

# Choosing a Repository for Scientific Data

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March 23, 2023



# Objective

Help you evaluate data repositories in alignment with the new NIH Data Management and Sharing Policy



# What We Will Cover:

- 1) Underlying motivation
- 2) What is a Data Repository?
- 3) Two Types of Repositories
  - 1) Discipline-Specific
  - 2) Generalist
- 4) How to evaluate a Repository for your data



# **Underlying Motivation**

# NIH Data Management and Sharing Plan



- Requires a description of how you plan to preserve and share your research data with others
- Preservation and sharing are key components of the new NIH DMSP
- Elements 4 and 5 of the NIH DMSP directly address preservation and sharing

# Why Preserve & Share?

Preserving and sharing scientific data promotes FAIR data use:





# 6 Elements of NIH DMSP

## Elements of a DMSP



Description of the data plus metadata and documentation



Related tools, software, code, etc



Standards for the data/metadata



Data preservation, access, and associated timelines



Access, distribution, and reuse considerations



Oversight of data management and sharing

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-014.html>

# NIH DMSP Element 4: Preservation



Data Preservation, Access, and Associated Timelines

4.1 Repository where scientific data and metadata will be archived

4.2 Describe how the scientific data will be findable and identifiable

4.3 When and how long the scientific data will be made available





# NIH DMSP Element 5: Sharing



Access, Distribution, or Reuse Considerations

5.1 Factors affecting access, distribution, or reuse of scientific data

5.2 Controlled access to scientific data

5.3 Protection for privacy, rights, and confidentiality of human research participants



# To Keep in Mind:

Some NIH Institute, Center, Office (ICO) policies and Funding Opportunity Announcements (FOAs) already have designated repositories for preserving and sharing data.

If an ICO/FOA has a designated repository, use the designated repository.

National Institutes of Health, *Supplementary Information to the NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing: Selecting a Repository for Data Resulting from NIH-Supported Research*, 2020, <https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-016.html>.



# To Keep in Mind:

If dataset is small (up to 2 GB), then it may be included as supplementary material to articles submitted to PubMed Central.

National Institutes of Health, *Supplementary Information to the NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing: Selecting a Repository for Data Resulting from NIH-Supported Research*, 2020,  
<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-016.html>.



# What is a Data Repository?



# What is a Data Repository?

A data repository is a large database infrastructure that collects, manages, and stores data sets for analysis and sharing.



# Key Characteristics

The NSTC has guidelines for desirable characteristics structured in three major categories. To evaluate a data repository, evaluate based on:

1. Organizational Infrastructure
2. Digital Object Management
3. Technology

The National Science and Technology Council, *Desirable Characteristics of Data Repositories for Federally Funded Research*, 2022, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.5479/10088/113528>



# Key Characteristics

## 1. Organizational Infrastructure:

- Free and Easy Access
- Clear Use Guidance
- Risk Management
- Retention Policy
- Long-Term Organization Sustainability

The National Science and Technology Council, *Desirable Characteristics of Data Repositories for Federally Funded Research*, 2022, DOI:  
<https://doi.org/10.5479/10088/113528>



# Key Characteristics

## 2. Digital Object Management:

- Unique Persistent Identifiers (DOIs)
- Metadata
- Curation and Quality Assurance
- Broad and Measured Reuse
- Common Format
- Provenance

The National Science and Technology Council, *Desirable Characteristics of Data Repositories for Federally Funded Research*, 2022, DOI:  
<https://doi.org/10.5479/10088/113528>





# Key Characteristics

## 3. Technology

- Authentication
- Long-term Technical Sustainability
- Security and Integrity

The National Science and Technology Council, *Desirable Characteristics of Data Repositories for Federally Funded Research*, 2022, DOI:  
<https://doi.org/10.5479/10088/113528>



# Additional Considerations

## Additional Considerations for Repositories Storing Human Data:

- Fidelity to Consent
- Security
- Limited Use Compliant
- Download Control
- Request Review
- Plan for Breach
- Accountability

The National Science and Technology Council, *Desirable Characteristics of Data Repositories for Federally Funded Research*, 2022, DOI:  
<https://doi.org/10.5479/10088/113528>



# Two types of Repositories



# Two types of Repositories

**Discipline-specific repositories:** provide options that generalist repositories do not: file previews, analysis and visualization tools, discipline specific metadata standards, larger file size support. NIH-supported repositories are discipline-specific repositories.

**Generalist Repositories:** store and preserve a wide variety of data types and research outputs and usually accept data regardless of the type, format, content, disciplinary focus, or research institution affiliation.



# Discipline-Specific Repositories

Two major databases for discipline-specific repositories:

NIH-supported Scientific Data Repositories:

<https://sharing.nih.gov/accessing-data/accessing-scientific-data>

Registry of Research Data Repositories:

<https://www.re3data.org/>





# NIH-Supported Repositories

data-primers/clinical-trials-dat... Installation Guide — Dataverse... Document.docx Accessing Scientific Data | Data X Home | re3data.org

https://sharing.nih.gov/accessing-data/accessing-scientific-data

Sharing data enables reuse, increases transparency, and facilitates reproducibility of research results. To bolster data sharing, NIH supports a number of data repositories.

Below is a non-exhaustive list of NIH-supported repositories that offer a wide variety of datasets. Browse the variety of repositories supported and select the link provided in the "Access to Data" column for instructions on accessing data from that repository.

See [Repositories for Sharing Scientific Data](#) for information about submitting to NIH-supported repositories.

## NIH-supported Scientific Data Repositories\*

Institute or Center	Repository Name	Repository Description	Access to Data	Open Data Access
All		Protein Sequence		
NHGRI/NIGMS	<a href="#">The Universal Protein Resource (UniProt)</a>	The Universal Protein Resource (UniProt) is a comprehensive resource for protein sequence and annotation data. The UniProt databases are the UniProt Knowledgebase (UniProtKB), the UniProt Reference Clusters (UniRef), and the UniProt Archive (UniParc).	<a href="#">How to access UniProt data</a>	Yes
NCI (NHGRI, NIGMS)	<a href="#">PeptideAtlas</a>	PeptideAtlas is a multi-organism, publicly accessible compendium of peptides identified in a large set of tandem mass spectrometry proteomics experiments. Mass spectrometer output files are collected for human, mouse, yeast, and several other organisms, and searched using the latest search engines and protein sequences.	<a href="#">How to access Peptide Atlas data</a>	Yes

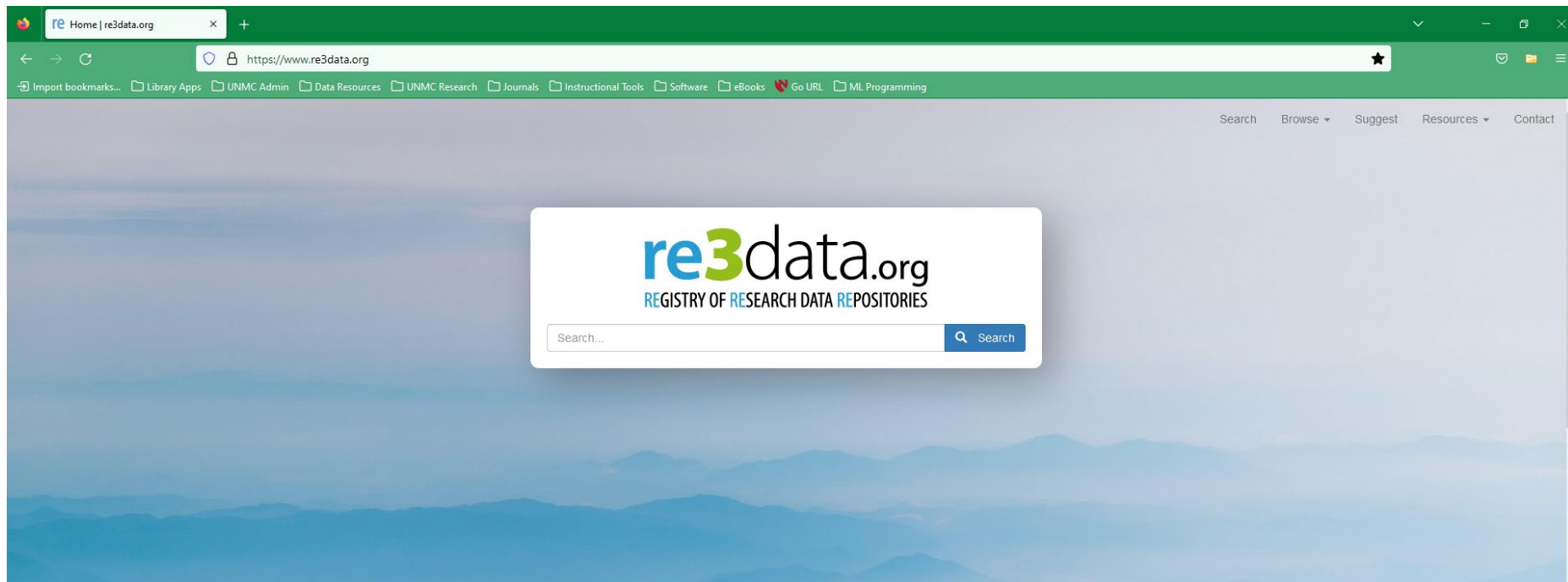
Showing 1 to 2 of 2 rows

\*Source: Trans-NIH BioMedical Informatics Coordinating Committee (BMIC), [Data Sharing Resources](#)

# Registry of Research Data Repositories



[www.re3data.org](https://www.re3data.org)





# Other Discipline-Specific Resources



Wiki list of data repositories hosted by Simmons University:

[https://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Data\\_repositories](https://oad.simmons.edu/oadwiki/Data_repositories)

Data repository guidance from *Nature's Scientific Data* (journal dedicated to publishing solely datasets):

<https://www.nature.com/sdata/policies/repositories>



# Generalist Repositories

Supported by UNMC:

DataVerse



Dryad



figshare



Zenodo



# Generalist Repositories

My recommendations:

DataVerse



Zenodo





# **Evaluating Repositories for Scientific Data**

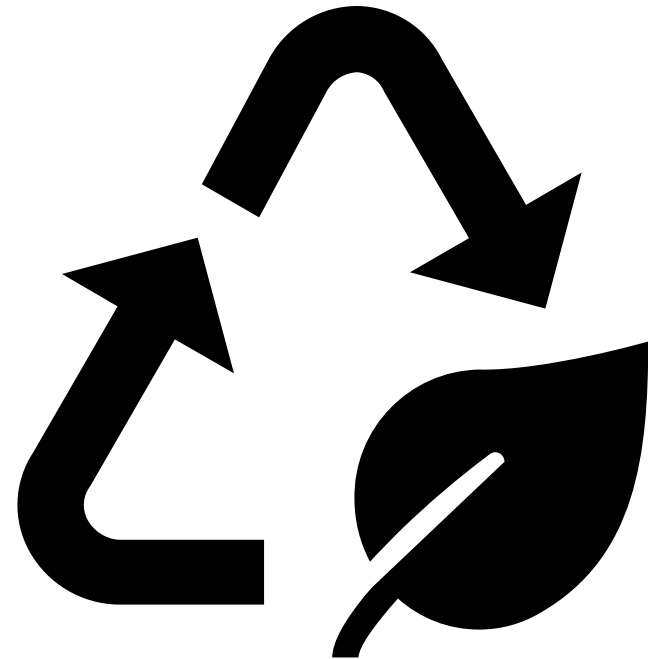
# Choosing a Repository

Assigns DOIs



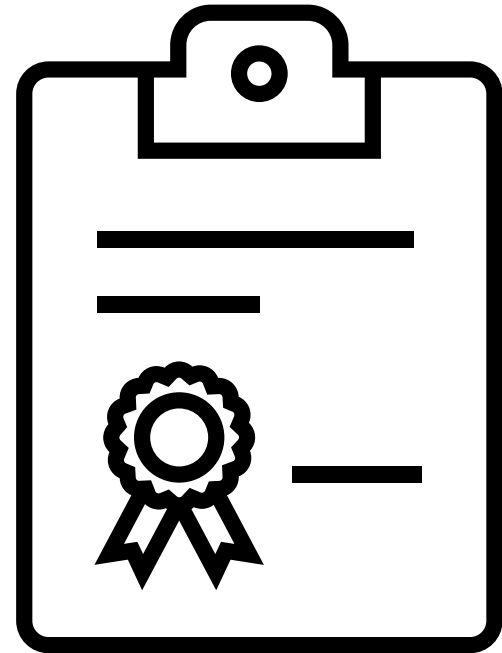
# Choosing a Repository

Long-term sustainability



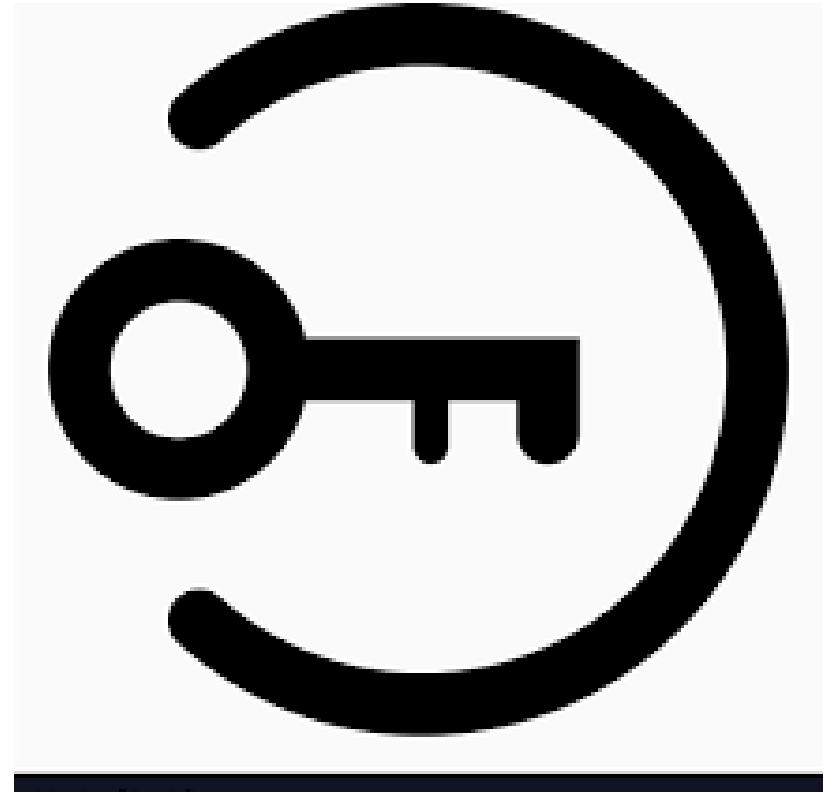
# Choosing a Repository

Curation and quality  
assurance services



# Choosing a Repository

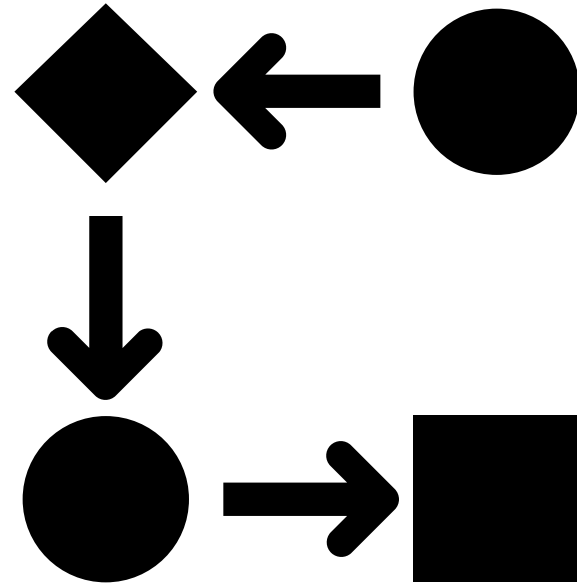
Free and easy access





# Choosing a Repository

Allows broad and measured reuse



# Choosing a Repository

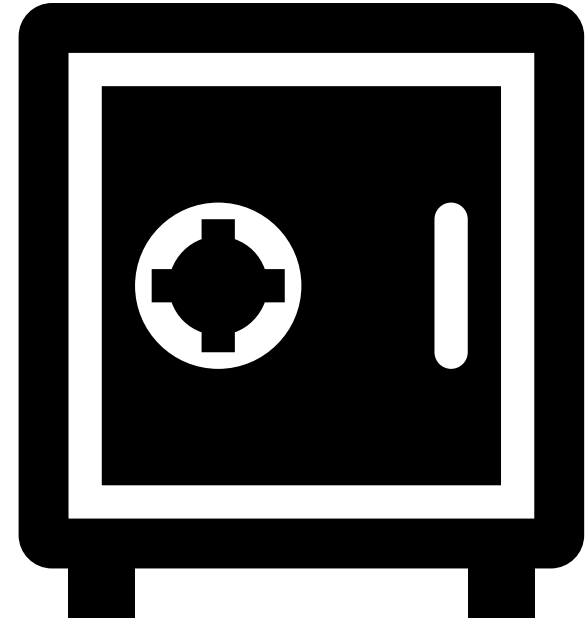
Provides clear use guidance





# Choosing a Repository

Security and integrity





# Choosing a Repository

Maintains confidentiality





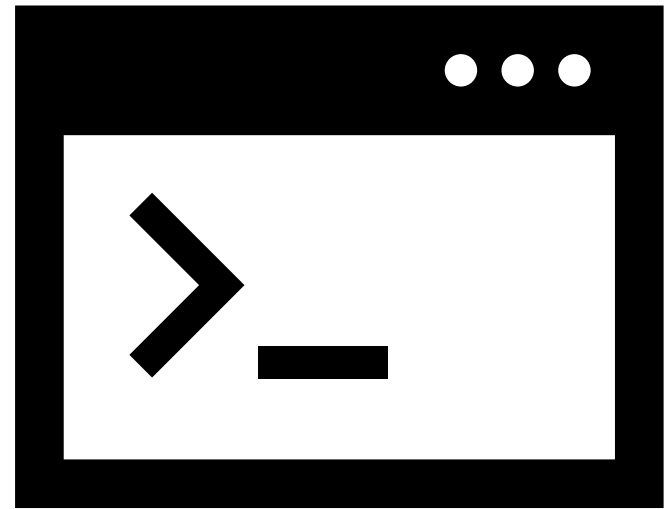
# Choosing a Repository

Supports common file formats



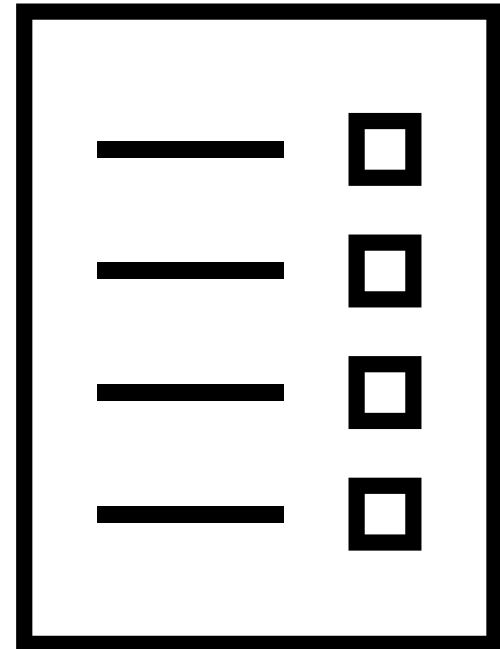
# Choosing a Repository

Records data provenance  
(e.g., tracks data versions)



# Choosing a Repository

Documented retention policies





# Additional Considerations: Human Subjects Research

- Fidelity to consent
- Restricted use compliance
- Privacy
- Plan for breach
- Download control
- Procedures for violations
- Request review

Modified from: National Institutes of Health, *Supplementary Information to the NIH Policy for Data Management and Sharing: Selecting a Repository for Data Resulting from NIH-Supported Research*, 2020,

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-21-016.html>.





# Clinical Trials Repository:

Vivli:





# Reflection:

What data do you collect, store, and use for analysis?

Given the options discussed, can you find at least one repository that might work for your data?

# Questions?





# Connect with me!

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Research Data Services email

[researchdata@unmc.edu](mailto:researchdata@unmc.edu)

Book an Appointment with me:

<https://go.unmc.edu/veb3>

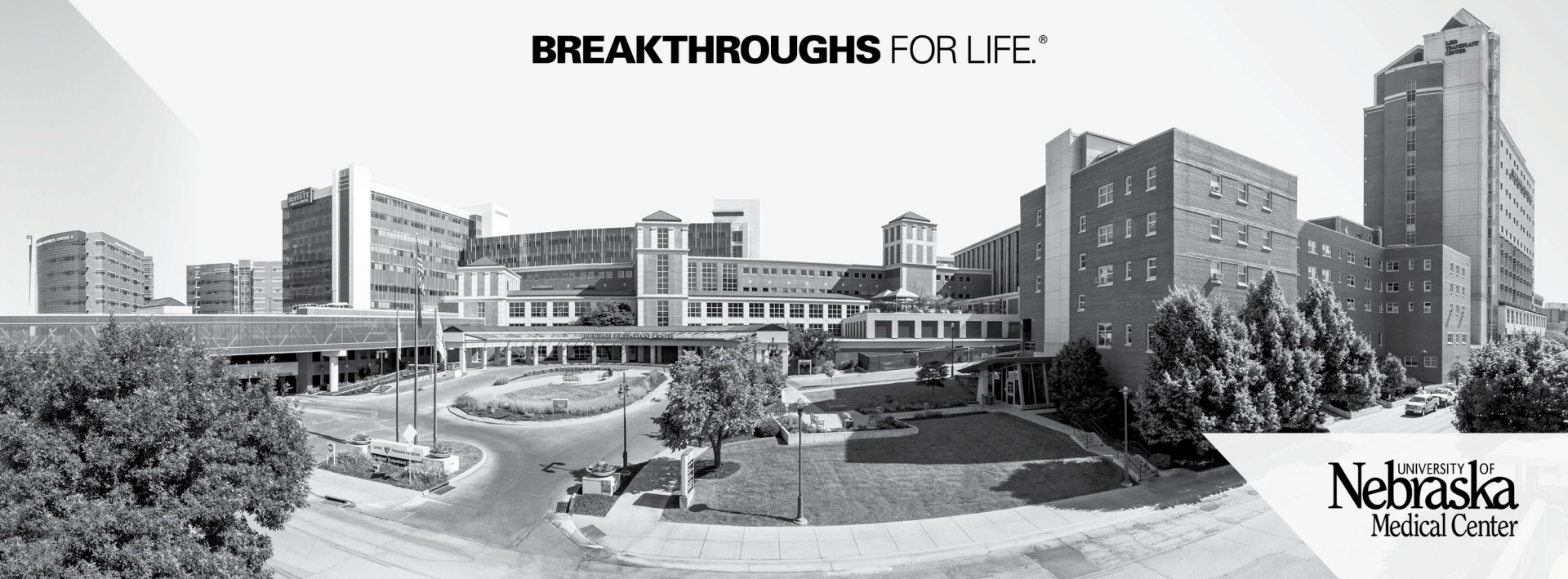
Upcoming Events:

<https://www.unmc.edu/library/services/instruction.html>



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