Data Release Policy for the Cancer Target Discovery and Development (CTD²) Network

Background:
The Cancer Target Discovery and Development (CTD²) Network is an initiative to develop new scientific approaches to accelerate the translation of genomic discoveries to new treatments. The main goal of the CTD² Network initiative is to bridge the gap between data generated by the multidimensional molecular characterizations of many human cancers and the ability to apply the information to improve patient outcomes. Specifically, the CTD² Network aims to extract therapeutic targets and diagnostic, prognostic, and drug response markers from Cancer Genomic Characterization Initiative (CGCI), Therapeutically Applicable Research to Generate Effective Treatments (TARGET), the Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA), and other datasets. The Network emphasizes interactions between laboratories with complementary and unique expertise, such as bioinformatics, genome-wide loss-of-function screens, targeted gain-of-function candidate-gene validations, judiciously applied mouse-based screens, and small-molecule high-throughput screens. CTD² is a “community resource project” which requires rapid data release to researchers outside of the Network. By sharing all of its results with the research community, CTD² will contribute to understanding the mechanism(s) of cancer and potentially accelerate development of clinically useful markers, targets and therapeutics for precision medicine.

Policy:
An important mission of CTD² is to make all of its datasets available to other scientists to achieve its goals (see above). The CTD² Data Portal is open-access (https://ctd2.nci.nih.gov/dataPortal/CTD2_DataPortal.html). The CTD² Centers must submit their data to the Office of Cancer Genomics (OCG) along with descriptions of technologies used to generate the data, links to the Centers webpages, and contact information for the project. In order for all of the data to be usable and uniform, common data format guidelines (located at OCG SharePoint site) were defined by Network members and all participants must abide by them. OCG will promote the finalized data submissions to the Data Portal for public access after the Center’s publication or approval, or within 9-12 months of generation and validation.

When acknowledging the grant funding (e.g. in publications or press releases) please remember to provide the URL for the Data Portal. We provide an acknowledgement template below:
“Research was supported by NCI’s Cancer Target Discovery and Development Network under award number [specific format: U01CAxxxxxx-01]. The data was deposited to the NCI-CTD² Data Portal https://ctd2.nci.nih.gov/dataPortal/CTD2_DataPortal.html.”