

Everyone wants to be FAIR; but how?

The FAIR data principles are aspirational, that is, they define a set of recommendations that will increase the likelihood that data and really all digital objects are Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable. Two main questions posed by individual investigators are: What's in it for me? and, "What am I supposed to do?" With recent and upcoming mandates from funders and journals about sharing FAIR data, the answer to the first question could easily be: "Because you have to?" In a recent workshop held by the National Academy of Science and Medicine on the upcoming NIH data management and sharing mandate, participants repeatedly emphasized that good data management is the gateway to effective data sharing. And good data management is a benefit to everyone: me, future me, my lab mates and my colleagues. In this talk, I will discuss how the FAIR data principles apply to research data management and some practical steps that can be taken to increase the FAIRness, and therefore the value, of your data.