



Data Linkage of Clinical Trial Data to Research Biomaterial Repositories

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The Case of Neuroblastoma

– A Rare Cancer of Childhood!



International Childhood Cancer Awareness Day



- Population-based data from Cancer Registries participating in RARECARE:

Gemma Gatta: European Journal of Cancer (2012) 48, 1435 ff

- **About 2000 new embryonal cancers every year in EU27**
 - **Annual incidence rate of 4 per million**
(1.8 neuroblastoma, 1.4 nephroblastoma, and 0.5 retinoblastoma);
 - **91% of cases in patients under 15 years**
- Cancer of the sympathetic nervous system
 - Adrenal glands, but also in nerve tissues in neck, chest, abdomen, pelvis
 - 50% before the age of 2 years
 - 50% wide spread dissemination at diagnosis
 - It is a disease exhibiting extreme heterogeneity – Biology is key!
 - Low-risk disease most common in infants and good outcomes are common with observation only or surgery
 - High-risk disease is difficult to treat successfully even with intensive multi-modal therapies.





A Case for International Collaboration !

International Neuroblastoma Risk Group (INRG) Data

2004: INRG Task Force established

(52 investigators from US, Europe, Japan, Australia) to develop a consensus approach to *pre-treatment* risk stratification

Methods:

- **“Double Pseudonymisation” of Clinical Trials and Research Data Sets** (via a honest broker = trusted third party)
- **Data collected on 8,800 unique patients** diagnosed between 1990-2002 and treated on studies from COG, SIOPEN, GPOH, JANB and JINCS with follow-up to 2004
 - Demographics
 - 36 prognostic markers (Genetic markers: 1p, 11q, MYCN, ploidy)
 - Treatment
 - Outcome (EFS, OS)

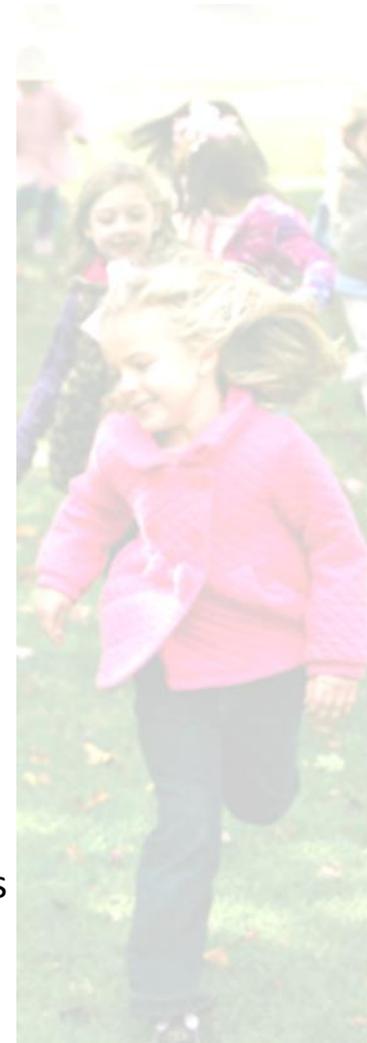
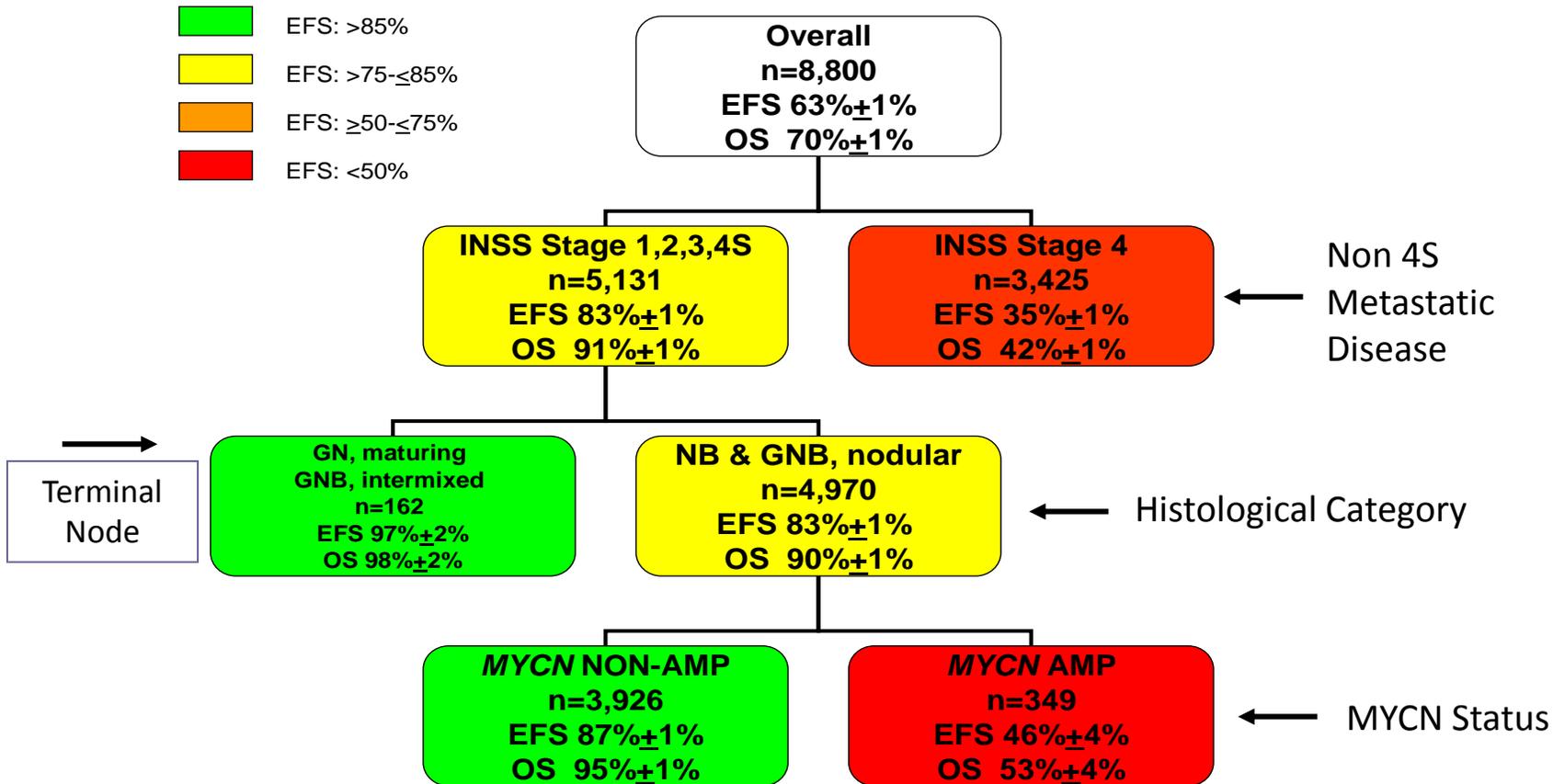
Factors prognostic of event-free survival were identified using survival tree regression

Will we need to go back to every single patient/parent for **„specific“** and **„explicit“** consent in the future ?



Secondary Use of Data to built the “The INRG Classification System”

Survival Tree Regression: Top Level – New Insights!



Benefits of Secondary Use of Data

“The INRG Classification System”



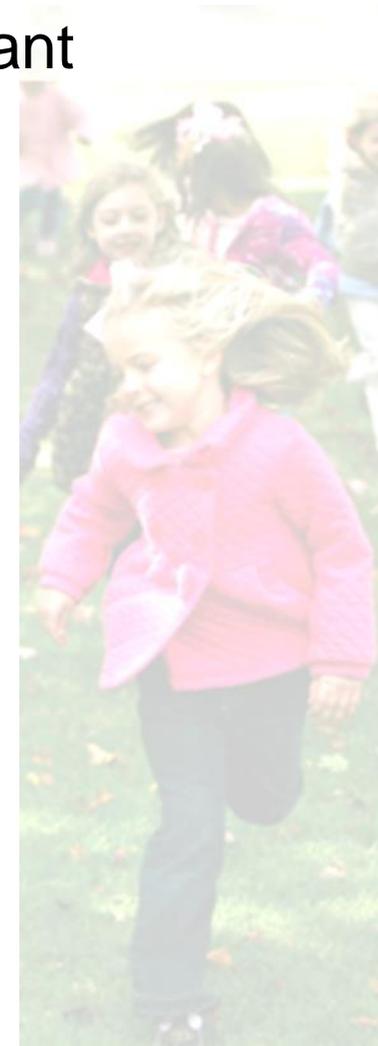
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- 7 factors identified that were highly statistically significant and also considered clinically relevant
 - Non 4S **Metastatic Disease**
 - **New Age Cut Point**: < 18 months vs. ≥ 18 months]
 - **Histological Category** – Ganglioneuroma, ganglioneuroblastoma – intermixed vs. neuroblastoma, ganglioneuroblastoma – nodular
 - **Grade of Tumour Differentiation**
differentiating vs. undifferentiated or poorly differentiated
 - **3 Biological Factors**
 - **MYCN status**
 - Presence/absence of 11q aberration
 - Ploidy (≤ 1.0 versus >1.0)

Such efforts rely on a „ broad“ **One-Time Only Consent !**

- Trying to trace back patients absorbs enormous time and resources
- Likely to result in loss of data or abandoned research



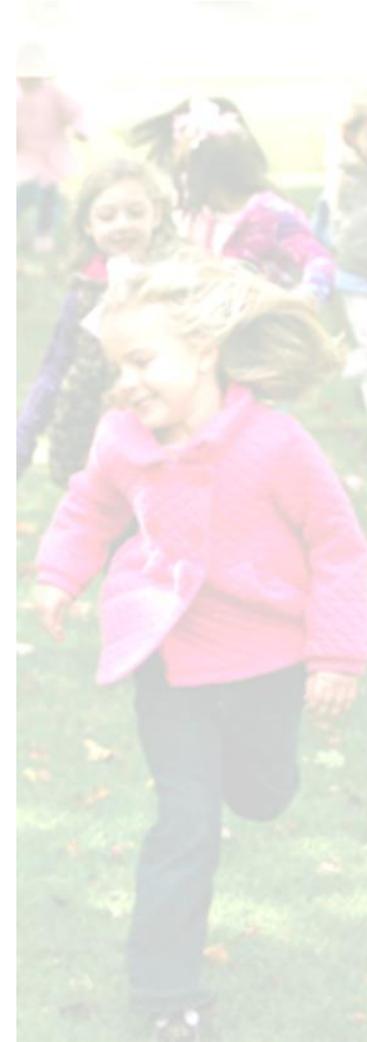
Benefits of Secondary Use of Data

The INRG Classification System

- Ensures that children diagnosed with neuroblastoma in any country are stratified into homogenous pre-treatment groups
- Facilitates the comparison of risk-based clinical trials conducted in different regions of the world
- Enhances our ability to develop international collaborative studies



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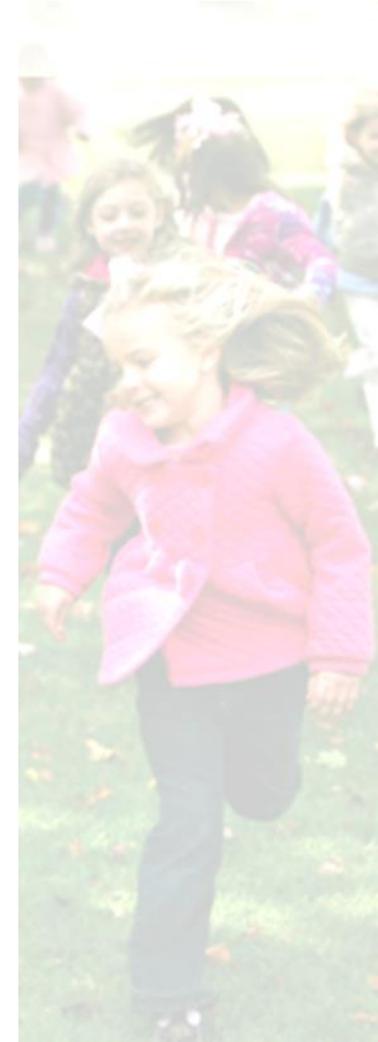




The Issue: Need for Secondary Use of Data

Collaborative and shared research

- INRG data are available for investigator-initiated data mining studies
- Approximately 30 research projects completed or still ongoing
- Analysis conducted by INRG statisticians
- Published in high profile journals
 - DuBois et al., Ped. Blood Cancer, 2008
 - Bagatell et al., J Clin Oncol, 2009
 - Moroz et al., Eur. J Cancer, 2010
 - Taggart et al., J Clin Oncol, 2011
 - Baruchel et al., Eur J Cancer, 2011
 - London et al., J Clin Oncol, 2011
 - Schleiermacher et al., Br. J. Cancer 2012
 - And more...



One Example of many... Achievements of the INRG Biology Committee



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British Journal of Cancer (2009) 100, 1471–1482
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www.bjcancer.com

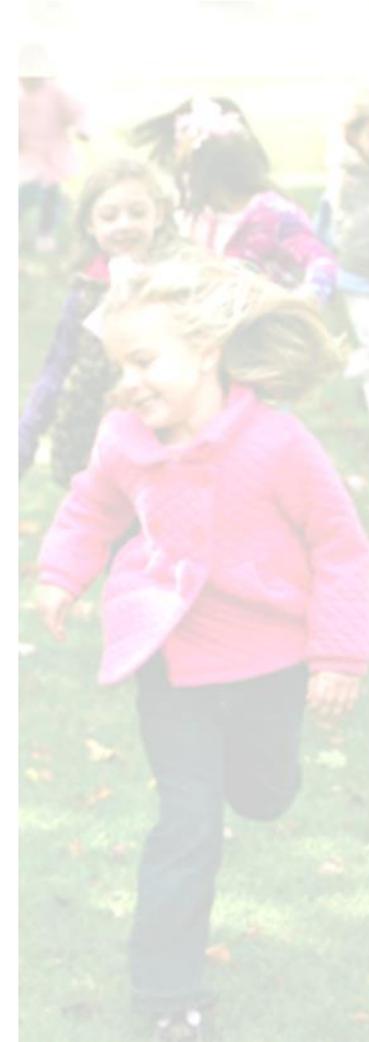


International consensus for neuroblastoma molecular diagnostics:
report from the International Neuroblastoma Risk Group (INRG)
Biology Committee

**PF Ambros^{*,1}, IM Ambros^{*,1}, GM Brodeur², M Haber³, J Khan⁴, A Nakagawara⁵, G Schleiermacher⁶,
F Speleman⁷, R Spitz⁸, WB London⁹, SL Cohn¹⁰, ADJ Pearson¹¹ and JM Maris^{*,2}**

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- Development of precise definitions
- Standardisation of techniques
- Proposition of standard operating procedures for the determination of genetic markers used for treatment stratification (MYCN)



Continued Need for Secondary Use of Data and Follow UP!



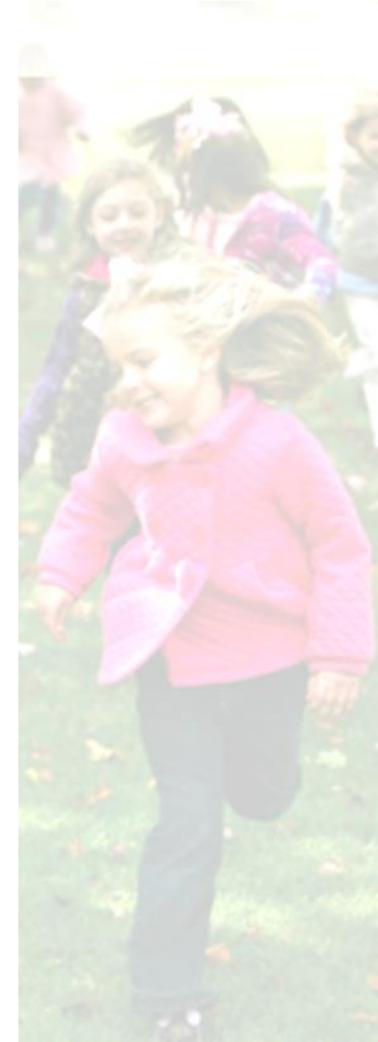
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Limitations of original INRG Data

- **Original INRG Data Base outdated!**
 - Consists of prognostic factors identified > 30 years ago
 - More recent whole genome data generated by labs around the world are not included in the database (GWAS, array cGH, omic signatures, NGS)
- **GOAL**
 - Transform the originally flat-field application housing the INRG data
 - Use new technology facilitating links with other databases (i.e. biobank data, genomic data, ...)
 - Create an Interactive INRG database (iINRGdb)

The future potential of biomarker and mode of actions discovery rely on
Data Linkage and Patient Traceability !
Does not work with anonymised data sets !



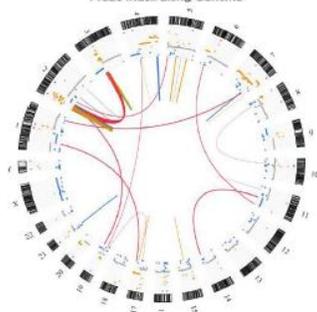
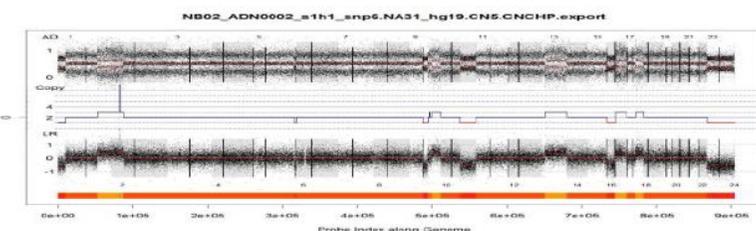
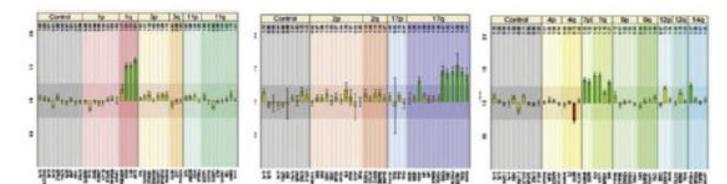
Evolution of Techniques

New datasets, using new technologies, have been generated!

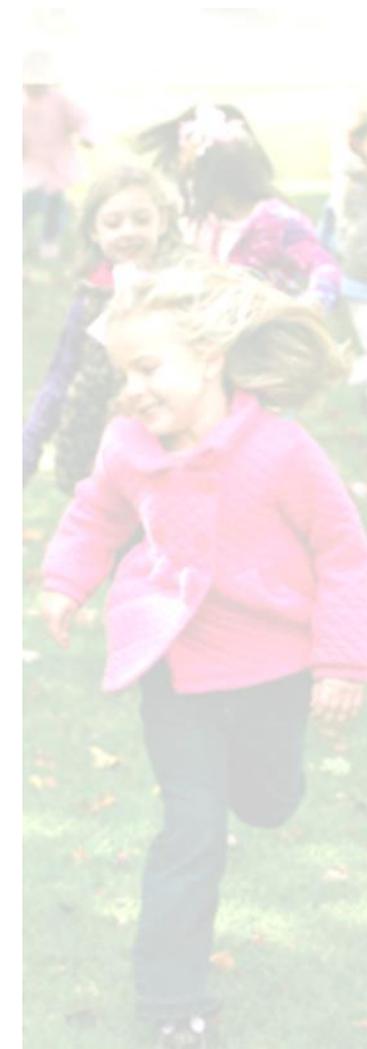


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Creating a brighter future for young people with cancer



Technique	N° of features
MLPA	100 loci (Ambros et al 2011)
aCGH	4k – 1000k
SNP (SNP6, cytoscanR)	> 1 Mio
Sequencing data Whole exome Whole genome	Coding sequence



Next Steps: Expansion Phase

New datasets, using new technologies, have been generated!

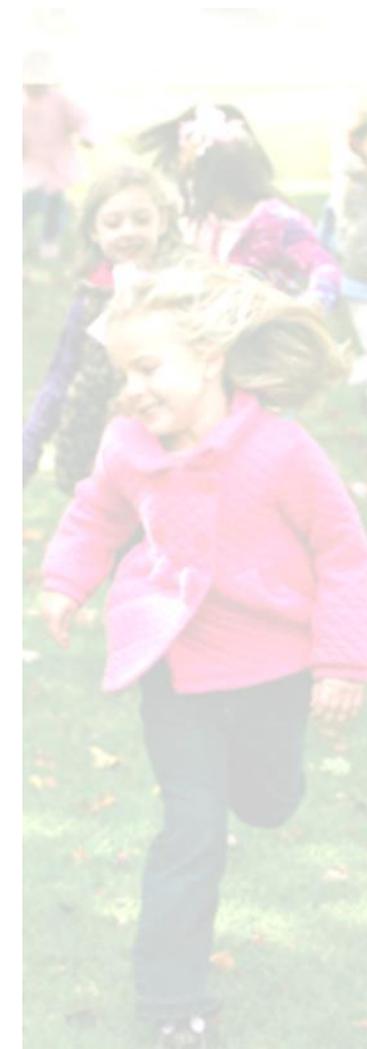
- DNA copy number profiles (array CGH, SNParrays)
 - Somatic mutations (NGS techniques)
 - Coding gene expression profiles
 - miRNA and non coding gene expression profiles
 - Methylation and other epigenetic profiles
- } Tumor sample
- Genomics of peripheral samples (ctDNA)
- } Peripheral samples (blood, bone marrow)
- Germline genomics
- } Constitutional

➤ **Currently updating outcome data and expanding data fields on existing patients** (race, ethnicity, sex, second malignancies, etc)

➤ **Adding data on new patients after approval from Cooperative Group Chairs**



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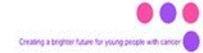
The Need: Large Scale Data Integration in Rare Diseases

i.e. “An Interactive iINRGdb” – under construction

- Fostering research in Biomarker Discovery & Mode of Actions
- Basis for Innovative Drug Development
- Basis for “Personalized Medicine” approaches in Rare Diseases



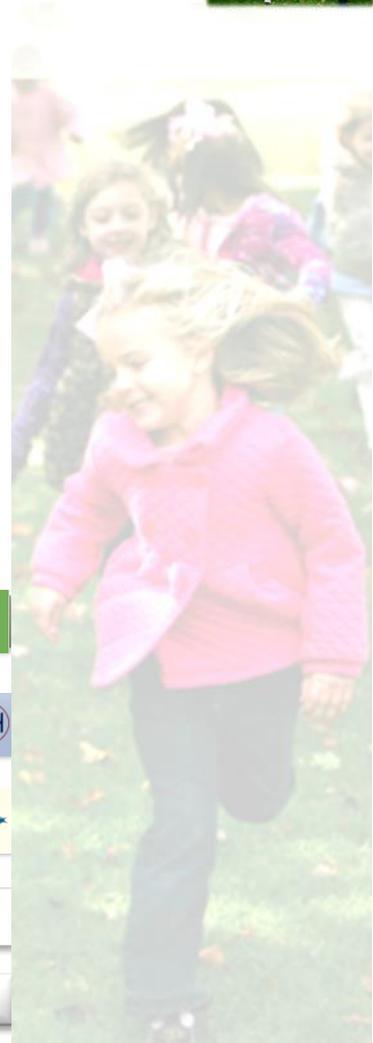
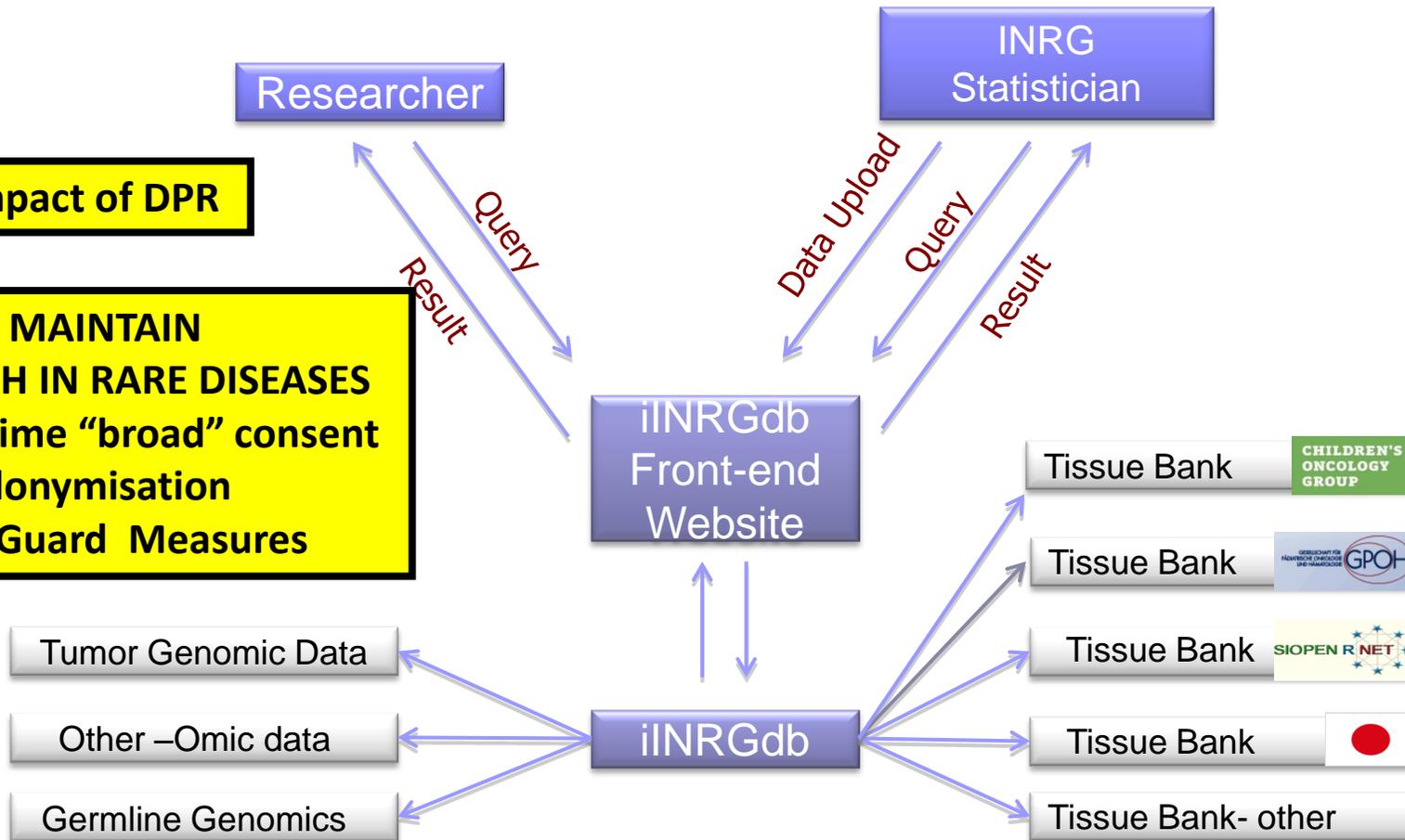
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Impact of DPR

NEED TO MAINTAIN RESEARCH IN RARE DISEASES

- One-time “broad” consent
- Pseudonymisation
- Safe- Guard Measures



Acknowledgments

INRG Task Force



- **Co-Chairs - Andrew D. J. Pearson, U.K. and Susan L. Cohn, USA**
- Investigators: pediatric oncologists, biologists, statisticians, pathologists, surgeons, radiologists, and young investigators
- Investigators were assigned to chair one of 4 committees:
 - Surgery (Tom Monclair)
 - Statistics (Wendy London)
 - Biology (Peter Ambros)
 - Metastatic Disease (Kate Matthay)
- INRG investigators
- The Forbeck Foundation – Sponsor of the 2005 INRG Conference
- Little Heroes Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation
(Friends For Steven Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation)