

Resource Summary Report

Generated by [ASWG](#) on Sep 18, 2026

Cell Type Ontology

RRID:SCR_004251

Type: Tool

Proper Citation

Cell Type Ontology (RRID:SCR_004251)

Resource Information

URL: <https://obofoundry.org/ontology/cl.html>

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Description: Ontology designed as a structured controlled vocabulary for cell types. It was constructed for use by the model organism and other bioinformatics databases. It includes cell types from prokaryotes, mammals, and fungi. The ontology is available in the formats adopted by the Open Biological Ontologies umbrella and is designed to be used in the context of model organism genome and other biological databases.

Abbreviations: CL

Synonyms: cellontology.org, Obo-cell-type, Cell Ontology

Resource Type: controlled vocabulary, data or information resource, ontology

Defining Citation: [PMID:15693950](#)

Keywords: cell ontology, ontology repository

Funding: BBSRC ;
MRC ;
NIH ;
NSF DBI-9978564;
NSF PGRP-0321666

Availability: Free, Freely available

Resource Name: Cell Type Ontology

Resource ID: SCR_004251

Alternate IDs: nlx_26501

Alternate URLs: <http://purl.bioontology.org/ontology/CL>

Old URLs: <http://cellontology.org>, <http://www.obofoundry.org/cgi-bin/detail.cgi?id=cell>,

Record Creation Time: 20220129T080223+0000

Record Last Update: 20260912T200010+0000

Ratings and Alerts

No rating or validation information has been found for Cell Type Ontology.

No alerts have been found for Cell Type Ontology.

Data and Source Information

Source: [SciCrunch Registry](#)

Usage and Citation Metrics

We found 10 mentions in open access literature.

Listed below are recent publications. The full list is available at [ASWG](#) .

Ray PL, et al. (2026) A layered standards framework for integrating single-cell and spatial omics data into brain cell atlases. bioRxiv : the preprint server for biology.

, et al. (2026) A Community Standard Multispecies Cell Atlas of the Basal Ganglia. bioRxiv : the preprint server for biology.

Wu J, et al. (2025) Biology-driven insights into the power of single-cell foundation models. Genome biology, 26(1), 334.

Kyoda K, et al. (2024) SSBD: an ecosystem for enhanced sharing and reuse of bioimaging data. Nucleic acids research.

Wang X, et al. (2022) Deep learning using bulk RNA-seq data expands cell landscape identification in tumor microenvironment. Oncoimmunology, 11(1), 2043662.

Diehl AD, et al. (2016) The Cell Ontology 2016: enhanced content, modularization, and ontology interoperability. Journal of biomedical semantics, 7(1), 44.

Madan S, et al. (2016) The BEL information extraction workflow (BELIEF): evaluation in the BioCreative V BEL and IAT track. Database : the journal of biological databases and curation, 2016.

Sloan CA, et al. (2016) ENCODE data at the ENCODE portal. Nucleic acids research, 44(D1), D726.

Malladi VS, et al. (2015) Ontology application and use at the ENCODE DCC. Database : the journal of biological databases and curation, 2015.

Dahdul WM, et al. (2012) A unified anatomy ontology of the vertebrate skeletal system. PloS one, 7(12), e51070.