



TreatmentPatterns

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2014



Treatment Pathways in Chronic Disease

Objective: The objective of this study is to characterize the prevalence of different treatment pathways for three chronic diseases: Hypertension, Type II Diabetes, and Depression. We will systematically summarize the treatment pathways observed among patients who have at least 3 years of continuous observation and persistent treatment following initiation. We will stratify the results by year to evaluate temporal trends, and will further stratify by data source to determine if treatment pathways vary by population, geography, and data capture process.

Rationale: While numerous treatment guidelines exist for chronic conditions, there is a paucity of data on the real-world treatment pathways that patients experience in practice. Understanding these pathways is essential for establishing context around questions of drug utilization, effectiveness, and adherence.

Project Leads: Patrick Ryan, Jon Duke, George Hripcsak, Martijn Schuemie, Nigam Shah

Coordinating Institution(s): Janssen R&D, Columbia University, Regenstrief Institute, Stanford University

Additional Participants:

Full Protocol: [📄 Hypertension Treatment Pathways 12-4-2014](#)

Initial Proposal Date: 12/3/2014

Launch Date: 12/5/2014

Study Closure Date: 12/31/2014

Results Submission: [✉ Email](#) or SFTP



What did that look like?

```
1  /*****
2  # Copyright 2014-2015 Observational Health Data Sciences and Informatics
3  #
4  #
5  # Licensed under the Apache License, Version 2.0 (the "License");
6  # you may not use this file except in compliance with the License.
7  # You may obtain a copy of the License at
8  #
9  #   http://www.apache.org/licenses/LICENSE-2.0
10 #
11 # Unless required by applicable law or agreed to in writing, software
12 # distributed under the License is distributed on an "AS IS" BASIS,
13 # WITHOUT WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS OF ANY KIND, either express or implied.
14 # See the License for the specific language governing permissions and
15 # limitations under the License.
16 *****/
17
18
19 /*****
20 script to create treatment patterns among patients with a disease
21 last revised: 8 Jan 2015
22 author: Patrick Ryan
23 description:
24 create cohort of patients with index at first treatment.
25 patients must have >365d prior observation and >1095d of follow-up.
26 patients must have >1 diagnosis during their observation.
27 patients must have >1 treatment every 120d from index through 1095d.
28 for each patient, we summarize the sequence of treatments (active ingredients, ordered by first date of dispensing)
29 we then count the number of persons with the same sequence of treatments
30 the results queries allow you to remove small cell counts before producing the final summary tables as needed
31 --update 29 Dec 2014:
32 ***changed the handling of small cell counts to aggregate treatment sequences until cell count is achieved (rather than removing full sequence)
33 ***changed mincellcount default = 0
34 ***changed to create only 2 output files, plus new summary.  both stratified by year, but overall is set with year = 9999
35 --update 8 Jan 2015:
36 ***changed table names to be shorter to work with Oracle
37 ***added semicolons to work with postgresql/Oracle
38 *****/
39
40 {DEFAULT @cdmSchema = 'cdmSchema'} /*cdmSchema: @cdmSchema*/
```



Publication

Characterizing treatment pathways at scale using the OHDSI network

George Hripcsak , Patrick B. Ryan, Jon D. Duke, , and David Madigan [Authors Info & Affiliations](#)

Edited by Richard M. Shiffrin, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, and approved April 5, 2016 (received for review June 14, 2015)

June 6, 2016 | 113 (27) 7329-7336 | <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1510502113>

 27,624 | 218



PDF/EPUB

Abstract

Observational research promises to complement experimental research by providing large, diverse populations that would be infeasible for an experiment. Observational research can test its own clinical hypotheses, and observational studies also can contribute to the design of experiments and inform the generalizability of experimental research. Understanding the diversity of populations and the variance in care is one component. In this study, the Observational Health Data Sciences and Informatics (OHDSI) collaboration created an international data network with 11 data sources from four countries, including electronic health records and administrative claims data on 250 million patients. All data were mapped to common data standards, patient privacy was maintained by using a distributed model, and results were aggregated centrally.



Hypertension (2008 – 2012) - IPCI



valsartan
ramipril
bisoprolol
irbesartan
chlorthalidone
lisinopril
amlodipine
enalapril
telmisartan
losartan
perindopril
metoprolol
hydrochlorothiazide
indapamide



2021





TreatmentPatterns R package





Computer Methods and Programs in
Biomedicine

Volume 225, October 2022, 107081



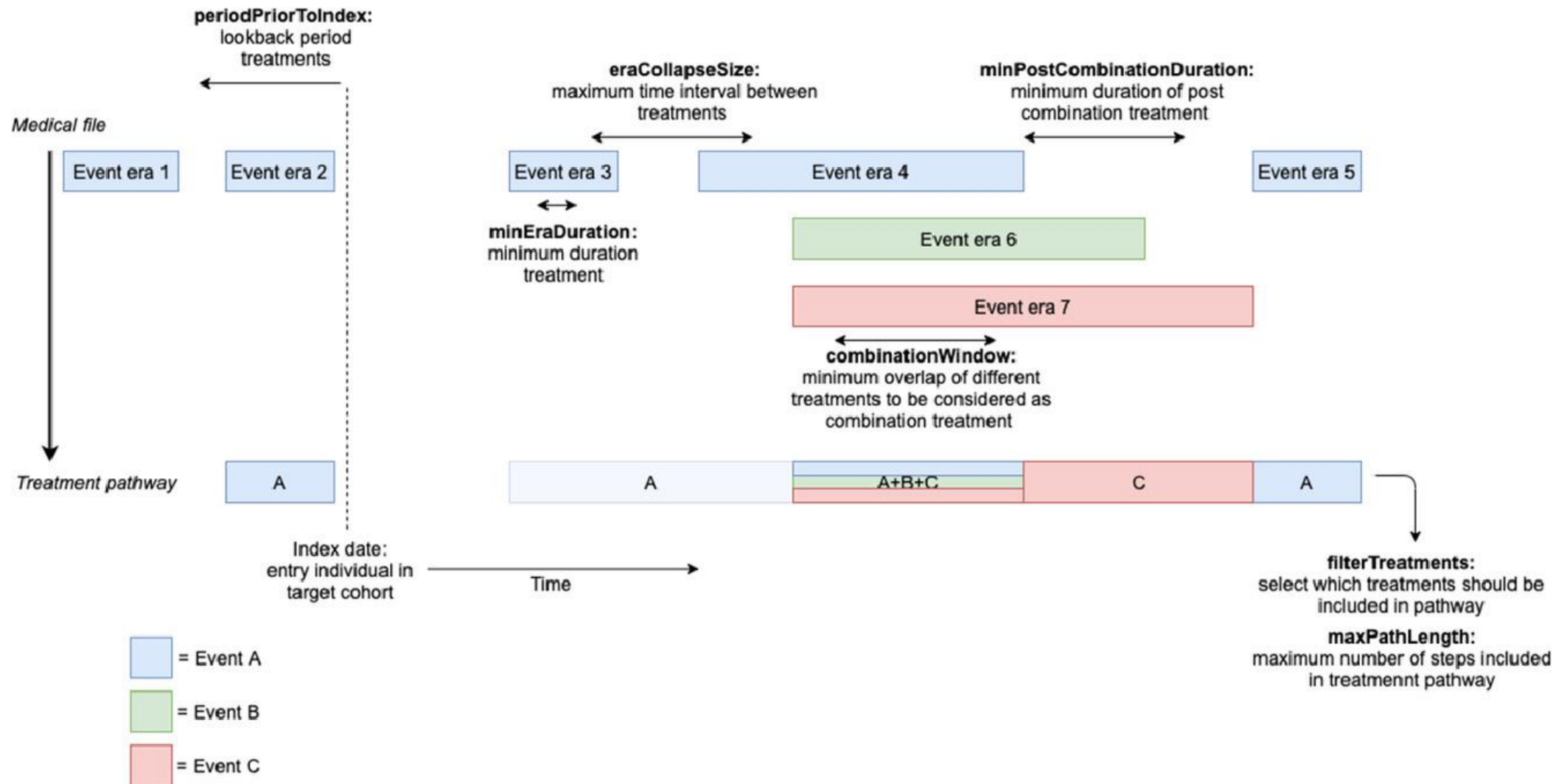
TreatmentPatterns: An R package to facilitate the standardized development and analysis of treatment patterns across disease domains

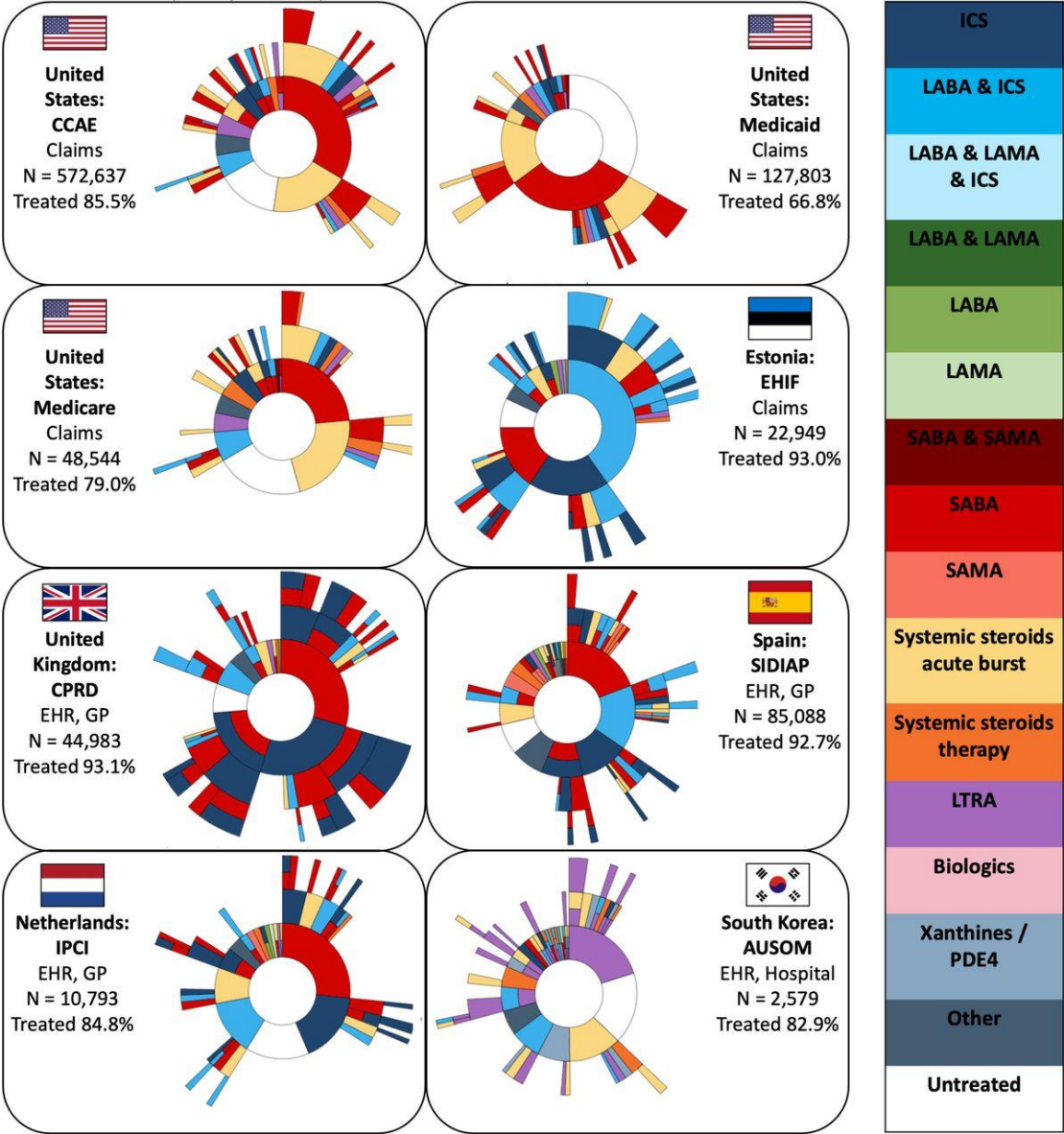
Aniek F. Markus^a  , Katia M.C. Verhamme^{a b}, Jan A. Kors^a, Peter R. Rijnbeek^a

Show more 



New Features!







2022
















TreatmentPatterns





- >1700 (behavioural) unit tests
- On CRAN since August 2023
- In HADES since February 2025
- Compatability
 - DatabaseConnector
 - CDMConnector

DatabaseConnector (JDBC)	CDMConnector (ODBC)
 PostgreSQL passing	 PostgreSQL passing
 SQL Server passing	 SQL Server passing
 Snowflake passing	 Snowflake passing
 Oracle passing	
 Redshift passing	 Redshift passing
 Spark passing	 Spark failing
 Iris passing *	
 BigQuery passing	



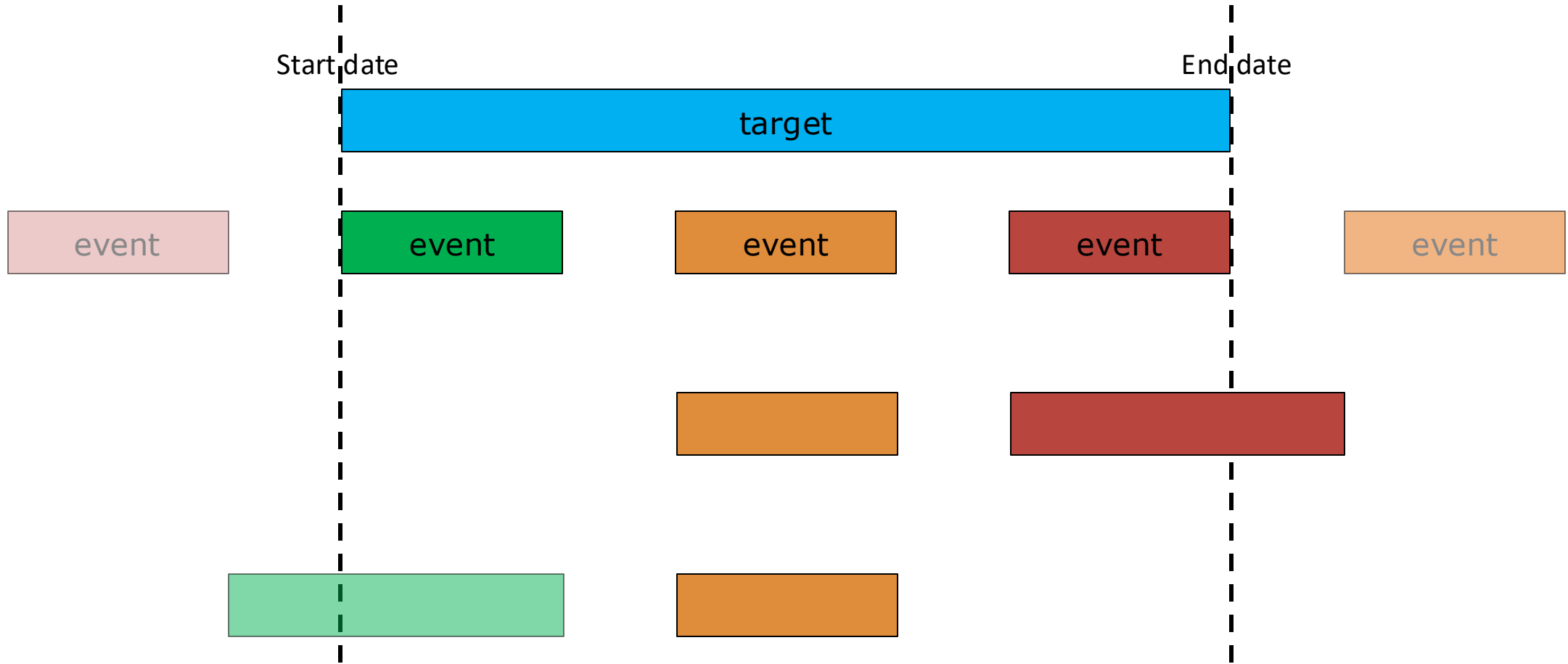
Study Design



- A pathway is a **sequence of events**.

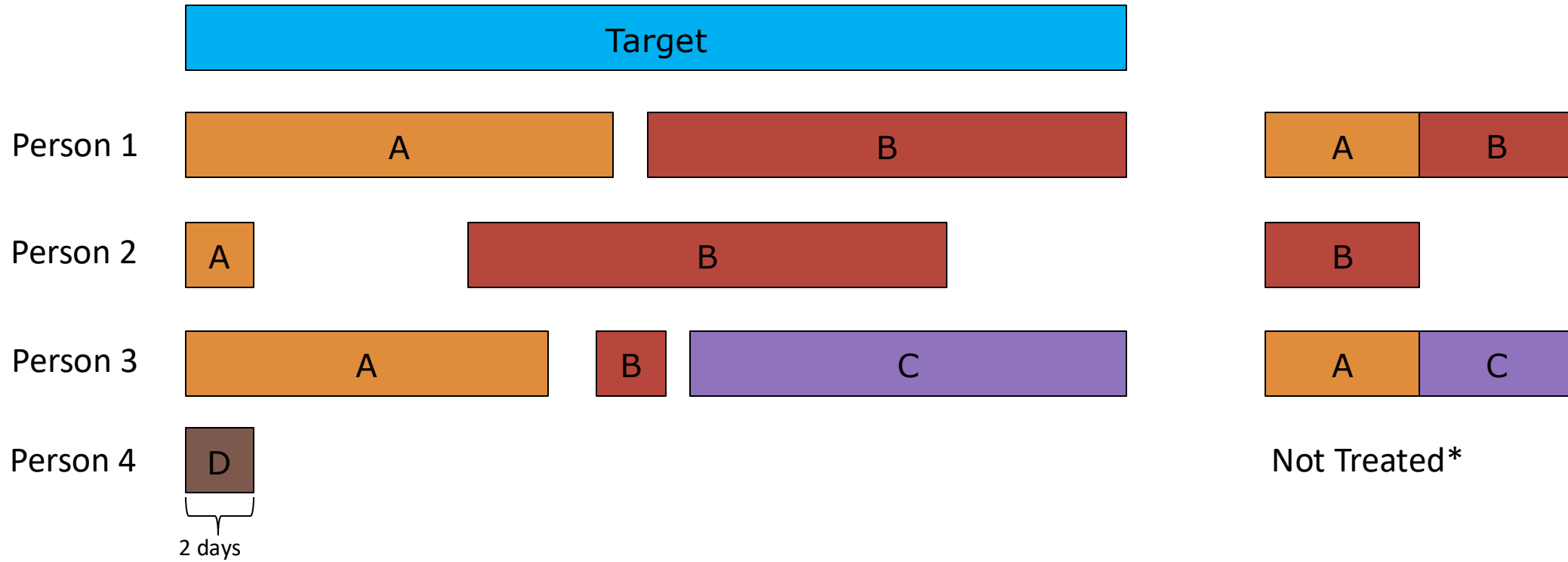


- Problem definition: Find pathways consisting of **events** within a certain **study population** (*target*).



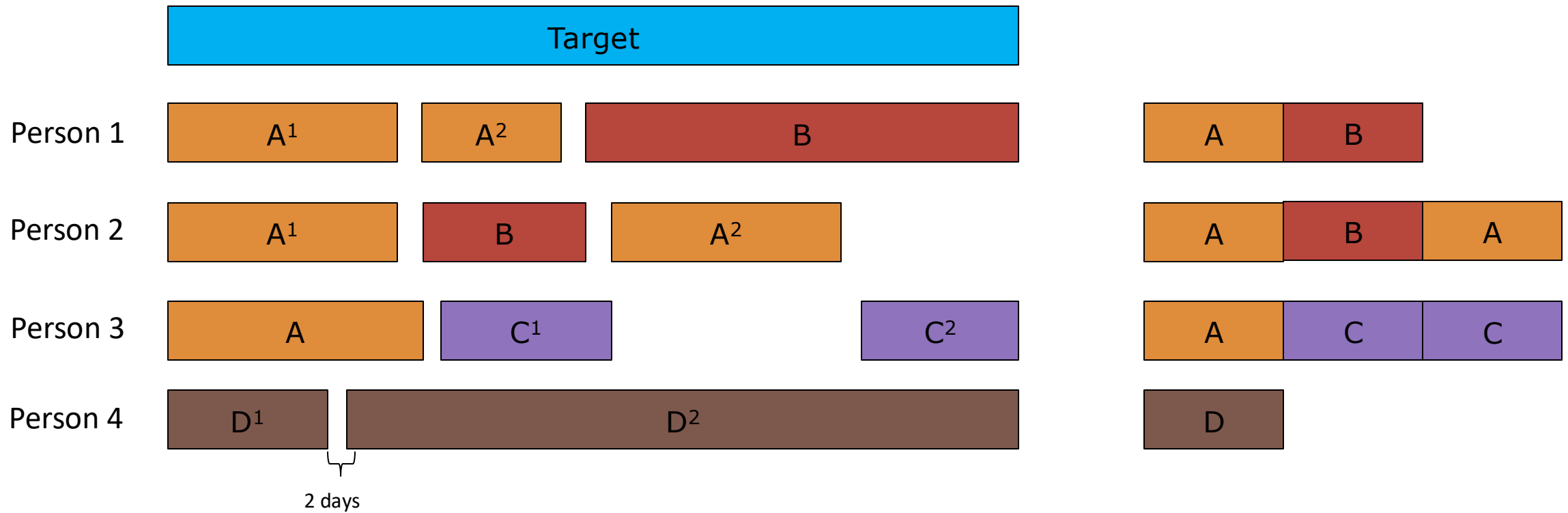


minEraDuration



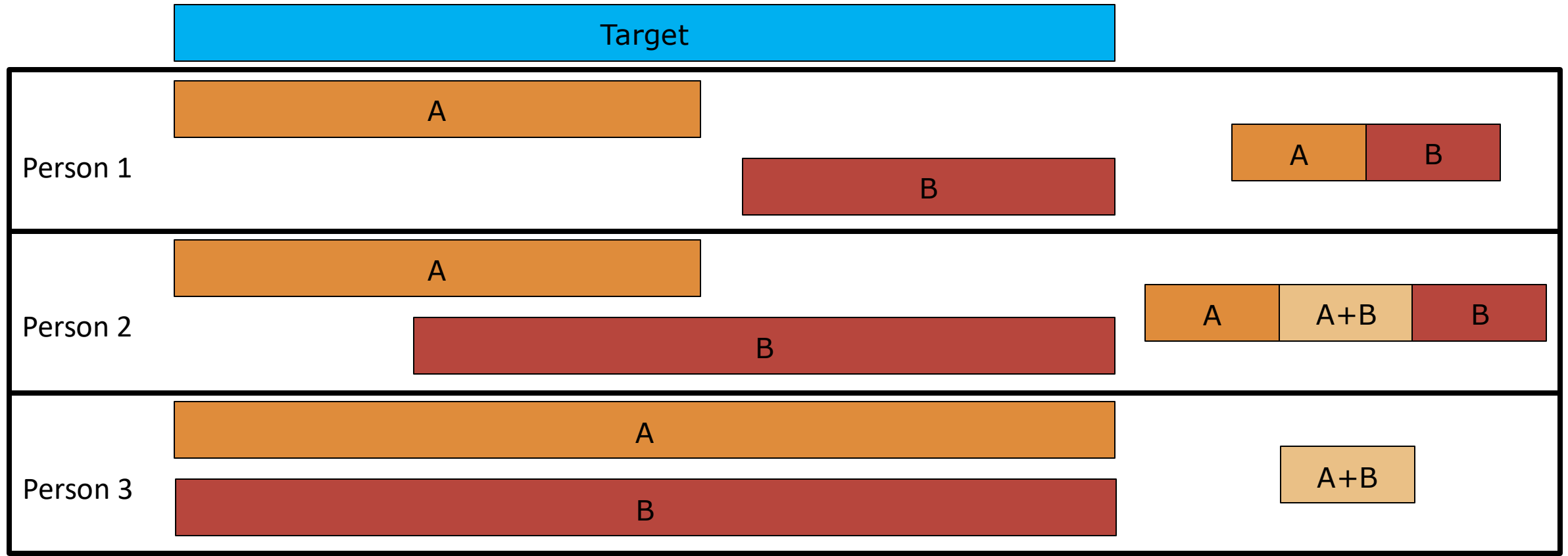


eraCollapseSize





combinationWindow





Persistent vs short-lasting targets

Hypertension

- 3 years of follow-up
- minEraDuration: 30 days
- combinationWindow: 30 days
- eraCollapseSize: 7 days

Infection

- 2-3 weeks of follow up
- minEraDuration: 7 days
- combinationWindow: 7 days
- eraCollapseSize: 2 days



Target

GLP-1 Receptor Agonosits

Event

Nausea

Event

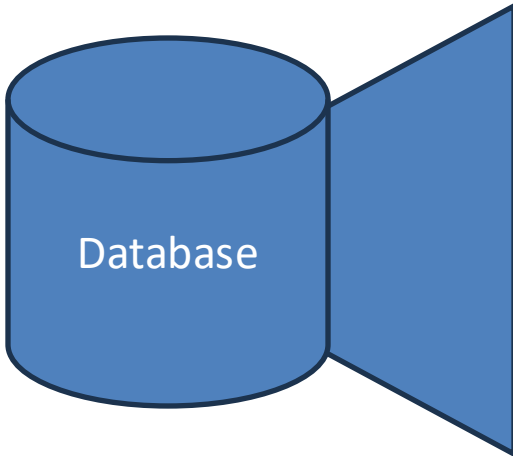
Vomiting

Event

Diarrhoea



Cohort Table



cohort_definition_id	subject_id	cohort_start_date	cohort_end_date
1 – <i>hypertension</i>	1
2 – <i>metoprolol</i>	1
3 – <i>hydrochlorothiazide</i>	1
4 – <i>etc.</i>	1



SQL

CDMConnector

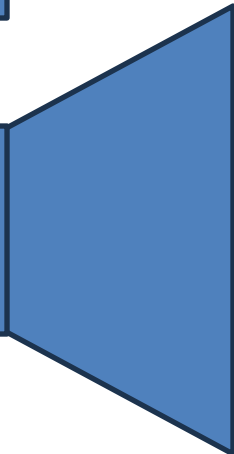


CohortGenerator

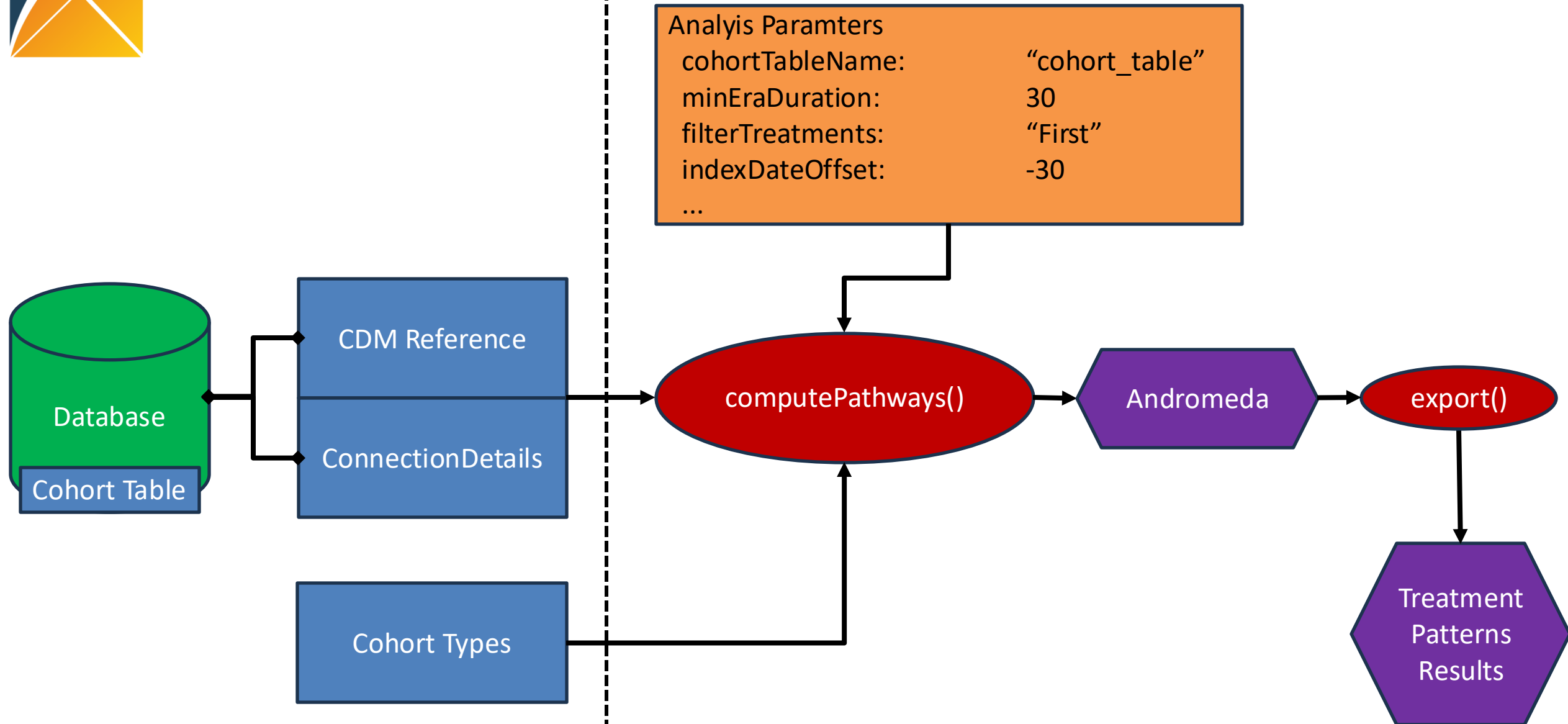


Cohort Table

Cohort Types

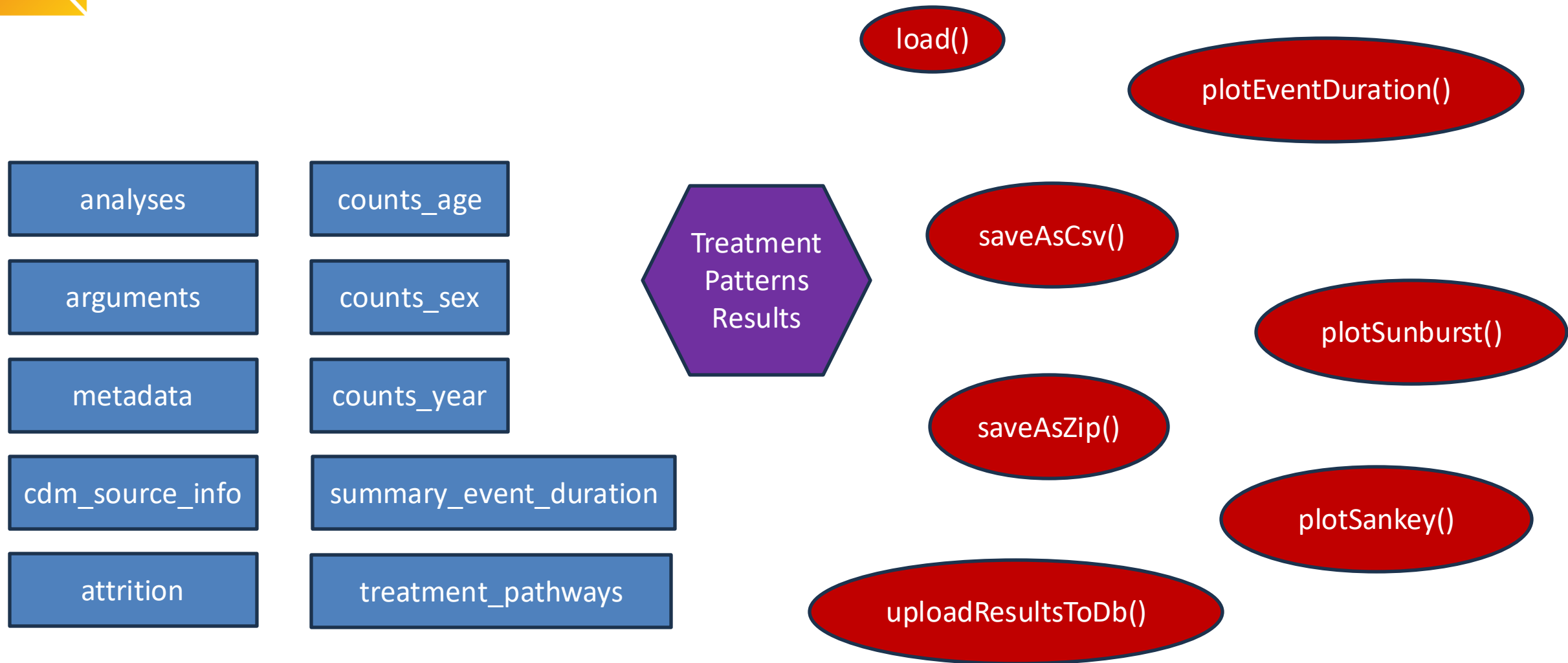


cohortId	cohortName	type
1	Hypertension	target
2	Metoprolol	event
3	Hydrochlorothiazide	event
4	Etc.	event





TreatmentPatternsResults





Hypertension (2008 – 2012) - IPCI





Hypertension (2008 – 2012) - IPCI

