



# MOBILIZING COMPUTABLE BIOMEDICAL KNOWLEDGE CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 18 & 19, 2017  
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, ANN ARBOR, MI

## Conference Overview

Many years pass before new biomedical discoveries achieve widespread application to practice. The latest knowledge sits passively in journal articles for too long before it is applied. Better health requires that we act faster.

**Purpose:** Platforms for computable biomedical knowledge are rapidly emerging to accelerate the application of biomedical knowledge into practice. The inaugural Mobilizing Computable Biomedical Knowledge (MCBK) working meeting took important early steps to:

- Engage critical dialogue on how to effectively develop and govern platforms for machine-executable biomedical knowledge to improve health
- Build a pre-competitive computable biomedical knowledge community.

This conference was significant for advancing work in areas that require computable knowledge to translate biomedical insights for better health: Learning Health Systems, Open Biomedical Science, and Clinical Decision Support. The 40 invited participants included national and international scholars and leaders from academia, government, and biomedical libraries that will curate repositories of computable knowledge.

Participants explored what will be required to shape and sustain a community focused on making computable biomedical knowledge FAIR: Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable.

Participants discussed biomedical computable knowledge in the context of four, overarching themes:

- (1) Establishing a Trusted System for Computable Biomedical Knowledge,
- (2) Intellectual Property Considerations,
- (3) Knowledge Infrastructure Requirements, and
- (4) Metadata for Computable Health Knowledge.

The conference also included a panel discussion of emerging computable biomedical knowledge platforms, including Apervita (<http://apervita.com>), CDS Connect (<https://cds.ahrq.gov/>) and the Knowledge Grid (<http://kgrid.org/>).

**Next steps:** The group identified several ways to expand this community:

- Submit publications based on key insights that emerged from the conference;
- Initiate significant pilot demonstration projects;
- Pursue further engagement with key stakeholders who are already involved in computable biomedical knowledge, such as the National Library of Medicine, EHR vendors, patient advocacy organizations, and the Food and Drug Administration.
- Host a second larger meeting of the wider biomedical computable knowledge community in summer 2018. Dates and location are to be determined.

Please contact [MCBK-Info@umich.edu](mailto:MCBK-Info@umich.edu) to join the community or to request more information.