Scaling up the reuse of real world data for clinical research in Europe

Professor Dipak Kalra, President

The European Institute for Innovation through Health Data

Japanese Academic Research Organization Workshop
15th November 2024

Patient recruitment a major cause of trial delays

- Identifying and recruiting suitable patients and trial sites are principal causes of trial delays

The percentage of studies that complete enrolment on time:

18% in Europe,

7% in the US[1]

Almost

half of all trial delays caused by patient recruitment problems[2]

Each day a drug is delayed from market, sponsors lose up to

$8m[3]

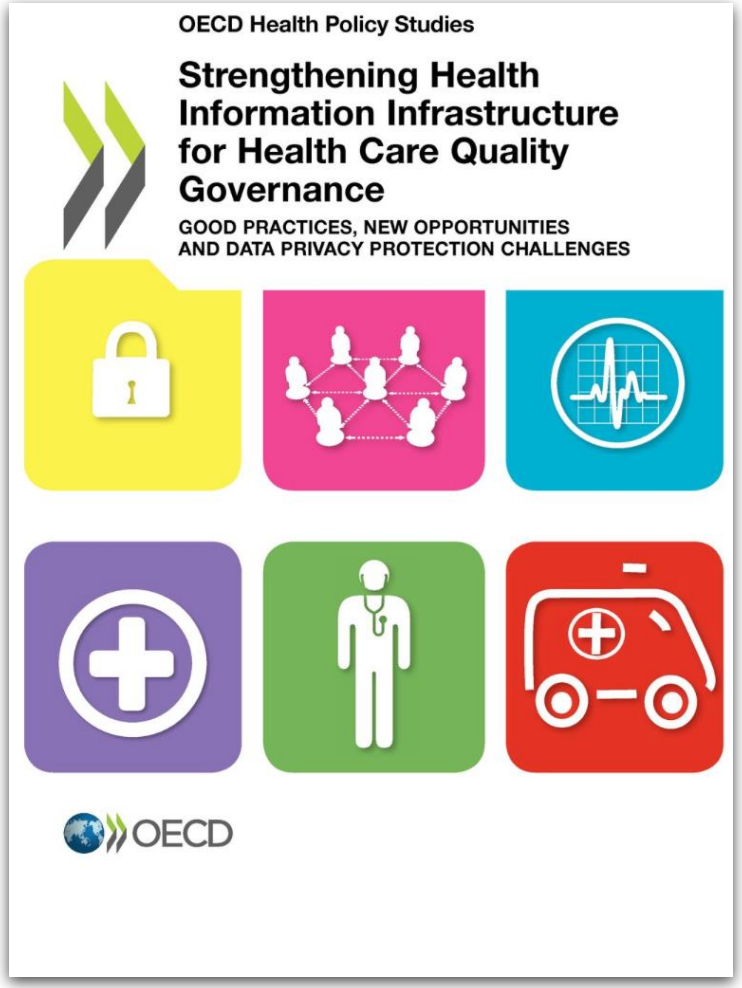
50%

of today's clinical trials fail to achieve the target recruitment rate[4]

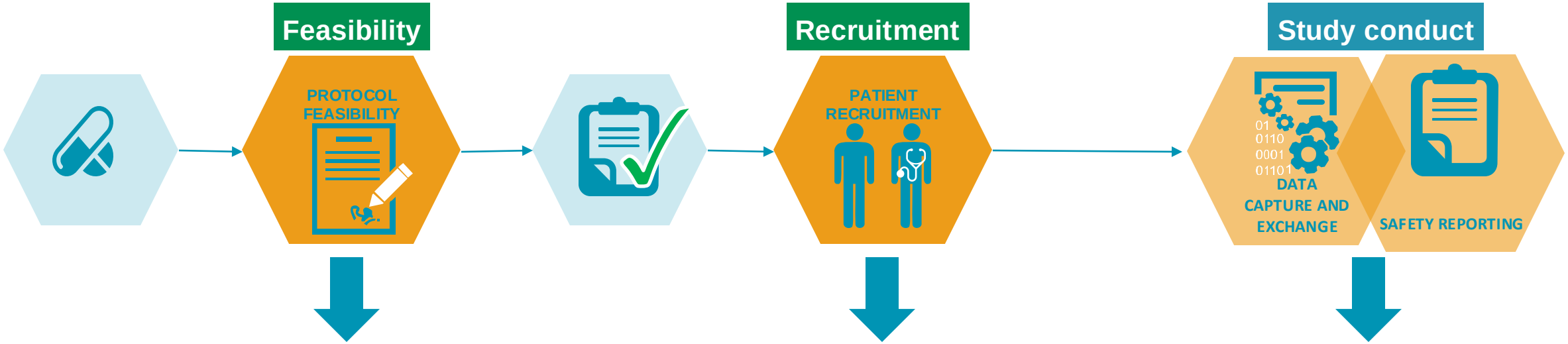
1. State of the Clinical Trials Industry: A Sourcebook of Charts and Statistics, Center Watch, 2008.
2. Study Participant Recruitment and Retention in Clinical Trials: Emerging strategies in Europe, the US and Asia, Business Insights, June 2007.
3. Beasley, "Recruiting" 2008
4. Tufts -http://clinicalperformancepartners.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Fixing-Feasibility-Final-Jan-2012.pdf

There is growing recognition of the value of re-using EHRs for Clinical Research

"Health data constitutes a significant resource in most OECD countries and it makes economic and ethical sense to use this data as much as possible: to improve population health and to improve the effectiveness, safety and patient centeredness of health care systems"



The critical scenarios

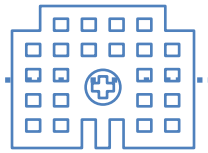


Enabling **protocol testing with real world data** in potential trial sites rather than with guestimates.

Speeding up recruitment by making EHR data searchable for investigators and establishing a unified communication path between sponsors and sites.

Facilitating **EHR data extraction** for applications used during trial execution (e.g. pre-filling of CRFs and of SAE reports).

The federated query data flow



A generic data resource supporting multiple re-use purposes and users

EHR

extraction

pseudonymisation

CDW

A P I

federated query

Researcher receives only aggregated data set and analytics (Never patient-level data)

Researcher builds analysis query using semantic tools

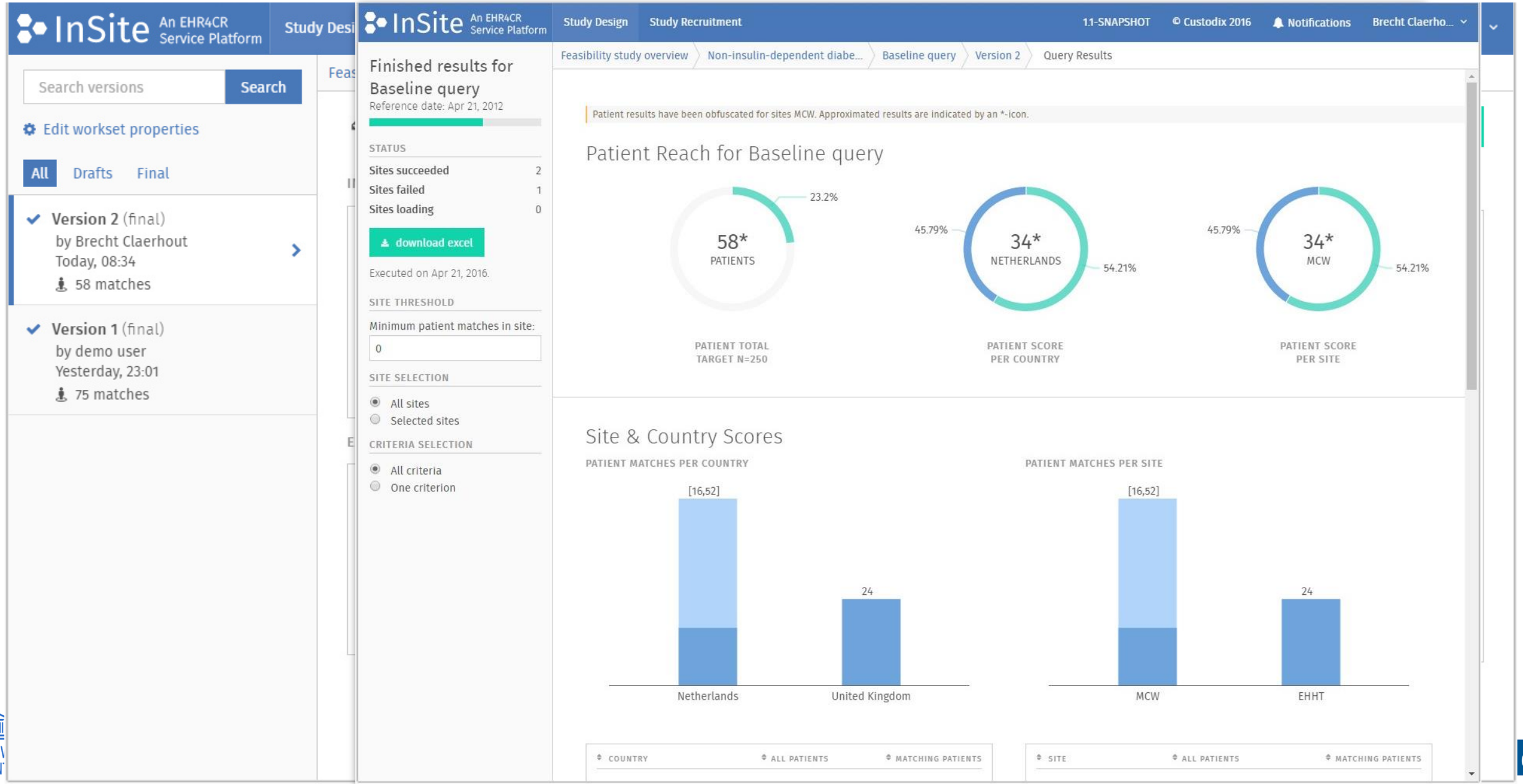
Hospital retains and uses pseudonym keys to maintain the data (never shared)

Only aggregated data (patient counts) leave the hospital

Privacy Enhancing Techniques e.g. suppress small counts

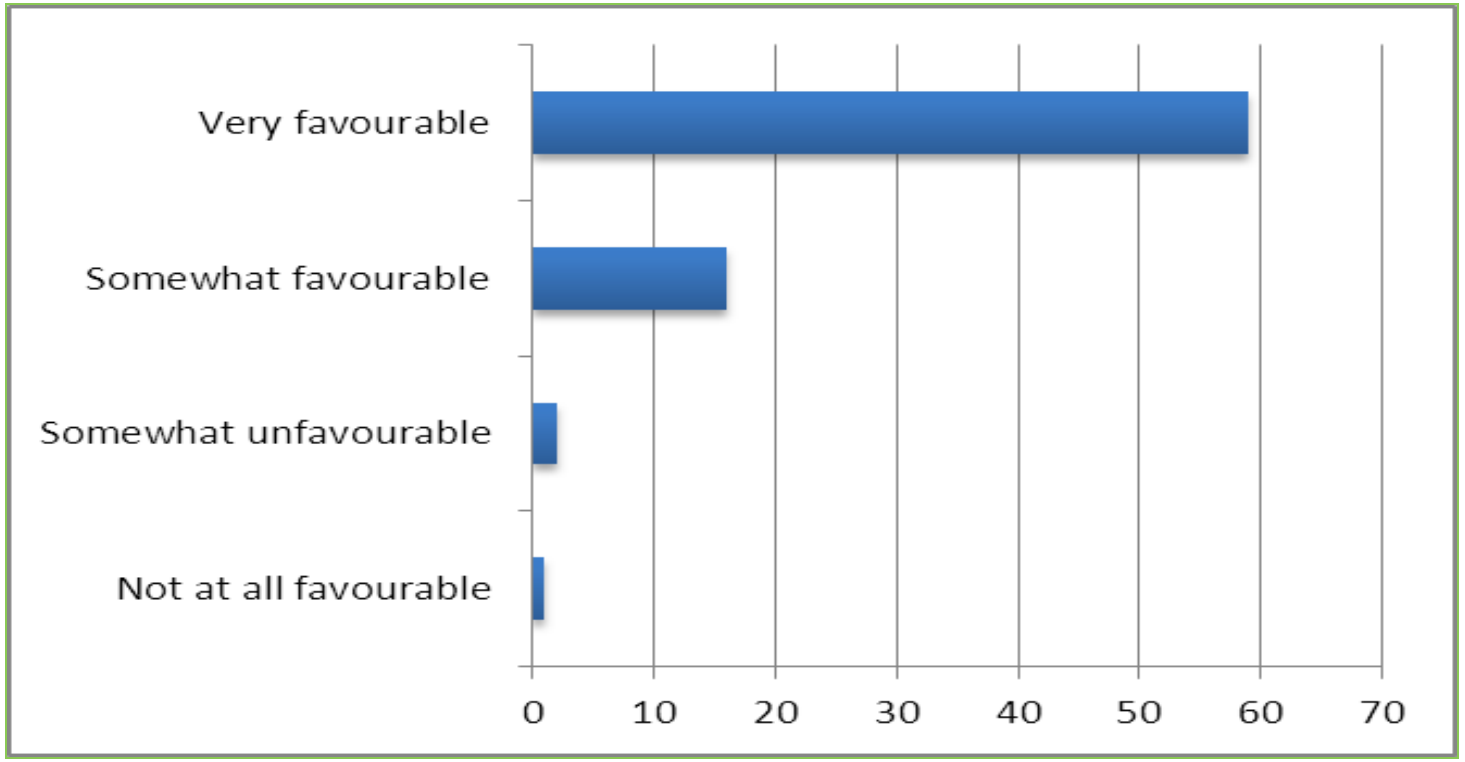
Full audit trail inside hospital

InSite – Protocol feasibility query



Confirming public acceptance

- High percentage of public/patient respondents were in favour of re-using EHR data for research



Confirming data availability

A European inventory of common electronic health record data elements for clinical trial feasibility

Justin Doods, Florence Botteri, Martin Dugas, Fleur Fritz and on behalf of EHR4CR WP7

Trials 2014, 15:18
http://www.trialsjournal.com/content/15/1/18

Data Group	Data Item	Medication	Medication start date
Demographics	Gender	Medication	Verbatim Drug name
Demographics	Case Status	Findings	Date / Time of Finding
Demographics	Date of Birth	Laboratory Findings	Neutrophils Blood
Demographics	Admission date	Laboratory Findings	TSH in serum
Diagnosis	Diagnosis Text	Medication	Dosage
Diagnosis	Diagnosis Code	Findings	Weight
Demographics	Discharge date	Laboratory Findings	GFR
Diagnosis	Diagnosis Date	Medical History	currently pregnant
Laboratory Findings	Potassium in serum	Medical HIstory	menopausal status
Laboratory Findings	Sodium in Serum	Findings	Height
Laboratory Findings	Platelets Blood	Medical History	Allergies and Hypersensitivity Reactions
Laboratory Findings	SGPT (ALT) in serum	Laboratory Findings	biPTH
Laboratory Findings	Total Protein in serum	Medical History	Smoking Status
Laboratory Findings	Total Bilirubin in serum	Medication	Route
Procedure	Procedure Code	Laboratory Findings	HbA1c Blood
Laboratory Findings	Creatinine in serum	Medical History	Alcohol Abuse
Laboratory Findings	Glucose in serum	Laboratory Findings	Blood Urea Nitrogen [BUN]
Laboratory Findings	SGOT (AST) in serum	Medication	Medication Code
Laboratory Findings	Alkaline Phosphatase	Findings	Pulse
Laboratory Findings	Total Cholesterol in serum	Laboratory Findings	PSA
Laboratory Findings	Erythrocytes	Laboratory Findings	NTproBNP
Laboratory Findings	Haemoglobin Blood	Diagnosis	Histologically confirmed diagnosis
Laboratory Findings	Albumin	Laboratory Findings	Beta HCG in serum
Laboratory Findings	Calcium in serum	laboratory findings	HER2 status
Laboratory Findings	Leukocytes	Laboratory Findings	Ca x P
Procedure	Procedure Text	Medication	Drug class
Laboratory Findings	Sampling Date / Time of Laboratory Finding	Laboratory Findings	Cardiac troponin T
Laboratory Findings	Triglycerides	Medical History	pregnancy number
Laboratory Findings	CRP in serum	Medication	Medication end date
Laboratory Findings	HDL in serum	Findings	Temperature
Laboratory Findings	INR Blood	Laboratory Findings	Direct Bilirubin in serum
Laboratory Findings	Haematocrit Blood	Medical History	Diet
Procedure	Procedure Date	Medical History	Substance Abuse
Laboratory Findings	Eosinophils Blood	Laboratory Findings	BNP
Laboratory Findings	Lymphocytes Blood	laboratory finding	MAGE-A3 status
Laboratory Findings	PTT Blood	Medical History	Lactation
Laboratory Findings	GGT	Scores or Classification	GRID-HAMD
Findings	Blood pressure systolic	Scores or Classification	Hoehn and Yahr
Findings	Blood pressure diastolic	Scores or Classification	MMSE
Laboratory Findings	LDL in serum	Scores or Classification	UPDRS Section 1

element concept (data group/data item). The third column shows the average usage of the data element over all sites while the following columns (site 1 to site 9) display the frequency at the individual sites. The Data Inventory is ordered by the average usage sorted in descending order from most available to least. The frequency ranges from 100% (dark green) to 0% (dark red). Data elements that are not available at a site are shown as Not Available (NA) (black).

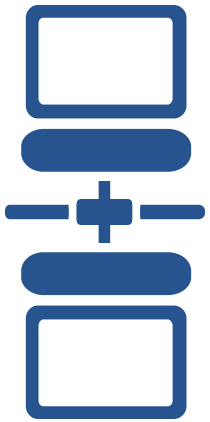
Redundant data entry

- Clinical trial data are manually entered into dedicated electronic clinical trial systems (EDC) and the same information is often also entered into EHR systems
  - Cumbersome and slow processes
  - Transcription inconsistencies

Over

40%

of clinical trial data are entered into the patient's health record, the clinical trial EDC system, and, possibly, a third paper copy[1]



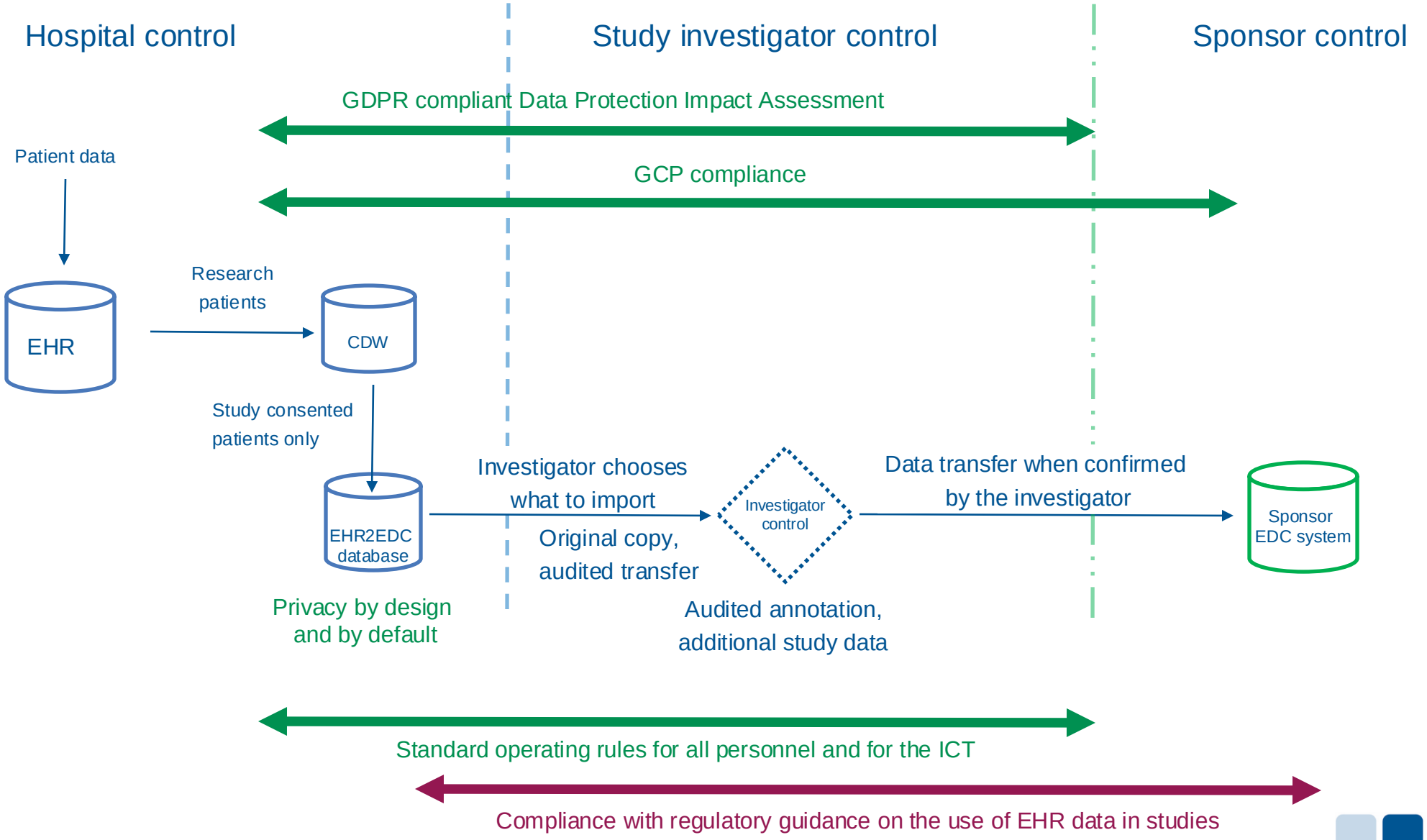
Investigational sites estimate that over

70%

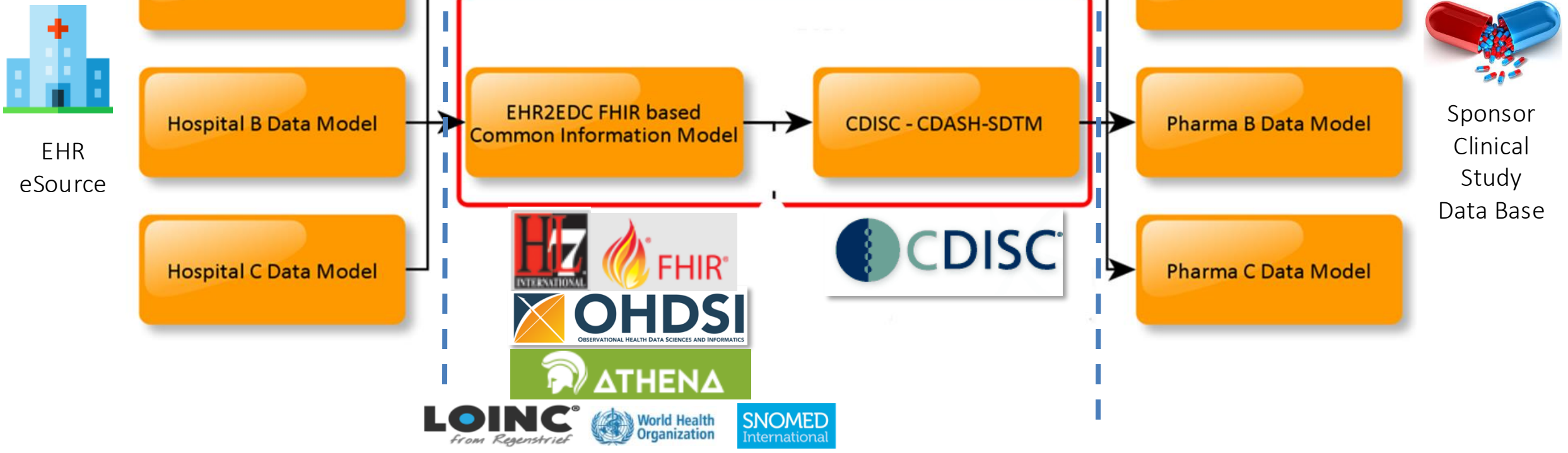
of data are duplicated between EHR and clinical trial systems[2]

1. Integrating Electronic Health Records and Clinical Trials: An Examination of Pragmatic Issues, Michael Kahn, University of Colorado.
2. EDC Site Survey: Investigational Site Perspectives on Clinical Trial Information Systems, eClinical Forum 2009. Available at: www.eclinicalforum.org (accessed December 1, 2011).

EHR2EDC Data Flow



Mapping eSource EHR Data Standards



Value to hospitals + value to all health stakeholders

Better data access, and tools, to analyse their own data

Efficient capability to conduct research

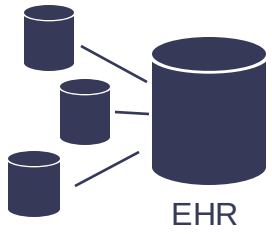
Stronger drive to improve data quality

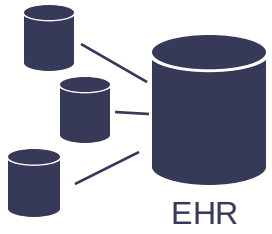
Ability to measure health outcomes and improve care

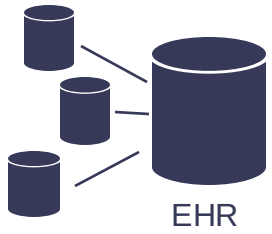
Sustaining a high quality data and technology ecosystem for clinical research

EHR2EDC

EU-PEARL
EU PATIENT-CENTRIC CLINICAL TRIAL PLATFORMS

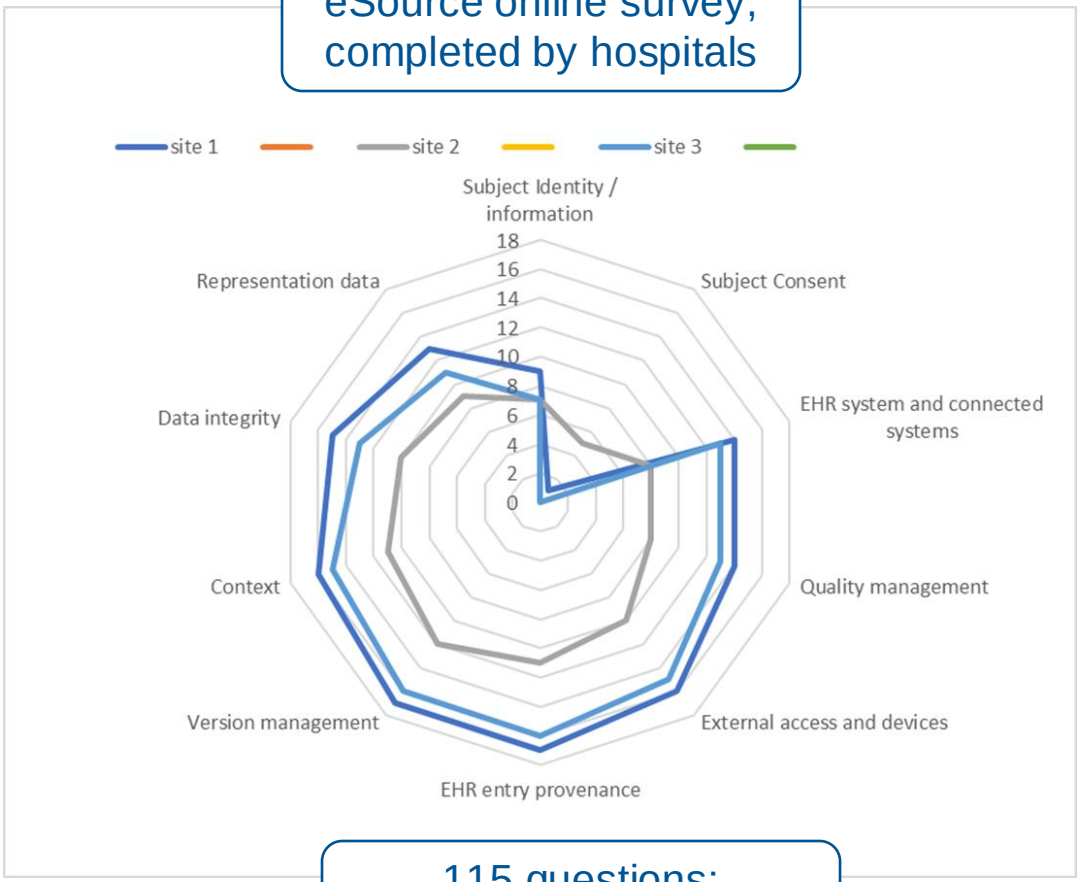






Is a hospital EHR system of a sufficient maturity for its data to be used in clinical trials?

eSource online survey, completed by hospitals



115 questions:
20 tier one (must haves)
and 95 tier two

Promote uptake across Europe

EHDEN: Vision and Mission

EHDEN

EUROPEAN HEALTH DATA & EVIDENCE NETWORK

Vision

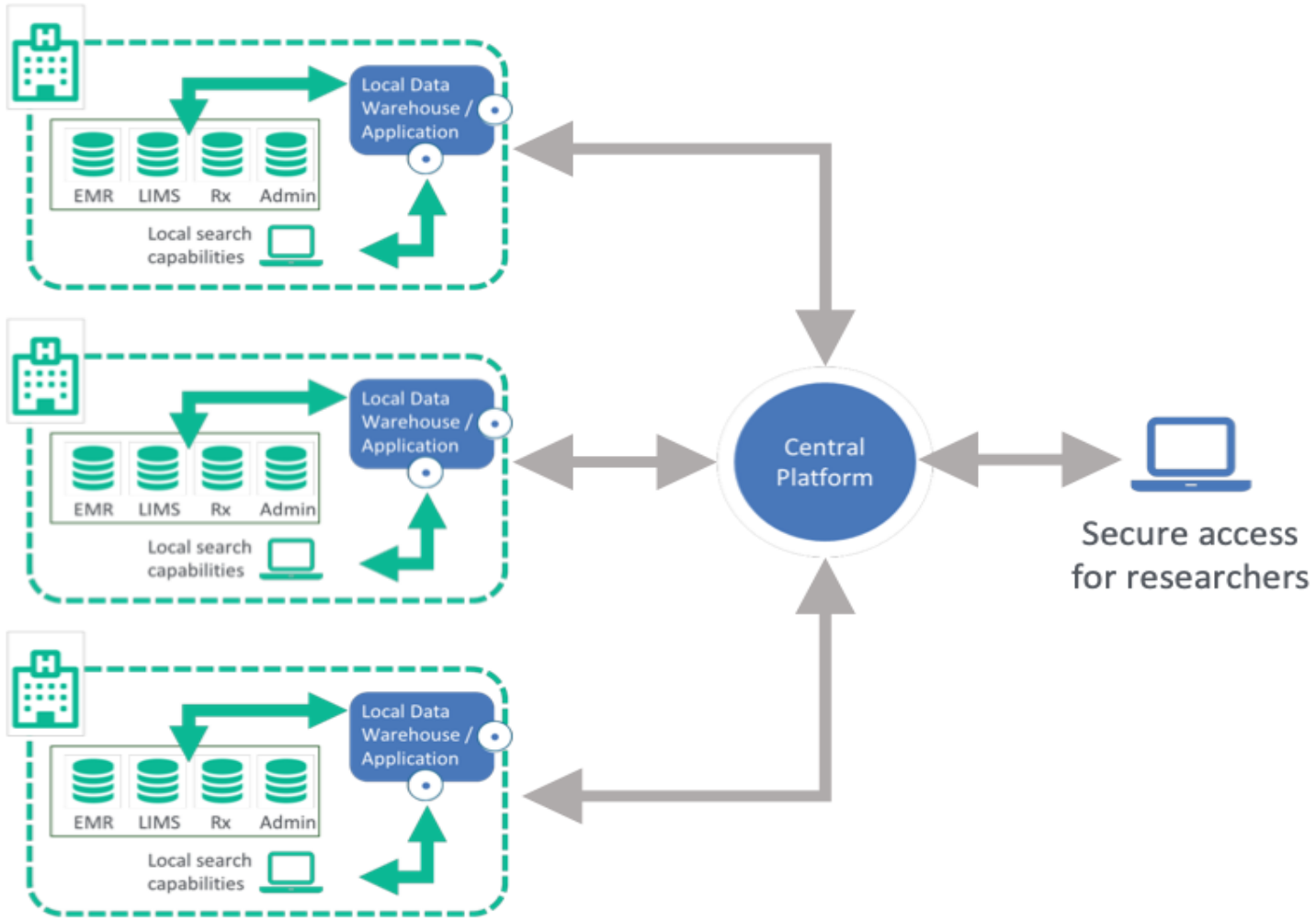
The European Health Data & Evidence Network (EHDEN) aspires to be the trusted observational research ecosystem to enable better health decisions, outcomes and care

Mission

Our mission is to provide a new paradigm for the discovery and analysis of health data in Europe, by building a large-scale, federated network of data sources standardized to a common data model

Slide courtesy of Nigel Hughes, Janssen

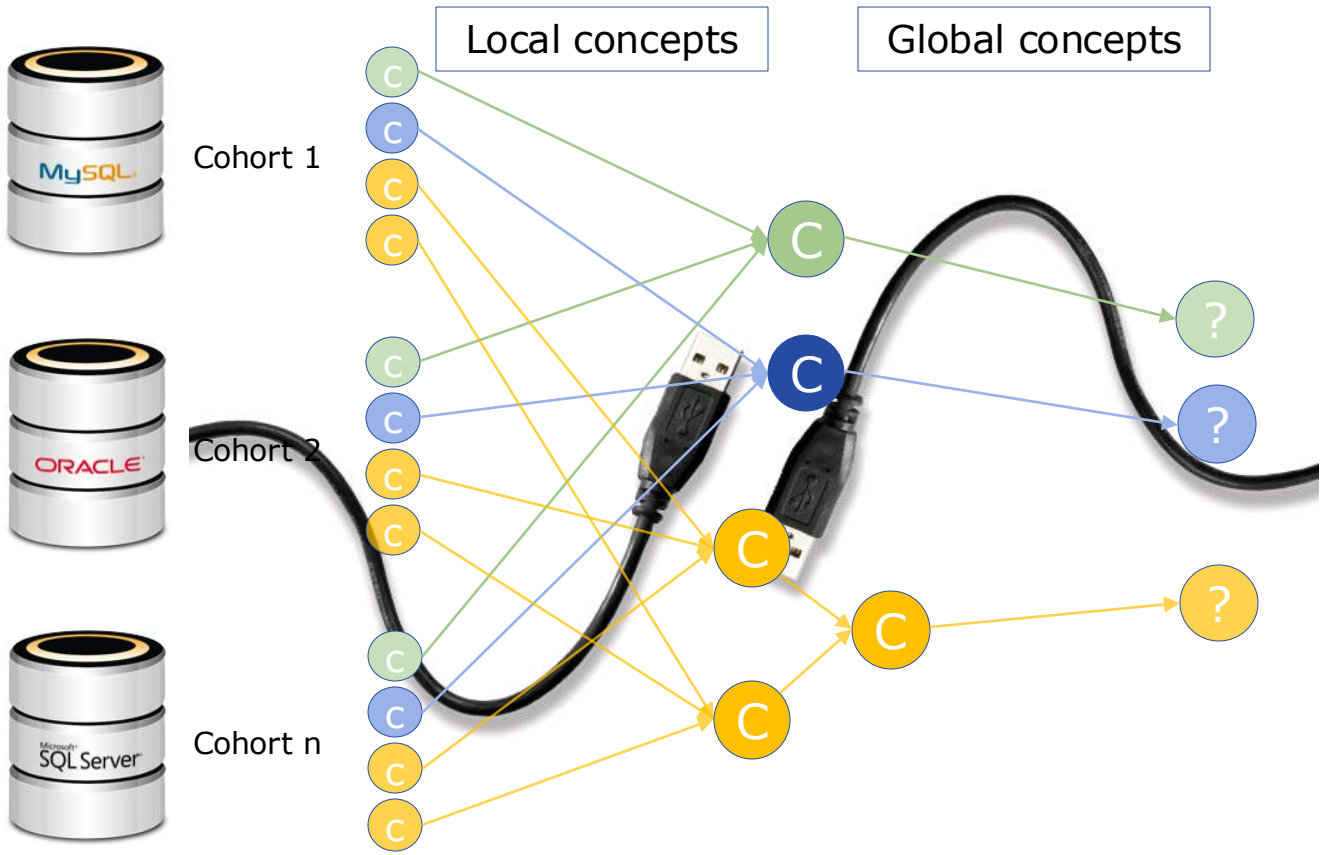
European Health Data & Evidence Network



Benefits of federated networks

- Data remains under the control of the data owner
- Locally required legal and ethical approvals apply
- No patient level data leaves the owner's site, only aggregated counts, thereby ensuring patient privacy
- GDPR – *'Privacy by Design'*
- Analysis is "brought to the data" rather than creating central data repository
- Use of common data model allows for efficient search / analysis across multiple data sets
- Requires close collaboration with data owners which builds trust

Data harmonisation



	C1	C2	...	Cn
V1				
V2				
⋮				
Vn				

Common Data Model

Standardised semantics

Data custodians
- Identify local concepts
- Specify mappings
- Define security

Community
- Specify global and derived concepts
- Define research groups

Source: Rudi Verbeeck and Michel Van Speybroeck - Janssen

Why we need big health data

EHDEN Supported Study on Low Neurological Risk with COVID-19 Vaccines published in British Medical Journal

17th March 2022

BMJ Press Release:

Study finds no increased risk of rare neurological events after COVID vaccination

RESEARCH

OPEN ACCESS

Association between covid-19 vaccination, SARS-CoV-2 infection, and risk of immune mediated neurological events: population based cohort and self-controlled case series analysis

Xintong Li,[1] Berta Raventós,[2,3] Elena Roel,[2,3] Andrea Pistillo,[2] Eugenia Martinez-Hernandez,[4] Antonella Delmestri,[1] Carlen Reyes,[2] Victoria Strauss,[1] Daniel Prieto-Alhambra,[1,5] Edward Burn,[1,2] Talita Duarte-Salles[2]

ABSTRACT

OBJECTIVE
To study the association between covid-19 vaccines, SARS-CoV-2 infection, and risk of immune mediated neurological events.

DESIGN
Population based historical rate comparison study and self-controlled case series analysis.

SETTING
Primary care records from the United Kingdom, and primary care records from Spain linked to hospital data.

PARTICIPANTS
8 330 497 people who received at least one dose of covid-19 vaccines ChAdOx1 nCoV-19, BNT162b2, mRNA-1273, or Ad.26.COV2.S between the rollout of the vaccination campaigns and end of data availability (UK: 9 May 2021; Spain: 30 June 2021). The study sample also comprised a cohort of 735 870 unvaccinated individuals with a first positive reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction test result for SARS-CoV-2 from 1 September 2020, and 14 330 080 participants from the general population.

MAIN OUTCOME MEASURES
Outcomes were incidence of Bell's palsy, encephalomyelitis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, and transverse myelitis. Incidence rates were estimated in the 21 days after the first vaccine dose, 90 days after a positive test result for SARS-CoV-2, and between 2017 and 2019 for background rates in the general population cohort. Indirectly standardised incidence ratios were estimated. Adjusted incidence rate ratios were estimated from the self-controlled case series.

RESULTS
The study included 4 376 535 people who received ChAdOx1 nCoV-19, 3 588 318 who received BNT162b2, 244 913 who received mRNA-1273, and 120 731 who received Ad.26.CoV.2; 735 870 people with SARS-CoV-2 infection; and 14 330 080 people from the general population. Overall, post-vaccine rates were consistent with expected (background) rates for Bell's palsy, encephalomyelitis, and Guillain-Barré syndrome. Self-controlled case series was conducted only for Bell's palsy, given limited statistical power, but with no safety signal seen for those vaccinated. Rates were, however, higher than expected after SARS-CoV-2 infection. For example, in the data from the UK, the standardised incidence ratio for Bell's palsy was 1.33 (1.02 to 1.74), for encephalomyelitis was 6.89 (3.82 to 12.44), and for Guillain-Barré syndrome was 3.53 (1.83 to 6.77). Transverse myelitis was rare (≤5 events in all vaccinated cohorts) and could not be analysed.

CONCLUSIONS
No safety signal was observed between covid-19 vaccines and the immune mediated neurological events of Bell's palsy, encephalomyelitis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, and transverse myelitis. An increased risk of Bell's palsy, encephalomyelitis, and Guillain-Barré syndrome was, however, observed for people with SARS-CoV-2 infection.

WHAT IS ALREADY KNOWN ON THIS TOPIC
Spontaneous reporting indicated a potential association between immune mediated neurological disorders after covid-19 vaccination
The European Medicines Agency has listed Guillain-Barré syndrome as a rare side effect of exposure to viral vector vaccines
To date, however, the results from research into the risk of immune mediated neurological disorders after covid-19 vaccination have been mixed

WHAT THIS STUDY ADDS
Using routinely collected data from the UK and Spain, this study found no safety signal after covid-19 vaccination for the immune mediated neurological events of Bell's palsy, encephalomyelitis, Guillain-Barré syndrome, and transverse myelitis
An increased risk of Bell's palsy, encephalomyelitis, and Guillain-Barré syndrome was, however, seen after SARS-CoV-2 infection

Introduction
As of 13 January 2022, the covid-19 pandemic has resulted in more than 5.5 million deaths worldwide. After the rapid development of anti-SARS-CoV-2 vaccines, 9.2 billion doses have been administered through national vaccination programmes.[1] To date, five vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 have received a conditional marketing authorisation by the European Medicines Agency. These include two mRNA vaccines: BNT162b2 (Pfizer-BioNTech) and mRNA-1273 (Moderna); two viral vector vaccines: ChAdOx1 nCoV-19 (Oxford-AstraZeneca) and Ad.26.COV2.S (Janssen/Johnson & Johnson); and one adjuvanted, recombinant spike protein nanoparticle vaccine: NVX-CoV2373 (Novavax).[2] All of these vaccines have shown high efficacy in preventing severe covid-19 and acceptable safety profiles in clinical trials.[3-7] However, potential adverse events related to these new vaccines have been reported, and continuous vaccine safety surveillance is needed as mass immunisation against covid-19 continues.

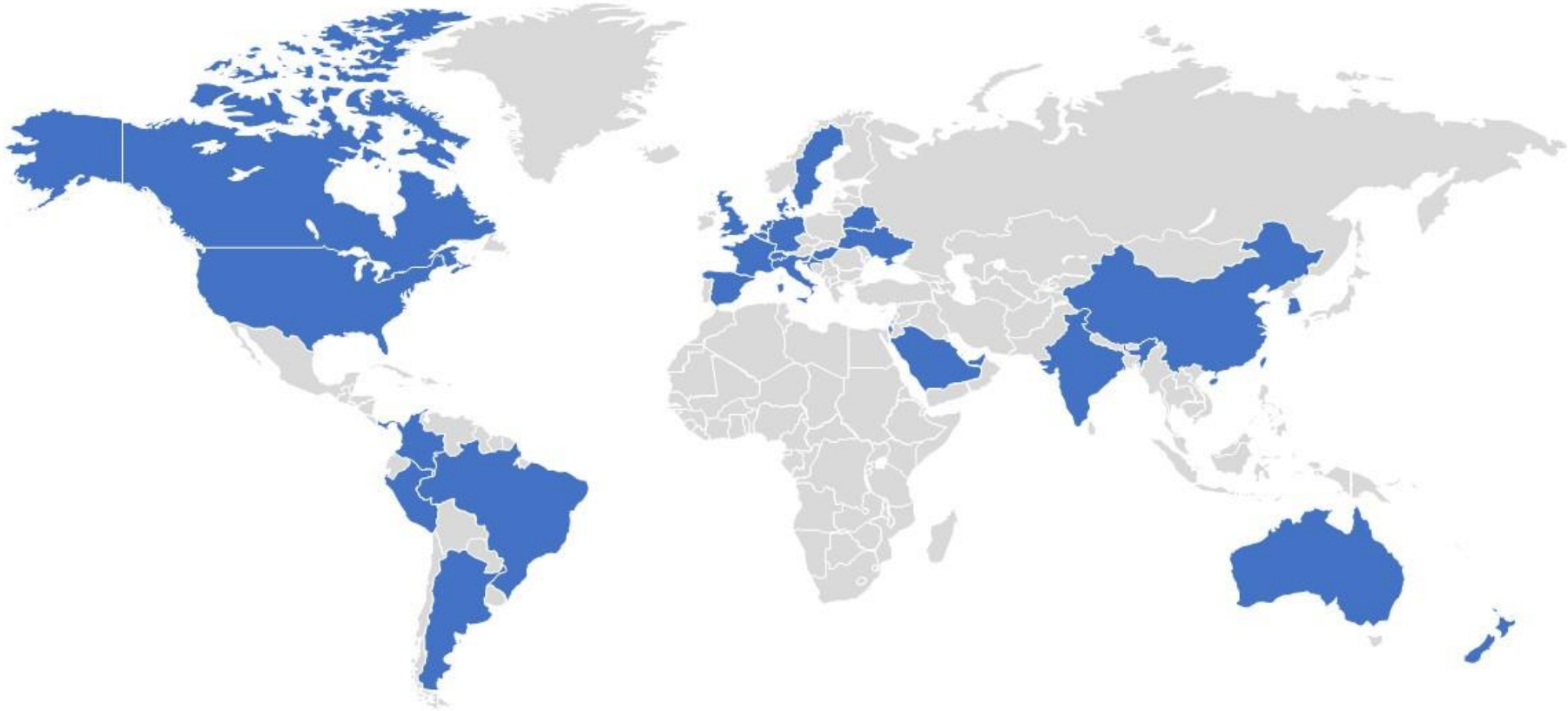
BMJ: first published as 10.1136/bmj.n1457 on 16 March 2022. Downloaded from http://www.bmj.com/ on 23 March 2022 by guest. Protected by copyright.

8 330 497 people who received at least one dose of covid-19 vaccines

735 870 unvaccinated individuals with a first positive reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction test result

14 330 080 participants from the general population (control group)

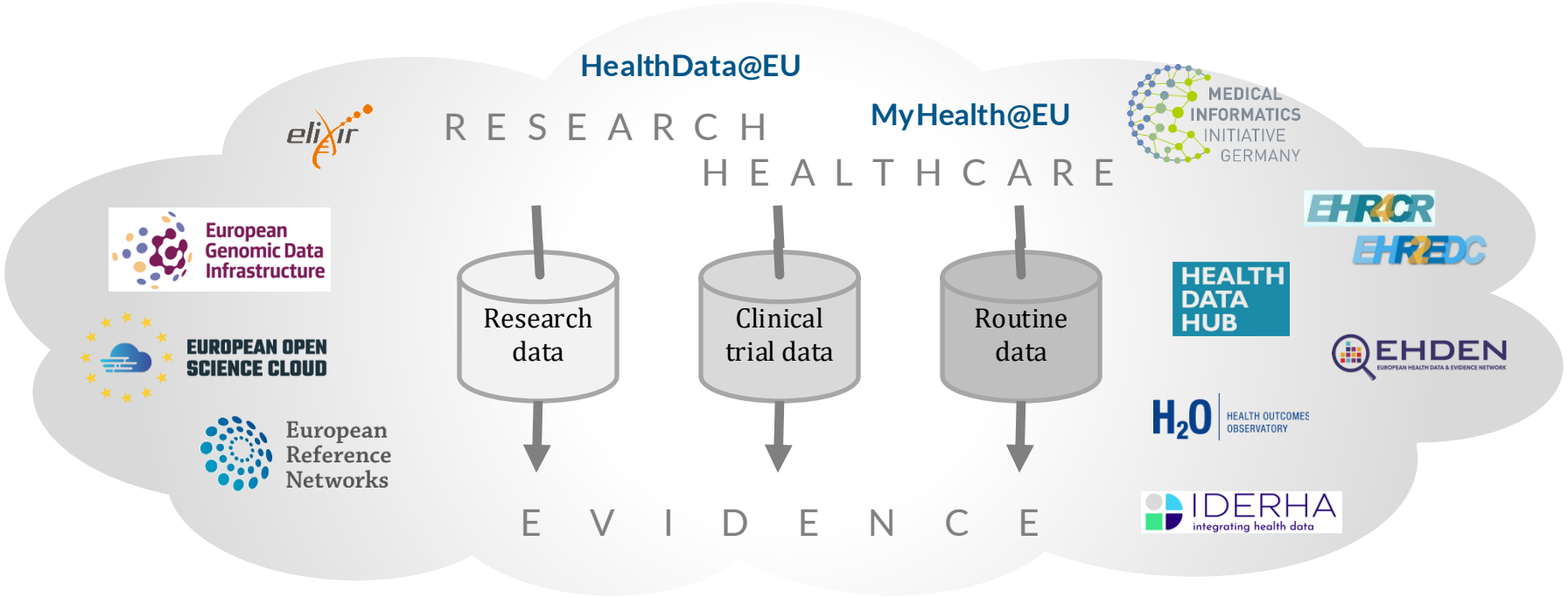
The OHDSI* community who took part



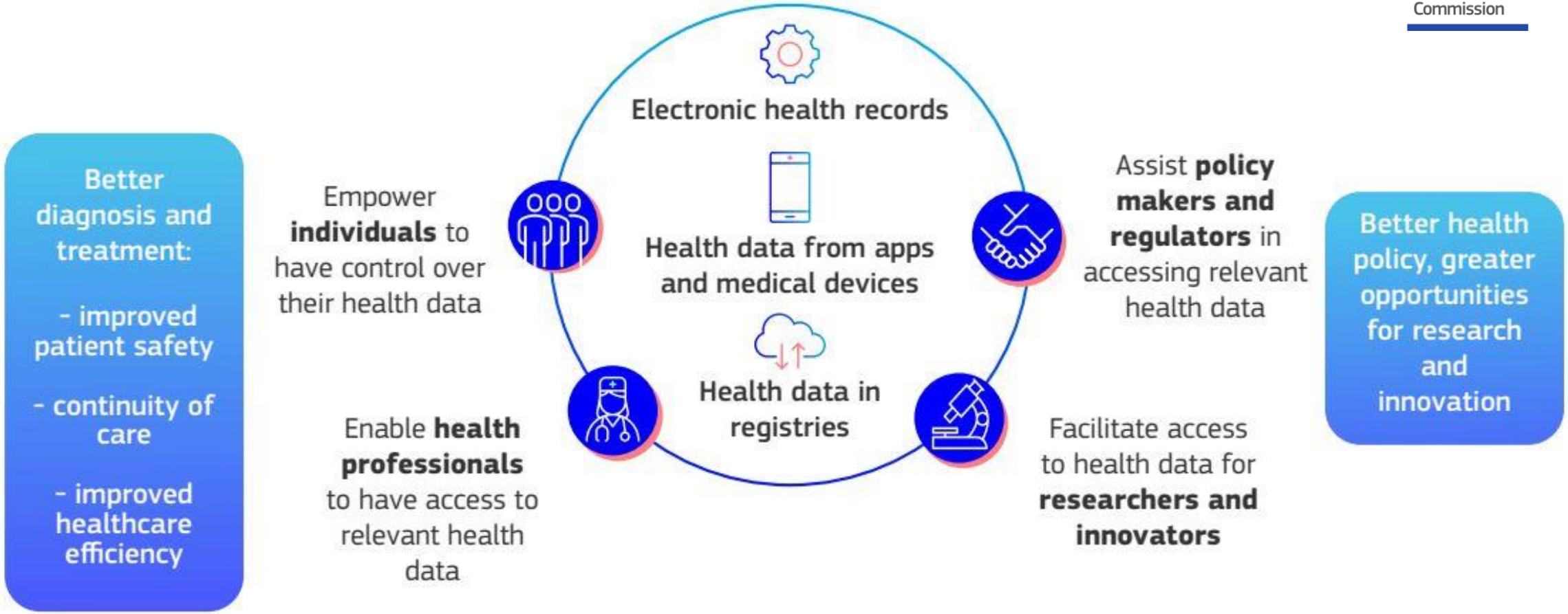
* The Observational Health Data Sciences and Informatics (OHDSI) programme. https://ohdsi.org

Big health data sharing initiatives

- Multiple initiatives are scaling up health data access
  - across jurisdictional, institutional and domain borders, for care or for research
- Emerging paradigm for analysing personally-identifiable health data:
  - federated infrastructure model: network of repositories with an overarching governance and interoperability layer



The European Health Data Space



Priority EHR data categories for primary use

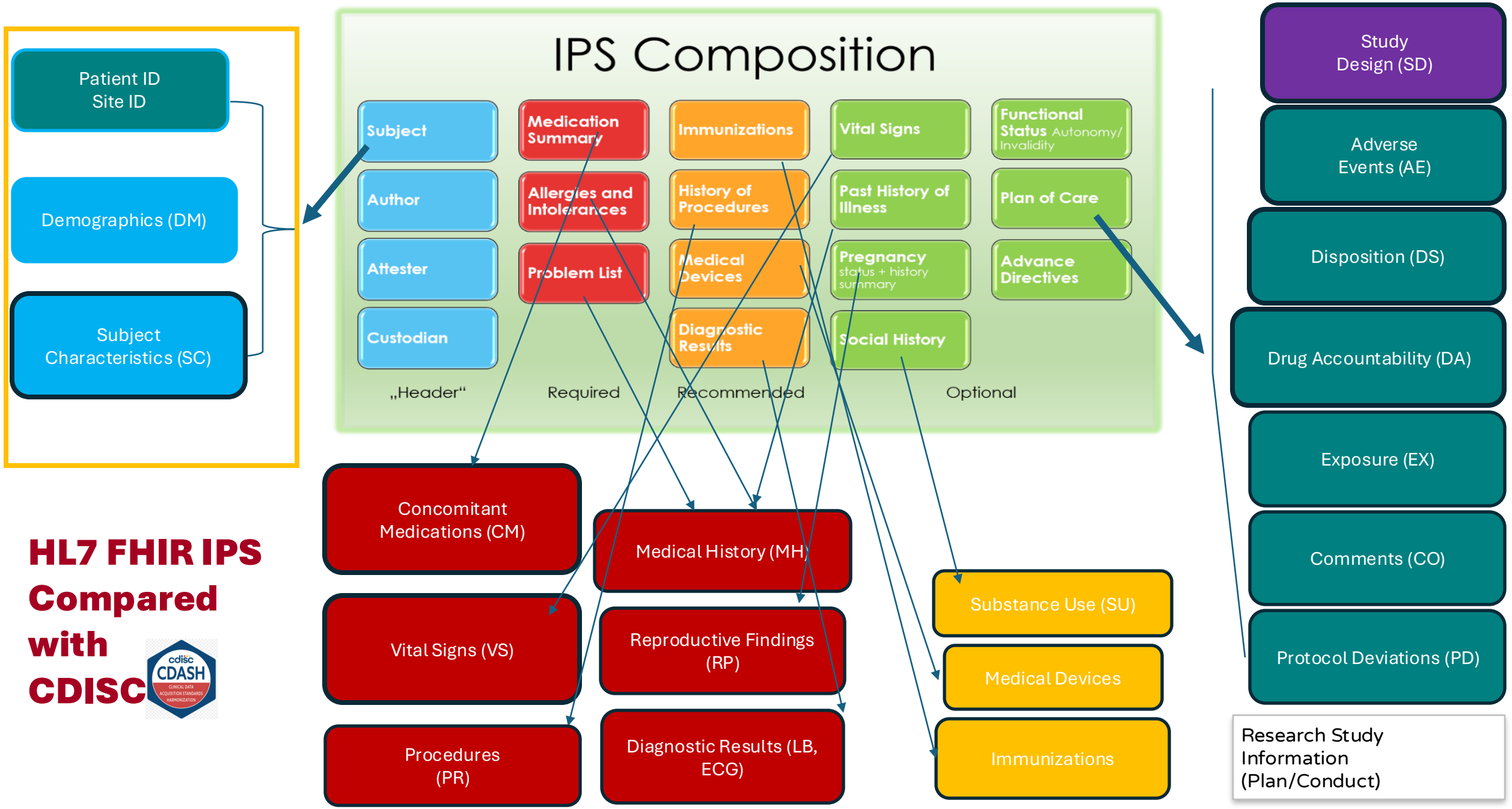
Plus:

Prescriptions

Lab results

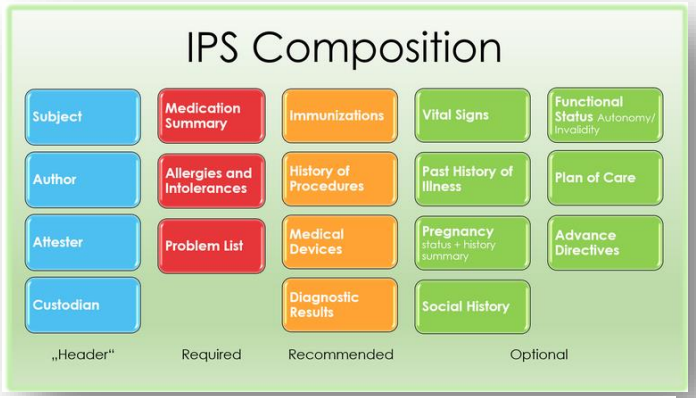
Radiology reports

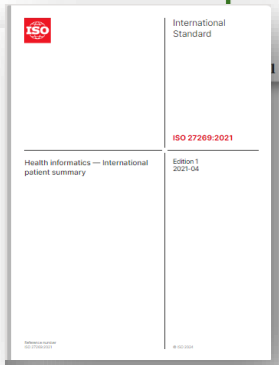
Discharge summaries

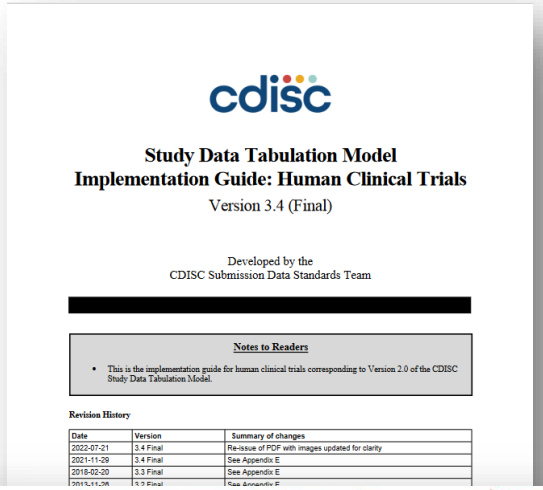


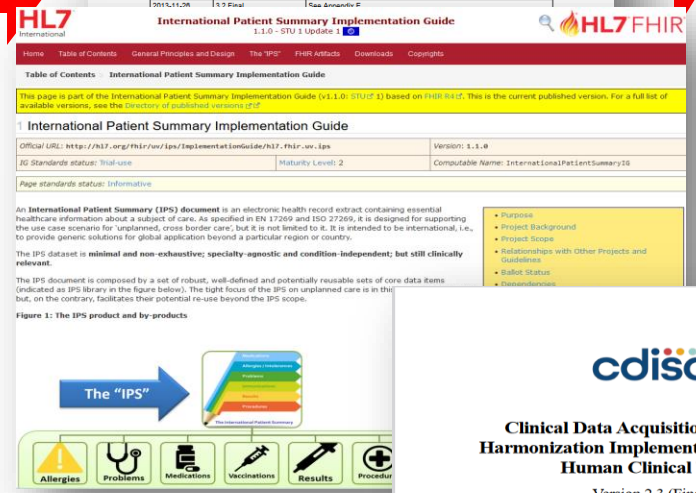
HL7 FHIR IPS Compared with CDISC

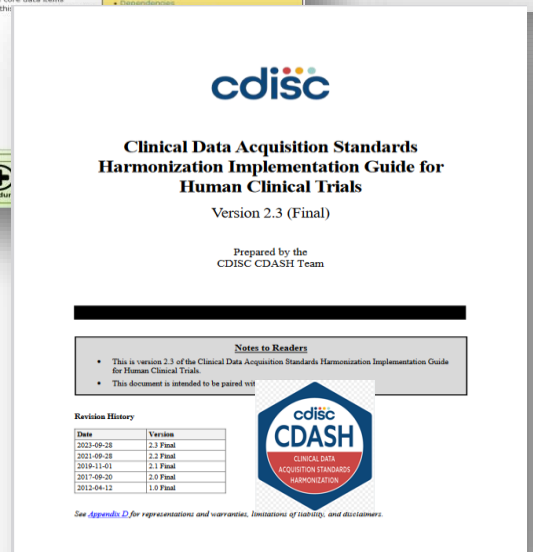
1) Data Element Sources → 2)Core Element Set → 3) Terminology Assessment

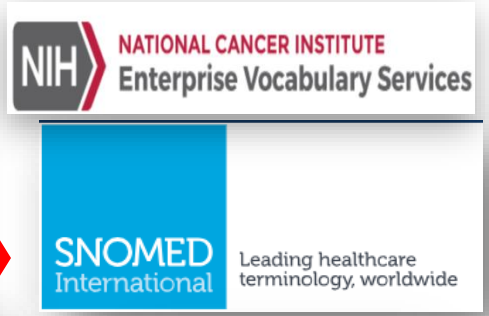












DOMAIN/CATEGORY:
IPS-Subject = CDISC-Demographics (DM)
Subject Characteristics (SC)

- **Subject Characteristic /Demographic Item**
- **Subject Characteristic/Demographic Result**
- **Collection Date**

Demographics/Subject Characteristics – Specific Requested Items:

- **Research Subject Identifier**
- **Research Study Identifier**
- Age
  - Age Units
- Birth Date
- Gender/Sex*
- Death
  - Death Date
  - Death Time
  - Subject Death Flag

*Terms not precisely defined

DOMAIN/CATEGORY:
IPS Diagnostic Results= CDISC- Laboratory Results (LB)
Microbiology Results (MB); Body Systems Findings**

- **Diagnostic/Laboratory/Micro Test Name**
  - **Diagnostic/Lab/Micro Result in Original Units Value**
  - **Diagnostic/Lab/Micro Original Units**
  - **Diagnostic/Lab/Micro Specimen Collection Date**
  - **Diagnostic/Lab/Micro Specimen Collection Time**
  - **Diagnostic/Lab/Micro Specimen Type**
  - **Diagnostic/Lab Fasting Status**
  - **Diagnostic/Lab/Micro Specimen/Reference ID**
  - **Lab Ref Range Lower Limit in Original Unit**
  - **Lab Ref Range Upper Limit in Original Unit**
  - **Diagnostic/Lab/Micro Specimen Collection Location**
  - **Diagnostic/Lab/Micro Method of Test/Exam**
  - **Microbiology Examination Detail**

**Body Systems Findings each have specific domain with the same variables (e.g., CVTEST/CVORRES for Cardiovascular).

DOMAIN/CATEGORY:
IPS-Data Element = CDISC- Adverse Encounters (AE)

- Allergies and Intolerances
  - Start Date
  - End Date
  - Reaction
  - Manifestation
  - Severity

- **Adverse Event Term**
  - **Adverse Event Start Date**
  - **Ongoing Adverse Event**
  - **Adverse Event End Date**
  - **Adverse Event Severity**
  - **Serious Criteria Met**
  - **AE Result in Death**
  - **Death Date**
  - **AE Life Threatening**
  - **AE Hospitalization**
  - **AE Disability or Permanent Damage**
  - **AE Congenital Anomaly or Birth Defect**
  - **AE Needs Intervention to Prevent Impairment**
  - **AE Other Serious Important Medical Event**
  - **Action Taken with Study Treatment**
  - **Outcome**

Category Not in HL7 FHIR IPS IG
Essential to research – likely not found in health care records

IPS-Problem List = CDISC- Medication History (MH)**

- Problem/Condition/Medical History Reported Term
- Medical History Event Collection Date
- Medical History Event Start Date
- Medical History Event End Date
- Hypertension
- Diabetes
- Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
- Alcohol Abuse
- Drug Abuse
- Allergy

DOMAIN/CATEGORY:
IPS-Medication Summary = CDISC- Concomitant Meds (CM)

- **Medication/Drug/Product Name**
  - **Medication Start Date**
  - **Medication End Date**
  - **Dose**
    - **Dose Units**
  - **Dose Form**
  - **Dose Frequency**
  - **Route of Administration**
  - **Medication Indication**

IPS-Vital Signs = CDISC- Vital Signs (VS)

- Vital Signs Test Name
- Vital Signs Date
- Vital Signs Time
- Vital Signs Result of Finding in Original Units
- Vital Signs Original Units

DOMAIN/CATEGORY:
IPS-Data Element = CDISC- Healthcare Encounters (HO)

- **Hospital Stay**
  - **Admission Date**
  - **Discharge Date**
- **Healthcare Encounter**
  - **Reason for Healthcare Encounter**
  - **Reported Term for Healthcare Encounter**
  - **Healthcare Encounter Start Date**
  - **Healthcare Encounter End Date**

Category Not in HL7 FHIR IPS IG
ISO IPS and IPS IHE have discharge summary information

IPS-History of Procedures = CDISC- Procedures (PR)

- Name of Procedure
- Procedure Start Date
- Procedure Indication
- Ongoing Procedure
- Procedure End Date

IPS- Pregnancy status + history summary =
CDISC- Reproductive Findings (RP)

- Pregnancy Status
- Reproductive Finding Name
- Reproductive Result or Finding in Original Units
- Reproductive Original Units
- Reproductive System Finding Date
- There are a number of discrete pregnancy related outcomes that were mapped to CDISC SDTM since there were discrete data elements in IPS (code system/code/label) available – potential public health use case

IPS-Social History = CDISC- Substance Use (SU)

- Tobacco Use (Smoking Status)
- Alcohol Use
- Name of Substance
- Never/Current/Former Usage
- Substance Dose
- Substance Dose Units
- Substance Use Frequency
- Substance Use Start Date
- Substance Use End Date
- Substance Use Duration
- Substance Use Duration Unit

eSource Scale Up Task Force

Coordinated by i~HD for member organizations to drive data interoperability and champion EHR as eSource

Purpose

- Drive and scaling the adoption of Electronic Health Record (EHR) as eSource technology across pharma/biotech companies and hospitals
- Promote alignment across members to adopt harmonized and efficient practices and processes
- Engage with relevant organisations and stakeholders involved in eSource EHR initiatives

Outputs

- Published reports, publications, webinars, position papers, recommendation, presentations, meetings

Modus Operandi

- Collaboration using “Chatham House rules” under i~HD membership banner

https://www.chathamhouse.org/about-us/chatham-house-rule

Founding members

Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

SANOFI

REGENERON

janssen PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES OF Johnson & Johnson

AstraZeneca

i~HD The European Institute for Innovation through Health Data

Key stakeholders

cdisc

TransCelerate BIOPHARMA INC.

VULCAN HL7 FHIR

Society for Clinical Data Management DATA DRIVEN

EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY

SCRS Society for Clinical Research Sites

FDA

+Industry

+Vendors

+Study Sites