



# The European Network of Excellence for Big Data in Prostate Cancer

## Studyathon

8-12 March 2021

*Co-organized by:*



**EHDEN**  
EUROPEAN HEALTH DATA & EVIDENCE NETWORK



**OHDSI**  
OBSERVATIONAL HEALTH DATA SCIENCES AND INFORMATICS



[www.prostate-pioneer.eu](http://www.prostate-pioneer.eu)

| [www.ehden.eu](http://www.ehden.eu)

| [www.ohdsi](http://www.ohdsi)



efpia



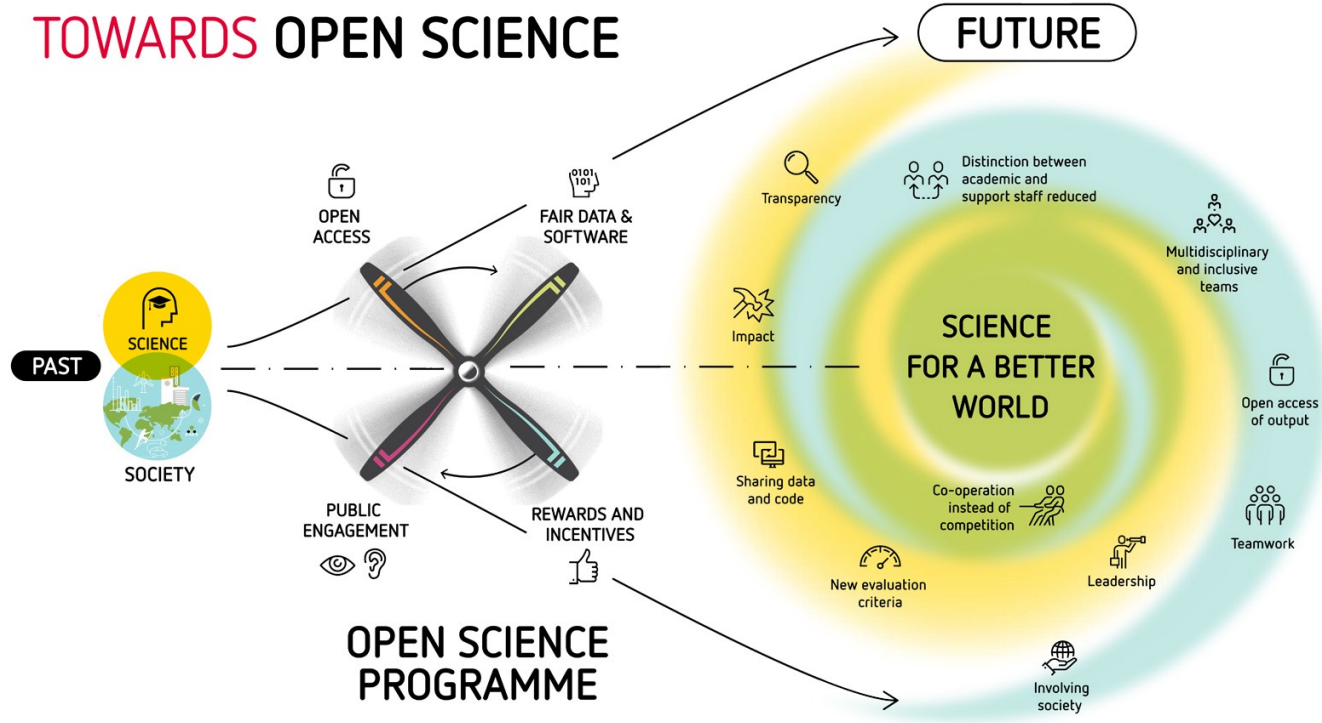


# What are we doing here?



Utrecht University

## TOWARDS OPEN SCIENCE





# Big Data for Better Outcomes



PIONEER

## THEMES/ENABLERS:

Design sets of standard outcomes and demonstrate value

Increase access to high quality outcomes data

Use data to improve value of HC delivery

Increase patient engagement through digital solutions

## DISEASE-SPECIFIC PROJECTS:

ROADMAP: Alzheimer's disease

HARMONY: Haematologic malignancies

BigData@Heart: Cardiovascular diseases

**PIONEER: Prostate cancer**

## CO-ORDINATING PROJECTS:

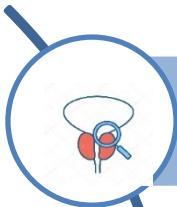
DO->IT: Coordination & support actions

## OVERARCHING:

European Health Data Network (EHDEN)



# Studyathon Objectives



To investigate the natural history and outcomes of prostate cancer patients managed with watchful waiting (WW) using an international network of real-world data



Watchful waiting is a conservative management option for prostate cancer patients with a life expectancy  $< 10$  years at time of diagnosis.



Develop and validate risk scores & prediction models that quantify time to death, symptomatic progression and initiation of palliative treatment following WW



With the outcomes of this work we hope to inform shared healthcare decision-making for prostate cancer patients managed by watchful waiting.



# Organising committee

## Management team

- Ariel Achtman, Movember
- Kees van Bochove, The Hyve
- Bertrand De Meulder, EISBM
- Christian Reich, IQVIA
- Robert Snijder, Astellas
- Carl Steinbeisser, collaborate.eu/Bayer

### Sub-team Leads

Literature review	Katharina Beyer, King's College London
Clinical characterisation	Giorgio Gandaglia, Vita-Salute San Raffaele, Milan, Italy
Phenotyping	Asieh Golozar, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health
Prediction	Ronald Herrera, Bayer
Data sources	Susan Evans Axelsson, Lund University, Sweden

### Supporting Leadership

PIONEER	James N'Dow, EAU, Alex Asiimwe, Bayer
EHDEN	Nigel Hughes, J&J, Peter Rijnbeek, ErasmusMC
OHDSI	Patrick Ryan, J&J



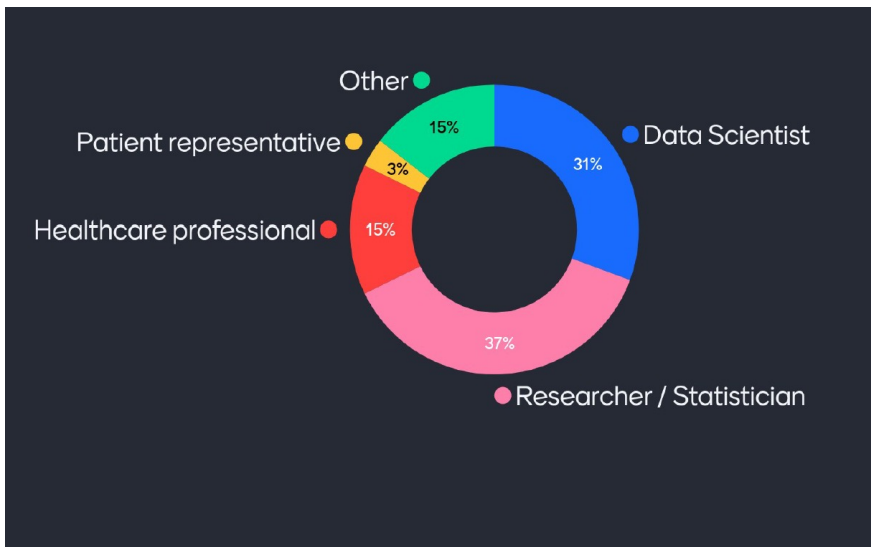
# Sub-teams

Sub-teams	Objectives
Clinical characterisation	Describe the demographic and clinical characteristics of patients with prostate cancer under watchful waiting (WW) & estimated clinical outcomes of these patients including those who initiated treatment.
Phenotyping	Define the study phenotypes clearly, unambiguously and accurately to generate meaningfully evidence considering differences/nuances of the databases
Prediction	Develop a prediction model, in the context of WW, that predicts an outcome (symptomatic progression, death, death without symptoms) at a specific moment in time (6, 12, 24 months) based on a combination of patient characteristics.
Data sources & study execution	Identify & recruit appropriate databases to the study; developed the code to run analyses for clinical characterisation and to compile results in an easy-to-install <a href="#">R package</a>

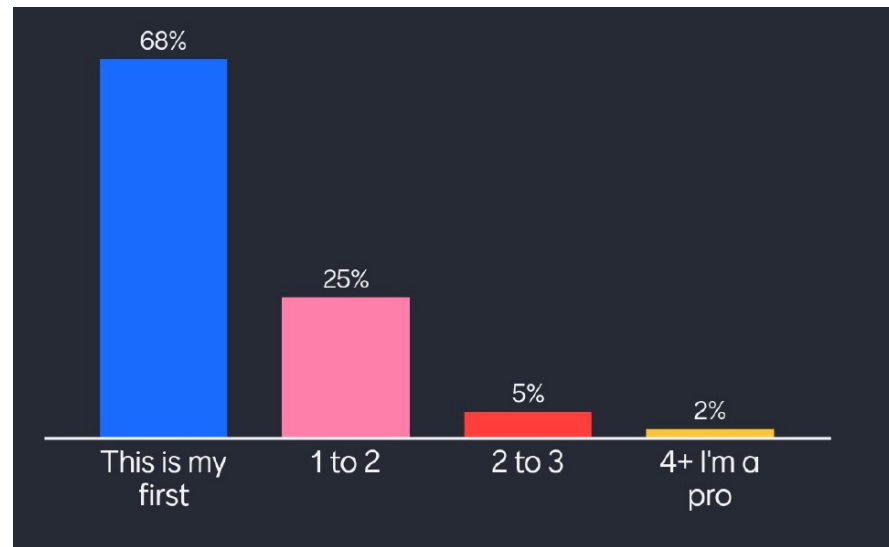


# Group dynamics

What is your background?



How many studyathons have you attended?





# What countries were represented



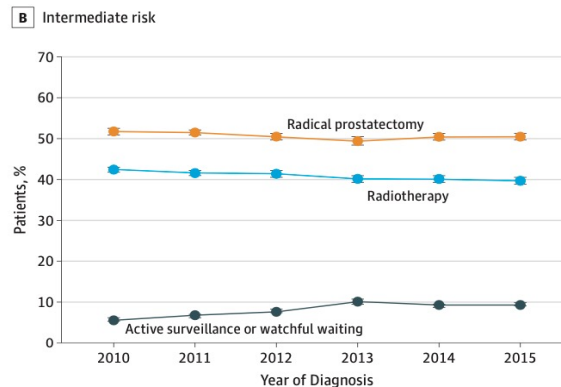
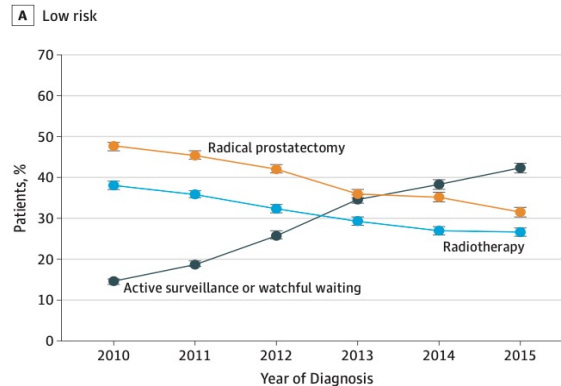
60 responses





# Prostate Cancer Treatment: Options

- Curative-intent treatments:
  - Radical Prostatectomy
  - Radiotherapy
- Conservative management:
  - Active Surveillance
  - Watchful Waiting
- Palliative treatments





# Watchful Waiting – The Clinical Perspective

PIONEER

	Active surveillance	Watchful waiting
Treatment intent	Curative	Palliative
Follow-up	Predefined schedule	Patient-specific
Assessment/markers used	DRE, PSA, re-biopsy, mpMRI	Not predefined
Life expectancy	> 10 years	< 10 years
Aim	Minimise treatment-related toxicity without compromising survival	Minimise treatment-related toxicity
Comments	Mainly low-risk patients	Can apply to patients with all stages

Watchful waiting refers to conservative management for patients deemed unsuitable for curative treatment right from the outset, and patients are ‘watched’ for the development of local or systemic progression with (imminent) disease-related complaints, at which stage they are then treated palliatively according to their symptoms, in order to maintain QoL

*EAU Guidelines on PCa, 2021*



# Watchful Waiting – The Clinical Perspective

## Patient profile

Male 82 years old

Smoker

High blood pressure & cholesterol

Type 2 DM

History of CAD & CVD

PSA 10 ng/mL

DRE: cT2b

Prostate biopsy: Gleason score 4+3

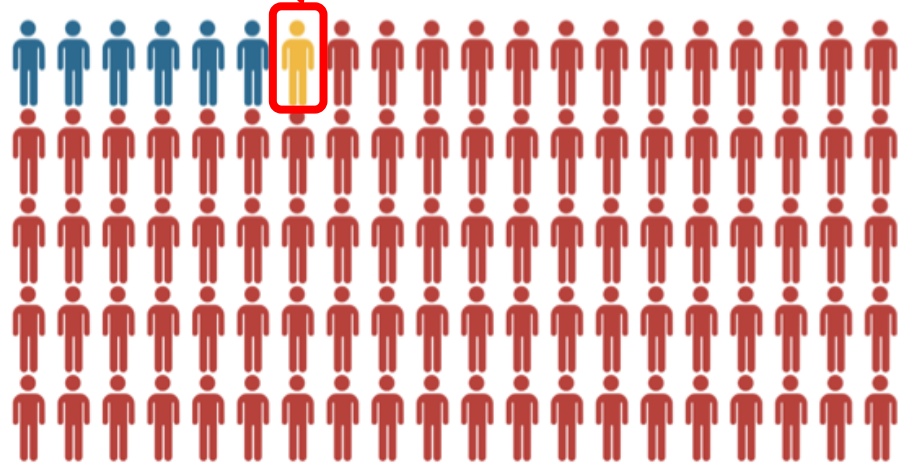
CT & Bone Scan: negative



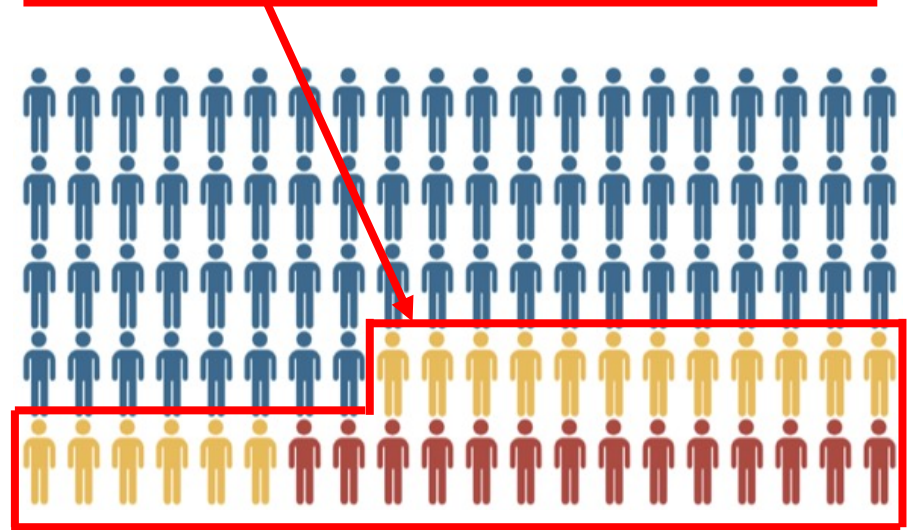


# Watchful Waiting – Avoiding Overtreatment

Untreated: **One** prostate cancer death

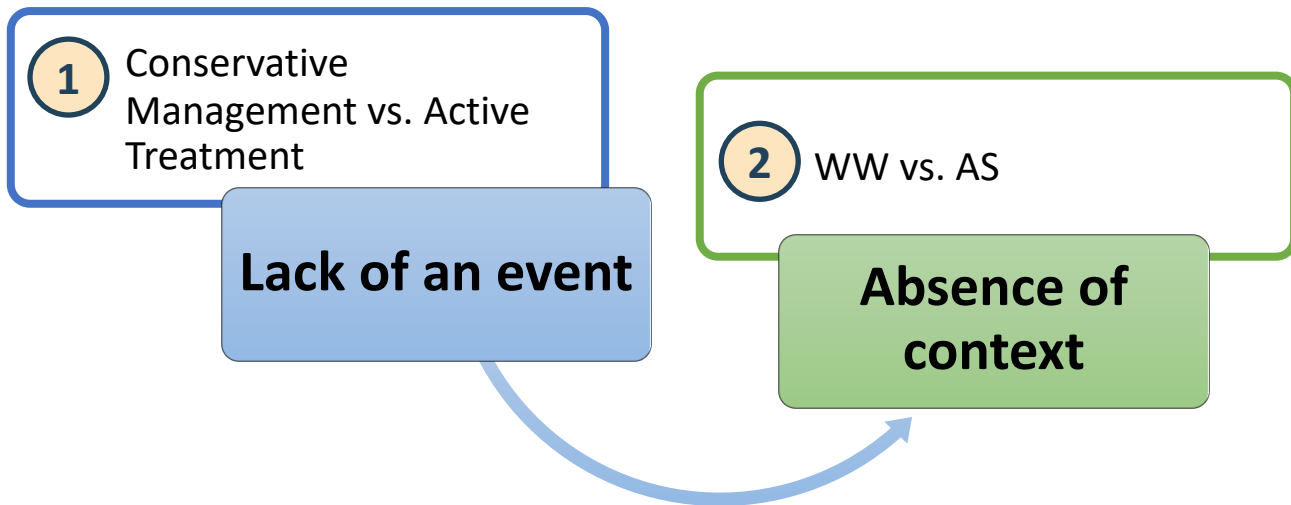


Radical prostatectomy or radiotherapy: **32** with varying degree of urinary incontinence





# Challenges in Defining WW



## Study-a-thon Approach

- arbitrary 6-months time-frame post PCa diagnosis to distinguish active treatment from conservative management
- No attempt to distinguish AS from WW at the time of diagnosis





# Defining Newly Diagnosed PCa

1

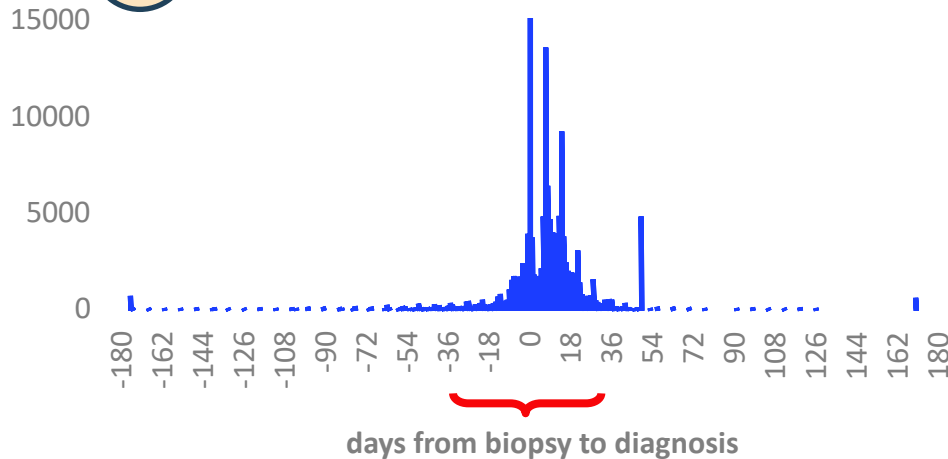
## Literature

Validated definition in the literature:

- Combination of PCa diagnosis **AND** prostate biopsy
- Different date of biopsy
- Sensitivity and PPV >90%

2

## Data



3

## PIONEER Definition for newly diagnosed Pca

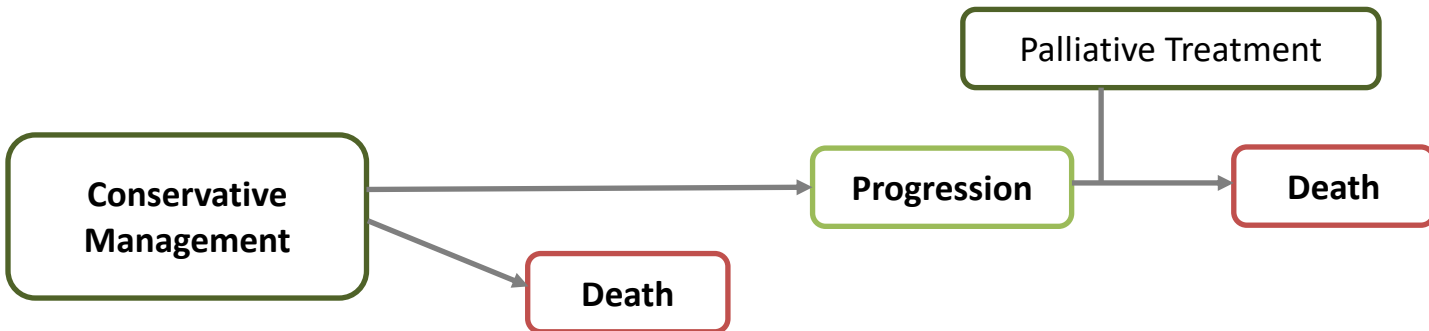
PCa diagnosis + Prostate biopsy +/- 30 days of Dx or PSA>50 ng/mL + No prior history of PCa or related conditions in the year before + No prior treatment with ADT or other hormonal therapies



# Outcomes Cohorts

Patients on conservative management experience two main outcomes:

1. Death
2. Progression after which they receive treatment



**Characterization Study:** describe patients' characteristics and their outcomes

**Prediction Study:** identify patients likely to experience death before progression





# Challenges in Defining Outcomes



## Limitations

- Data Capture
  - Missing information on tumor attributes (i.e., progression)
  - Unavailability/under-reporting of death
  - No/unreliable cause of death
- Competing risk: Not all patients experience both outcomes
- Non comparability of two probability prediction and probabilities over time

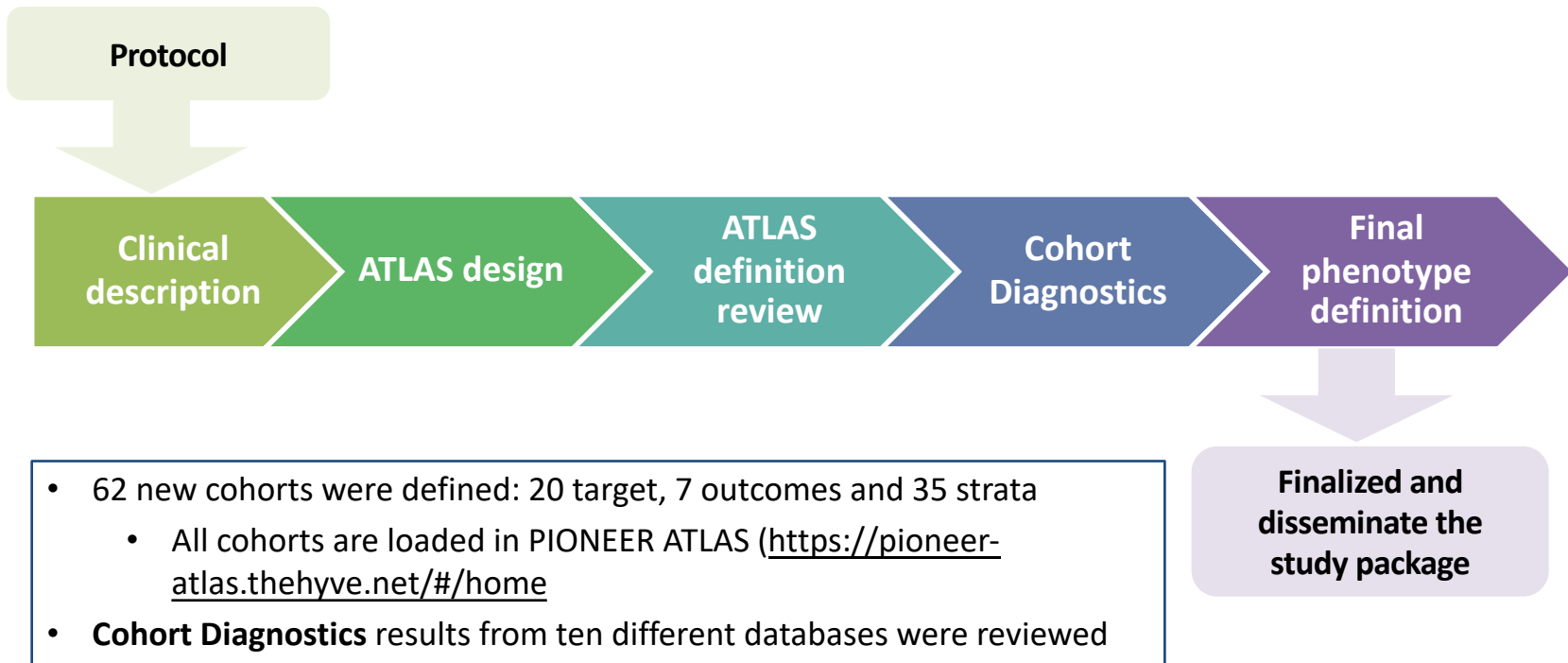
## Solutions

- Use symptoms to define symptomatic progression
- Treatment initiation as a surrogate for progression
- Death before progression/treatment initiation: death due to other cause



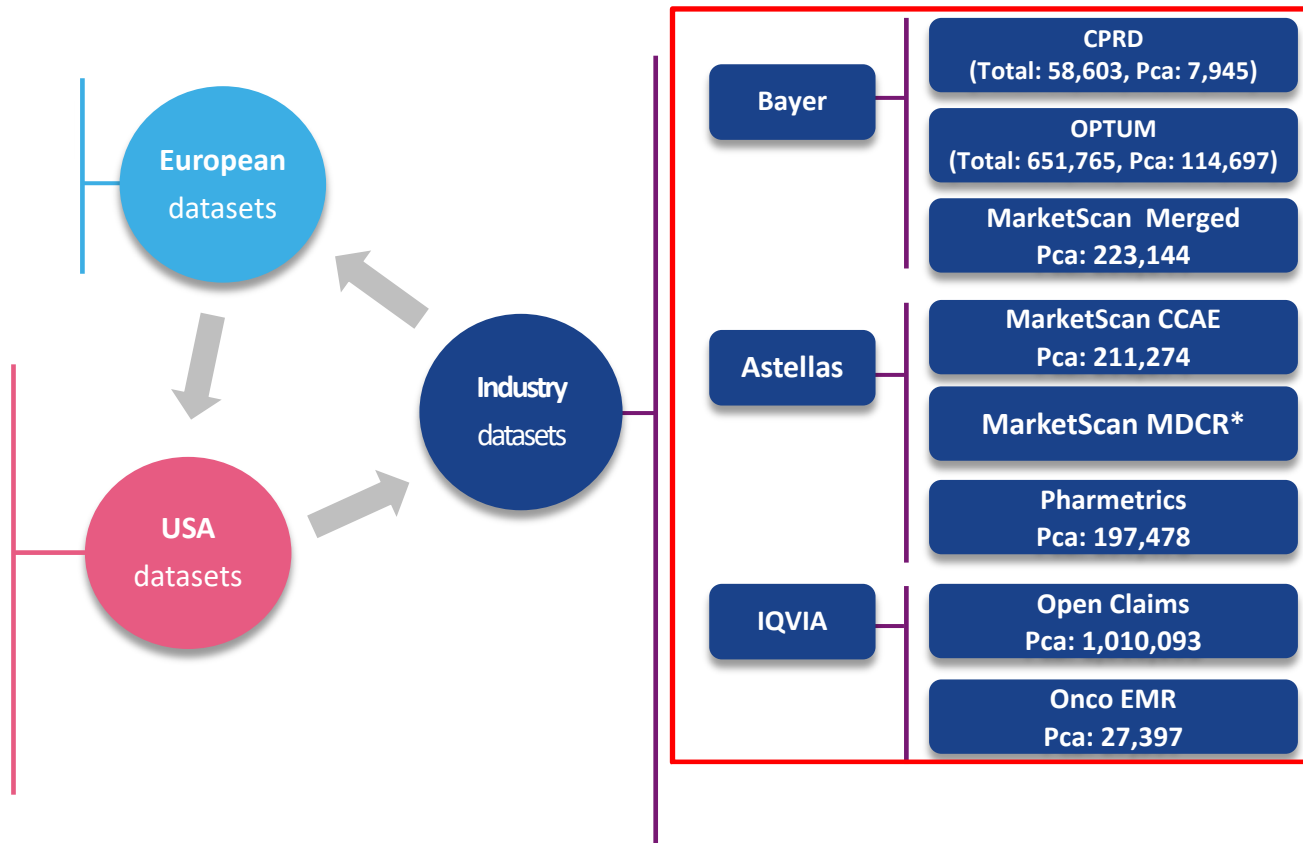
PIONEER

# Phenotype-Cohort Development Process





# Studyathon Data Overview





# Studyathon Data Overview

PIONEER

MAITT University of Tartu  
(Total: 18,000, Pca: 585)

CDW Bordeaux University  
(Total: 1.8 M, Pca: 158)

Medaman  
Pca: 3,130

Netherlands Cancer  
Registry  
(Total: 3 M, Pca: 9772)

European  
datasets

Durham Veterans Affairs Medical Centre  
Total: several millions, Pca: 176,395

Epic Legacy CUMC MERGE  
Total: 6.6 million +, Pca: 3,,535

TUFTS Medical Centre  
Total: 1 million

University of Washington

University of Columbia

USA  
datasets

Industry  
datasets

Current total: N > 1.4 Million

Bayer

CPRD  
(Total: 58,603, Pca: 7,945)

OPTUM  
(Total: 651,765, Pca: 114,697)

MarketScan Merged  
Pca: 223,144

Astellas

MarketScan CCAE  
Pca: 211,274

MarketScan MDCR\*

Pharmetrics  
Pca: 197,478

IQVIA

Open Claims  
Pca: 1,010,093

Onco EMR  
Pca: 27,397

SIDIAP

GP data from Spain  
Pca: 26,000



# Studyathon Goals & Achievements

## Cohort diagnostics:

1.4M patients

Shiny app: <https://bit.ly/3v6Tnz6>

Debugged and functional R  
package for federated data  
analytics: [bit.ly/3aa1liy](https://bit.ly/3aa1liy)

Patient voice  
included

## Prediction models for

- time to death
- symptomatic progression
- initiation of palliative treatment

Communication channels built with EHDEN  
& OHDSI

Risk scores for risk of death, progression or  
treatment

Study protocol available on:  
[bit.ly/3vJI7ZK](https://bit.ly/3vJI7ZK)

Characterisation results now on Shiny App:  
[bit.ly/3dTT8QK](https://bit.ly/3dTT8QK)



# Study Execution

- Simple successive tasks for data holders: (tasks #1 - #4); task #5 is planned for the PLP package
- New functionalities: time-to-event analysis and Kaplan-Meier plots (currently in debugging)
- We reused the OHDSI R packages BUT important to advertise this resource more!
- Feedback loop with phenotypes & clinicians

Cohort Diagnostics			French hospital EMR				Estonian population data				Dutch cancer registry					
Cohort Counts			Show <div><div>50</div></div> entries													
Incidence Rate																
Time Distributions																
Included (Source) Concepts																
Orphan (Source) Concepts																
Index Event Breakdown																
Visit Context																
Database Information																
Database																
CDWBordeaux, CPRD, MAITI																
			</													

About

Cohorts

Cohort Counts

Cohort Characterization

Time To Event

Compare Cohort Char.

Database information

Change Log

Database

OpenClaims

Cohort (Target)

[T1a] Newly diagnosed Pca

Strata (Target)

All

Cohort (Comparator)

[T3a] PCa under conservati

Strata (Comparator)

All

Domain

All

Time Window

-365d to -1d, -30d to -1d, inc

Target: [T1a] Newly diagnosed Pca (biopsy or PSA GT 50) (n= 1010093)

Comparator: [T3a] PCa under conservative management (biopsy or PSA GT 50) (n= 403150)

Download Data

Table Plot

Show 25 entries

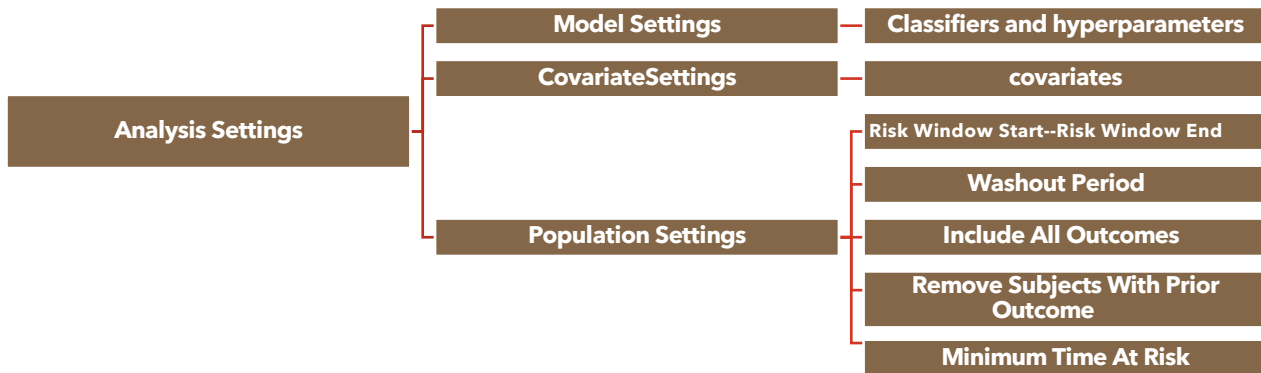
Search:

Covariate name	Mean Target	SD Target	Mean Comparator	SD Comparator	StdDiff
drug_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: endocrine therapy	13.2%	0.34	0.2%	0.04	-0.38
drug_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: antineoplastic and immunomodulating agents	14.9%	0.36	2.1%	0.14	-0.33
drug_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: hormones and related agents	9.4%	0.29	0.1%	0.02	-0.32
drug_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: hormone antagonists and related agents	5.7%	0.23	0.1%	0.03	-0.24
drug_era group during day 0 through 0 days relative to index: endocrine therapy	2.6%	0.16	0.1%	0.04	-0.15
drug_era group during day 0 through 0 days relative to index: hormones and related agents	1.7%	0.13	0.0%	0.02	-0.13
cohort during day 0 through 30 days start the index: 210	2.2%	0.15	0.2%	0.05	-0.13
drug_era group during day 0 through 0 days relative to index: antineoplastic and immunomodulating agents	4.0%	0.20	1.6%	0.13	-0.10
condition_era group during day -30 through -1 days relative to index: prostate specific antigen abnormal	74.0%	0.44	68.2%	0.47	-0.09
condition_era group during day -30 through -1 days relative to index: raised prostate specific antigen	74.0%	0.44	68.2%	0.47	-0.09
condition_era group during day -30 through -1 days relative to index: measurement finding outside reference range	76.2%	0.43	70.6%	0.46	-0.09
condition_era group during day -30 through -1 days relative to index: measurement finding above reference range	75.8%	0.43	70.2%	0.46	-0.09
drug_era group during day 0 through 0 days relative to index: hormone antagonists and related agents	1.0%	0.10	0.1%	0.03	-0.09
condition_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: secondary malignant neoplastic disease	1.9%	0.14	0.6%	0.08	-0.08
condition_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: secondary malignant neoplasm of bone	1.5%	0.12	0.4%	0.06	-0.08
cohort during day 0 through 0 days start the index: 304	1.7%	0.13	0.5%	0.07	-0.08
cohort during day 0 through 30 days start the index: 304	1.7%	0.13	0.5%	0.07	-0.08
condition_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: malignant neoplasm of bone	1.5%	0.12	0.4%	0.06	-0.08
condition_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: malignant neoplasm of skeletal system	1.5%	0.12	0.4%	0.06	-0.08
condition_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: neoplasm of bone	1.5%	0.12	0.4%	0.06	-0.08
condition_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: neoplasm of skeletal system	1.5%	0.12	0.4%	0.07	-0.08
condition_era group during day -365 through -1 days relative to index: prostate specific antigen abnormal	86.5%	0.34	82.7%	0.38	-0.07
condition_era group during day -365 through -1 days relative to index: raised prostate specific antigen	86.5%	0.34	82.7%	0.38	-0.07
condition_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: mass of musculoskeletal structure	1.8%	0.13	0.7%	0.08	-0.07
condition_era group during day 0 through 30 days relative to index: neoplasm of musculoskeletal system	1.6%	0.13	0.6%	0.07	-0.07





# PLP: analysis settings



PREDICTION MODEL	Model hyper-parameters	Model setting
Random Forest	{"mtries":["square root of number of features"],"ntrees":[500],"maxDepth":[4,10,17],"varImp":[true]}	Seed
Naïve Bayes	None	None
Multi-layer preceptrons (MLP)	{"size":[4],"alpha":[0.00001]}	Seed
Lasso Logistic Regression	{"variance":0.01}	Seed
KNN (K-Nearest neighbour)	{"k":1000}	Seed
Gradient Boosting Machine	{"ntrees":[10,100],"nthread":20,"maxDepth":[4,6,17],"minRows":[20],"learnRate":[0.01,0.1]}	Seed
Decision Tree	{"maxDepth":[10],"minSamplesSplit":[2],"minSamplesLeaf":[10],"minImpurityDecrease":[1e-7],"classWeight":["None"],"plot":false}	Seed
AdaBoost	{"nEstimators":[50],"learningRate":[1]}	Seed

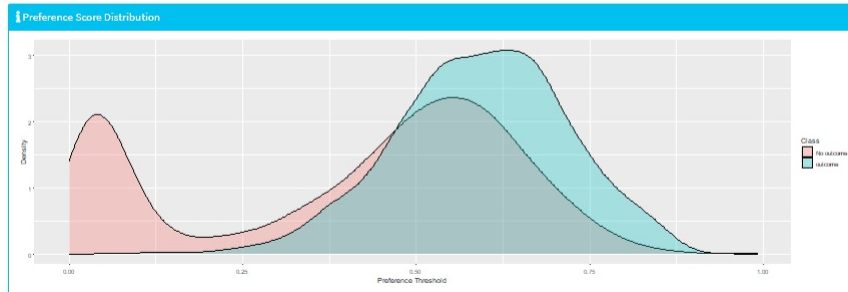
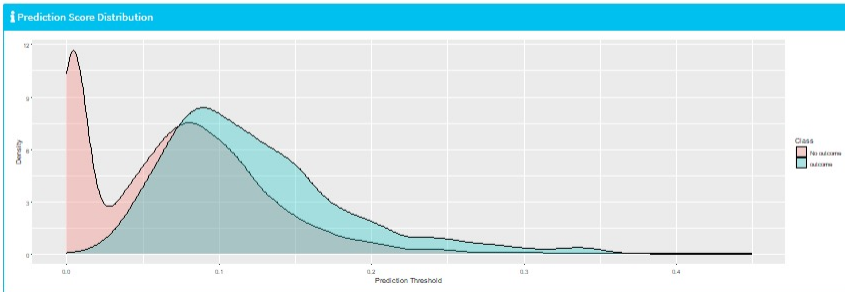
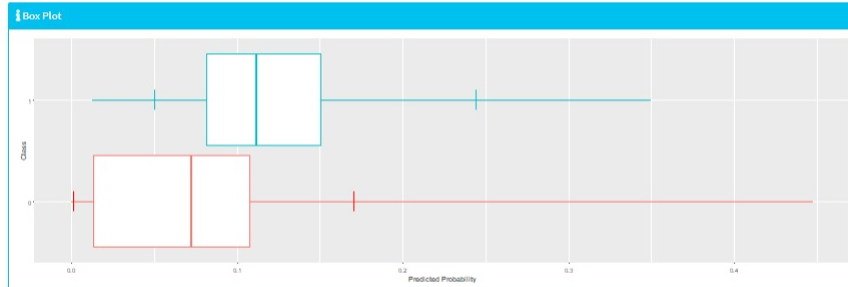
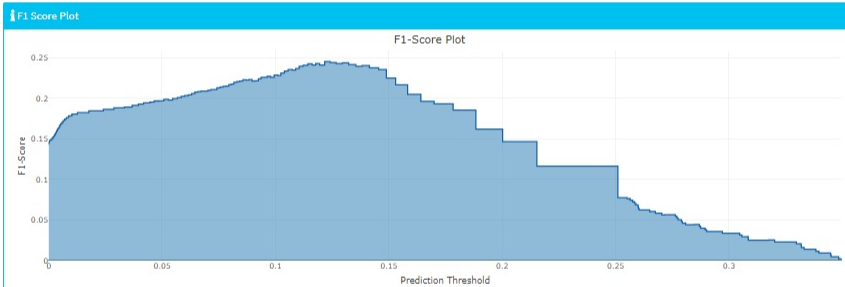
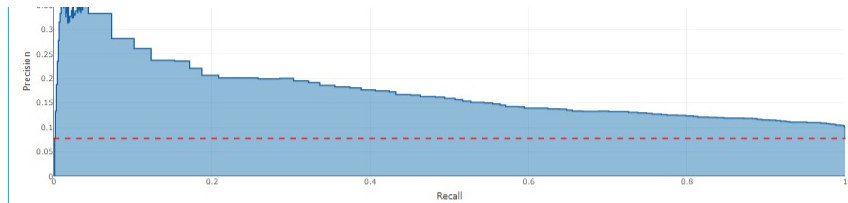
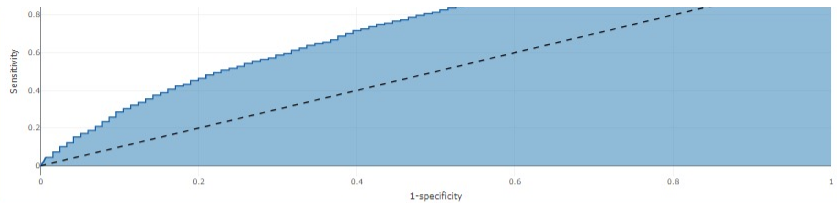


# PLP: prediction of symptoms onset in OPTUM

PIONEER

Log  
Data Info  
Help  
Threshold:  
0.074216  
Result:  
Dev: Optum - Val: Optum - T: -

Development: Optum  
Validation: Optum  
Model: Lasso Logistic Regression  
T: [PIONEER T5] new PCA core...  
O: [PIONEER O5] Symptoms...





# PLP: status & next steps

## So far:

- PLP package works on claims data
- Protocol is finalised & soon published
- Clinicians' input reached consensus

## To do:

- Include specific covariates in the PLP package
- Send package to data partners for model development and validation (task #5)



# Patient representatives



Gary Hooker



Ken Mastris



Robert Greene



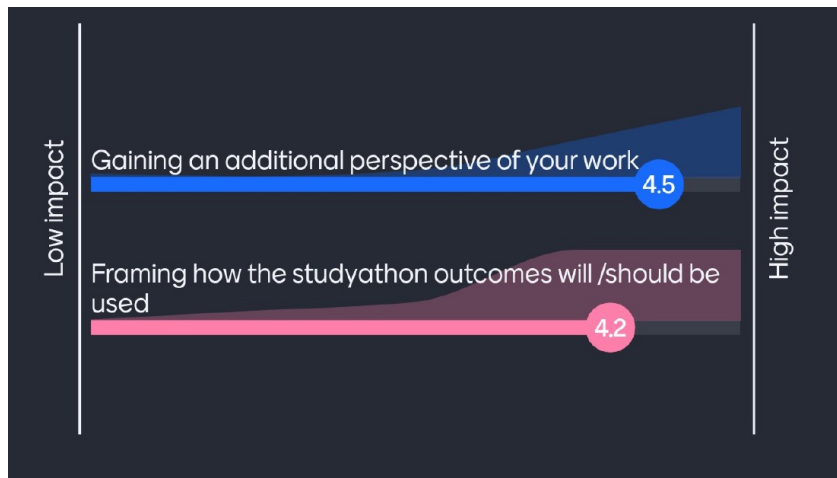
Erik Briers

Shared their disease stories

Q & A session

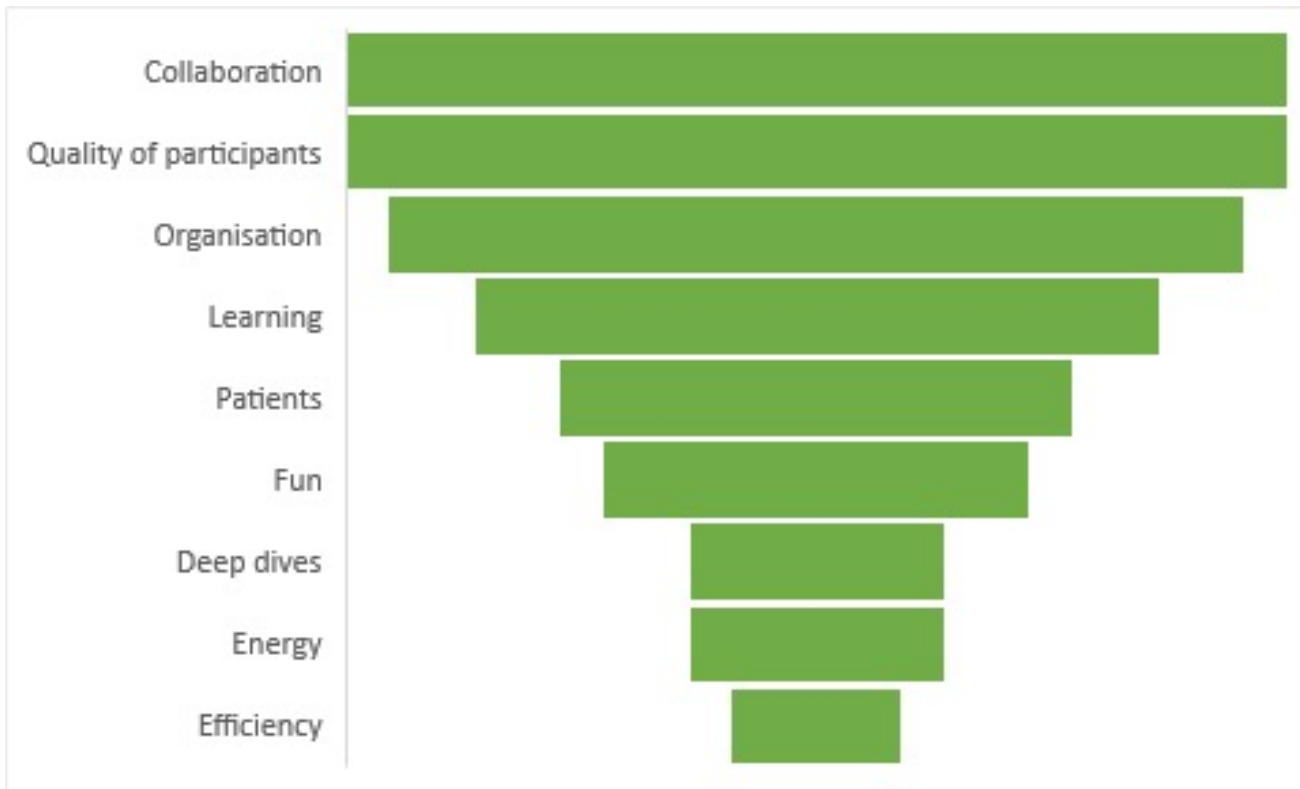
Joined studyathon teams

How would you rate the impact of patient participation on the study with regards to:



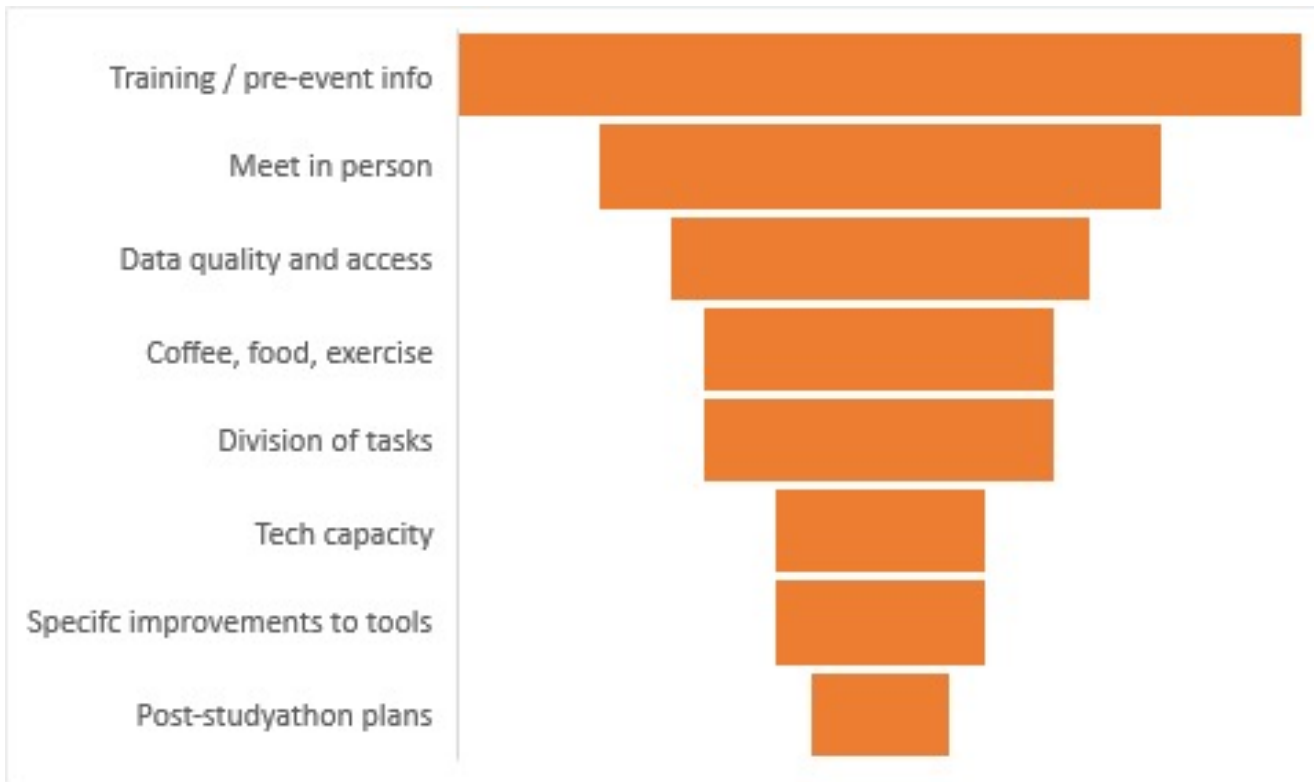


# What participants valued





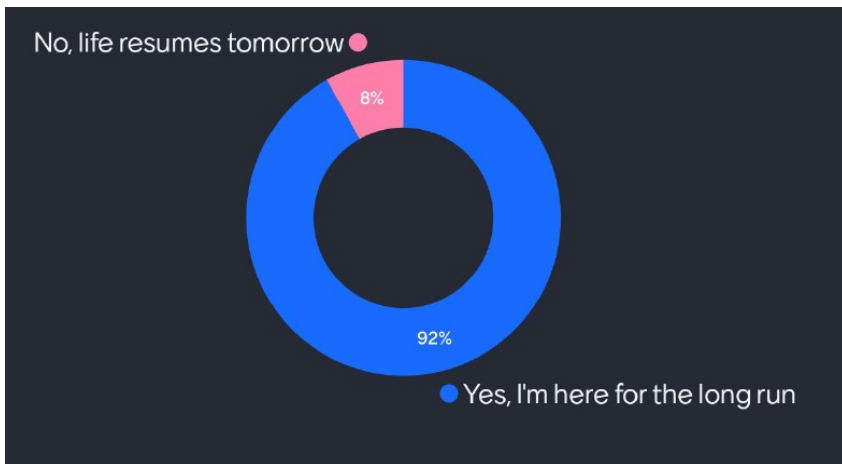
# What could be improved





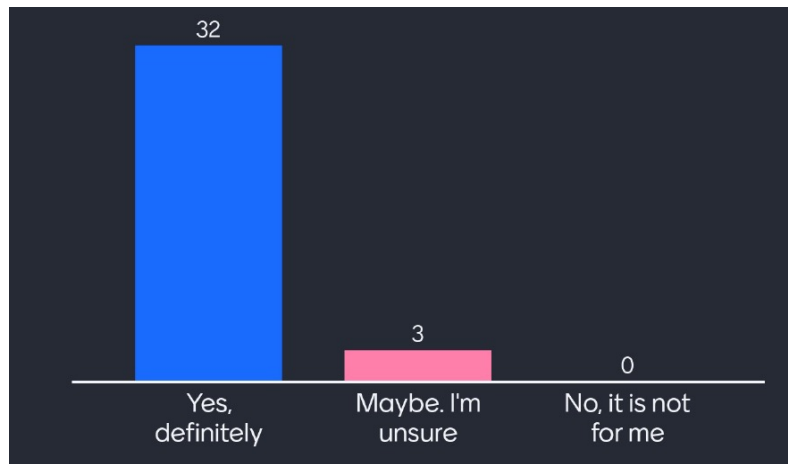
# Willingness to engage afterwards

Will you be an active participant in the tasks post-studyathon?



n=37

Would you attend another studyathon?



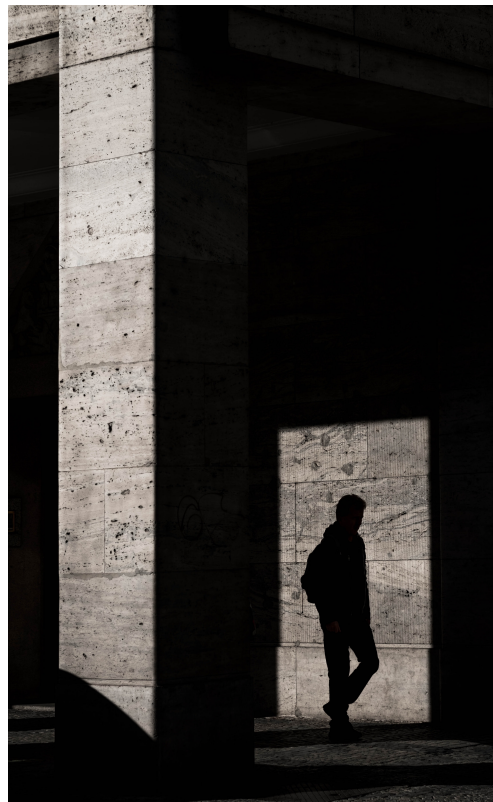
n=35



# Lessons learned

PIONEER

- Cancer data are particularly complex
- Importance of datathon well before studyathon
- Inferring critical information from shadows in the databases is challenging
- Studyathons can be led from outside of OHDSI, but benefit from
  - Guidance
  - Training for new participants
  - Library of re-useable resources
  - Knowledge of existing analytics tools
  - Post-event integration into OHDSI community







# Future Outlook

**Study-a-thon is still ongoing!!**

- Publications
- Estimations
- Prediction

**Data owners joined the group and keep on joining**

**Importance of patient representatives - key for future studyathons**

**Next steps**

- Future studyathons
  - Different questions & data
- Explore new formats & approaches

**Collaborative spirit bringing people & skills together – common goal**



# Thank you!

*Together we can ensure each individual patient receives the right treatment for them at the right time.*

PIONEER is funded through the IMI2 Joint Undertaking and is listed under grant agreement No. 777492 and is part of the Big Data for Better Outcomes Programme (BD4BO). IMI2 receives support from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme and the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA)



# Contact us for queries

Team Lead Contacts	
Clinical characterisation	Giorgio Gandaglia (giorgio.gandaglia@gmail.com)
Phenotyping	Asieh Golozar (golozar@ohdsi.org) Shilpa Ratwani (shilpa@ohdsi.org)
Prediction	Ronald Herrera (ronald.herrera@bayer.com)
Data sources/study execution	Susan Evans Axelsson (susan.evans_axelsson@med.lu.se)
General Contacts	
PIONEER	Carl Steinbeisser (carl@collaborate.eu) Emma Jane Smith (e.smith@uroweb.org)
EHDEN	Nigel Hughes (nhughes@its.jnj.com)
OHDSI	Peter Rijnbeek (rijnbeek@ohdsi.org)