

Electronic Lab Notebooks @MDC

Dr. Sara El-Gebali

✉ sara.el-gebali@mdc-berlin.de

 [0000-0003-1378-5495](https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1378-5495)

 [@yalahowy](https://twitter.com/yalahowy)

2021-05-20

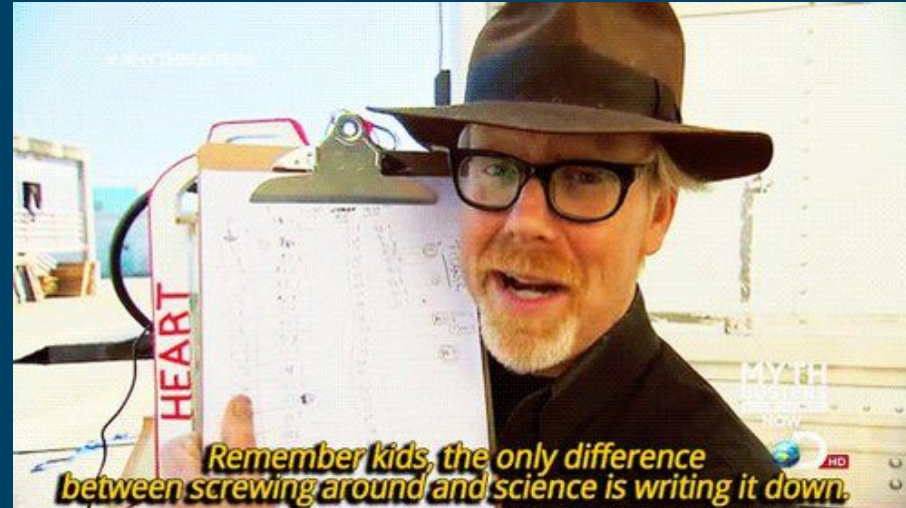
Research Data Management at the MDC

Supporting researchers through all phases of the **research data life cycle**

- Planning
- Data collection, Management and Analysis
- Preservation and Sharing

Everyday management of research data during the lifetime of a research project to preserve and share it beyond the project completion.

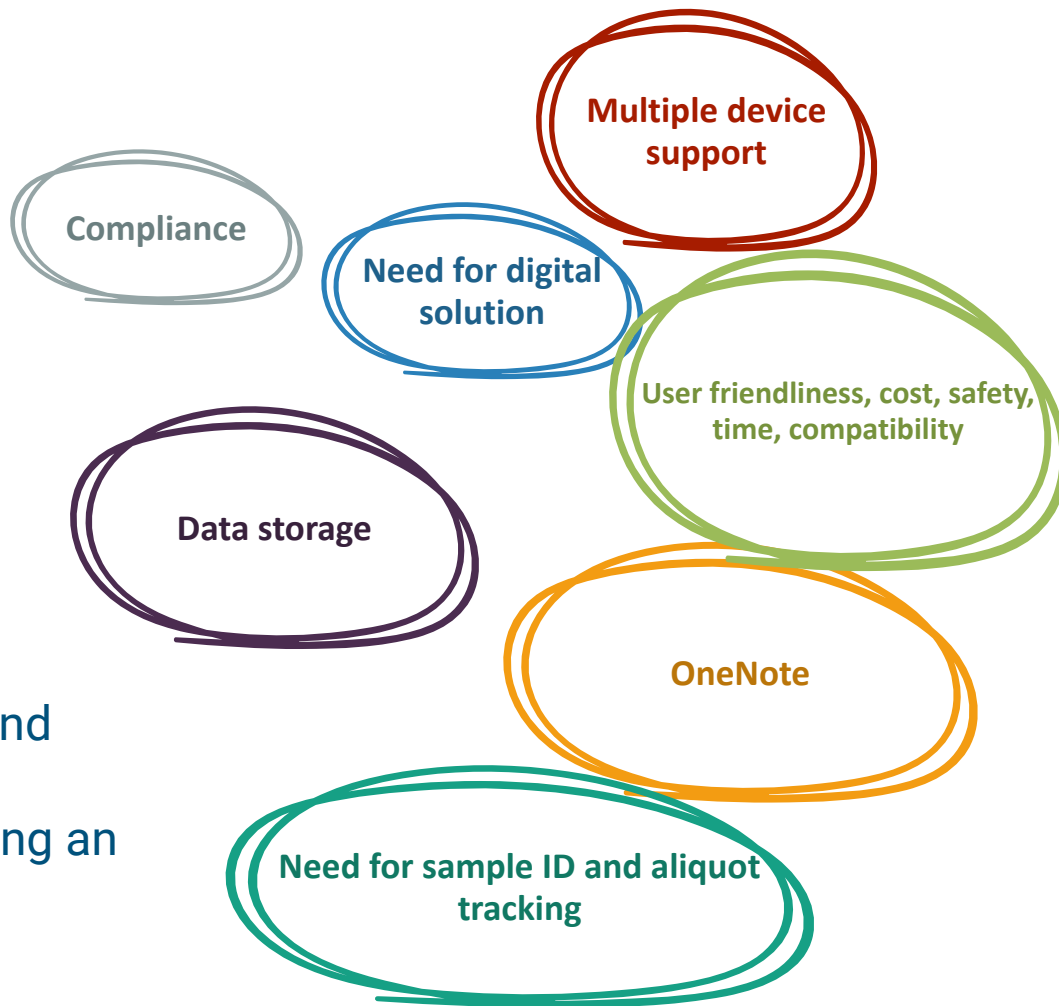
Data documentation



<https://www.tested.com/making/557288-origin-only-difference-between-screwing-around-and-science-writing-it-down/>

Anonymous survey

- What are the current practices?
- What are people using?
- What are their needs and requirements?
- What challenges do they face and what is deterring them from using an ELN?



Researchers

- Functionalities differ between Mac and Windows users.
- Not academically oriented (chemical structures, formulas, protocols)
- Data integration from multiple devices is not supported

RDM

- Limited metadata capturing
- Content locking-only through PDF (not open format)
- No stable URLs or persistent identifiers for entries
- No API connections to other resources- data loss
- Data reusability by other solutions is limited

Technical

- Microsoft is sunsetting OneNote 2016
- Overseas cloud storage requires data processing agreements and certifications in place
- OneNote 2016 still has a number of features that OneNote for Windows 10 lacks (creating outlook tasks, tags, applying templates)
- Retaining old versions of a software presents security risks

Legal

- Signing and witnessing is not straightforward
- Time/date stamps can be easily modified
- Ensuring **compliance** is relatively difficult

Compliance



Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP)
introduced by EudraLex Volume 4 –GMP
Guidelines, Annex 11.



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Public Health and Risk Assessment
Pharmaceuticals

Brussels,
SANCO/C8/AM/sl/ares(2010)1064599

EudraLex
The Rules Governing Medicinal Products in the European Union

Volume 4
Good Manufacturing Practice
Medicinal Products for Human and Veterinary Use

Annex 11: Computerised Systems

Legal basis for publishing the detailed guidelines: Article 47 of Directive 2001/83/EC on the Community code relating to medicinal products for human use and Article 51 of Directive 2001/82/EC on the Community code relating to veterinary medicinal products. This document provides guidance for the interpretation of the principles and guidelines of good manufacturing practice (GMP) for medicinal products as laid down in Directive 2003/94/EC for medicinal products for human use and Directive 91/412/EEC for veterinary use.



Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) introduced by
Organization for Economic Co-operation and
Development(OECD).

GLP Federal Bureau



What is GLP?

"Good Laboratory Practice (GLP) is a quality system concerned with the organisational process and the conditions under which non-clinical health and environmental safety studies are planned, performed, monitored, recorded, archived and reported."

This is the definition of "Good Laboratory Practice" in the "OECD Principles of Good Laboratory Practice" which were then transposed into EC Directives and, after that, into German law as Annex 1 of the German Chemicals Act. The entire sixth section of the Chemicals Act is devoted to Good Laboratory Practice. In paragraphs 19a to 19d the scope and type of monitoring of GLP are laid down by law.

Compliance



USA

Title 21 CFR Part 11 of the Code of Federal Regulations introduced by US Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Title 21: Food and Drugs

PART 11—ELECTRONIC RECORDS; ELECTRONIC SIGNATURES

Contents

Subpart A—General Provisions

- §11.1 Scope.
- §11.2 Implementation.
- §11.3 Definitions.

Subpart B—Electronic Records

- §11.10 Controls for closed systems.
- §11.30 Controls for open systems.
- §11.50 Signature manifestations.
- §11.70 Signature/record linking.

Subpart C—Electronic Signatures

- §11.100 General requirements.
- §11.200 Electronic signature components and controls.
- §11.300 Controls for identification codes/passwords.

System requirements

- Data is true and accurate with built in checks
- Data is secure against damage, accidental loss, manipulation
- Everything including older versions remain available for inspection, including deleted files
- Human readable exports for inspection
- Secure audit trail that records all user actions with timestamps
- All changes are visible
- Digital signatures and witnessing

Background Assessment

- Which solutions are most commonly used in life sciences? How are they comparable?
- What are the processes of integration of ELNs in different organisations?

Guides & websites:

- **Research Notebooks Blog** - Working Group
<https://researchnotebooks.wordpress.com/outputs/>
- **ZBmed**
<https://www.zbmed.de/en/about/press/latest-news/article/electronic-labnotebooks-guide-now-also-available-in-english/>
- **IT and Research Data Management in the Gurdon Institute**
<https://www.gurdon.cam.ac.uk/institute-life/computing/eInguidance> & <https://gurdoncomputing.blog/>
- **Open Working from 4TU.ResearchData & TU Delft Library Open Science Framework:**
<https://doi.org/10.17605/OSF.IO/JR9U2>
- **Harvard Matrix** <https://shrtco.de/G55Dy>

Background Assessment

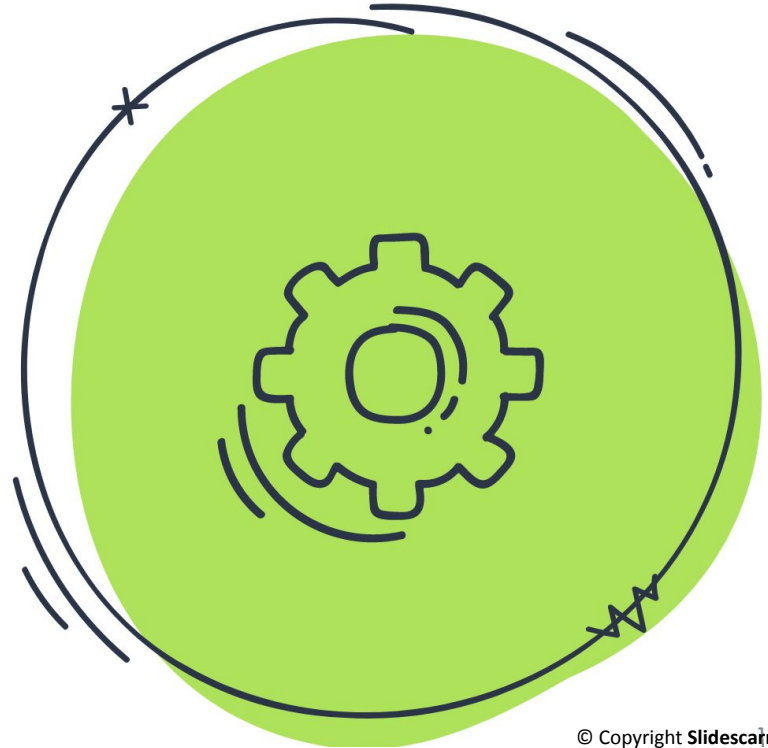
Workshops and interviews:

- Researchers suggestions
- Current practices
- Enlisting support of researchers to promote the use of ELNs



Requirements assessment

- Identifying technical and security requirements from stakeholders (IT, ISO, DPO):
 - On-premise installation
 - SSO integration
 - Test installation
 - Open source components
- Compliance

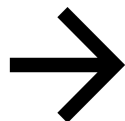


Solutions selection

In-depth analysis of 6 solutions

- Benchling
- LabArchives
- LabFolder (used by MDC researchers)
- OneNote (used by MDC researchers)
- Rspace
- SciNote

Features/ELN solution	ELN solutions						Scale	
	Benchling	LabArchives	LabFolder	OneNote	RSpace	SciNote		
Intuitive Interface Design	2	2	2	1	2	2	0	no
Able to search for documents within the platform	2	2	2	1	2	2	1	partial-see con
Able to search beyond file formats	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	yes fully
Able to search beyond typographical errors	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Transparency of file structure	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Can manipulate text documents	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Can manipulate spread sheets	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Can manipulate images	2	2	2	2	2	2	1	
Can manipulate datasets	2	2	2	2	2	2	0	
Can manipulate other elements	1	2	0	2	2	2	0	
Support for multiple open windows	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Ability to link out	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Training	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	
Documentation	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Links to open repositories	0	1	2	0	2	2	0	
Links to DropBox/ OneDrive/GoogleDrive	1	1	1	1	2	2	0	
Recovery Options	1	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Single Sign-on (institutional ID)	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Windows Compatible	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Macintosh Compatible	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	
Linux Compatible	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	
Android Compatible	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
iOS Compatible	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	
Web Interface	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	
Open Science/Open Data Efforts	0	1	2	0	2	2	1	
Academically Oriented	2	2	2	0	2	2	2	
Can be expanded to LIMS/Integrated with another LIMS	2	2	0	0	2	2	2	



<https://shrtco.de/hXqXa>

Introduction of Rspace

01

Onsite installation

Data security controlled by us, connected to local storage

03

Compliant

GLP (Good Laboratory Practice) Compliance & FDA 21 CFR Part 11

05

Open Export

Export in **open formats**, you can export your data and use the free version

07

Integration

Integration through API, can connect to instruments

04

05

06

07

08

Rspace

03

02

01

02

User Friendly

Search, Easy to use, academically oriented, 24h chat support services, training videos

04

Workflows

Standardized workflows and templates, saves time, quality assurance

06

Inventory Module

Integration of sample management and tracking system

08

Compatible

Compatible with different systems; Windows, Mac, Linux, Android, IOS

How to choose an ELN?

Identify your needs

What are the main criteria when it comes to:

- Features and design
- Content creation tools
- Hosting
- Security
- Storage

Consults Stakeholders!

Check if the product you chose fulfills RDM, Data protection and Information security requirements

Compare products

- What is commonly used in your field?
- Narrow down the products based on the must have criteria
- Use comparison Matrices
- Try out free versions!



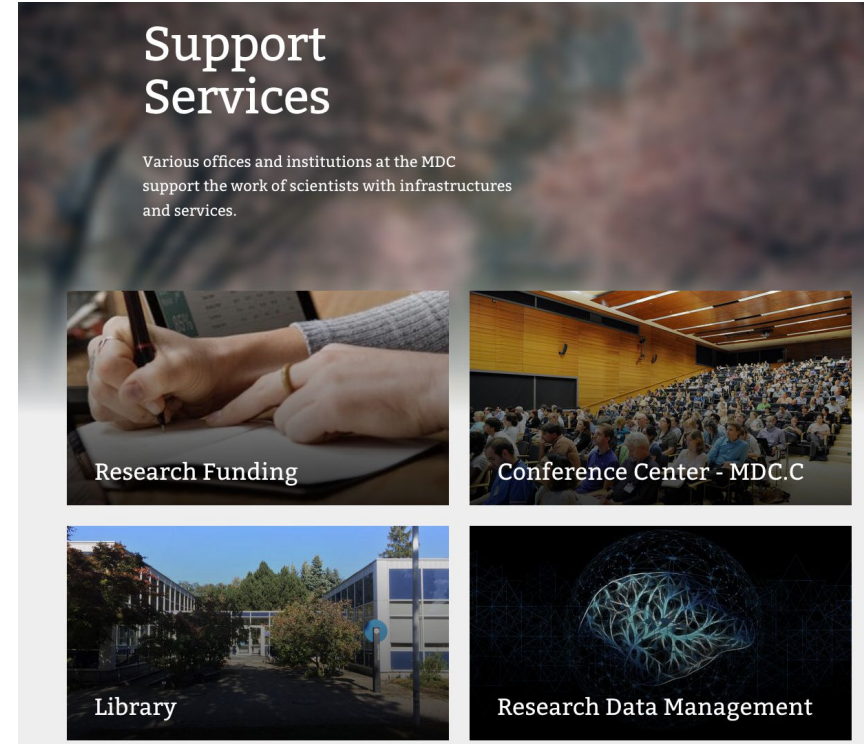
How to get in touch

Website:

<https://www.mdc-berlin.de/research-data-management#t-rdm>


Email:

- Sara El-Gebali: sara.el-gebali@mdc-berlin.de
- Özlem Özkan: oezlem.oezkan@mdc-berlin.de




Support Services


Various offices and institutions at the MDC support the work of scientists with infrastructures and services.




Research Funding



Conference Center - MDC.C



Library



Research Data Management

Resources

- GLP Federal Bureau https://www.bfr.bund.de/en/glp_federal_bureau-1488.html
- Handbook: Good laboratory practice <https://www.who.int/tdr/publications/training-guideline-publications/good-laboratory-practice-handbook-ver1/en/>
- EudraLex https://ec.europa.eu/health/sites/health/files/files/eudralex/vol-4/annex11_01-2011_en.pdf
- OECD-GLP [http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/mc/chem\(98\)17&doclanguage=en](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=env/mc/chem(98)17&doclanguage=en)
- Cambridge University Guide <https://www.data.cam.ac.uk/data-management-guide/electronic-research-notebooks/electronic-research-notebook-products>
- LabFolder white papers on Compliance <https://www.labfolder.com/white-papers/>
- Electronic Code of Federal Regulations-CFR <https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=140a04c31974ef0891cfb2555bc3a865&mc=true&node=pt21.1.11&rgn=div5>
- Cost-benefit analysis for FAIR research data <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/d3766478-1a09-11e9-8d04-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>
- Harvard Matrix <https://shrtco.de/G55Dy>
- University of Glasgow Adapted Matrix https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1egUW3ZewylaJ_lhEe8uJrd-69ycVbqQjiqbJxbs_jVY/edit#gid=1172088166
- Research Notebooks Blog <https://researchnotebooks.wordpress.com/outputs/>
- Electronic Code of Federal Regulations <https://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=140a04c31974ef0891cfb2555bc3a865&mc=true&node=pt21.1.11&rgn=div5>