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The Visible Human Project®

Overview

The Visible Human Project® is an outgrowth of the NLM's 1986 Long-Range Plan. It is the creation of complete, anatomically detailed, three-dimensional representations of the normal male and female human bodies. Acquisition of transverse CT, MR and cryosection images of representative male and female cadavers has been completed. The male was sectioned at one millimeter intervals, the female at one-third of a millimeter intervals.

The long-term goal of the Visible Human Project® is to produce a system of knowledge structures that will transparently link visual knowledge forms to symbolic knowledge formats such as the names of body parts.

Further Information

- **General Information**
  - A description of The Visible Human Project® image data and how to obtain it (includes license agreement documents).
  - The Visible Human Project® FactSheet.
  - The Visible Human Project® From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
  - The Visible Human Project®: From Data to Knowledge: An update of ongoing National Library of Medicine VHP initiatives.
  - Digitally encoded videos - requires RealPlayer.
  - A sampler of images and animations from the Project.
  - Belarusian translation of The Visible Human Project® Overview
  - Russian translation of The Visible Human Project® Overview
  - Finnish translation of The Visible Human Project® Overview
  - German translation of The Visible Human Project® Overview
- **NLM Initiatives**
  - Cryosection, MRI and CT image data of the head of a 72 year old male. Cryosections done at 0.174mm intervals and photographed at a resolution of 1056 x 1528 pixels. Work done at Brigham and Women's Hospital, Harvard Medical School, under contract to NLM. Available only to VHP license holders. These images can be found in the directory BWH_Harvard when logged on to the NLM image server.
  - AnatLine: a prototype system consisting of an anatomical image database and an online browser developed at the National Library of Medicine.
  - AnatQuest: the overall goal of the AnatQuest project is to explore and implement new visually and compelling ways to bring anatomic images from the Visible Human dataset to the general public. Includes 3D renderings and labeled views.
  - Insight Toolkit (ITK): an open-source software toolkit for performing registration and segmentation, developed by six principal organizations under contract to the NLM, three commercial (Kitware, GE Corporate R&D, and Insightful), and three academic (UNC Chapel Hill, University of Utah, and University of Pennsylvania).
  - The Visible Human Project ATLAS of Functional Human Anatomy, version 1.0 The Head and Neck, developed under contract to the NLM by the University of Colorado Center for Human Simulation.
- **Information from the contractors for the Project**
  - University of Colorado Health Sciences Center (primary)
  - National Center for Atmospheric Research
- **Proceedings from The Visible Human Project Conferences** - The information presented here is identical to that distributed on CD-ROM to conference attendees. Please refer to section "Disc Info" or "About This CD-ROM", for pertinent information.
  - The Visible Human Project® Conference, 1996
  - The Second Visible Human Project® Conference, 1998
  - The Third Visible Human Project® Conference, 2000
  - The Fourth Visible Human Project® Conference, 2002 (CD-ROM not available) Proceeding papers.
- **Publications**
  - VHJOE: Visible Human Journal of Endoscopy.
  - D-Lib magazine article entitled "Accessing the Visible Human Project®" by Michael J. Ackerman, Ph.D.
  - NLM's Current Bibliographies in Medicine, Visible Human Project®(CBM 2007-1): 912 citations from January 1987 - March 2007.
  - NLM's Current Bibliographies in Medicine, Visible Human Project® (CBM 2007-4 to 2009-5): 38 citations from April 2007 through May 2009.
  - NLM's Current Bibliographies in Medicine, Visible Human Project® (CBM 2009-6 to 2010-3): 33 citations from June 2009 through March 2010.
  - Banvard, Richard A., The Visible Human Project® Image Data Set From Inception to Completion and Beyond, Proceedings CODATA 2002: Frontiers of Scientific and Technical Data, Track I-D-2: Medical and Health Data, Montréal, Canada, October, 2002.
- Send queries about the Visible Human Project® to: vhp@nlm.nih.gov

Projects Based on the Visible Human Data Set
- Applications for viewing images
- Sources of images and animations
- Products

Mirror Sites
Tools
Media Productions
Related Projects
Funding Sources