



# MOLECULAR TARGETS PLATFORM (MTP)

User Guide

08/04/2022

Version 1.0.0

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## Introduction and Overview

The Molecular Targets Platform (MTP) is being developed as an instance of the widely known and respected EMBL [Open Targets](#) platform as a part of the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) [Childhood Cancer Data Initiative](#) (CCDI). This initiative is tasked with building a set of tools and resources centered around childhood cancer research and patient care. We believe that through enhanced data sharing, we can improve our understanding of cancer biology so that new preventative measures and treatments may be uncovered. Our goal is to ensure that researchers learn from every child with cancer in order to extend the survivorship and quality of life for children with pediatric cancers.

Specifically, MTP is a collaborative effort between the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia ([CHOP](#)) and the Frederick National laboratory ([FNL](#)) with input from the National Cancer Institute ([NCI](#)) and Food Drug Administration ([FDA](#)). The MTP, a searchable graphical user interface, is being developed to allow systematic drug-target identification and prioritization based on existing evidence to ultimately impact childhood cancer treatment. The initial goal of MTP is to integrate FDA's RMTL ([Relevant Molecular Target List](#)) with pre-clinical and clinical pediatric cancer datasets having somatic alteration data (SNVs, CNVs and gene fusions) and gene expression data. Open Targets native data is also present within MTP. Our integration of [GTEx](#) data enables comparisons of Pediatric versus Adult data. Our use of common ontological hierarchies has aided in harmonizing disease, gene (target) and agent (drug) terms. A few examples of pediatric data resources that have been added to MTP are TARGET, KidsFirst, and OpenPedCan. Other data resources, such as PIVOT, will be added in subsequent releases.

This document describes a high-level view of the features and functionalities within MTP. Investigators are encouraged to explore MTP for themselves using this guide as a primer.

## Main Landing Page

The main MTP landing page is where users can navigate to the one of several sites, namely: the FDA PMTL Page, an About Page and the Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation Page. Note: RMTL (Relevant Molecular Target List) has been renamed to PMTL (Pediatric Molecular Target List).

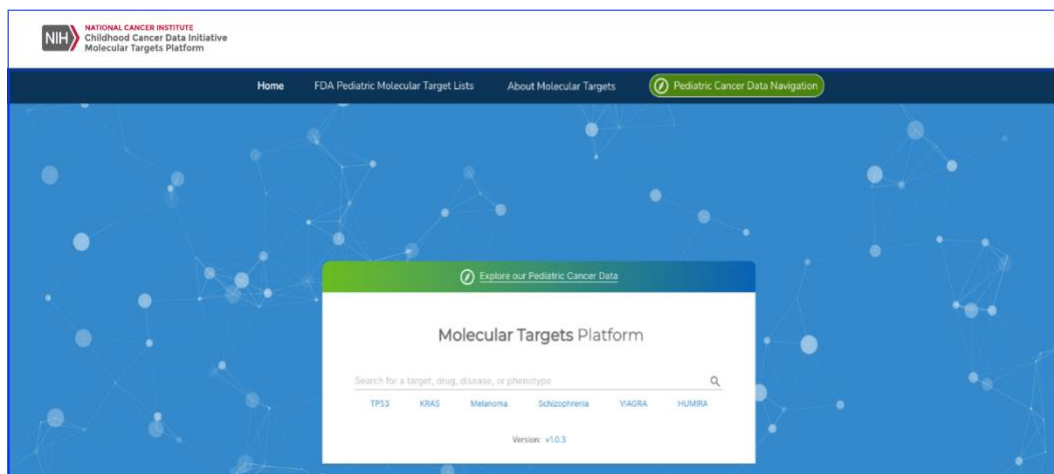


Figure 1: MTP Home Page

## Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation Page

Users can find specific pediatric cancer data by clicking the link in the main page menu bar or the title bar to get to the Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation Page.

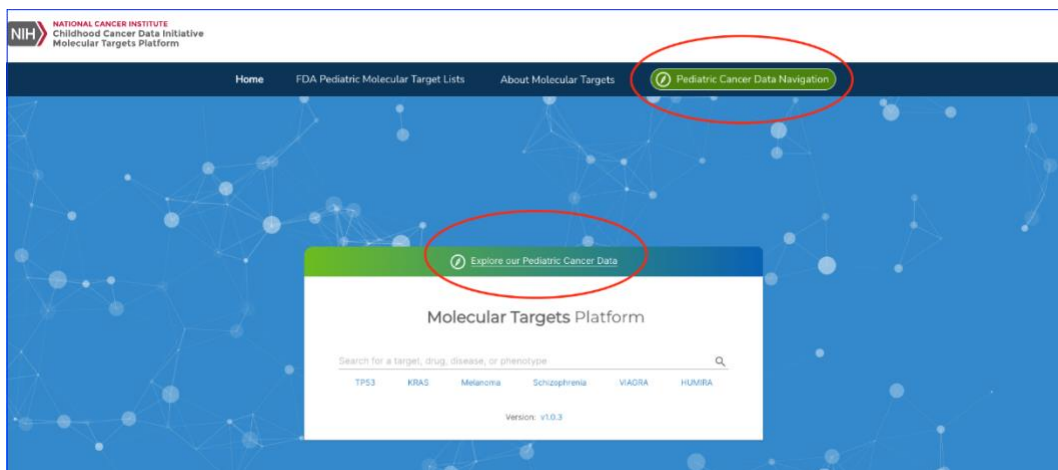


Figure 2: Accessing the Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation Page

On the Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation Search Page, users can query a Gene (target) and/or Disease by selecting their entry from the drop-down list and clicking “Search”. Note that the initial release of MTP represents 41 pediatric diseases.

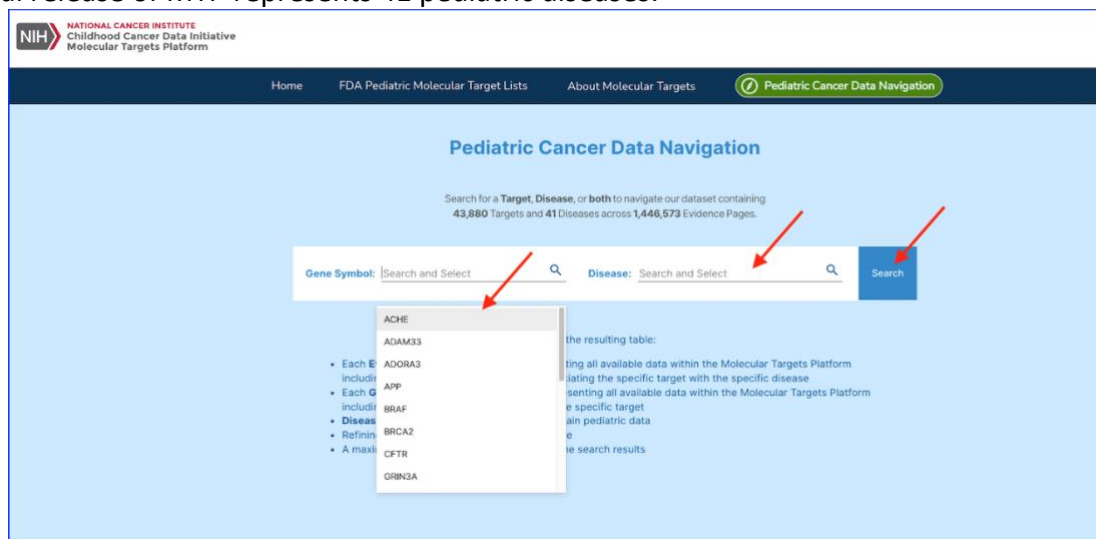



Figure 3: Performing a search on the Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation Page



NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE  
Childhood Cancer Data Initiative  
Molecular Targets Platform

Home
FDA Pediatric Molecular Target Lists
About Molecular Targets
Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation

## Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation

Search for a **Target**, **Disease**, or **both** to navigate our dataset containing **43,880** Targets and **41** Diseases across **1,446,573** Evidence Pages.

Gene Symbol: PTEN

Disease: Search and Select

Search

In the resulting table:

- Each **Evidence** page link opens a page presenting all available data within the Molecular Targets Platform including available pediatric cancer data associating the specific target with the specific disease
- Each **Gene symbol** page link opens a page presenting all available data within the Molecular Targets Platform including available pediatric cancer data for the specific target
- Disease** pages linked in this table will not contain pediatric data
- Refining a search will query the entire database
- A maximum of 10,000 results are returned in the search results

Found **36** Diseases with **PTEN** pediatric cancer evidence data. Note that the existence of data does not necessarily indicate significance.

| Gene symbol | Disease                      | Evidence      | SNV | CNV | Fusion | Gene Expression |
|-------------|------------------------------|---------------|-----|-----|--------|-----------------|
| PTEN        | Ewing sarcoma                | Evidence Page |     | ✓   |        | ✓               |
| PTEN        | acute lymphoblastic leukemia | Evidence Page | ✓   | ✓   | ✓      | ✓               |
| PTEN        | acute myeloid leukemia       | Evidence Page |     | ✓   | ✓      | ✓               |

Here, the evidence for PTEN in Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia was chosen. Now the user can see the specific data types that are available within “widgets”. Blue widgets are native to Open Targets while green widgets represent pediatric data that has been added and does not exist within native Open Targets. Gray widgets have no data.

NATIONAL CANCER INSTITUTE  
Childhood Cancer Data Initiative  
Molecular Targets Platform

Home

FDA Pediatric Molecular Target Links

About Molecular Targets

**Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation**

Molecular Targets Platform

Search

**Evidence for PTEN in acute lymphoblastic leukemia**

**PTEN** FDA PRTCL Relevant Molecular Target

**Description**  
Tumor suppressor. Acts as a dual-specific protein phosphatase, dephosphorylating tyrosine-, serine- and threonine- phosphorylated proteins. Also acts as a lipid phosphatase, removing the phosphate in the C3 position of the inositol ring from phosphatidylinositol 3,4,5-trisphosphate, phosphatidylinositol 3,4-diphosphate, phosphatidylinositol 3-phosphate and inositol 1,3,4,5-tetraakisphosphate with order of [ show more ]

**Synonyms**  
phosphatidylinositol 3,4,5-trisphosphate 3-phosphatase and dual-specific protein phosphatase PTEN PTEN UM041 TSP PTEN  
[ mutated in multiple advanced cancers ] Phosphatase and tumor homolog [ mutated in multiple advanced cancers ] 10p23del 825  
[ show more ]

**acute lymphoblastic leukemia**

**Description**  
Leukemia with an acute onset, characterized by the presence of lymphoblasts in the bone marrow and the peripheral blood. It includes the acute B lymphoblastic leukemia and acute T lymphoblastic leukemia.

**Synonyms**  
[ lymphoblastic leukemia ] [ acute lymphoid leukemia ] [ acute lymphoblastic leukemia/lymphoma ] [ acute lymphocytic leukemia ]  
[ lymphoblastic leukemia, acute ] [ acute lymphocytic leukemias ] [ precursor lymphoblastic leukemia ] [ acute lymphocytic leukemia ]  
[ leukemia, lymphoblastic, malignant ] [ ALL - acute lymphocytic leukemia ]  
[ show more ]

|   |  |   |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|
| <p><b>SA</b> OpenPeaCan Somatic Alterations Somatic mutations</p> <p><b>Available</b></p> <p>Gene3Phosphotyrosine Genetic associations<br/>no data</p> <p>INOSIGN Somatic mutations<br/>no data</p> <p>PROGINS Pathways &amp; systems biology<br/>no data</p> | <p><b>GX</b> OpenPeaCan Gene Expression This expression</p> <p><b>Available</b></p> <p>Lindford literature Genetic associations<br/>no data</p> <p>Clellan (Somatic) Somatic mutations<br/>no data</p> <p>Reacome Pathways &amp; systems biology<br/>no data</p> | <p><b>OT</b> Genetics Portal Genetic associations</p> <p>no data</p> <p>Lindford variants Genetic associations<br/>no data</p> <p>CHM08L Drugs<br/>no data</p> <p>Genetic signatures Pathways &amp; systems biology<br/>no data</p> | <p><b>CV</b> ClinVar Genetic associations</p> <p>no data</p> <p>ClinicalGen Genetic associations<br/>no data</p> <p>Project Secure Pathways &amp; systems biology<br/>no data</p> <p><b>EP</b> Europe PMC Text mining<br/>534 entries</p> | <p><b>GT</b> Gene Burden Genetic associations</p> <p>no data</p> <p>Orphanet Genetic associations<br/>no data</p> <p>Cancer Biomarkers Pathways &amp; systems biology<br/>no data</p> <p>Expression Atlas RNA expression<br/>no data</p> | <p><b>CEL</b> PathAdigo Genetic associations</p> <p>no data</p> <p><b>CC</b> Cancer Gene Census Somatic mutations<br/>5 entries</p> <p><b>SE</b> SLAPenrich Pathways &amp; systems biology<br/>3 entries</p> <p><b>IM</b> MPC Animal models<br/>7 entries</p> |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|

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The user can click on the Somatic Alterations widget.

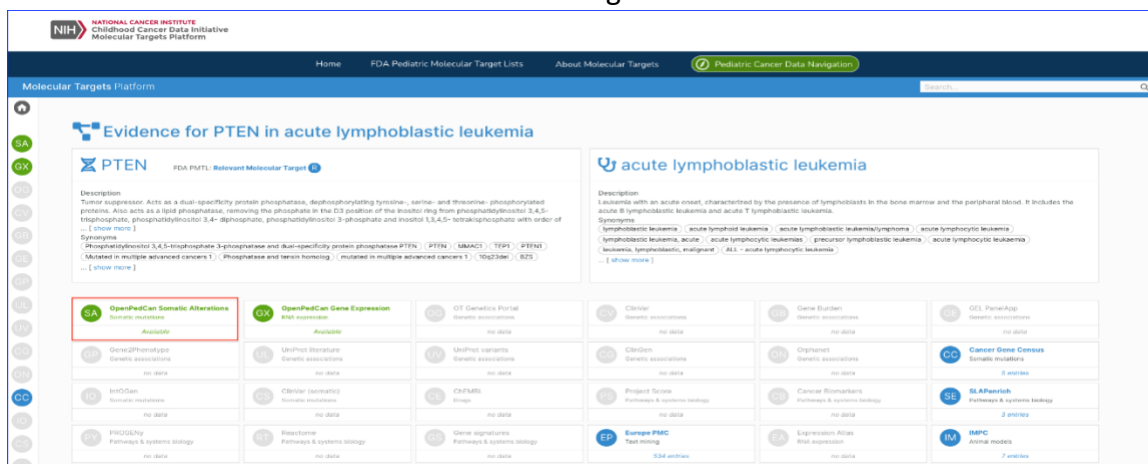


Figure 6: Somatic Alteration Widget View

Next, the user will see multiple tabs: SNV by Gene, SNV by Variant, CNV by Gene, Fusion by Gene and Fusion. Clicking on any tab shows the corresponding data for PTEN in Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia along with many useful columns such as frequency in the dataset, % in the cohort and, in some cases, links to PedcBioPortal information. Active tabs are colored green. If a tab is not highlighted, there is no data for that data type. Some columns are filterable. If a gene is on the PMTL list, it is indicated by a blue circle with a white "R" inside. The data is downloadable in json and tsv formats and by API query.

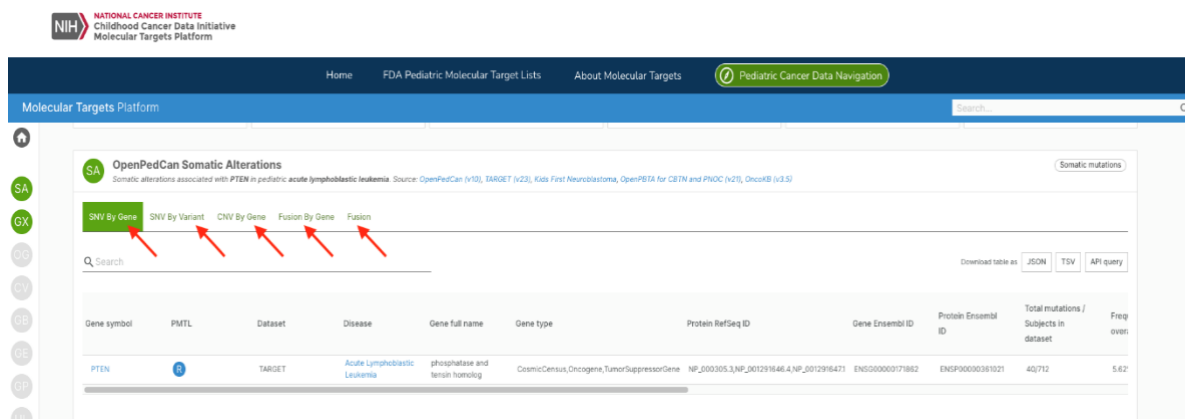


Figure 7: Table indicating Data Types within the Somatic Alteration Widget

Additionally, the user can click on the Gene Expression Widget.

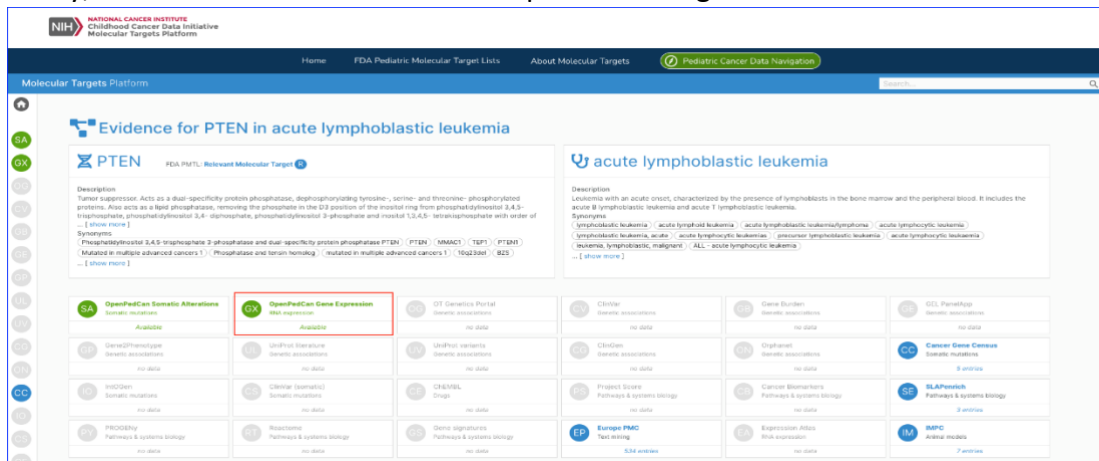


Figure 8: Gene Expression Widget

Next, the user will see choices between Linear and Log10 views of the graph of PTEN expression in Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia versus the expression of GTEx normal tissue. The data is downloadable in json and tsv formats.



Figure 9: Gene Expression Widget view with graphical display choice tabs



## Open Targets Data Search Page

At any time, the user can navigate back to the main landing page by clicking on the persistent title at the top left of the screen. Diseases, targets and drugs can be searched on this main page. Open Targets data will be displayed in the resulting screens. The native Open Targets data is mostly adult data. Note: To see the added Pediatric datasets, this page provides two links to the Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation page for a view of the Pediatric data, as mentioned above.

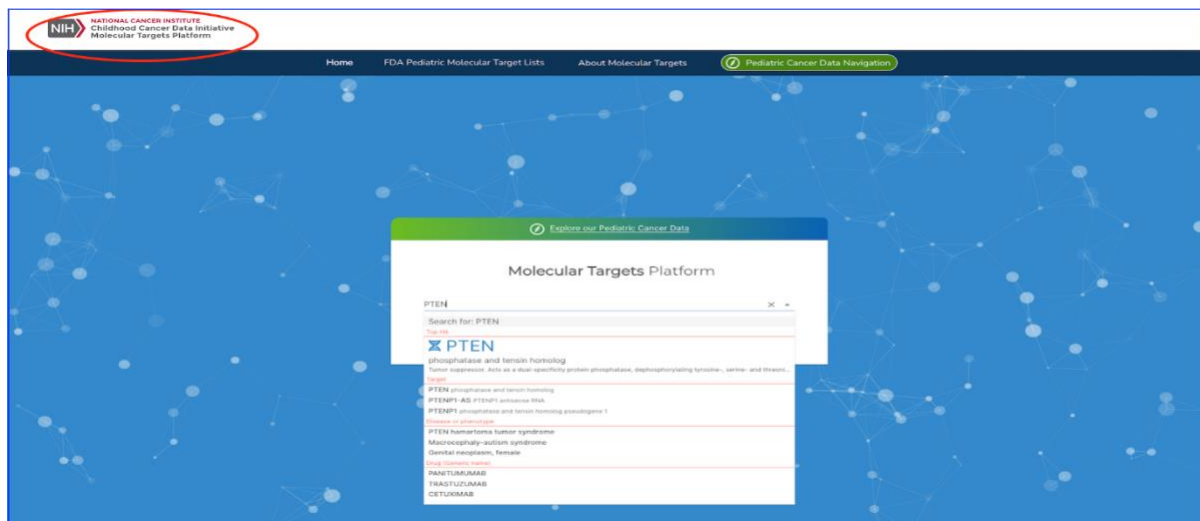


Figure 10: Open Targets Search page

When searching by the gene PTEN, the user can see two tabs presented. The “Associated Disease” tab shows all diseases ranked by descending evidence (highest ranking at the top) in a heatmap. The heatmap also shows what kind of data led to the score as well as an overall association score. The view allows searching by a specific gene in the search bar above and to the left of the heatmap. Alternately, one can begin by searching for a specific disease and an Associated genes heatmap will be displayed.

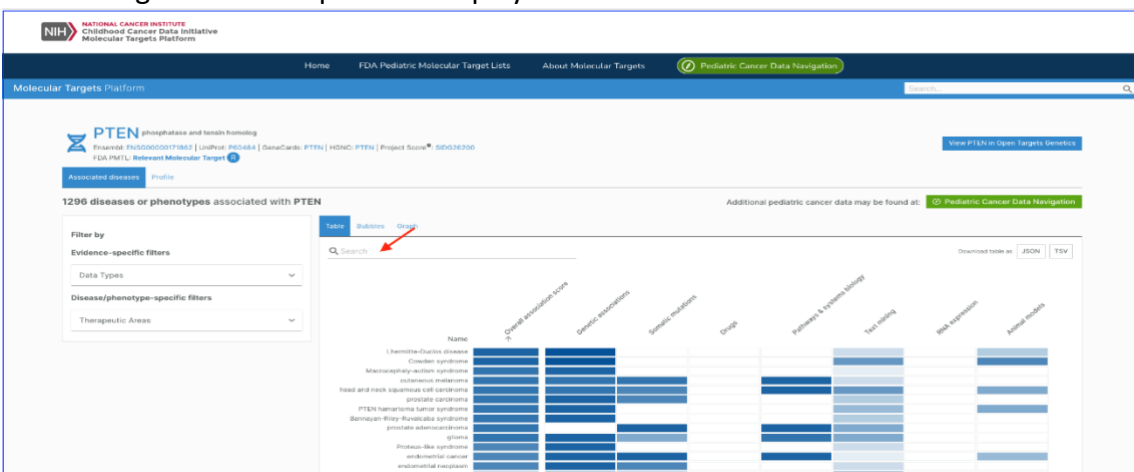


Figure 11: Open Targets Search page

## About Molecular Targets Page

The About Page can be navigated to from the main landing page and has two pull-down choices. The choice of “About Molecular Target” will display a page with broad sections describing the derivation of the platform, Pediatric Cancer Diseases, Pediatric Cancer Data Sources, Data Processing methods and Pediatric Cancer Data Visualizations as well as other information.

The screenshot shows the 'About Molecular Targets' page. At the top is a navigation bar with links: Home, FDA Pediatric Molecular Target Lists, About Molecular Targets, and Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation. The main heading is 'Pediatric Cancer Disease'. Below it is a paragraph explaining that pediatric cancers are rare and heterogeneous, and that the platform integrates data from various sources. This is followed by a section titled 'Pediatric Cancer Data Sources' which includes a list of data sources: FDA Pediatric Molecular Target Lists (FDA PMTL), Open Pediatric Cancer (OpenPedCan), Therapeutically Applicable Research to Generate Effective Treatments (TARGET), Gabriella Miller Kids First Neuroblastoma (Kids First), Open Pediatric Brain Tumor Atlas (OpenPBTA), and Oncology Knowledge Base (OncKB) Cancer Gene List.

Figure 12: About Page content

The “Change Log” will provide the user with each version of a particular MTP release.

The screenshot shows the 'Change Log' page. It features a table with seven rows, each representing a different component of the Molecular Targets Platform. Each row includes the component name, the version in use, the release date, and a link to the detailed change log. The components are: Open Targets Platform, Molecular Targets Platform Frontend, Molecular Targets Platform Backend, OpenPedCan Analyses, OncKB Cancer Gene List, and FDA Pediatric Molecular Target Lists.

| Component                            | Version in use                  | Release Date        | Detailed Change Log                         |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| Open Targets Platform                | Version in use: 21.06           | Released 2021-06-30 | <a href="#">Open Targets Platform</a>       |
| Molecular Targets Platform Frontend  | Version in use: v1.0.3          |                     | <a href="#">MTP Frontend Release</a>        |
| Molecular Targets Platform Backend   | Version in use: dev_cloudOne_hc |                     | <a href="#">MTP Backend Release</a>         |
| OpenPedCan Analyses                  | Version in use: v1.0            | Released 2021-10-12 | <a href="#">OpenPedCan Analysis Release</a> |
| OncKB Cancer Gene List               | Version in use: v3.5            | Released 2021-07-16 | <a href="#">OncKB Release</a>               |
| FDA Pediatric Molecular Target Lists | Version in use: v1.1            | Released 2021-09-09 | <a href="#">FDA PMTL Documentation</a>      |

Figure 13: About Page --> Change Log content

## FDA Pediatric Molecular Targets Page

The Pediatric Molecular Targets (PMTL) page provides links to the FDA documentation and displays all the Relevant Molecular Targets with corresponding FDA-derived information in sortable columns. The PMTL list is exportable in json, tsv and csv formats.

Version 1.3

Targets in the FDA's Pediatric Molecular Target Lists (PMTL) are important for studies of pediatric cancer and have special legal requirements associated with drug development. The table below is a computable interpretation of the target lists published by the FDA. See our [FDA PMTL Documentation](#) or the official [FDA publication](#) for details.

Each target in the list is designated as either a **Relevant Molecular Target** or a **Non-Relevant Molecular Target**. Any target not in this list is considered an **Unspecified Target** by default.

Columns: Description

Download table as: [JSON](#) [CSV](#) [TSV](#)

| Target Symbol | Designation               | FDA Class        | FDA Target  | Mapping Description      |
|---------------|---------------------------|------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Search...     | Select...                 | Select...        | Search...   | Select...                |
| ABL1          | Relevant Molecular Target | Gene Abnormality | ABL1/2   Gene Abnormality: ABL1/2 gene fusions (BCR-ABL1, etc.) | Separate list            |
| ABL2          | Relevant Molecular Target | Gene Abnormality | ABL1/2   Gene Abnormality: ABL1/2 gene fusions (BCR-ABL1, etc.) | Separate list            |
| BCR           | Relevant Molecular Target | Gene Abnormality | ABL1/2   Gene Abnormality: ABL1/2 gene fusions (BCR-ABL1, etc.) | Separate gene fusion     |
| ACVR1         | Relevant Molecular Target | Gene Abnormality | ACVR1   Gene Abnormality: ACVR1                                 | Unchanged from FDA lists |
| ALK           | Relevant Molecular Target | Gene Abnormality | ALK   Gene Abnormality: ALK and ALK gene fusions                | Unchanged from FDA lists |
| ASCL1         | Relevant Molecular Target | Gene Abnormality | ASCL1   Gene Abnormality: ASCL1 gene                            | Unchanged from FDA lists |
| BRAF          | Relevant Molecular Target | Gene Abnormality | BRAF   Gene Abnormality: BRAF                                   | Unchanged from FDA lists |
| BRD3          | Relevant Molecular Target | Gene Abnormality | BRD3-NUTM1   Gene Abnormality: BRD3-NUTM1                       | Separate gene fusion     |
| NUTM1         | Relevant Molecular Target | Gene Abnormality | BRD3-NUTM1   Gene Abnormality: BRD3-NUTM1                       | Separate gene fusion     |

Figure 14: FDA Pediatric Molecular Targets Page

## Step-by-Step guidance on how an investigator might use MTP

### Question: What is the landscape of FGFR3 mutations in all pediatric cancers?

- Do mutations exist and are there specific histologies in which they are enriched?
- Can I find out if there are any gene amplifications in any pediatric cancers?
- There is an ongoing debate as to whether this receptor is highly over-expressed at the RNA level. Can I query RNA-seq datasets to look at RNA expression?
- Can I find out whether there are any splice-site variants present in order to see whether a protein-domain specific adult cancer drug might be adapted to pediatric cancer use?

### Answers from MTP searching:

- **We can view Somatic Mutations that exist and their frequencies and in what specific histologies they are found:** From the main menu, click on the link for “Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation”. Searching by Gene symbol “FGFR3” returns a list of 36 diseases with pediatric cancer evidence data, 11 of which have SNV data. If, for example, you click the “Evidence Page” link for osteosarcoma, then click on the OpenPedCan Somatic Alterations green widget button, then choose the tab “SNV By Variant”, you will see that there are 2 mutations, both from patients in the TARGET dataset. The tab “SNV by Gene” shows the number of FGFR3 mutations/osteosarcoma total in the dataset, and if available, a link-out is provided for PedcBioPortal data.
- **We can view Gene Amplifications (CNVs):** From the main menu, click on the link for “Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation”. Searching by Gene symbol “FGFR3” returns a list of 36 diseases with pediatric cancer evidence data, 13 of which have Copy Number data. Click on the kidney Wilms tumor Evidence Page, then click on the OpenPedCan Somatic Alterations green widget button, then choose the tab “CNV By Gene” which shows the types of CN alterations in this disease along with the frequency in the overall dataset.
- **We can view Histology-specific RNA expression across all pediatric diseases and also compared to public RNA-seq datasets such as GTEx:** From the main menu, click on the link for “Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation”. Search by Gene symbol “FGFR3”. In this Evidence view, click on the FGFR3 link, then the Profile tab, then the GX (Gene Expression) widget which takes the user to linear and log10 graphs of the RNA expression levels of FGFR3 (Y- axis) across all pediatric cancers (X-axis). Next, going back to the main menu, click on the link for “Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation”. Searching again by Gene symbol “FGFR3” takes you to the results page. Selecting any of the diseases from the “Evidence Page” links will take you to Gene Expression. Click on the Gene Expression widget to see linear and log10 views of RNA Expression of one particular Pediatric tumor histology (highlighted in blue and located on the far left) versus GTEx normal adult tissue.
- **We can view Somatic Mutations including Splice-site mutations:** From the main menu, click on the link for “Pediatric Cancer Data Navigation”. Searching by Gene

symbol “FGFR3” takes you to a results page. In this view, click on the FGFR3 link, then the Profile tab, then the SM (Somatic Mutations) “SNV by Variant” tab which shows a listing of all specific genomic mutation by Dataset and Disease and frequency observed. Searching by “Splice\_Site” (a choice for the field “Variant classifications”), will return 6 FGFR3 splice-site mutations across various diseases in one particular dataset.