

# The BioASQ challenges

BioASQ aims to push for a solution to the information access problem of biomedical experts through challenges on biomedical semantic indexing and question answering.

## Second Challenge

### Task 2a . Large-Scale Online Biomedical Semantic Indexing

Large-scale semantic indexing will be evaluated on the whole of PubMed. Participants will be asked to classify incoming documents before the human curators do:

- + BioASQ will distribute new unclassified PubMed documents.
- + Participants will have a limited response time to attach MeSH terms.

Task 2a will run for three consecutive periods (batches) of 6 weeks each. The first batch will start on February 3, 2014.

### Task 2b . Biomedical Semantic Question Answering

This task involves biomedical Information Retrieval, QA, and Summarization. The participants will have to respond with relevant concepts, articles, snippets and RDF triples as well as exact answers and paragraph-sized summaries to bio-medical questions in English.

- + Task 2b will use benchmark datasets containing development and test questions, in English, along with a gold standard.
- + The benchmark datasets will contain at least 500 questions.
- + The test dataset of Task 2b will be released in five batches, each containing approximately 100 questions. The first batch will start on March 5, 2014.

Separate winners will be announced for each batch of each task. Participation in the task can be partial. All details can be found on the project website.

# The Consortium



## Coordinator

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A challenge on  
**large-scale biomedical  
semantic indexing  
and question answering**

<http://bioasq.org>



# ✖ Aims

BioASQ aims to provide this push by setting up ambitious, yet feasible and clearly defined challenge tasks, intended to lead to integrated, efficient, and effective semantic indexing and QA methods for the biomedical domain. Additionally, BioASQ will help towards establishing an evaluation framework for biomedical QA systems, by:

1. Developing a tool suite for creating complex benchmark data sets, including an annotation tool, an assessment tool and an asynchronous social network
2. Creating benchmark datasets and
3. Adopting and refining existing evaluation measures for its challenge tasks.

The BioASQ challenge will evaluate the ability of systems to perform various tasks in the biomedical QA process:

1. Large-scale classification of biomedical documents onto ontology concepts (semantic indexing),
2. Classification of biomedical questions onto relevant concepts,
3. Retrieval of relevant document snippets, concepts and knowledge base triples, and
4. Delivery of the retrieved information in a concise and user-understandable form.



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<http://bioasq.org>

# BioASQ Architecture

