

# Terms of Use 1.0 – ChromAnnot Platform

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Effective Date: 01/07/2025

## 1. Platform Description and Scope

ChromAnnot provides a comprehensive annotation pipeline for every LC-HRMS/MS dataset uploaded to the platform. This service is intended for researchers from public institutions, universities, and private companies.

The platform is free to use for non-profit purposes. For any commercial or for-profit use, users must contact ChromAnnot support ([chromannot@univ-nantes.fr](mailto:chromannot@univ-nantes.fr)).

## 2. User Eligibility and Account Use

Accounts can be created by researchers upon request by contacting ChromAnnot support. Users must be 18 years of age or older to register and use the service.

Account sharing is permitted; however, all actions taken under an account are the sole responsibility of the registered user. ChromAnnot disclaims any liability for issues arising from shared access.

## 3. Data Ownership and Usage

Users retain full ownership of their uploaded data. ChromAnnot does not use this data for purposes beyond providing its services.

Uploaded data is stored to ensure full functionality and reproducibility. User data is retained indefinitely unless a user requests deletion. Users may contact ChromAnnot support ([chromannot@univ-nantes.fr](mailto:chromannot@univ-nantes.fr)) at any time to request the removal of their uploaded data.

Data may be analyzed for statistic usage only, with no individual data disclosed or used for other purposes.

## 4. Data Privacy and Security (GDPR Compliance)

ChromAnnot collects and stores:

- user name and Email addresses,
- LC-HRMS/MS data,
- Sample metadata (*e.g.*, type of apparatus used, ionization mode, organism of origin).

All data is protected through access control mechanisms. No data is publicly shared without user consent.

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), users have the right to:

- Access their personal data,
- Correct inaccurate or incomplete data,
- Request the deletion of their data ("right to be forgotten"),
- Object to or restrict data processing.

To exercise these rights or for any data-related concerns, users may contact ChromAnnot at [chromannot@univ-nantes.fr](mailto:chromannot@univ-nantes.fr).

ChromAnnot processes personal data only as necessary to deliver the platform's core functionalities and does not share it with third parties.

Note: ChromAnnot is not intended for storing personal health information subject to HIPAA.

## 5. Intellectual Property

Users retain ownership of all results generated by ChromAnnot. However, users must acknowledge that results were obtained using the ChromAnnot bioinformatics platform.

Required Citation: "Results were generated using the ChromAnnot platform (<https://chromannot.univ-nantes.fr/>). For methodological details, please refer to Bertrand, S.; Guitton, Y.; Roullier, C. Successes and pitfalls in automated dereplication strategy using liquid chromatography coupled to mass spectrometry data: A CASMI 2016 experience. *Phytochem. Lett.* 2017, 21, 297-305, doi:10.1016/j.phytol.2016.12.025."

All algorithms used by ChromAnnot are open-source, proprietary, and/or licensed for academic and non-profit use.

Users are fully allowed to publish results derived from platform analyses.

## 6. Acceptable Use

ChromAnnot is designed for the upload and analysis of LC-HRMS/MS data in open formats with required metadata (if available).

Prohibited uses include, but are not limited to:

- Uploading unreadable or corrupted files,
- Excessive automated data uploads,
- Attempts to reverse-engineer or exploit platform code,
- Misuse that disrupts service integrity.

There are no formal quotas or usage limits, but they may be introduced in the future if system resources become strained.

## 7. Limitation of Liability

ChromAnnot strives to provide accurate results but makes no guarantees of accuracy. The platform is not intended for clinical or diagnostic use.

In the event of system failure or data loss, ChromAnnot will make reasonable efforts to recover data but assumes no liability for loss or service interruption.

## 8. Service Availability and Maintenance

The platform may occasionally become unavailable due to scheduled maintenance or system upgrades. No uptime guarantees or service-level agreements (SLAs) are provided.

## 9. Termination and Suspension

ChromAnnot reserves the right to suspend or terminate user accounts in cases of:

- Repeated misuse (*e.g.*, frequent uploads of unsupported file formats),
- Abuse of platform resources or violations of these Terms.

Upon termination:

- Invalid or unreadable data may be automatically deleted,
- Valid data may be removed upon user request.

## 10. Governing Law and Jurisdiction

This agreement shall be governed by the laws of France. Any disputes shall be resolved under the jurisdiction of the courts located in Nantes, France.

Please consult your institution's legal team to finalize this section based on your location.

## 11. Amendments and Updates

Changes to these Terms will be communicated via email to all registered users. Acceptance of changes will be required through an on-platform confirmation before continued access is granted. Changes take effect as specified in the notification email and become binding upon user confirmation.

## 12. Contact

For any questions, data removal requests, or technical support, please contact ChromAnnot at: [chromannot@univ-nantes.fr](mailto:chromannot@univ-nantes.fr).