept

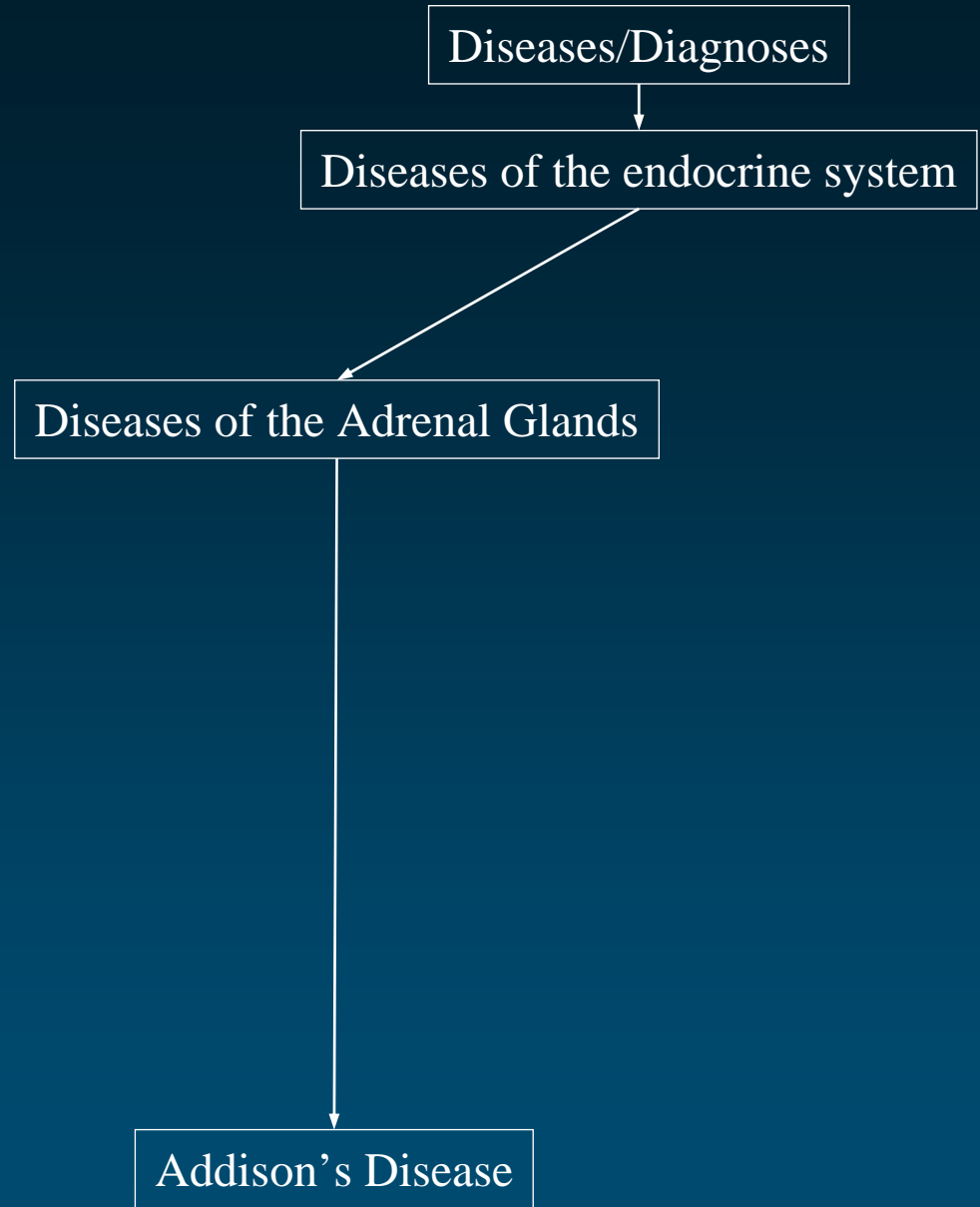


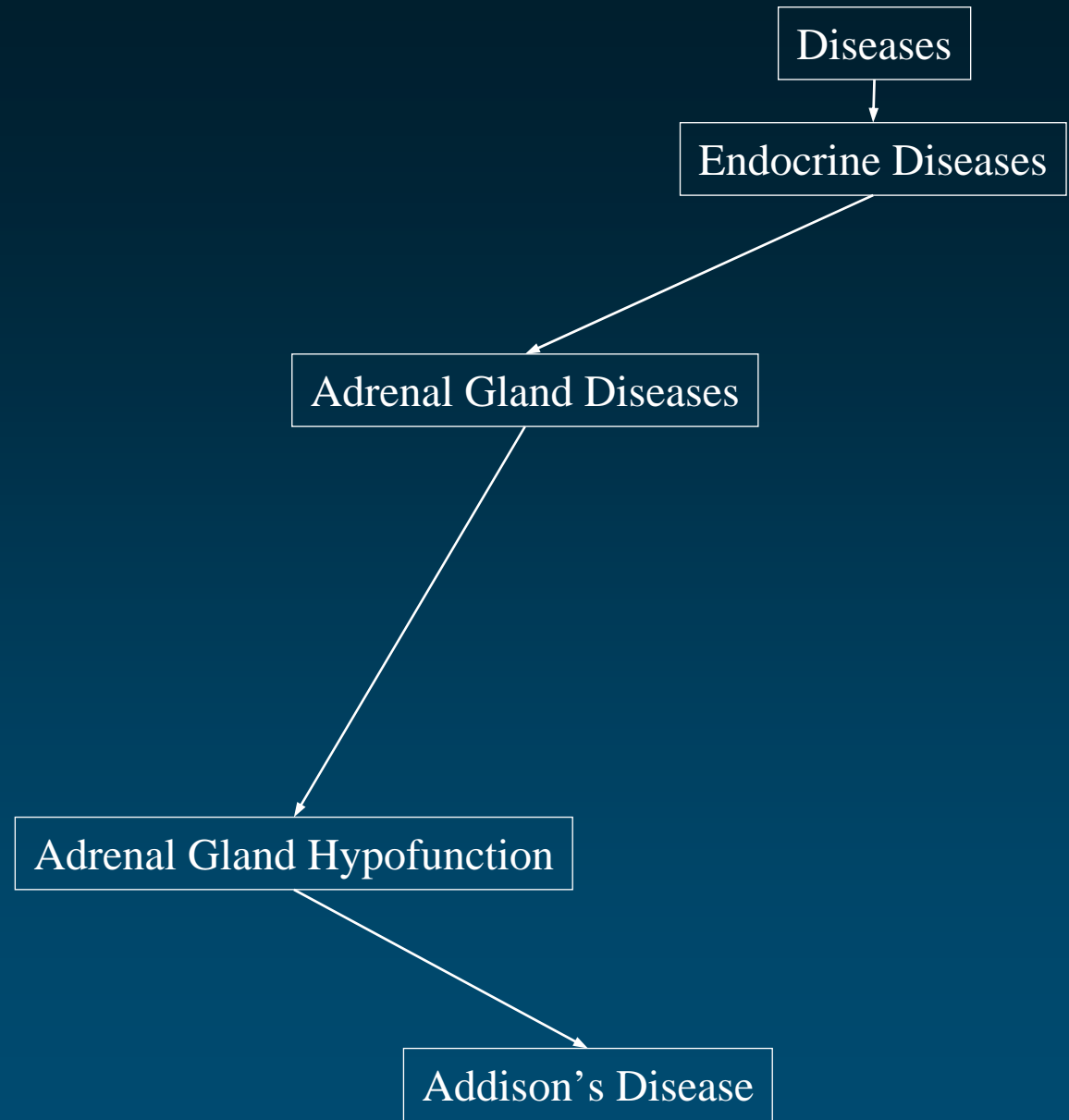
Metathesaurus Evolution over time

- ◆ Concepts never die (in principle)
 - CUIs are permanent identifiers
- ◆ What happens when they do die (in reality)?
 - Concepts can merge or split
 - Resulting in new concepts and deletions

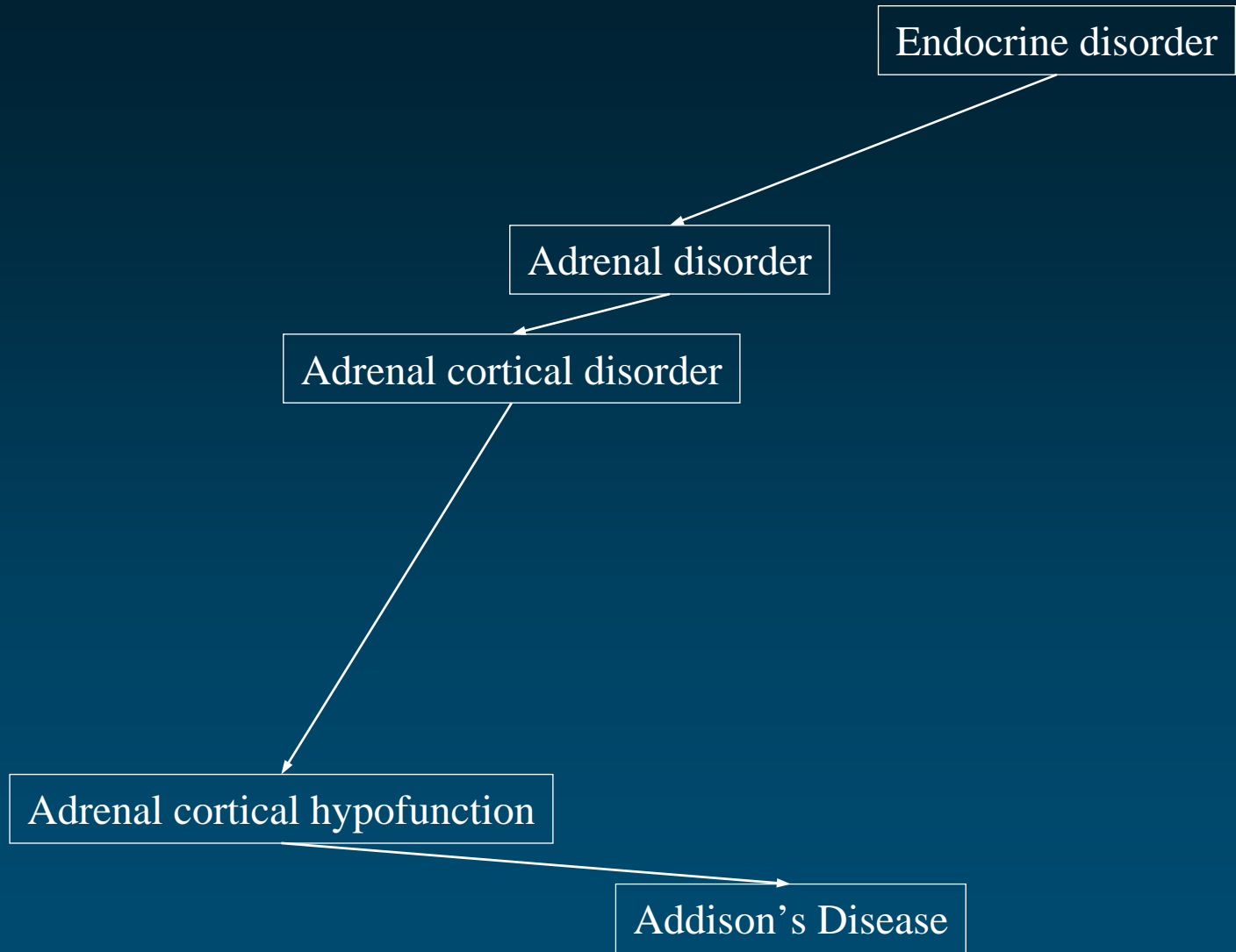


SNOMED International

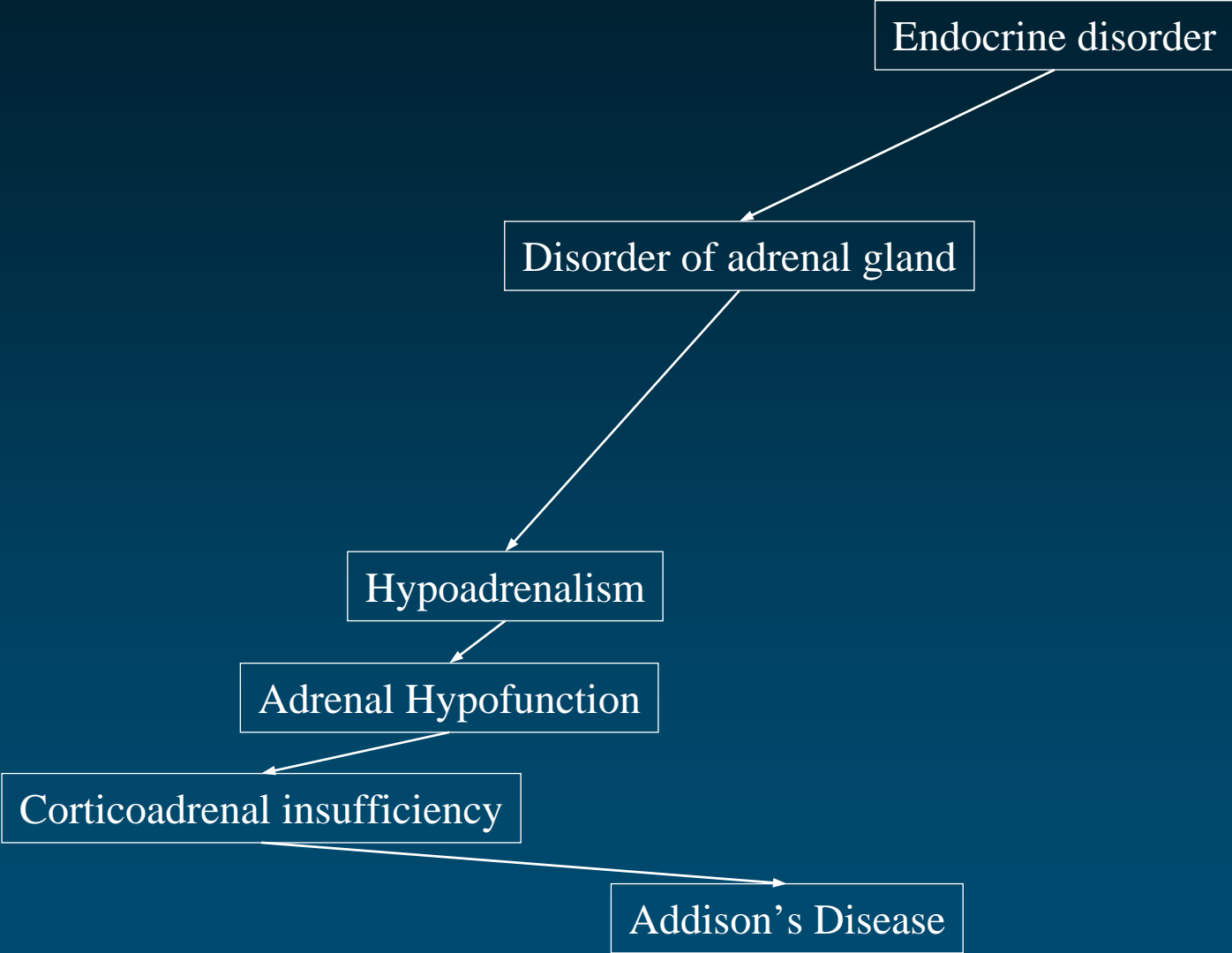




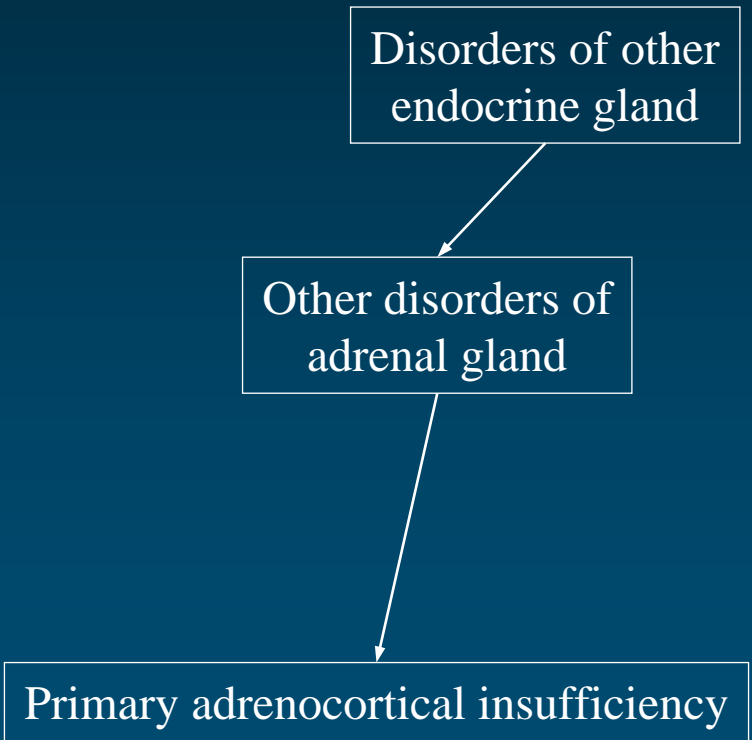
AOD



Read Codes

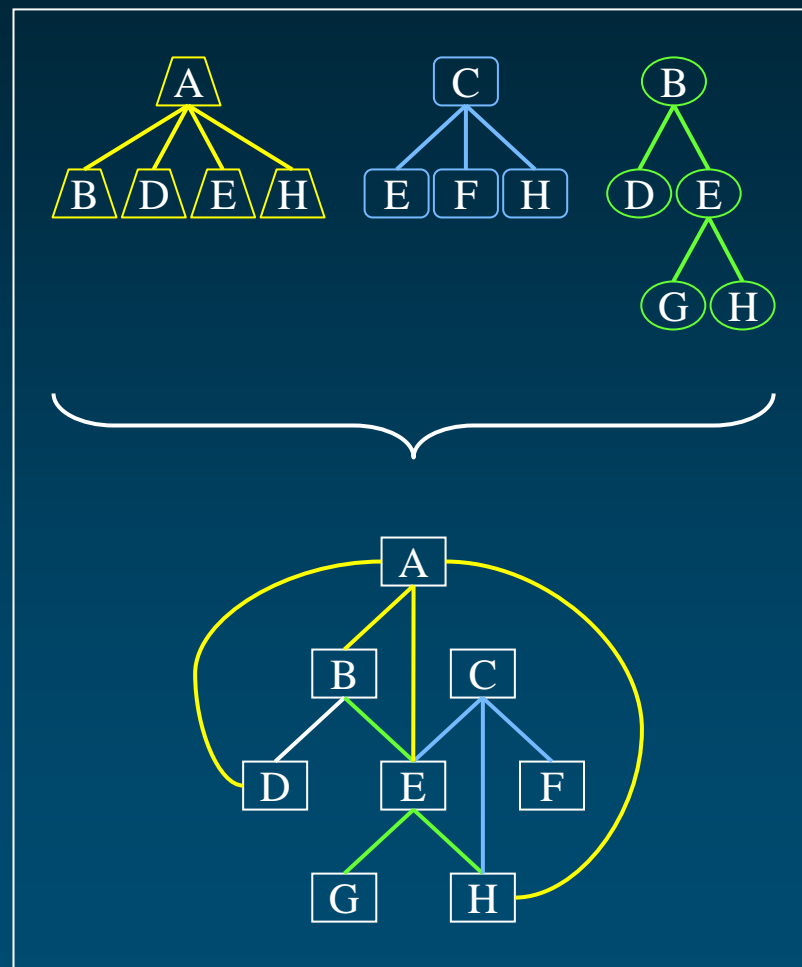


ICD-10

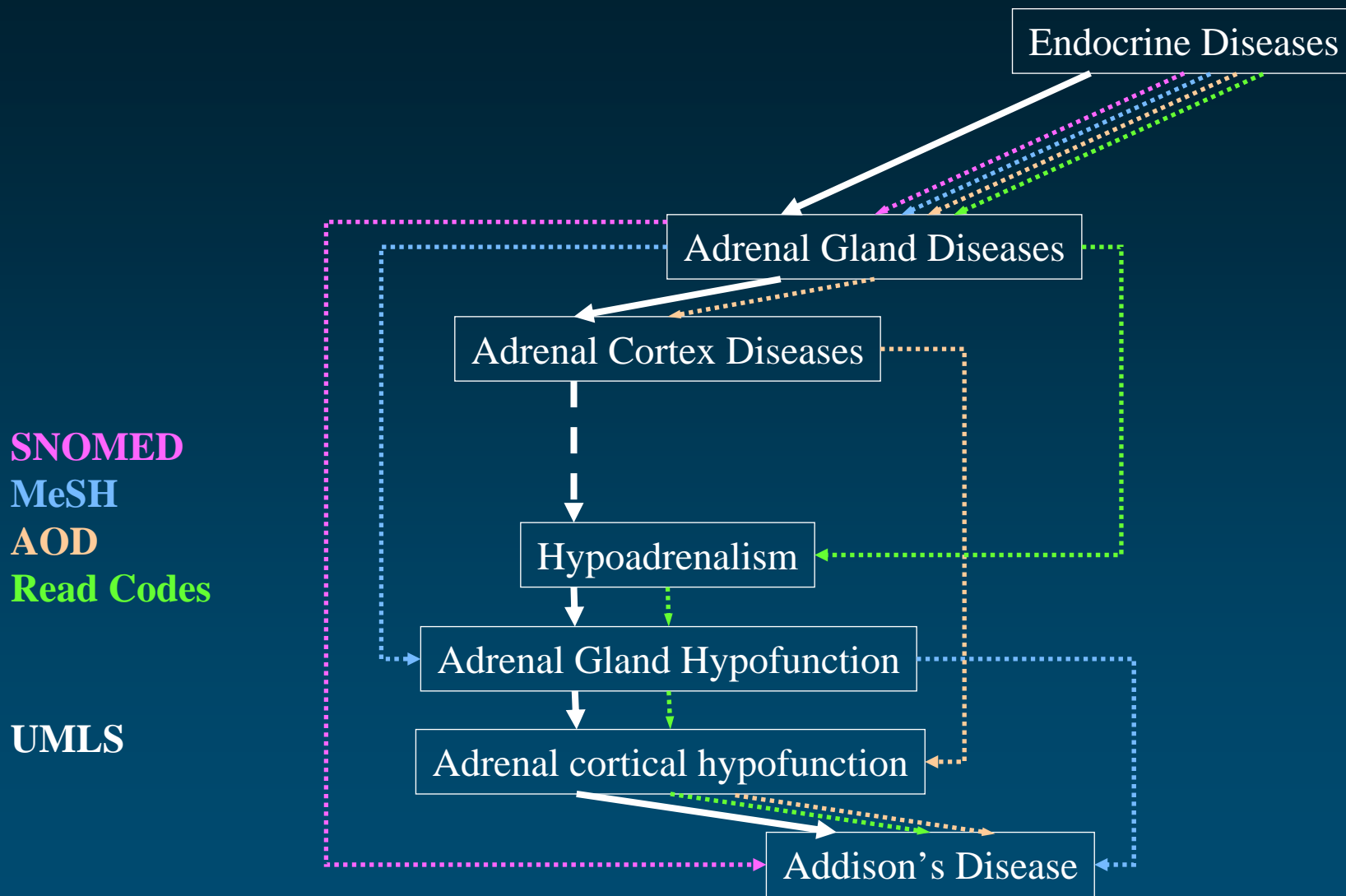


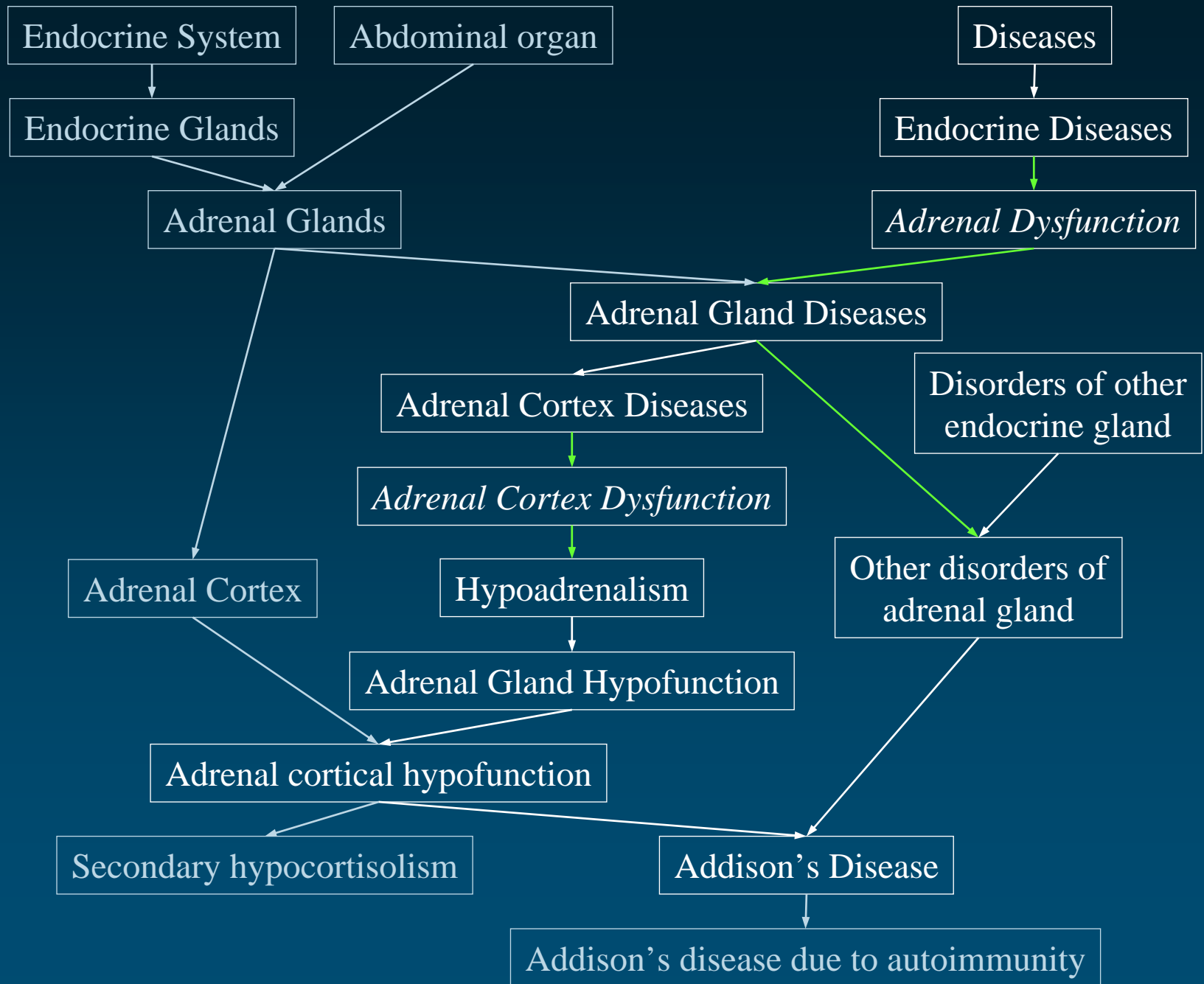
Organize concepts

- ◆ Inter-concept relationships: hierarchies from the source vocabularies
- ◆ Redundancy: multiple paths
- ◆ One graph instead of multiple trees (multiple inheritance)

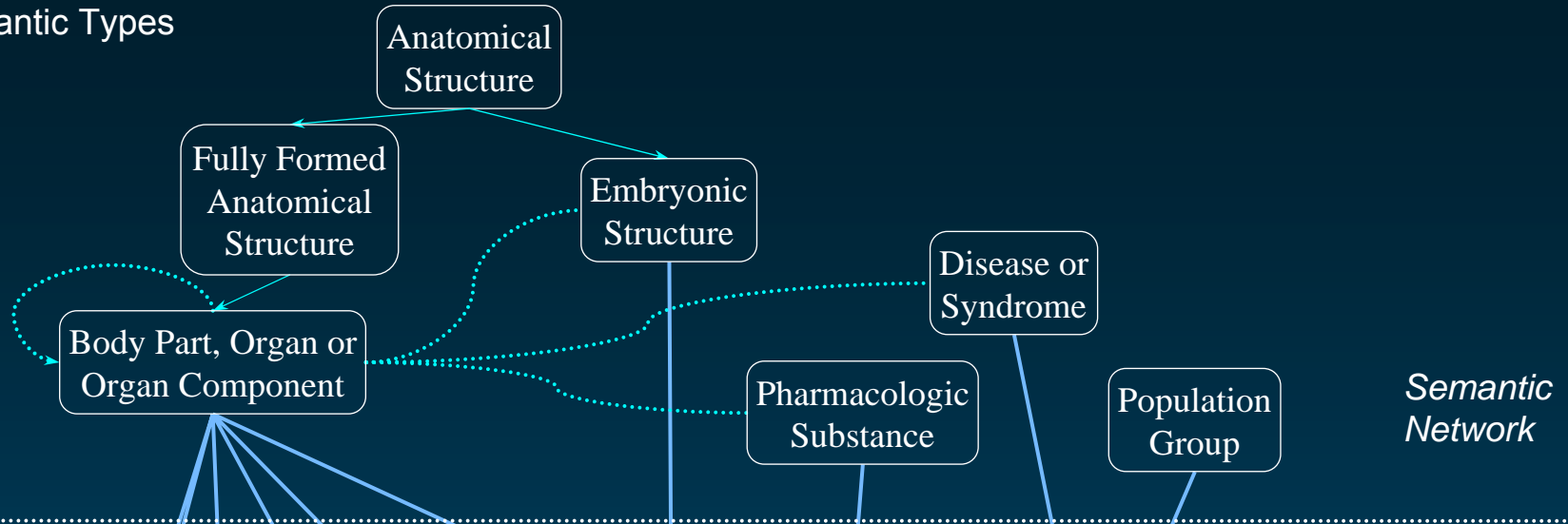


organize concepts

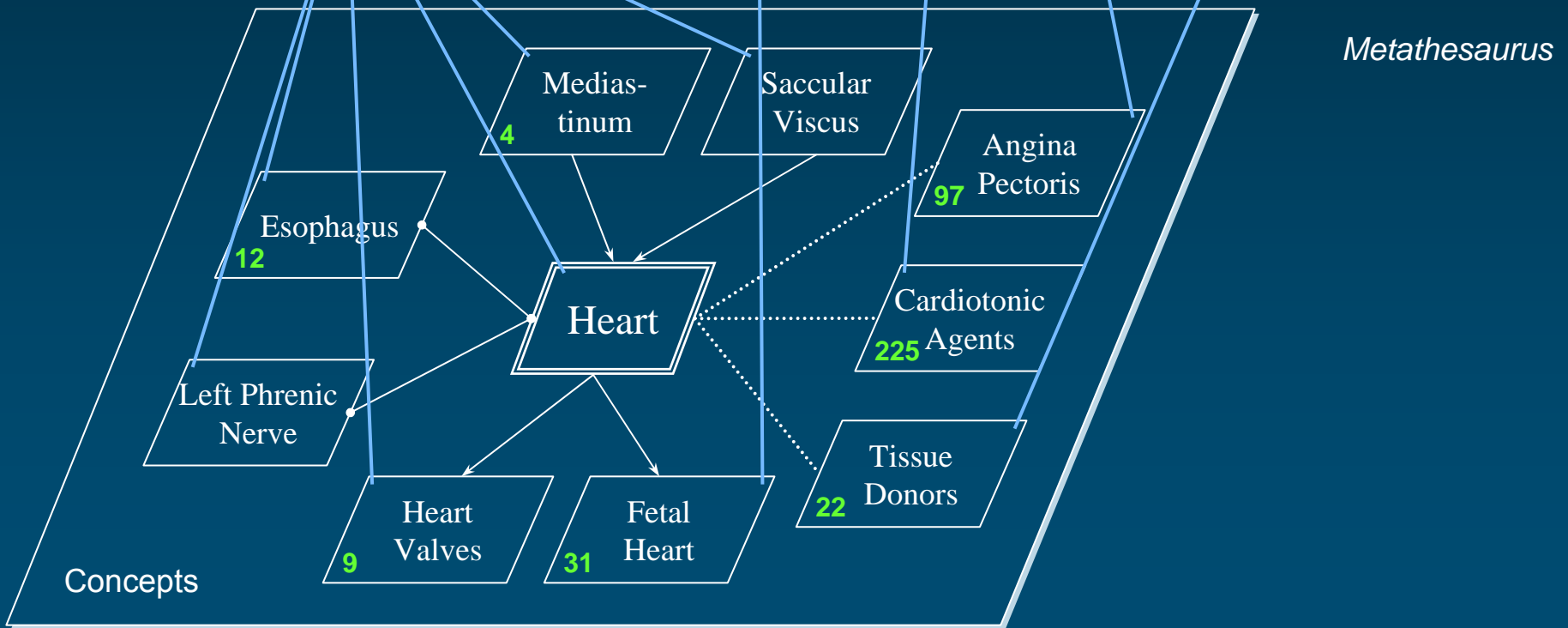




Semantic Types



Semantic Network



Metathesaurus

Concepts



Source Vocabularies

(2007AA)

- ◆ 139 source vocabularies
 - 17 languages
- ◆ Broad coverage of biomedicine
 - 5.5M names
 - 1.4M concepts
 - 16M relations
- ◆ Common presentation

Biomedical terminologies

◆ General vocabularies

- anatomy (UWDA, Neuronames)
- drugs (RxNorm, First DataBank, Micromedex, ...)
- medical devices (UMD, SPN)

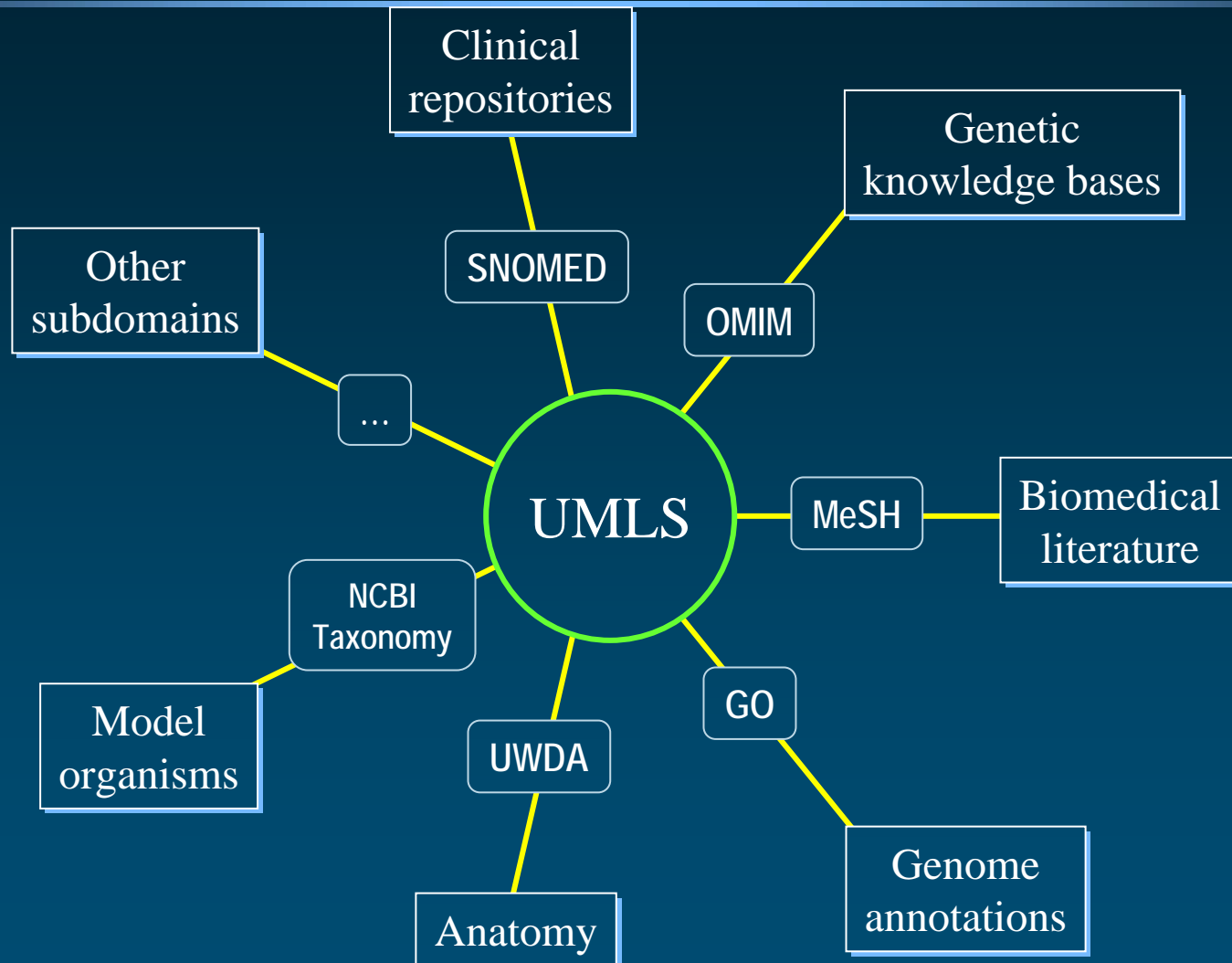
◆ Several perspectives

- clinical terms (SNOMED CT)
- information sciences (MeSH, CRISP)
- administrative terminologies (ICD-9-CM, CPT-4)
- data exchange terminologies (HL7, LOINC)

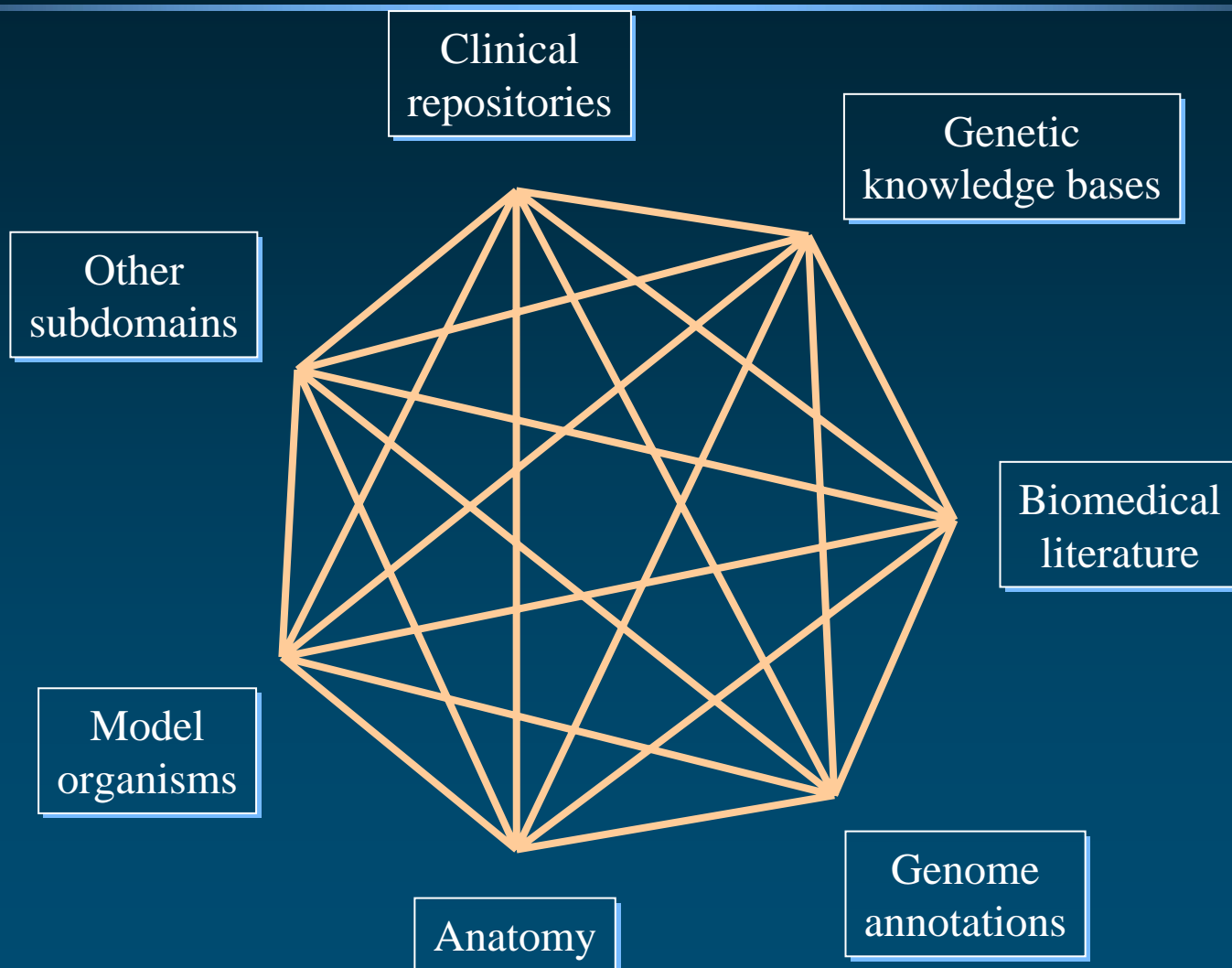
Biomedical terminologies (cont'd)

- ◆ Specialized vocabularies
 - nursing (NIC, NOC, NANDA, Omaha, PCDS)
 - dentistry (CDT)
 - oncology (NCI Thesaurus, PDQ)
 - psychiatry (DSM, APA)
 - adverse reactions (COSTART, WHO ART, MedDRA)
 - primary care (ICPC)
 - genomics (Gene Ontology, HUGO, OMIM)
- ◆ Terminology of knowledge bases (AI/Rheum, DXplain, QMR)

Integrating subdomains



Integrating subdomains



How do they do that?

- ◆ Lexical knowledge
- ◆ Semantic pre-processing
- ◆ UMLS editors

Lexical knowledge

Adrenal gland diseases

Adrenal disorder

Disorder of adrenal gland

Diseases of the adrenal glands

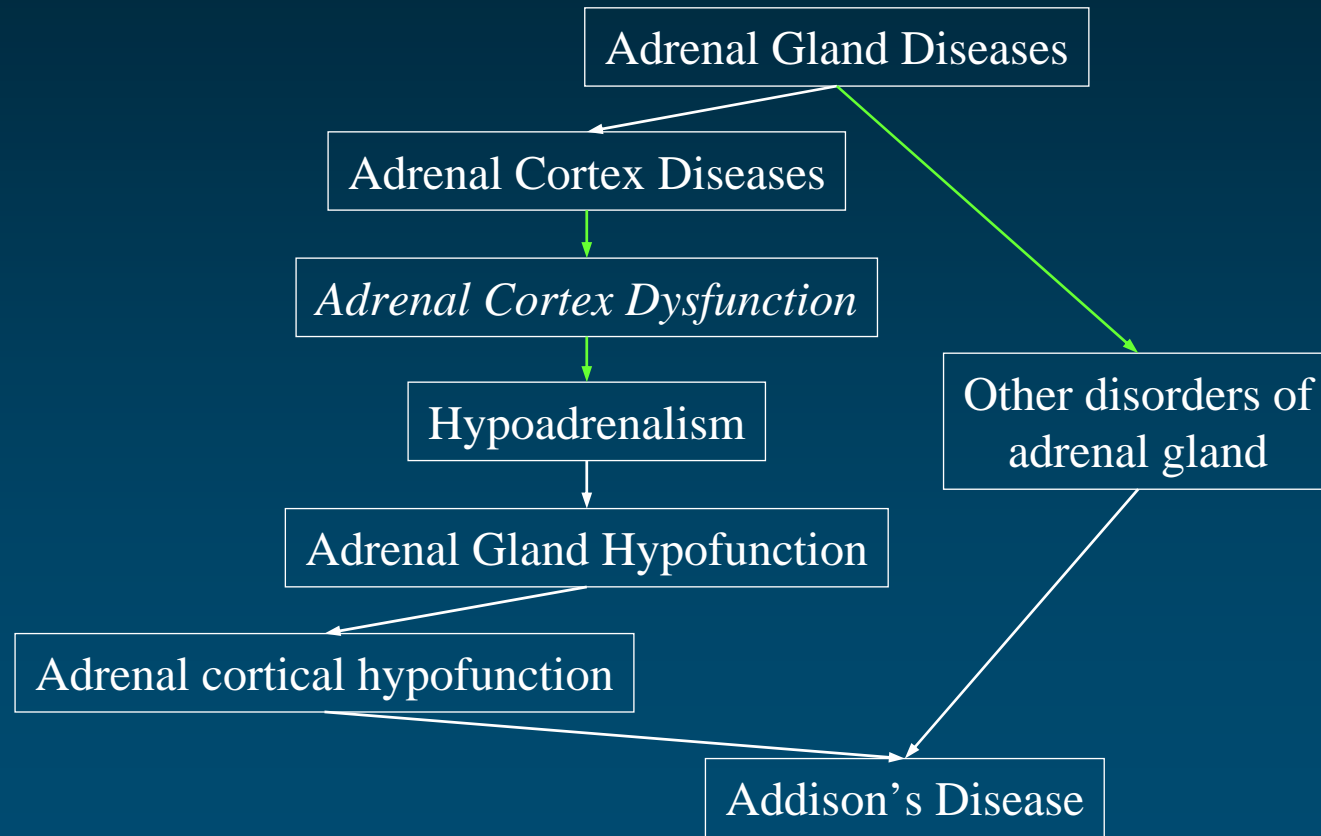
C0001621



Semantic pre-processing

- ◆ Metadata in the source vocabularies
- ◆ Tentative categorization
- ◆ Positive (or negative) evidence for tentative synonymy relations based on lexical features

Additional knowledge: UMLS editors



UMLS vs. Semantic Web

Similarities, differences and unresolved issues

- ◆ Identifying biomedical entities
 - Trans-namespace integration
 - No UMLS-based URIs
- ◆ Availability
 - Intellectual property restrictions
 - Application Programming Interface
- ◆ Formats
 - RRF vs. SW languages
- ◆ UMLS as an ontology?
 - Underspecified semantics

1 Identifying biomedical entities

◆ Syntax vs. semantics

- URI, LSID,... vs. reference ontologies

◆ Integrative resources vs. individual namespaces

- Unified Medical Language System (UMLS) vs. GO, MeSH, SNOMED, ...

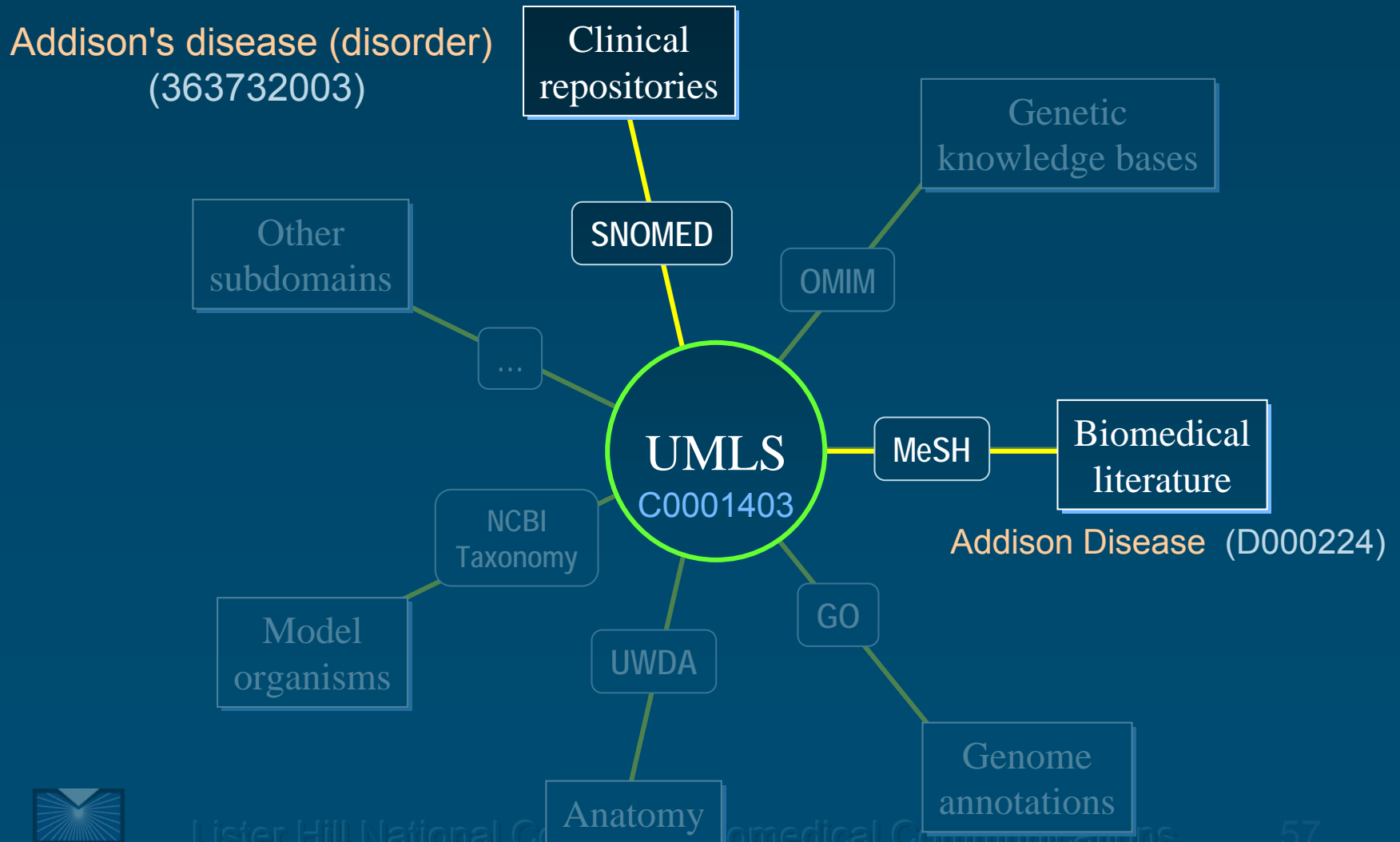
No UMLS-based URIs Syntax

- ◆ No officially supported UMLS-based URIs for biomedical entities
e.g., <http://umls.org/C0001403>
- ◆ Possible alternatives
 - Redirection service (e.g., PURL) <http://purl.org/>
- ◆ Resolution issues: what is expected to be returned?
 - Acknowledgment of existence
 - Preferred term
 - Set of names, relations,... in RDF

No UMLS-based URIs Semantics

- ◆ Potential resources for trans-namespace identification of biomedical entities
 - Clinical medicine: UMLS CUIs
 - [Genomics: Entrez Gene]
- ◆ Ontology of biomedical relationships
 - No comprehensive integrative resource available
 - OBO relations
 - UMLS Semantic Network relations
 - GALEN relations

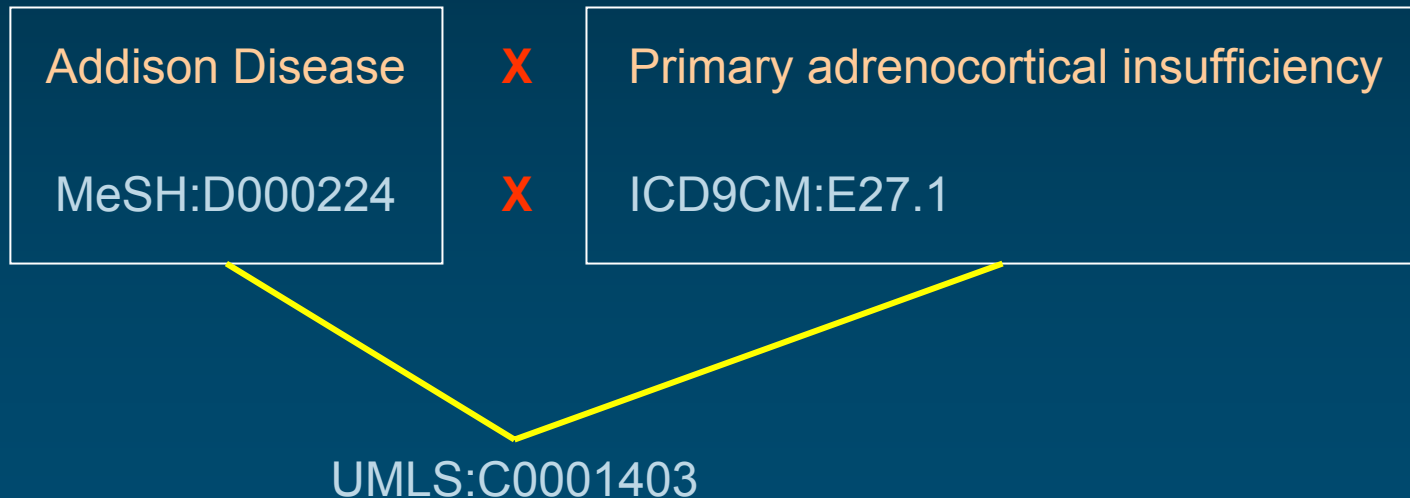
Trans-namespace integration



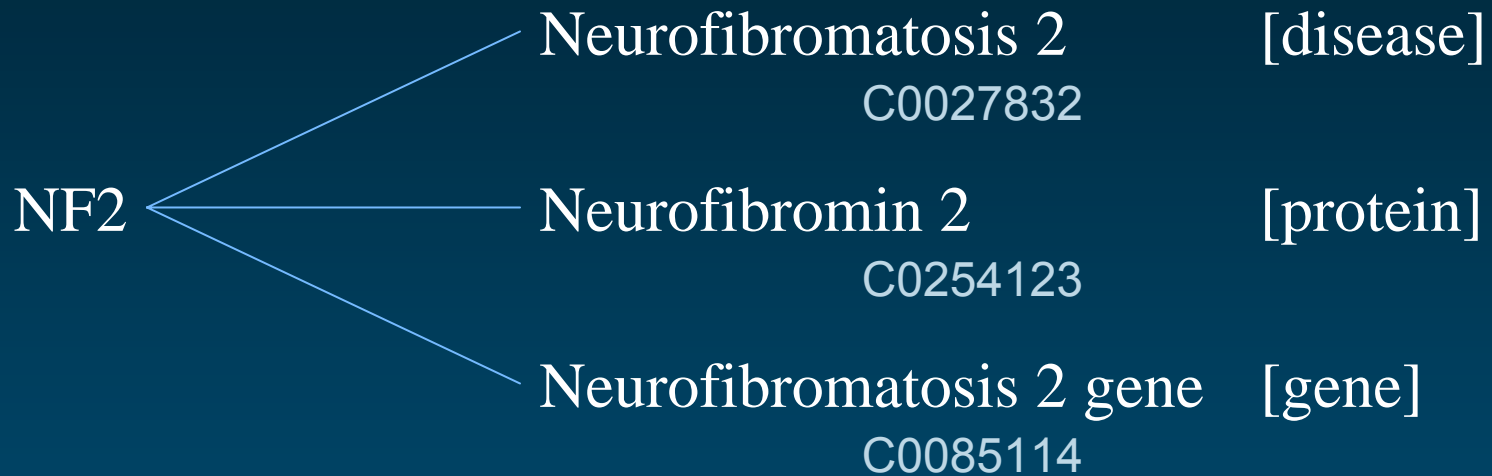
Trans-namespace integration

◆ Advantages

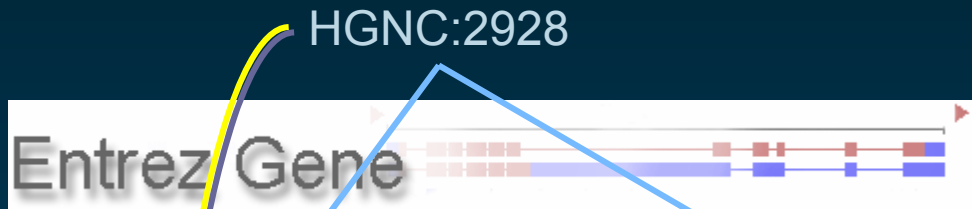
- Over shared identifiers (increased recall)
- Over lexical mapping (increased recall + precision)



Ambiguity resolution



Other integrative resources



<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez>

DMD

Order cDNA clone, Links

Official Symbol: **DMD** and Name: **dystrophin (muscular dystrophy, Duchenne and Becker types)** [*Homo sapiens*]

Other Aliases: GS1-19024.1, BMD, CMD3B, DXS142, DXS164, DXS206, DXS230, DXS239, DXS268, DXS269, DXS270, DXS272

Other Designations: Duchenne muscular dystrophy protein; **dystrophin**

Chromosome: X, Location: Xp21.2

Annotation: Chromosome X, NC_000023.9 (33267646..31047265, complement)

MIM: 300377

GeneID: 1756

HPRD:02303



2 Availability Intellectual property restrictions

- ◆ UMLS: free license required

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/license.html>

- ◆ Some intellectual property restrictions

- 2/3 of the names freely available (in the US)

Name Count by Source Restriction Level (SRL):

| SRL | Source Count | % of Sources |
|-----|--------------|--------------|
| 0 | 2181959 | 32.22% |
| 1 | 94059 | 1.39% |
| 2 | 22156 | 0.33% |
| 3 | 2111546 | 31.18% |
| 4 | 2362949 | 34.89% |
| 0+4 | 4544908 | 67.11% |

<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/research/umls/>

- ◆ Web browser: username/password required



Availability Application Programming Interfaces

- ◆ Remote server at NLM
- ◆ Local application connected through

Java RMI

- ◆ Java-based applications
- ◆ Developer's Guide: Chapter 3
- ◆ Set of Java classes (part of the UMLSKS API download)
- ◆ Detailed *Javadoc* documentation online and with API download

TCP/IP socket

- ◆ XML-based queries
- ◆ Developer's Guide: Chapter 5
- ◆ XML schema
- ◆ Socket server
 - Host: umlsks.nlm.nih.gov
 - Port: 8042



Availability Web Services-based API

- ◆ Part of the Knowledge Source Server version 3
 - Portlet-based, customizable
 - WS architecture
- ◆ Coming soon
 - Alpha release in July 2007
 - Beta release in November 2007



3

Representation formalism

◆ UMLS

- Rich Release Format (RRF)
- [Original Release Format (ORF)]
- Support for source transparency

◆ Semantic Web

- RDF – Resource Description Framework
- OWL – Web Ontology Language
- SKOS – Simple Knowledge Organization Systems

◆ Other formats

- OBO – Open Biological Ontologies <http://obo.sourceforge.net/browse.html>
- LexGrid <http://informatics.mayo.edu/LexGrid/>

◆ Converters

- OBO – OWL http://www.bioontology.org/tools/obo/owl/obo_converter.html

UMLS vocabularies available in RDF/OWL

- ◆ NCI Thesaurus (OWL)
 - <http://ncicb.nci.nih.gov/core/EVS>
- ◆ Gene Ontology
 - <http://www.geneontology.org/>
- ◆ Repository of biomedical ontologies (OBO, OWL)
 - <http://www.bioontology.org/ncbo/faces/index.xhtml>

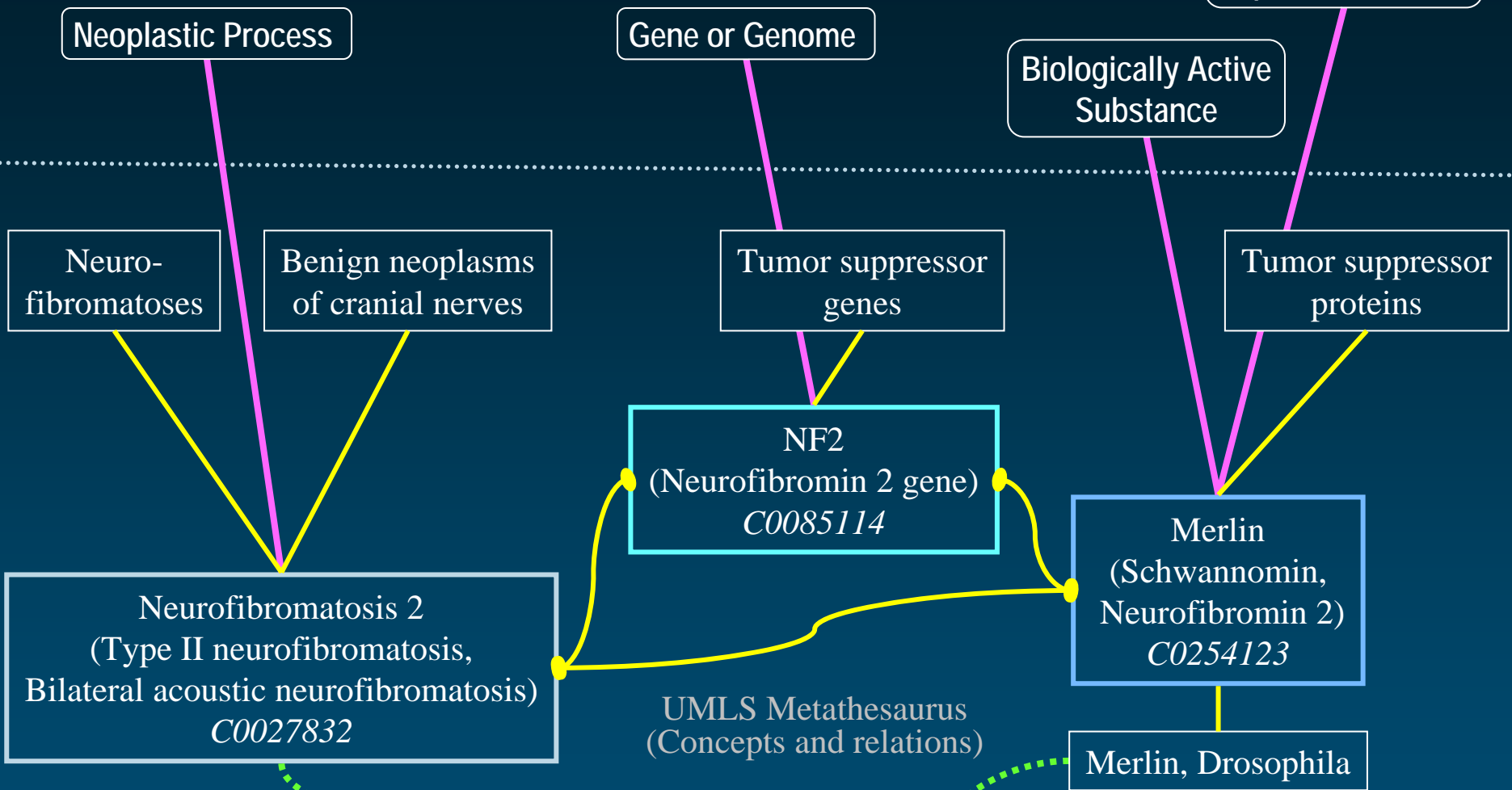


Porting vocabularies to OWL Experiments

- ◆ MeSH
 - Soualmia et al., KR-MED 2004
- ◆ Foundational Model of Anatomy (FMA)
 - Golbreich et al., JWS 2006 (OWL DL)
 - Noy and Rubin, SMI Tech Report 2007 (OWL Full)
- ◆ UMLS Semantic Network
 - Kashyap and Borgida, ISWC 2003
- ◆ UMLS Metathesaurus
 - Cornet and Abu-Hanna, AMIA 2002



UMLS as an "ontology"



NEUROFIBROMATOSIS,
TYPE II; NF2
#101000 **OMIM**

External resources

Drosophila melanogaster merlin
(Dmerlin) mRNA, complete cds.
U49724 **Genbank**

4 UMLS as an ontology Limitations

- ◆ Genes not systematically represented
 - Most gene products and diseases are
- ◆ Gene/Gene product-Disease relations
 - Not systematically represented
 - Not explicitly represented (e.g., co-occurrence)
- ◆ Cross-references not systematically represented
- ◆ Naming conventions (genes)

Underspecified semantics

- ◆ Relationship “attribute” not always present
- ◆ Relations used to create hierarchies vs. hierarchical relations

[Environment and Public Health \[G03\]](#)

[Public Health \[G03.850\]](#)

▶ [Accidents \[G03.850.110\]](#)

[Accident Prevention \[G03.850.110.060\]](#) +

[Accidental Falls \[G03.850.110.085\]](#)

[Accidents, Aviation \[G03.850.110.185\]](#)

[Accidents, Home \[G03.850.110.205\]](#)

[Accidents, Occupational \[G03.850.110.250\]](#) +

[Accidents, Radiation \[G03.850.110.285\]](#)

[Accidents, Traffic \[G03.850.110.320\]](#)

[Drowning \[G03.850.110.500\]](#) +



Summary

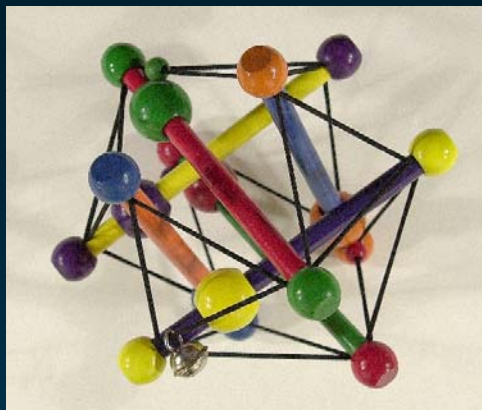
Biomedicine and Semantic Web

- ◆ Semantic Web technologies have not been widely adopted yet in biomedicine
 - OBO vs. OWL
 - caBIG vs. Taverna
- ◆ Use cases
 - Information/Data integration
- ◆ Recent efforts
 - W3C Health Care and Life Sciences Interest Group

UMLS and Semantic Web

- ◆ Terminology integration
- ◆ Based on existing terminologies
- ◆ Trans-namespace, permanent identifiers
- ◆ APIs available
 - Web Services-based API coming soon
- ◆ Can support information integration
- ◆ “Proprietary” representation (RRF)
- ◆ Some intellectual property restrictions
- ◆ Underspecified semantics
- ◆ No UMLS-based URIs





Medical Ontology Research

Contact: olivier@nlm.nih.gov

Web: mor.nlm.nih.gov



Olivier Bodenreider

Lister Hill National Center
for Biomedical Communications
Bethesda, Maryland - USA

UMLS References

◆ UMLS

umlsinfo.nlm.nih.gov

◆ UMLS browsers

(free, but UMLS license required)

- Knowledge Source Server: umlsks.nlm.nih.gov
- Semantic Navigator: <http://mor.nlm.nih.gov/perl/semnav.pl>
- RRF browser
(standalone application distributed with the UMLS)



UMLS References

◆ Gentle introduction

- Bodenreider O. (2004). The Unified Medical Language System (UMLS): Integrating biomedical terminology. *Nucleic Acids Research*; D267-D270.
<http://mor.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/pdf/2004-nar-ob.pdf>

◆ Seminal paper

- Lindberg, D. A., Humphreys, B. L., & McCray, A. T. (1993). The Unified Medical Language System. *Methods Inf Med*, 32(4), 281-91.



Semantic Web for Health Care and Life Sciences

- ◆ W3C Health Care and Life Sciences Interest Group
 - <http://www.w3.org/2001/sw/hcls/>
- ◆ Ruttenberg A, Clark T, Bug W, Samwald M, Bodenreider O, Chen H, Doherty D, Forsberg K, Gao Y, Kashyap V, Kinoshita J, Luciano J, Marshall MS, Ogbuji C, Rees J, Stephens S, Wong GT, Wu E, Zaccagnini D, Hongsermeier T, Neumann E, Herman I, Cheung K-H. Advancing translational research with the Semantic Web. *BMC Bioinformatics* 2007;8(Suppl 3):S2.
http://mor.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/pdf/2007-bmc_bioinformatics-ar.pdf
- ◆ Demo presented at the WWW2007 conference (May 2007)
http://esw.w3.org/topic/HCLS/HCLSIG_DemoHomePage_HCLSIG_Demo

Biomedical information integration through RDF

◆ Biomedical perspective

- Sahoo S, Zeng K, Bodenreider O, Sheth AP. (2007). From “glycosyltransferase” to “congenital muscular dystrophy”: Integrating knowledge from NCBI Entrez Gene and the Gene Ontology. *Proceedings of Medinfo (in press)*.
<http://mor.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/pdf/2007-medinfo-ss.pdf>

◆ Semantic Web perspective

- Sahoo S, Zeng K, Bodenreider O, Sheth AP. (2007). An experiment in integrating large biomedical knowledge resources with RDF: Application to associating genotype and phenotype information. *Proceedings of the workshop on Health Care and Life Sciences Data Integration for the Semantic Web at the 16th International World Wide Web Conference (WWW2007) (in press)*.
http://mor.nlm.nih.gov/pubs/pdf/2007-www_hcls-ss.pdf

