Project MinE Publication Policy

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Document information

Date: May 15th 2021

Version: 3.0

Introduction

Project MinE is the largest ongoing genetic study into ALS worldwide, striving to include a total of 22,500 whole genome sequenced DNA profiles. To promote broad, transparent and responsible data sharing Project MinE has released the Project MinE Variant Browser and posts summary data of Project MinE manuscripts shortly after publication.

Please inform us about your intended use of Project Mine summary data by sending an email to info@projectmine.com. Doing so will help us to keep track of ongoing research initiatives and allow us to facilitate collaboration of researchers, whenever possible. If you would like additional results, please subject a short, informal research proposal.

Citations in publications

When you report results of data that utilizes publicly available Project MinE data in any way, it is our policy that you:

- Acknowledge the Project MinE Consortium by:
    - Listing the "**Project MinE GWAS Consortium**" (for GWAS) or "**Project MinE ALS Sequencing Consortium**" (for WGS) as a banner co-author

    OR
    - Including the following statement in the acknowledgements:

    The authors would like to thank the '**Project MinE GWAS Consortium'** or '**Project MinE ALS Sequencing Consortium'**.
- Cite the relevant publication of the original results.

Authorship policy

Studies using only summary statistics

By definition, Project MinE deals with whole genome sequencing derived data and results. This is separate from GWAS data generated in the past.

GWAS results data consist of lists of SNPs with alleles, positions, odds ratios, SE, p-values, etc. They contain no individual or identifying data. As is standard in the field summary statistics are all online (http://databrowser.projectmine.com, go to Publications), and there is no authorship needed when groups want to include these data in their studies.

WGS based summary statistics are defined by the genic burden results, we will be releasing through the Project MinE website. At this moment (Jan 2021), the datafreeze 1 (DF1) burden results are online and accessible to anyone (http://databrowser.projectmine.com). This could help the community by including these results in their own research, where no authorship is needed for Project MinE, but a reference to the Project and browser:

> 1. Rheenen, W. van *et al.* Project MinE: study design and pilot analyses of a large-scale whole-genome sequencing study in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. *European journal of human genetics : EJHG* **26**, 1–10 (2018).
>
> 2. Spek, R. A. A. van der *et al.* The project MinE databrowser: bringing large-scale whole-genome sequencing in ALS to researchers and the public. *Amyotroph Lat Scl Fr* **20**, 432–440 (2019).

Main papers Project MinE studies

These papers usually report the results of a Project MinE data freeze. Project MinE strives to always report on the latest and largest joint available dataset, to avoid contradictory, and concomitant different partial data freeze publications.

The authorship style is:

- Project MinE ALS sequencing consortium group author name, **'Project MinE ALS Sequencing Consortium'**, with named authorlist in the PDF and in Pubmed according to these rules:
    - the more junior people who contributed most to the manuscript are in positions 1-3 and the Project MinE PIs are at the end;
    - all other individuals who made author-level contributions are listed alphabetically between the above.
- If the group author name is not possible, we will default to a **named author list** according to the same rules as above but the author list concludes with, **'for the Project MinE ALS sequencing consortium'.**

The **study PIs** determine who from their group are authors on each specific paper. Please let the **Project MinE PIs** decide on additional authors as the list is not always "cumulative", while sometimes authors are removed and others added in time. It is always inconvenient to send a draft to a co-author, who, for whatever reason, does not need to be included anymore. The reverse is also undesirable: not adding authors while they contributed.

The standard criteria for authorship are simple and widely accepted:

- An author must have been involved in:
    - study conception/generation of data/ design or data analysis/interpretation of data (in general considered of a working groups member), AND
    - drafting the paper or revising it critically for important intellectual content, AND
    - final approval of the version to be published.
- The numbers per site should be reasonable and not excessive. For example, 13 authors for 80 cases is not reasonable.
- There should be no gratuitous authorships (e.g., a head of department who was not directly involved in the study).

Papers that use individual genotype data from Project MinE

An important aim of Project MinE is to foster research that compares and contrasts the genomics of ALS with other disorders and to help develop new genomics tools. These could be studies where external authors are involved, or even guiding the study, making it not a strictly Project MinE study anymore.

The authorship style then is:

- For our purposes here, all collaborators must be treated as traditional authors, meaning that Project MinE authors can be part of a larger named list on behalf of the Project MinE ALS sequencing consortium if they had an important contribution, or, if no Project MinE authors had a significant contribution at all and all work was done by external groups after permission from Project MinE PIs, the group author name ("the Project MinE ALS sequencing consortium") is part of the named author list only. First/last priority positions are determined by the group that did the analysis.
- Anyway, all Project MinE ALS sequencing consortium authors need to be listed in the .pdf version of such a paper and to appear on PubMed as a collaborator.
- ***Prior to submission, the lead author on such a paper that uses Project MinE data must do the following: document that they spoke with the editor of the target journal, conveyed our needs (all Project MinE authors need to be listed in the .pdf version of the paper and to appear on PubMed as a collaborator), and was clearly assured that the journal would comply***

When a Project MinE PI does not agree with a scenario above, the solution is simple (but undesirable): if a group does not agree with this policy, then they should opt out of a particular analysis.

An authorlist can be requested by sending an email to info@projectmine.com