Index of NCI Studies (INS) Glossary of Terms

This document defines terms and abbreviations found throughout the INS. Last updated May 4, 2023

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General Acronyms

TERM	DEFINITION
CCDI	Childhood Cancer Data Initiative
DOC	Division, Office, Center
FOIA	Freedom of Information Act
HHS	Department of Health & Human Services
INS	Index of NCI Studies
NCI	National Cancer Institute
NIH	National Institutes of Health

Division, Office, Center (DOC)s

TERM	DEFINITION
CCG	Center for Cancer Genomics
CCT	Center for Cancer Training
CRCHD	Center to Reduce Cancer Health Disparities
CSSI	Center for Strategic Scientific Initiatives
DCB	Division of Cancer Biology
DCCPS	Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences
DCP	Division of Cancer Prevention
DCTD	Division of Cancer Treatment and Diagnosis
OCC	Office of Cancer Centers
OD	Office of Director
SBIR	Small Business Innovation Research

Dataset Repositories

TERM	DEFINITION
dbGaP	The Database of Genotypes and Phenotypes
GEO	Gene Expression Omnibus
SRA	Sequence Read Archive

Grant Attributes

TERM	DEFINITION
Activity Code	A 3-character code used to identify a specific category of extramural research activity, applied to financial assistance mechanisms. NIH uses three funding mechanisms for extramural research awards: grants, cooperative agreements, and contracts. Within each funding mechanism, NIH uses 3-character activity codes (e.g., F32, K08, P01, R01, T32, etc.) to differentiate the wide variety of research-related programs NIH supports. List of activity codes: https://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/ac_search_results.htm

Award	The provision of funds by NIH, based on an approved application and budget or progress report, to an organizational entity or an individual to carry out a project or activity. This can include intramural and extramural grants, contracts, and other cooperative funding agreements.
Award Amount	Total funding from all NIH Institute and Centers for a given fiscal year.
Award Notice Date	A legally binding document stating the government has obligated funds and which defines the period of support and the terms and conditions of award.
Fiscal Year	The fiscal year appropriation from which project funds were obligated.
Grant	Financial assistance mechanism providing money, property, or both to an eligible entity to carry out an approved project or activity. A grant is used whenever the NIH Institute or Center anticipates no substantial programmatic involvement with the recipient during performance of the financially assisted activities. Within the initial releases of INS, the terms "grant" and "award" are used synonymously.
NCI Award Amount	Portion of the total funding coming only from NCI for a given fiscal year.
NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity. A publicly available document by which a Federal Agency makes known its intentions to award discretionary grants or cooperative agreements, usually as a result of competition for funds. Notices of funding opportunity may be known as funding opportunity announcements, program announcements, requests for applications, notices of funding availability, solicitations, or other names depending on the Agency and type of program.
Organization	The educational institution, research organization, business, or government agency receiving funding for the grant, contract, cooperative agreement, or intramural project.
Principal Investigator	The individual designated by the applicant organization to have the appropriate level of authority and responsibility to direct the project or program to be supported by the award.
Program	A coherent assembly of plans, project activities, and supporting resources contained within an administrative framework, the purpose of which is to implement an organization's mission or some specific program-related aspect of that mission.
Program Officer	An NCI or other institute staff member who coordinates the substantive aspects of a contract from planning the request for proposal to oversight.

Project	The primary unit of collaborative research effort sometimes also known as a core project or parent project. Projects receive funding from awards to conduct research and produce outputs, often across multiple years. Within INS, projects are organized as a grouping of grants with identical Activity Code, Institute Code, and Serial Number. For example, 1P01CA210944-01 and 5P01CA210944-02 are both grants awarded to project P01CA210944.
Project End Date	The current end date of the project, including any future years for which commitments have been made. For subprojects of a multi-project grant, this is the end date of the parent award. Upon competitive renewal of a grant, the project end date is extended by the length of the renewal award.
Project Start Date	The start date of a project. For subprojects of a multi-project grant, this is the start date of the parent award.
Project Title	Title of the funded grant, contract, or intramural (sub)project

Publication Attributes

TERM	DEFINITION
Citation Count	Number of unique publications that have cited this one.
RCR	Relative Citation Ratio
Relative Citation Ratio	NIH Office of Portfolio Analysis metric of scientific influence. RCR represents the field- and time-normalized citation rate and is benchmarked to 1.0 for a typical (median) NIH paper in the corresponding year of publication. A paper with an RCR of 1.0 has received the same number of cites/year as the median NIH-funded paper in its field, a paper with an RCR of 2.0 has received twice as many cites/year as the median NIH-funded paper in its field, while an RCR of 0.5 means that it is receiving half as many citations per year. The RCR is not available for papers published last fiscal year, since, in general, not enough time has passed for citation statistics to meaningfully accrue in that time frame. An exception is made for papers with 5 or more citations since publication, as these are deemed to be accruing citations quickly enough for reliable calculations.

Clinical Trial Attributes

TERM	DEFINITION
Active, not recruiting	Recruitment Status. The study is ongoing, and participants are receiving an intervention or being examined, but potential participants are not currently being recruited or enrolled.
Completed	Recruitment Status. The study has ended normally, and participants are no longer being examined or treated (that is, the last participant's last visit has occurred).
Enrolling by invitation	Recruitment Status. The study is selecting its participants from a population, or group of people, decided on by the researchers in advance. These studies are not open to everyone who meets the eligibility criteria but only to people in that particular population, who are specifically invited to participate.
Not yet recruiting	Recruitment Status. The study has not started recruiting participants.
Recruiting	Recruitment Status. The study is currently recruiting participants.
Suspended	Recruitment Status. The study has stopped early but may start again.
Terminated	Recruitment Status. The study has stopped early and will not start again. Participants are no longer being examined or treated.
Unknown	A study on ClinicalTrials.gov whose last known status was recruiting; not yet recruiting; or active, not recruiting but that has passed its completion date, and the status has not been last verified within the past 2 years.
Withdrawn	Recruitment Status. The study stopped early, before enrolling its first participant.

Patent Attributes

TERM	DEFINITION
Fulfilled Date	Patent application publication date for A1 patents, or patent grant date for B2 patents.
Patent ID	A1: a patent application that has been published. B2: a patent grant that has been published before.

Dataset Attributes

TERM	DEFINITION
Last Update Date	GEO dataset last update date
Registration Date	SRA dataset registration date
Release Date	dbGaP dataset embargo release date. The data access policy requires that the results obtained from analyzing the dbGaP data are not published before the embargo release date.
Submission Date	GEO dataset initial submission date