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Defining a Collaborative Ontology for Non-Pharmacological Interventions (NPIs)

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"Non-Pharmacological Interventions (NPIs) are non-invasive methods of care (programs, products or services) whose efficacy in improving the health and quality of life of human beings has been proven. Their effects on health and quality of life markers are observable (with measured risks and benefits beyond mere user opinions) and can be linked to identified biological and/or psychological processes. They can also have a positive impact on health behaviours and socio-economic indicators." (*CEPS Platform, April 2016*).

NPIs researchers and trialists need to share results cross data. However, no solutions are designed to this aim.

ONTOLOGY

- is a wildly used way to represent complex information and interrelationships.
- use URI to share and link to other resources available on the Web of Data

➡ Defining a shared ontology of NPIs

Building an ontology:

- is an iterative process
- is a complex task
- requires a considerable amount of human effort.

➡ Collaborative approach

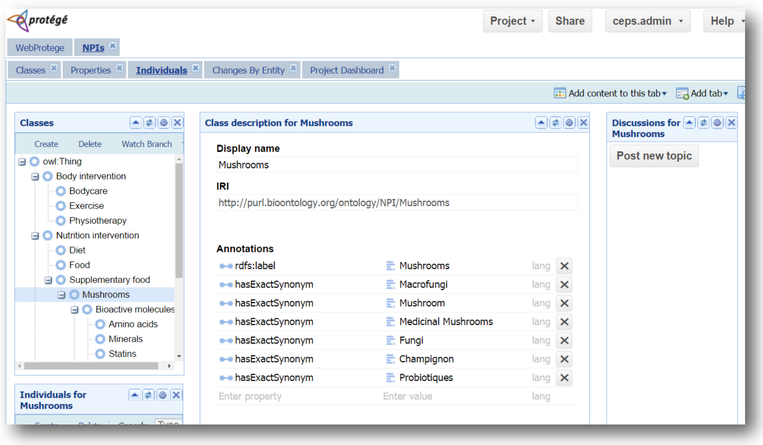
➡ Which tools?

Criteria for selecting

- Free
- Collaborative
- Available in English
- Web-based
- Graphical User Interface
- Versioning
- Audit Trail

Selected tools

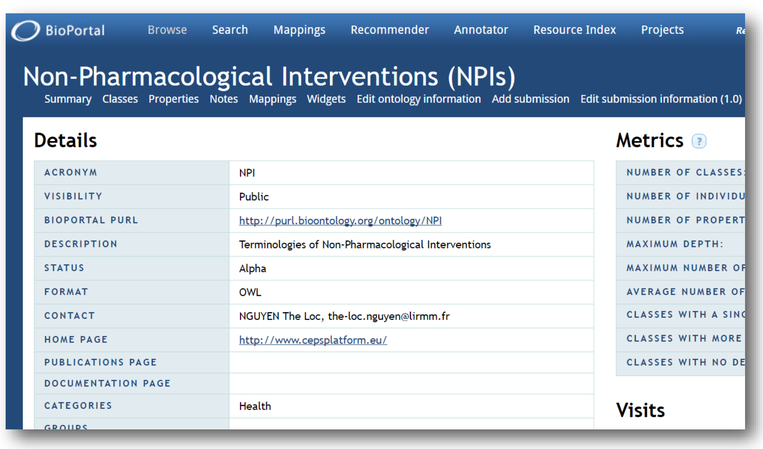
for developing the ontology



WebProtégé

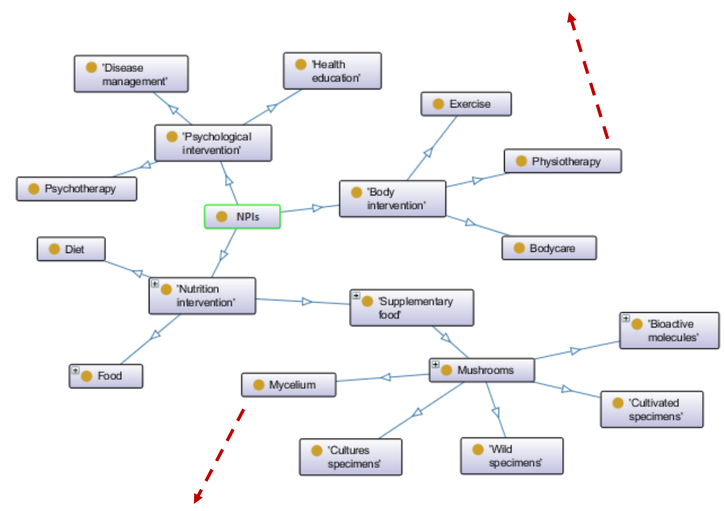
+

BioPortal



for sharing the ontology

URI: http://purl.bioontology.org/ontology/NPI/Physiotherapy



URI: http://purl.bioontology.org/ontology/NPI/Mycelium

The first version of NPIs ontology at:
http://purl.bioontology.org/ontology/NPI/

- The collaborative ontology for NPIs is being built.
- WebProtégé and BioPortal make the ontology development easier and more effective.
- NPIs data is shared and linked in human-readable and machine-interpretable forms.
- The ontology allows to improve data retrieval and data crossing for better understanding NPIs and better defining advanced digital tools.

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