



The BioAnalytics Group LLC

# BioPathwise DM™

## Frequently Asked Questions

**What does it do? BioPathwise DM** saves your experimental data in a searchable central repository that is much more secure and easier to manage than storing files and folders on your hard drive. You can upload, search, and access the data through a convenient web interface.

**Why do I need to manage my data?** Funding agencies, regulatory agencies, and journal editors are demanding that all biomedical researchers manage data more effectively and provide a plan to share data with collaborators. Laboratory technologies are producing increasing volumes of electronic data, making it more and more difficult to manage without a centralized system.

Many organizations would like to protect their investment of time and money in collecting this data, but have avoided a central server solution because most solutions are expensive, hard to maintain, or too inflexible for small teams in a research environment.

**What kinds of data can I manage with BioPathwise DM?** You can save data in any electronic file format, Excel, images, proprietary formats, etc. Many devices produce multiple files from a single experiment and **BioPathwise DM** will save all of them with a single upload.

### **Why do I need a central repository?**

You can save your data in the laboratory and access it from your office, a meeting room or share the data with a collaborator. It is much easier and cheaper to backup and restore data when it is stored on one server. As your needs grow, you can add capacity to the server environment, and you won't need to upgrade your team's desktop and laptop computers.

### **Why use a web interface?**

You can share your data with collaborators by giving them a user account; they will not need to buy or download additional software to work with you. Learning to use the system is about as easy as using your web browser. The server runs on Windows XP, but the web interface is system independent, so you can access BioPathwise DM from Windows, Macintosh, Linux, Unix—even from your PDA. It is easy to search for information based on summary data, e.g. experiment date, investigator, data type, purpose of experiment, keywords, etc.

## BioPathwise DM FAQ, continued

**What bottlenecks can we avoid with BioPathwise DM?** We have identified key areas where lab productivity is compromised without a workable data management solution. With **BioPathwise DM** you can:

- Stop managing your data on your hard drive with arcane file naming protocols that attempt to encode details of the experiment
- Decrease the need to duplicate experiments when data cannot be easily retrieved
- Prevent "data islands" - data stranded on a single computer or in separate documents that are difficult to search
- Backup your data from a single location, helping to prevent data loss due to computer crashes or replacements

**What can my Lab accomplish with BioPathwise DM?** You can focus on your research, respond more quickly to requests for data, and collaborate more effectively. A better, more efficient approach to data management fuels innovation and discovery by eliminating repetitive, time consuming processes that get in the way of fresh experimental decision making.

**How Do I Budget for BioPathwise DM?** For most small collaborative research groups, a single server is required. The software is lightweight and efficient, allowing small groups to use an affordable Windows XP PC as the data server. Our downloadable package with simple wizards for server configuration and setup, including 5 user licenses and one year of support, is \$7499. Packs for 5 additional seats are \$3749. Configurations for multiple servers, clusters, and high-availability environments are available upon request. Annual support fees are 20 percent of the license price, and include software upgrades.

**What else do I need to know?** **BioPathwise DM** is self-contained, and provides a database server and web server. It is easy to install and configure. The system is scalable from small groups to enterprise scale. Our team of experienced professionals can advise you on how to configure your system to meet special security, capacity, reliability or availability requirements. Support is available via email and phone; onsite configuration and training is available at additional cost.

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