

URGENT: Respond to the NIH RFI to maintain Xenbase funding.

The National Institutes for Health (NIH) recently announced a new Request for Information (RFI): Metrics to Assess Value of Biomedical Digital Repositories.

Read the full requests on the NIH

Website: <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-16-133.html>

All responses must be submitted to: NIH_Repository_Metrics_RFI@mail.nih.gov

Deadline: September 30, 2016.

Please include the Notice number NOT-OD-16-133 in the subject line.

Biomedical Digital Repository can be thought of in two general categories: **Knowledgebases** and **Deposition Repositories**. Xenbase is a '**Knowledgebase**' as it provides species-specific, curated findings derived from the aggregation or analysis of a large body of published and unpublished (community submitted) experimental data. **Deposition Repositories**, like GenBank/NCBI, support primary research data submitted by the data producers.

The NIH wants to understand and measure: 1) the value of Xenbase and other data repositories, 2) the value of data types and data sets Xenbase and other data repositories contain, and 3) how important these data repositories are to your research.

We ask that you respond to this NIH RFI **immediately** to express your support for Xenbase, and explain how the data that Xenbase collates, curates and displays supports your research. If Xenbase weren't available, how would that impact your work? What are the data sharing alternatives to the Xenbase? What are the implications of using these alternatives?

Thank you to all those who have already written to the NIH, please encourage your colleagues to do so as well.