

Patent problems and commercialization must be considered in open data sharing policy

Yoshiyasu Takefuji

David Serwadda et al. wrote an article "Open data sharing and the Global South—Who benefits?" (1). Using open data sharing, anyone can apply for a patent with a new discovery. We have faced the modern research conflict: open science and commercialization (2). However, commercialization and open science are not necessarily irreconcilable and could instead be envisioned as complementary elements of a more holistic innovation framework (2). B. R. Jasny et al. discussed key aspects of this conflict that industry-academia collaborations must address and for which other stakeholders, from funding agencies to journals, can provide leadership and support (3). Openness plays a key role for successfully driving profit organizations (4). In order to resolve the conflict between open data sharing and commercialization, patent problems and commercialization must be considered in open data sharing policy.

References:

1. David Serwadda et al., "Open data sharing and the Global South—Who benefits?" *Science* 09 Feb 2018: Vol. 359, Issue 6376, pp. 642-643
2. Timothy Caulfield et al., "Open science versus commercialization: a modern research conflict?," *Genome Med.* 2012; 4(2): 17.
3. B. R. Jasny et al., "Fostering reproducibility in industry-academia research," *Science* 25 Aug 2017: Vol. 357, Issue 6353, pp. 759-761
4. Y. Takefuji, " Openness is a key for successfully driving profit organizations," *Science* (eLetter, 28 August 2017)
<http://science.sciencemag.org/content/357/6353/759/tab-e-letters>