## HGMP-RC – UK Human Genome Mapping Project Resource Centre

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### Description

In 1990, the UK Medical Research Council (MRC) founded, as part of the UK Human Genome Mapping Project, a Resource Centre (HGMP-RC) at the Clinical Research Centre (CRC), Harrow, Middlesex. The objectives of the HGMP-RC computing are to establish and make available databases of genes, genetic markers and map locations, and to develop new computing environments and methods for acquisition and analysis of such data. Computing and networking facilities were developed by the MRC to provide online computing support to the Project.

The facilities are connected to a number of other computing systems in centres of genetics and molecular biology research excellence worldwide through national and international wide area networks (WAN's) including the European Research Backbone Network (EBONE), INTERNET, Public Data Networks (Packet Switching and Telephone) in the UK and overseas, research and academic networks in the UK and overseas, European Molecular Biology Network (EMBNet) and others. Direct connectivity to US laboratories was implemented using a high-speed communication link, the UK-US 'fat pipe'.

A great deal of effort has been spent on improving services to the scientific community. Molecular genetics databases, application software and miscellaneous services are available on the HGMP computer systems and other systems around the world through the HGMP-RC Menu system using workstations, personal computers or terminals from number of manufacturers, equipped with appropriate networking and graphical facilities and connected to any of the above WAN's.

### Network Access

The HGMP-RC computing facilities can be accessed in two ways:

- by using the IP (Internet Protocol) service
- by making an X29 call, using a PAD (packet assembler/disassembler)

### Who Can Use the UK HGMP-RC Facilities

Registration is open, subject to the rules of HGMP, to any *bona fide* academic who applies, whether based in the UK or elsewhere. To register as a UK HGMP-RC facilities user please contact the address above (email is not used for registration applications).

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## References

For a detailed description of the system and services available see Rysavy, F.R.,Bishop, M.J. at al., "The UK Human Genome Mapping Project online computing service." *Computer Applications in the Biosciences*, Vol.8, no.2. 1992 , Pages 149-154. Several user manuals describing the usage of the HGMP-RC computing facilities have been written and are available to registered users. The user support desk is maintained during working hours, providing practical help with users' problems. A programme of courses aimed at giving an understanding of what the facilities can provide are run regularly.