

Drug Repurposing Guidebook

Building Block I439

This document defines the content of the FACT SHEET to be created for each identified tool, incentives, initiative or practice (the Building Block) introduced by public bodies or used by developers to expedite drug repurposing in Rare Diseases (RDs).

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Building Block (BB) Title	NewFound initiative
References	https://newfoundmed.org/ https://newfoundmed.org/resources/
Description	<p>NewFound is a global alliance that promotes collaboration in medicines repurposing, repositioning or reuse. Its partners are involved in open-science health research and development and join forces in a hub focused on repurposing medicines, believing that global collaboration is critical to achieving these objectives. It explores opportunities to collaborate and, where feasible, establish partnerships with each other to achieve these shared interests. As a result, the alliance cross-leverages resources from different institutions and countries in open and transparent model through specific data sharing agreements as needed.</p>
Category	Supporting tools
Type of BB	Development resource
Geographical scope	International
Availability	It is available for users (researchers, charities, patient organizations, industry) that are in need of drug repurposing research capacity or expertise or are seeking for project mentoring or want to explore an international partnership. A central website is available with contact

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	form and any of the partners involved can handle requests and/or facilitate set up of (tailor made) collaborations.
Scope of use	<p>Networking with global organizations involved in drug repurposing (e.g. to expand network around specific project/disease indication)</p> <p>Access to specific resources or expertise, including pharmaceutical compound collections and screening facilities.</p> <p>Share data in in open preclinical, regulatory and clinical data portals and participate in rare and neglected diseases as well as rapid response to future pandemic outbreaks through repurposing</p> <p>Project mentoring and support (including support for funding applications) and Intellectual Property (IP) assessments.</p> <p>Assistance in regulatory planning and access to health technology assessment expertise.</p> <p>Support for funding applications (i.e., finding partners with right expertise to develop a consortium)</p>
Stakeholders involved	NewFound is a global alliance that is composed of the Oswaldo Cruz Foundation (FioCruz, Rio de Janeiro, BR), EATRIS infrastructure for Translational Medicine (Amsterdam, NL), National Institute of Health's (NIH) National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) (Bethesda, US) and Open Source Pharma Foundation (OSPF) (Bangalore, IN).
Enablers/ Requirements	NewFound was established to create awareness, provide a contact point and offer research capacities and expertise for drug repurposing initiatives and collaborations on a global level. It can help researchers and patient organizations further I their project by establishing new connections and bring in experts for mentoring to identify bottlenecks and provide possible solutions in the project. Relevant medicines repurposing projects are based on confirmed unmet medical need. The alliance is opened to explore collaborations with other stakeholders, including pharma, funders, patient organizations, opensource research initiatives, regulators and policy makers to and share experience and best practice to improve the (global) drug repurposing ecosystem.

ITEM	DESCRIPTION
Output	Networking, new connections, partnerships, mentoring programs, improved design and resourcing of drug repurposing projects.
Best time to apply and time window	Continuous
Expert tips	<p>A drug repurposing, repositioning or reuse project can be as complex as conventional drug development. If you are stuck in your project expanding your (global) network can help finding a solution, whether technical or organizational.</p> <p>The regulatory systems for medicines development can vary across different global regions, with different levels of attention to, experience with and incentives for drug repurposing. Contacting a global network of peers can help understand these differences better, through exchange of best practices.</p>