



OHDSI 2025 Collaborator Showcase Lightning Talks Round 2

Linying Zhang, Lu Li, Georgina Kennedy,
Hsin Yi Chen, Katia Verhamme

Causal Inference with Multi-Modal Foundation Models: *A Case Study of Anti-VEGF Injections in Diabetic Macular Edema*

Linying Zhang, PhD

Assistant Professor of Biostatistics and Medicine

Institute for Informatics, Data Science and Biostatistics (I2DB)

Department of Medicine

Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis

OHDSI Global Symposium 2025

Oct 8, 2025

Real-world health data include diverse data modalities.



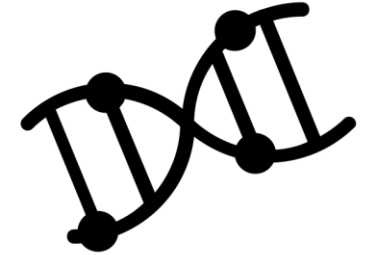
Electronic Health Records
(EHRs)



Medical
Images



Clinical Notes



Genomics



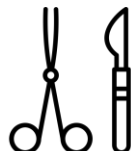
Demographics



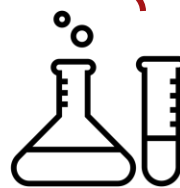
Diagnoses



Drugs



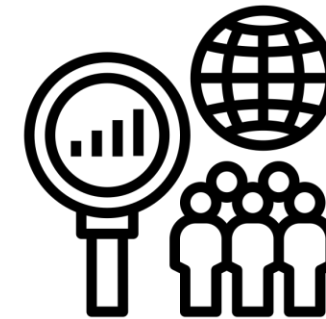
Procedures



Labs

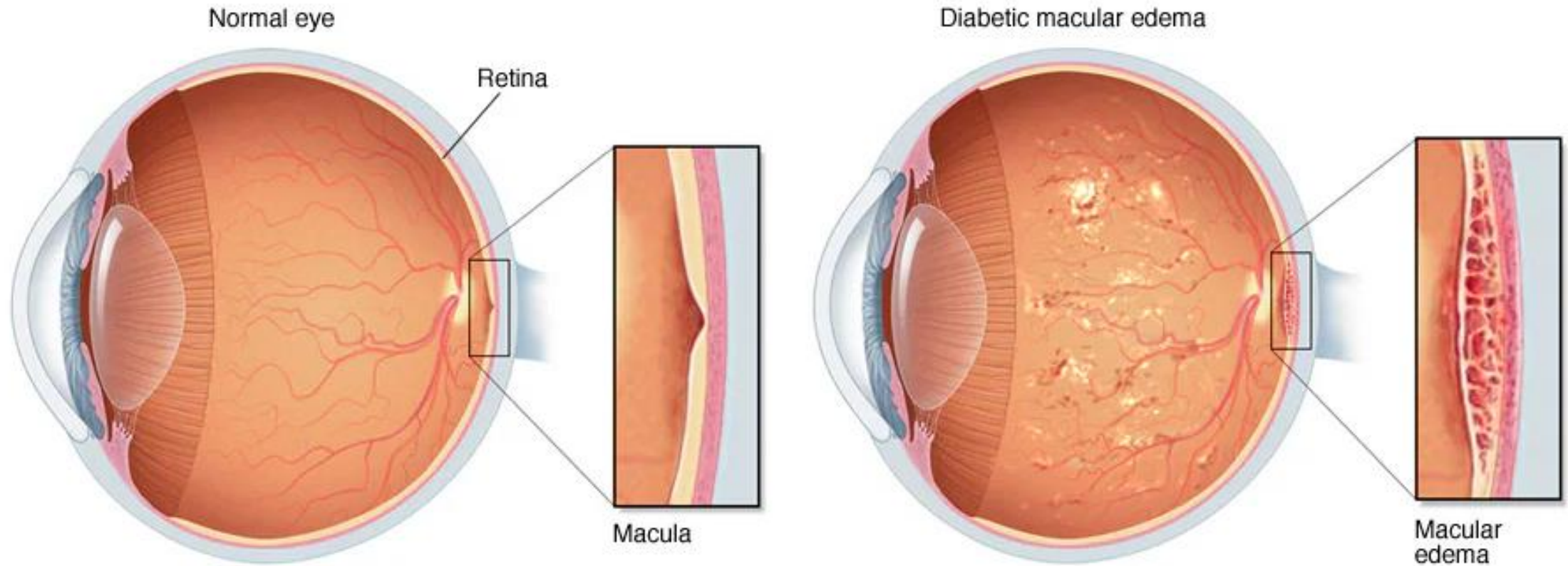


Wearables



Surveys

Diabetic Macular Edema (DME)



© MAYO FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

Macular Optical Coherence Tomography (OCT)

OCT machine

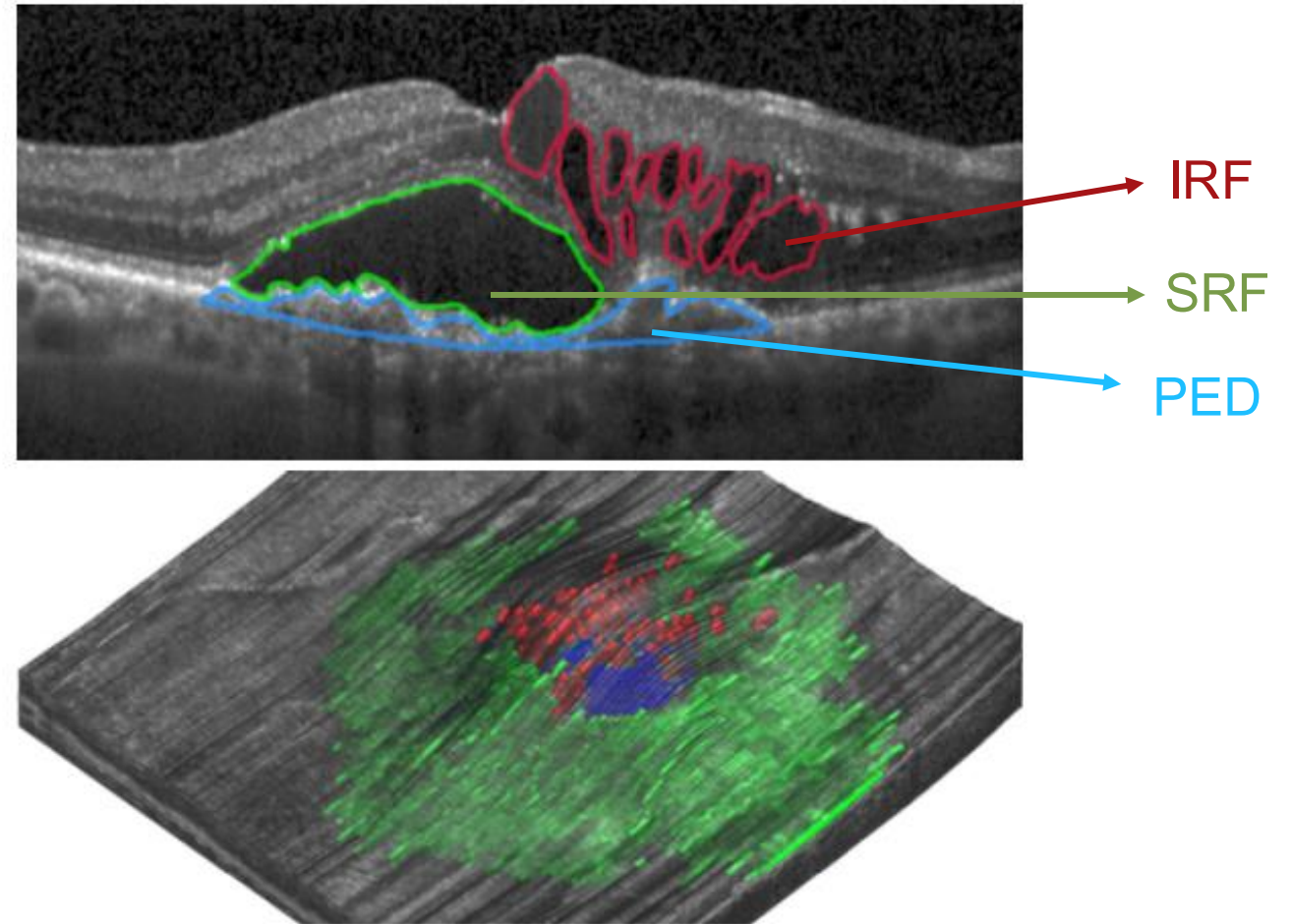
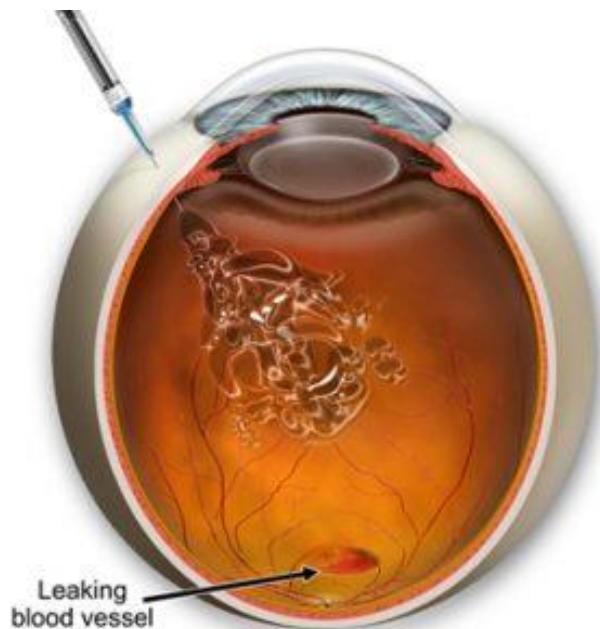


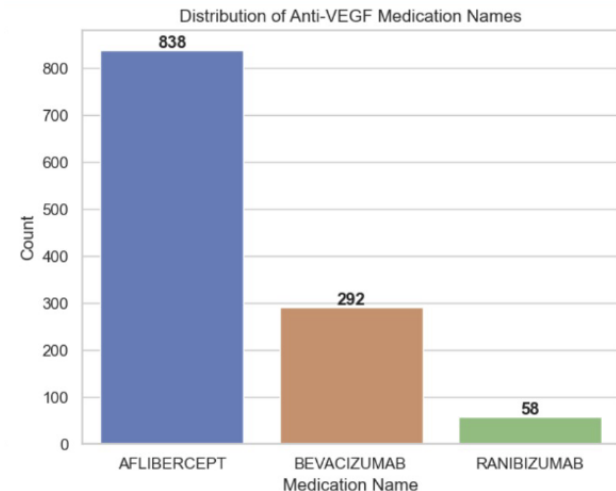
Fig. 2. The three fluid types on a 2D B-scan (above) and as a 3D volume rendering (below): IRF (red), SRF (green) and PED (blue).

Intravitreal Anti-VEGF Injections



There are 3 variations of anti-VEGF injections:

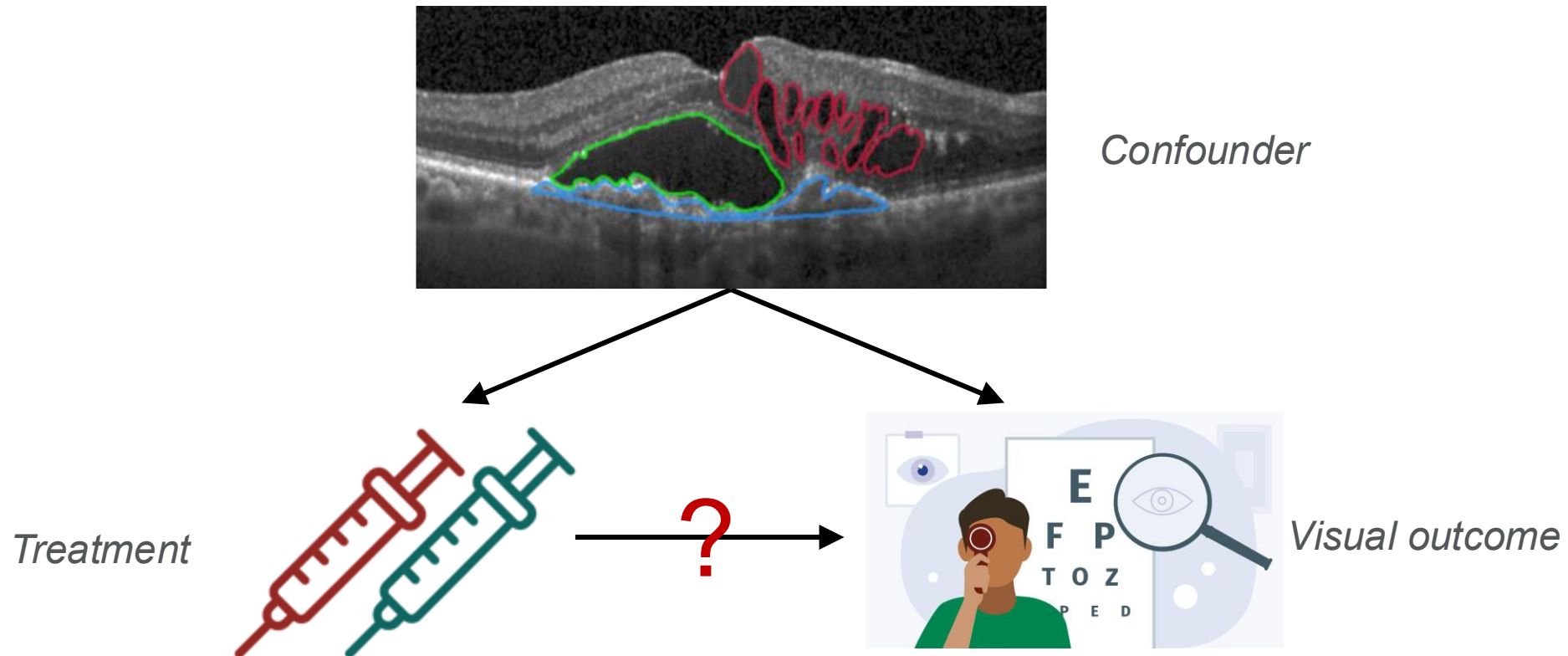
- Aflibercept
- Bevacizumab
- ~~○ Ranibizumab~~



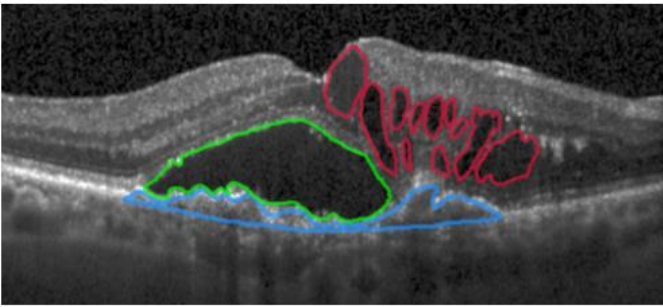
Question: Is aflibercept more effective than bevacizumab in reducing vision loss?

Confounding Bias

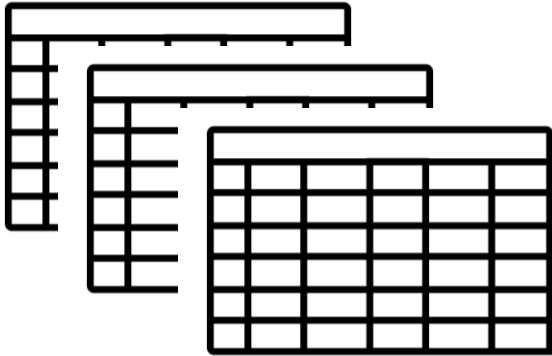
- Confounders are common causes between the treatment and outcome.
- Confounders can lead to bias in effect estimates if unadjusted.



Multi-modal Causal Inference (MMCI) Pipeline



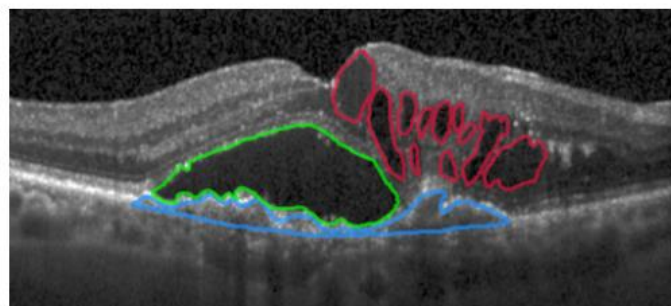
OCT



Tabular EHR

Multi-modal Causal Inference (MMCI) Pipeline

Representation Learning



OCT

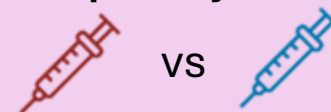
Image
Encoder

EHR
Encoder

Latent
Representation

Treatment Effect Estimation

Propensity Model



$\hat{e}(X_i)$

$$ATE_{DR} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{T_i Y_i}{\hat{e}(X_i)} - \frac{\{T_i - \hat{e}(X_i)\}}{\hat{e}(X_i)} \hat{m}_1(X_i) \right] - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\frac{(1 - T_i) Y_i}{1 - \hat{e}(X_i)} + \frac{\{T_i - \hat{e}(X_i)\}}{1 - \hat{e}(X_i)} \hat{m}_0(X_i) \right]$$

Outcome Model

“Improved vision? Y/N”

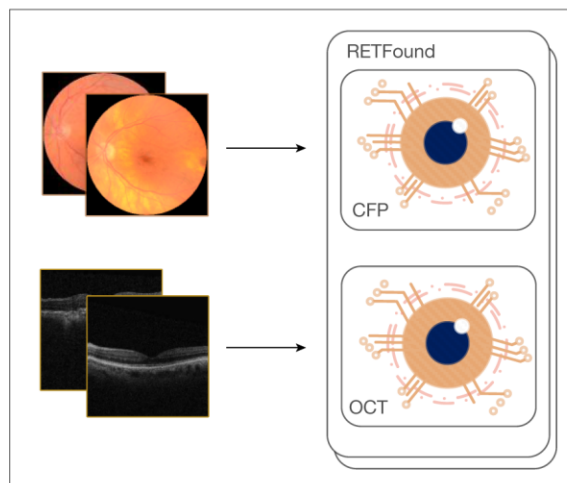


$\hat{m}_1(X_i), \hat{m}_0(X_i)$

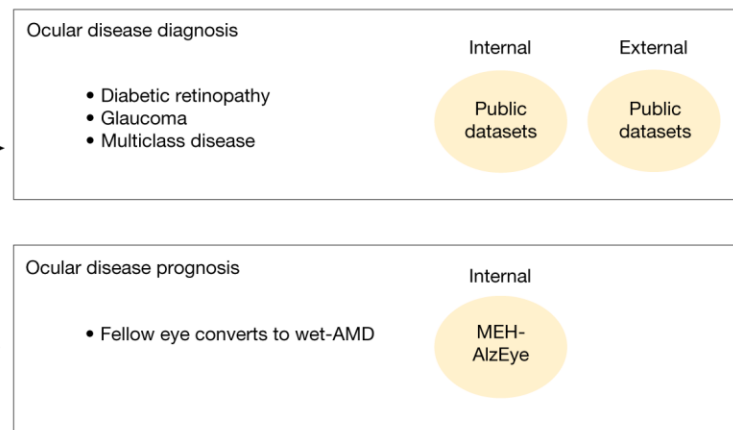
Tabular EHR

Foundation Models in Ophthalmology

Stage 1: Self-supervision on retinal images



Stage 2: Supervised fine-tuning for clinical tasks

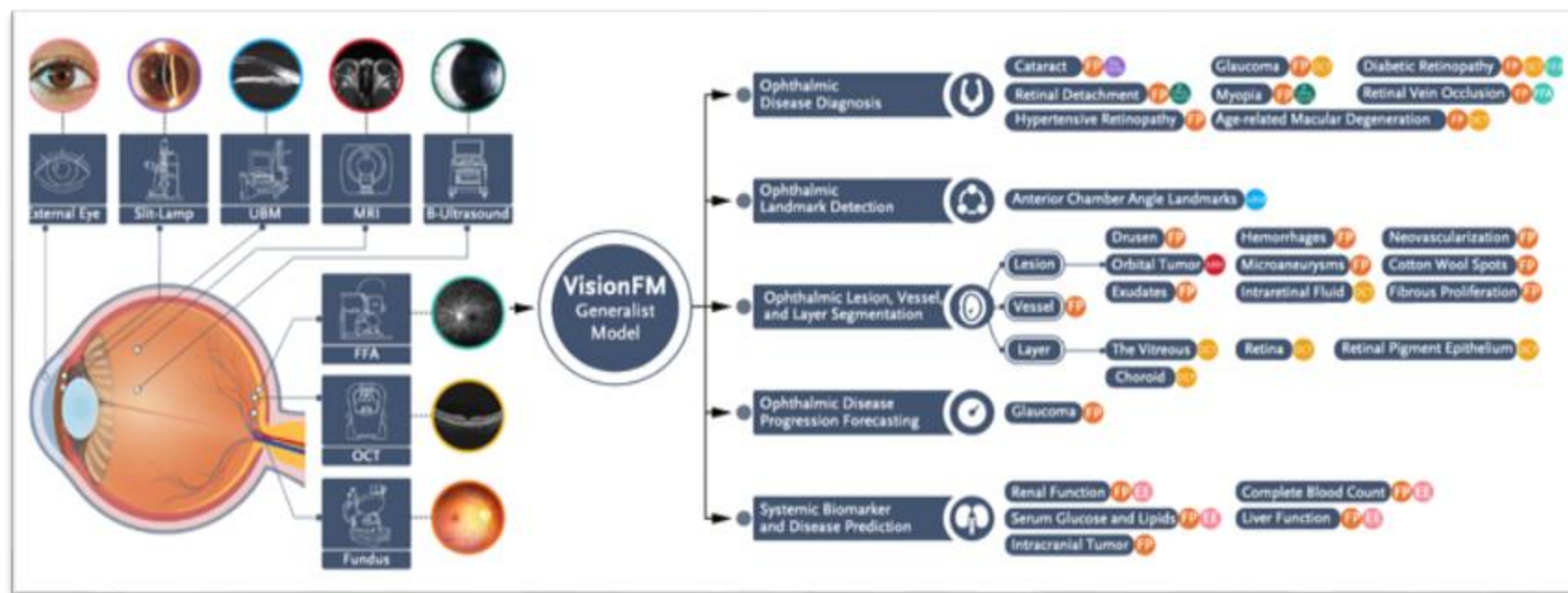


RETFound
(Zhou et al. *Nature* 2023)

MEH-MIDAS +
public datasets

VisionFM

(Qiu et al. *NEJM AI* 2024)



OCT Embeddings

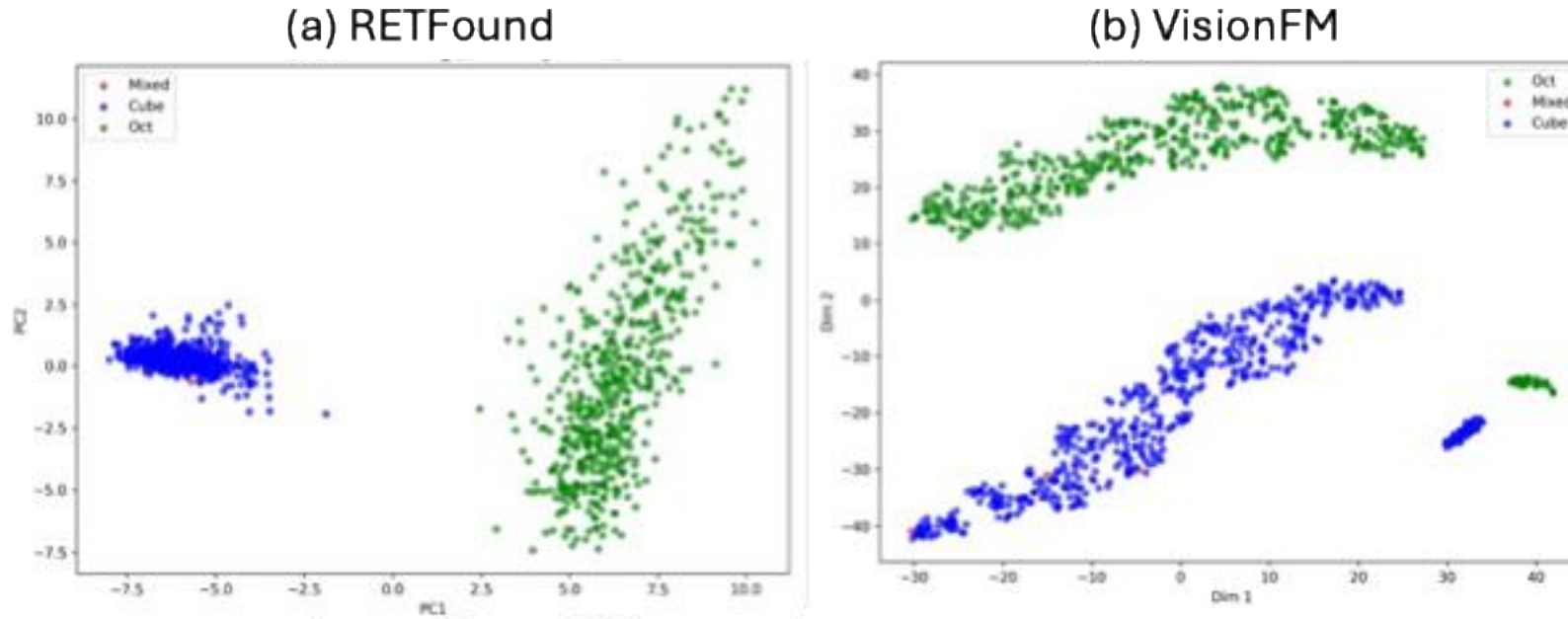


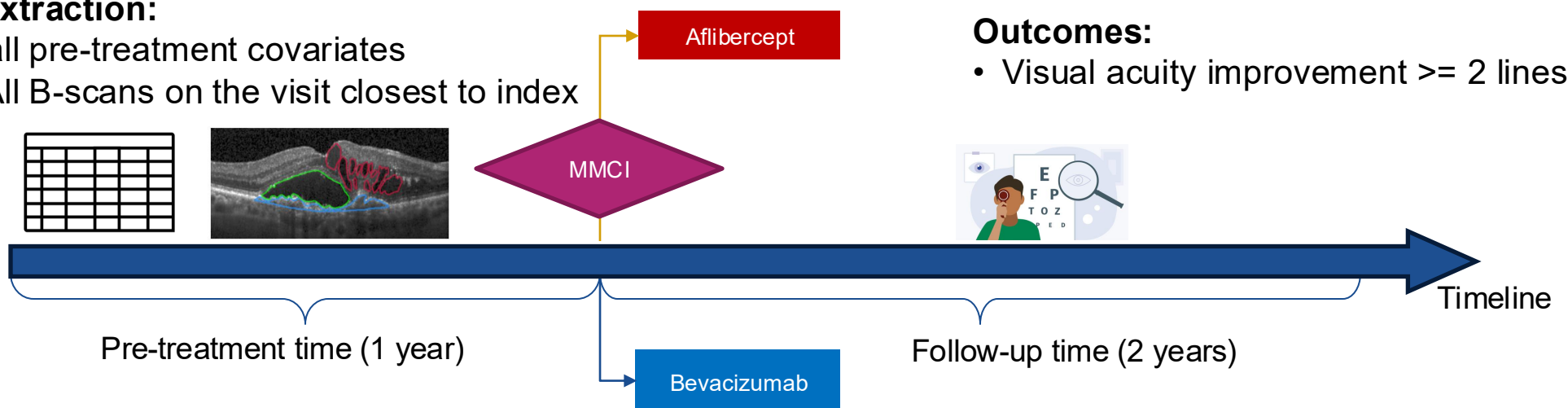
Figure 1. t-SNE visualization of latent embeddings generated by foundation models: (a) RETFound and (b) VisionFM. Each point represents a patient, and colors indicate the OCT imaging device. Clear separation by device suggests that both models capture device-specific features.

Study Design

- **Data:** EHRs and OCT images were extracted from WashU/BJC HealthCare database.
- **Objective:** Estimate the comparative effectiveness of aflibercept vs bevacizumab in reducing vision loss in DME.

Feature Extraction:

- **EHR:** all pre-treatment covariates
- **OCT:** All B-scans on the visit closest to index date.



Study Population: New users of aflibercept and bevacizumab (study period: 1/1/2018-12/31/2024)

Inclusion Criteria:

- Adults with diabetic macular edema
- At least 1 year of prior observation.

Evaluation:

We compared the ATE estimates and 95% CI from each model to that from clinical trials.

Comparison of Treatment Effect Estimates

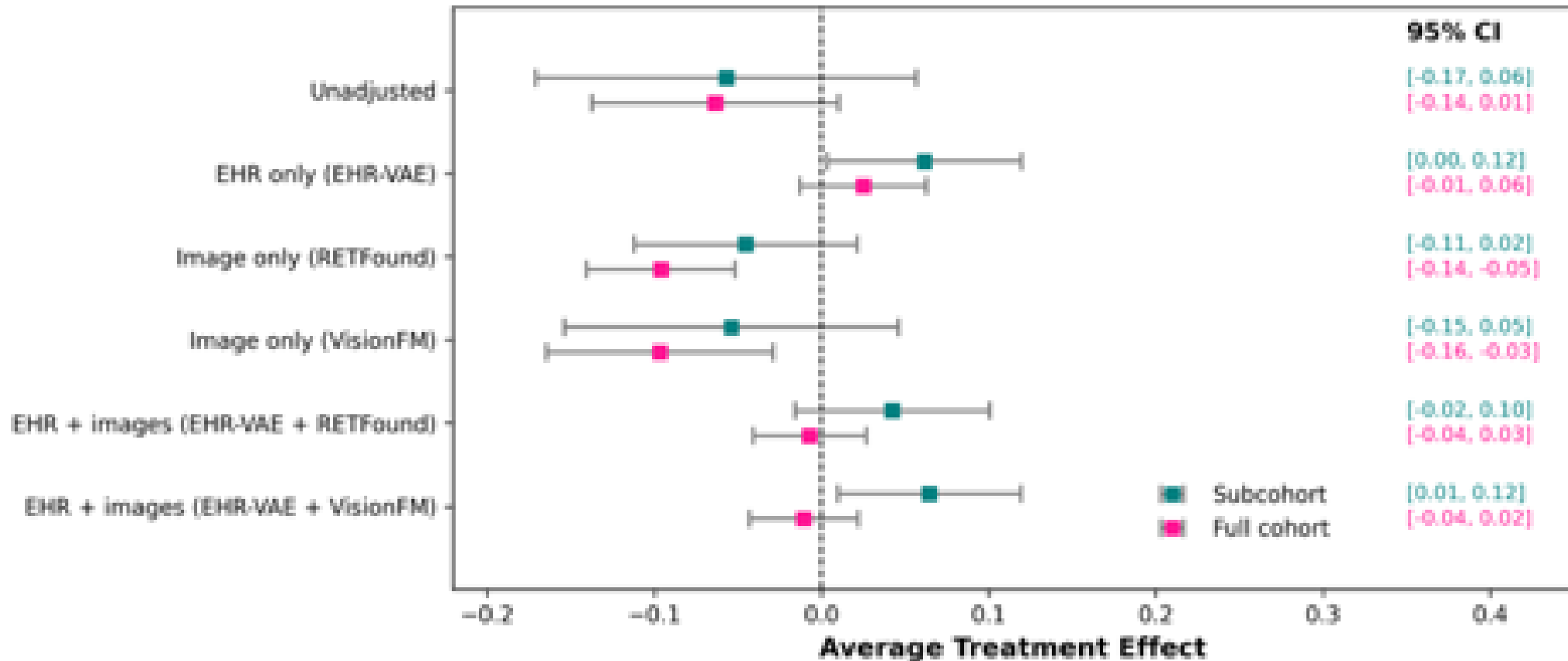


Figure 2. Average treatment effect estimation across adjustment strategies. The full cohort includes all patients in the study population and the sub-cohort includes patients with worse baseline VA. A positive ATE indicates that aflibercept is better at improving vision than bevacizumab.

Randomized Controlled Trial

ORIGINAL ARTICLE



Aflibercept, Bevacizumab, or Ranibizumab for Diabetic Macular Edema

Author: The Diabetic Retinopathy Clinical Research Network* [Author Info & Affiliations](#)

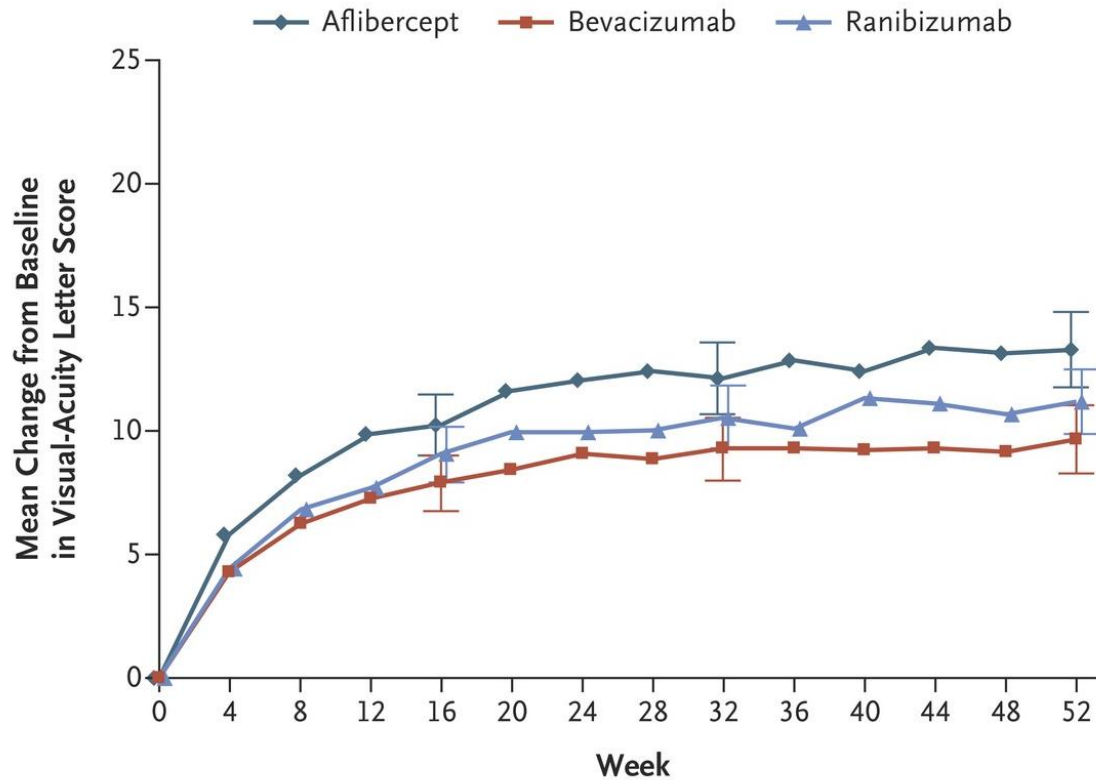
Published March 26, 2015 | N Engl J Med 2015;372:1193-1203 | DOI: 10.1056/NEJMoa1414264 | [VOL. 372 NO. 13](#)

Copyright © 2015

Randomized Controlled Trial

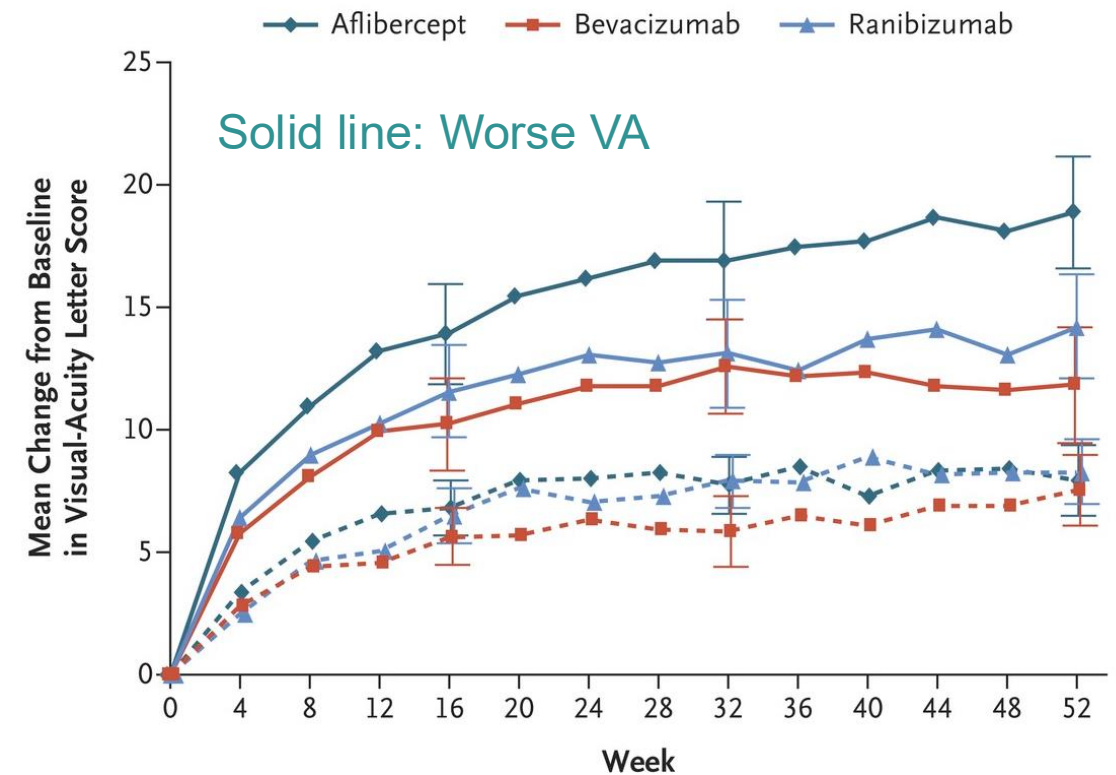
Full cohort

A Overall



Sub-cohort

B According to Baseline Visual Acuity



Conclusions

- Foundation models can be leveraged to include images into causal inference, reducing the risk of unmeasured confounding bias.
- Multi-modal causal inference models produced treatment effect estimates consistent with established RCT evidence.
- Foundation models can robustly learn imaging features that contribute to reliable effect estimation in real-world settings.

CausAI Lab



Siqi Sun

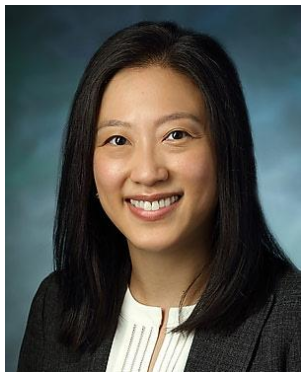


Ruochong Fan



Saiyu You

Collaborators



Cindy Cai



Marc Suchard



Diep Tran



Kumar Rao



Yixin Wang

Acknowledgment

WashU RDC

Shinji Naka

Snehil Gupta

Sherry Lassa-Claxton

Albert Lai

WashU I2DB

Philip Payne

Adam Wilcox

Thomas Kannampallil

Joanna Abraham



<https://causAiLab.github.io>



OHDSI 2025 Collaborator Showcase

Lightning Talks Round 2

End: Linying Zhang

Next up: Lu Li

Department of Biostatistics, Epidemiology and Informatics

LATTE: A One-shot Lossless Algorithm for Federated Target Trial Emulation with Application to Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementia Drug Repurposing Using Decentralized Data

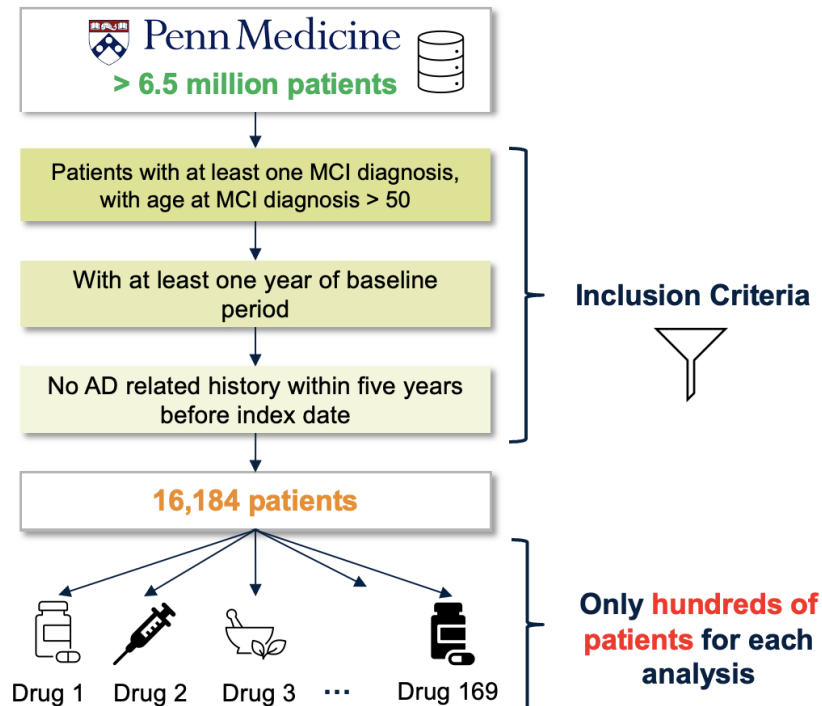
Lu Li, Ph.D. candidate at the University of Pennsylvania
Advisor: Dr. Yong Chen

2025 OHDSI Symposium



Motivation: Reliable Real-World Evidence (RWE) for regulatory decision making

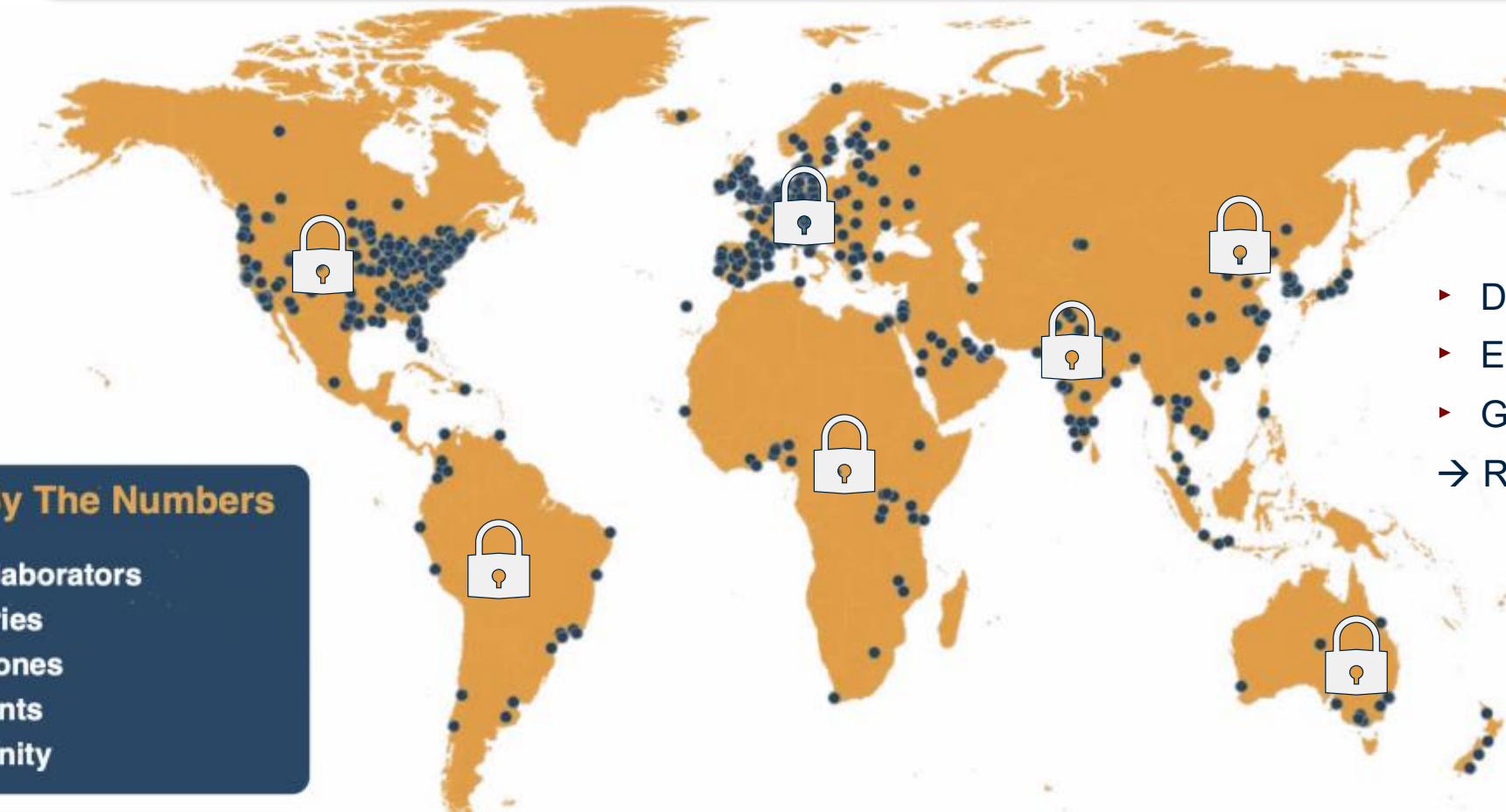
- ▶ A key challenge in performing target trial emulation (TTE) using **single site data**:
 - Rigorous eligibility criteria → **substantially smaller sample sizes**, especially for complex conditions such as ADRD, and rare diseases.
- ▶ FDA guidance on RWE for regulatory decision-making
 - “Reliability and relevance”



*“The term relevance includes the availability of data for key study variables (exposures, outcomes, covariates) and **sufficient numbers of representative patients** for the study”.*
-- FDA (March 2024)

International multi-site studies

- Key challenge:** Individual Patient-level Data (IPD) cannot be shared across sites
- Country/region specific laws (HIPAA in the U.S., GDPR in Europe)



OHDSI By The Numbers

- 4,294 collaborators
- 83 countries
- 21 time zones
- 6 continents
- 1 community

- ▶ Diverse population;
- ▶ Enlarged sample size;
- ▶ Greater statistical power;
- Relevant and reliable RWE

Privacy-preserving federated learning algorithms

- ▶ Enables multi-site studies without sharing IPD
- ▶ Allows to enlarge the study sample size to incorporate diverse population

OHDSI Studies using Federated Learning Algorithms for COVID-19 studies



ARTICLE

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-022-29160-4>

OPEN

DLMM as a lossless one-shot algorithm for collaborative multi-site distributed mixed models

Chongliang Luo^{1,2}, Md. Nazmul Islam³, Natalie E. Sheils³, John Buresh³, Jenna Rep Patrick B. Ryan⁴, Mackenzie Edmondson¹, Rui Duan^{1,5}, Jiayi Tong¹, Arielle M Zhaoyi Chen⁶, Talita Duarte-Salles⁷, Sergio Fernández-Bertolín⁷, Thomas Falconer⁸ Rae Woong Park^{9,10}, Stephen R. Pfohl¹¹, Nigam H. Shah¹¹, Andrew E. Williams Yujia Zhou¹³, Ebbing Lautenbach^{14,15}, Jalpa A. Doshi^{16,17}, Rachel M. Werner^{16,17} Yong Chen¹⁸

(Luo et al. 2022, Nature Communications)

npj | digital medicine

Published in partnership with Seoul National University Bundang Hospital



<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-01846-1>

COLA-GLM: collaborative one-shot lossless algorithms of generalized models for decentralized observational healthcare data

Qiong Wu^{1,2,3}, Jenna M. Reps^{4,5,6}, Lu Li^{3,7}, Bingyu Zhang^{3,7}, Yiwen Lu^{3,7}, Jiayi Tong^{2,3,8}, Dazhen Thomas Lumley⁹, Milou T. Brand¹⁰, Mui Van Zandt^{4,10}, Thomas Falconer¹¹, Xing He^{12,13}, Yu Hu Haoyang Li¹⁴, Chao Yan¹⁵, Guojun Tang¹⁶, Andrew E. Williams^{17,18}, Fei Wang¹⁴, Jiang Bian^{12,13}, Bradley Malin^{15,18,20}, George Hripcsak¹¹, Martijn J. Schuemie^{4,5,21}, Yun Lu²², Steve Drew¹⁶, Jiay David A. Asch^{24,25} & Yong Chen^{2,3,24,26,27} ✉

(Wu et al. 2025, npj Digital Medicine)

Article

npj | digital medicine

Published in partnership with Seoul National University Bundang Hospital



<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-025-01846-1>

Unlocking efficiency in real-world collaborative studies: a multi-site international study with one-shot lossless GLMM algorithm

Jiayi Tong^{1,2,3} ✉, Jenna M. Reps^{4,5,6}, Chongliang Luo⁷, Yiwen Lu^{1,2}, Lu Li^{1,2}, Juan Manuel Ramirez-Anguila⁸, Milou T. Brand⁹, Scott L. DuVal^{10,11}, Thomas Falconer¹², Alex Mayer Fuentes¹³, Xing He^{14,15}, Michael E. Matheny^{16,17}, Miguel A. Mayer⁸, Bhavnisha K. Patel^{16,17}, Katherine R. Simon^{16,17}, Marc A. Suchard^{11,18}, Guojun Tang¹⁹, Benjamin Viernes¹¹, Ross D. Williams⁹, Mui van Zandt⁹, Fei Wang²⁰, Jiang Bian^{14,15}, Jiayu Zhou²¹, David A. Asch^{22,23} & Yong Chen^{1,2,23} ✉

(Tong et al. 2025, npj Digital Medicine)



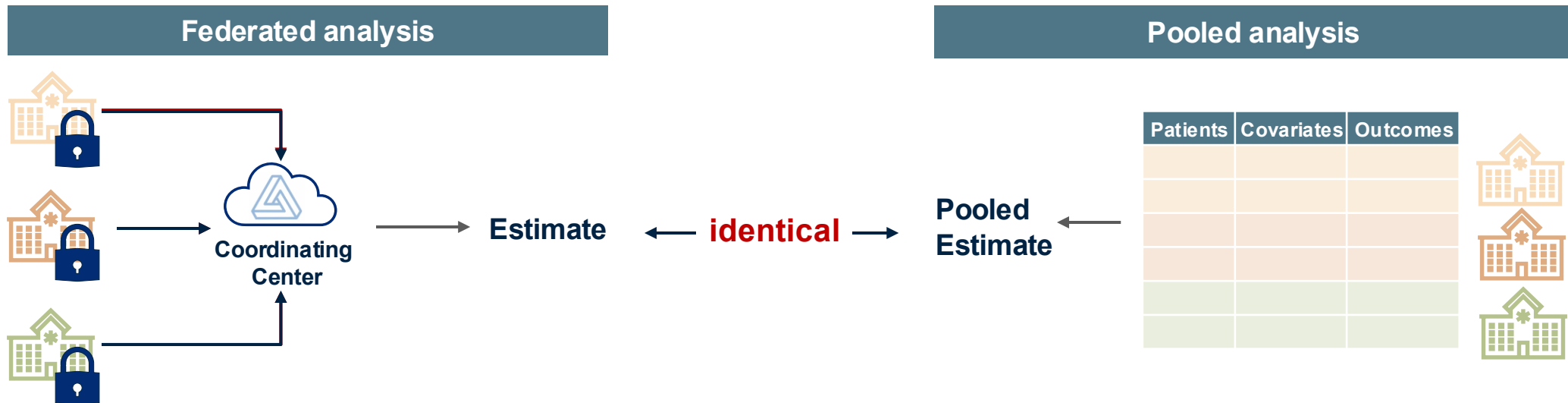
Desirable Properties

One-shot

Only a **single round of communication** is required in practice.

Lossless

Results are **identical** to pooled analysis, with no accuracy loss.



Desirable Properties

One-shot

Only a **single round of communication** is required in practice.

Lossless

Results are **identical** to pooled analysis, with no accuracy loss.

However, only a few algorithms have achieved both **lossless and one-shot** properties simultaneously, and they are mainly for **regression tasks**.

We still need **Federated Learning Algorithms** for **Target Trial Emulation (TTE)**.

Desirable Properties

One-shot

Only a **single round of communication** is required in practice.

Lossless

Results are **identical** to pooled analysis, with no accuracy loss.

Handles Unmeasured Confounding

Mitigates residual systematic bias through a set of negative control outcomes (NCOS).

Empirical confidence interval calibration for population-level effect estimation studies in observational healthcare data

Martijn J. Schuemie^{a,b,1}, George Hripcsak^{a,c,d}, Patrick B. Ryan^{a,b,c}, David Madigan^{a,e}, and Marc A. Suchard^{a,f,g,h}

^aObservational Health Data Sciences and Informatics, New York, NY 10032; ^bEpidemiology Analytics, Janssen Research & Development, Titusville, NJ 08560; ^cDepartment of Biomedical Informatics, Columbia University, New York, NY 10032; ^dMedical Informatics Services, New York–Presbyterian Hospital, New York, NY 10032; ^eDepartment of Statistics, Columbia University, New York, NY 10027; ^fDepartment of Biomathematics, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095; ^gDepartment of Biostatistics, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095; and ^hDepartment of Human Genetics, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095

JACC Journals › JACC › Archives › Vol. 84 No. 10

 **FREE ACCESS** | Original Research | 26 August 2024



Comparative Effectiveness of Second-Line Antihyperglycemic Agents for Cardiovascular Outcomes: A Multinational, Federated Analysis of LEGEND-T2DM

Editorial Comment: Finding Truth in Observational and Interventional Studies in Diabetes and Cardiovascular Disease

Authors: Rohan Khera , Arya Aminorroaya, Lovedeep Singh Dhingra, Phyllis M. Thangaraj, Aline Pedroso Camargos, Fan Bu, Xiyu Ding, ... [SHOW ALL](#) ... , and Marc A. Suchard  | [AUTHORS INFO & AFFILIATIONS](#)

Negative control outcome (NCO), known a priori to be unrelated to exposure.

LEGEND-T2DM study (Khera et al. 2024, JACC) used "tooth loss" as an NCO that is known to be unrelated to the antihyperglycemic.



Our proposed method:

LATTE: One-shot Lossless Algorithm for Federated Target Trial Emulation

- ▶ Requires only one round of communication (**one shot**)
- ▶ Only requires aggregate data (2x2 tables)
- ▶ The results obtained is identical to the pooled analysis (**lossless**)

LATTE: One-shot Lossless Algorithm for Federated Target Trial Emulation

- ▶ Requires only one round of communication (one shot)
- ▶ Only requires aggregate data (2x2 tables)
- ▶ The results obtained is identical to the pooled analysis (lossless)
- ▶ **Pipeline**

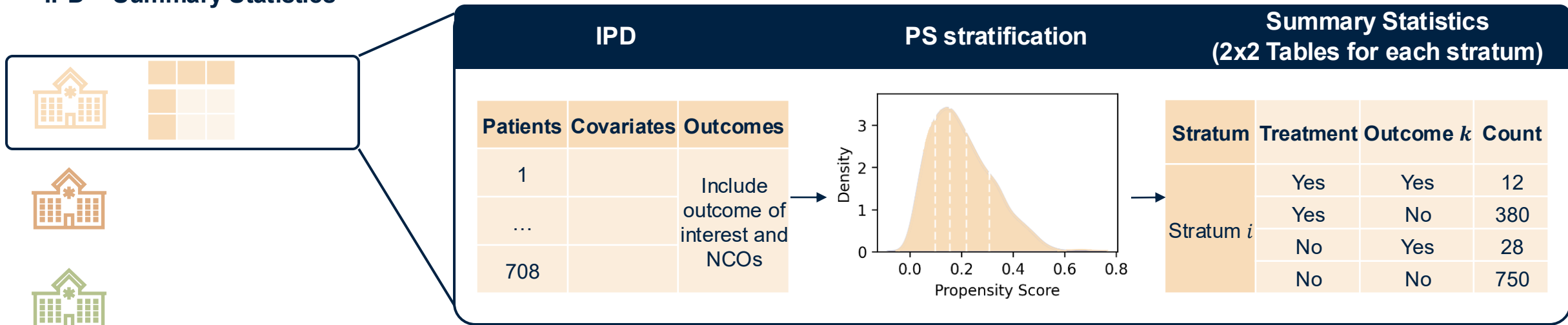
IPD Summary Statistics



LATTE: One-shot Lossless Algorithm for Federated Target Trial Emulation

- ▶ Requires only one round of communication (one shot)
- ▶ Only requires aggregate data (2x2 tables)
- ▶ The results obtained is identical to the pooled analysis (lossless)
- ▶ **Pipeline**

IPD Summary Statistics



LATTE: One-shot Lossless Algorithm for Federated Target Trial Emulation

- Requires only one round of communication (one shot)
- Only requires aggregate data (2x2 tables)
- The results obtained is identical to the pooled analysis (lossless)
- **Pipeline**

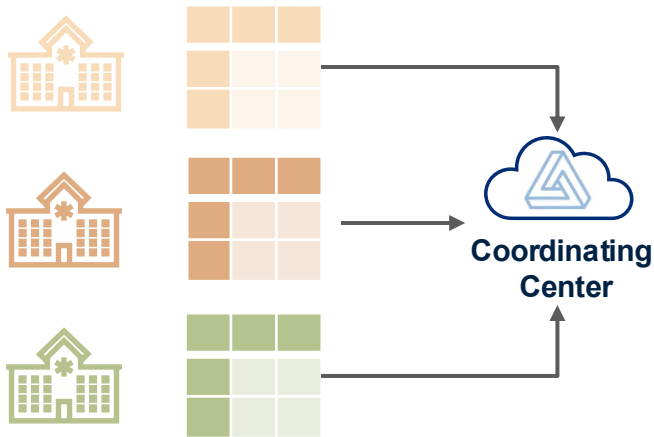
IPD Summary Statistics



LATTE: One-shot Lossless Algorithm for Federated Target Trial Emulation

- ▶ Requires only one round of communication (one shot)
- ▶ Only requires aggregate data (2x2 tables)
- ▶ The results obtained is identical to the pooled analysis (lossless)
- ▶ **Pipeline**

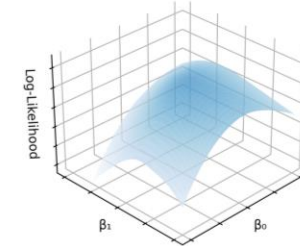
IPD Summary Statistics



LATTE

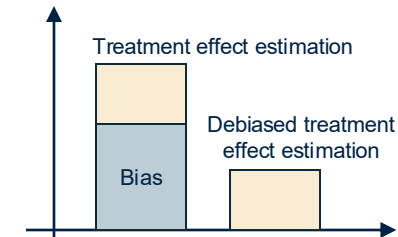
1. Reconstruct log likelihood

$$\ell_{jk}(\beta) = \beta a_{jk} - \log \sum_{t=0}^{\min(m_{jk}, a_{jk} + b_{jk})} \binom{a_{jk} + b_{jk}}{t} \binom{c_{jk} + d_{jk}}{m_{jk} - t} \exp(\beta t);$$
$$\ell_k(\beta) = \sum_{j=1}^{N \times S} \ell_{jk}(\beta)$$



2. NCO calibration

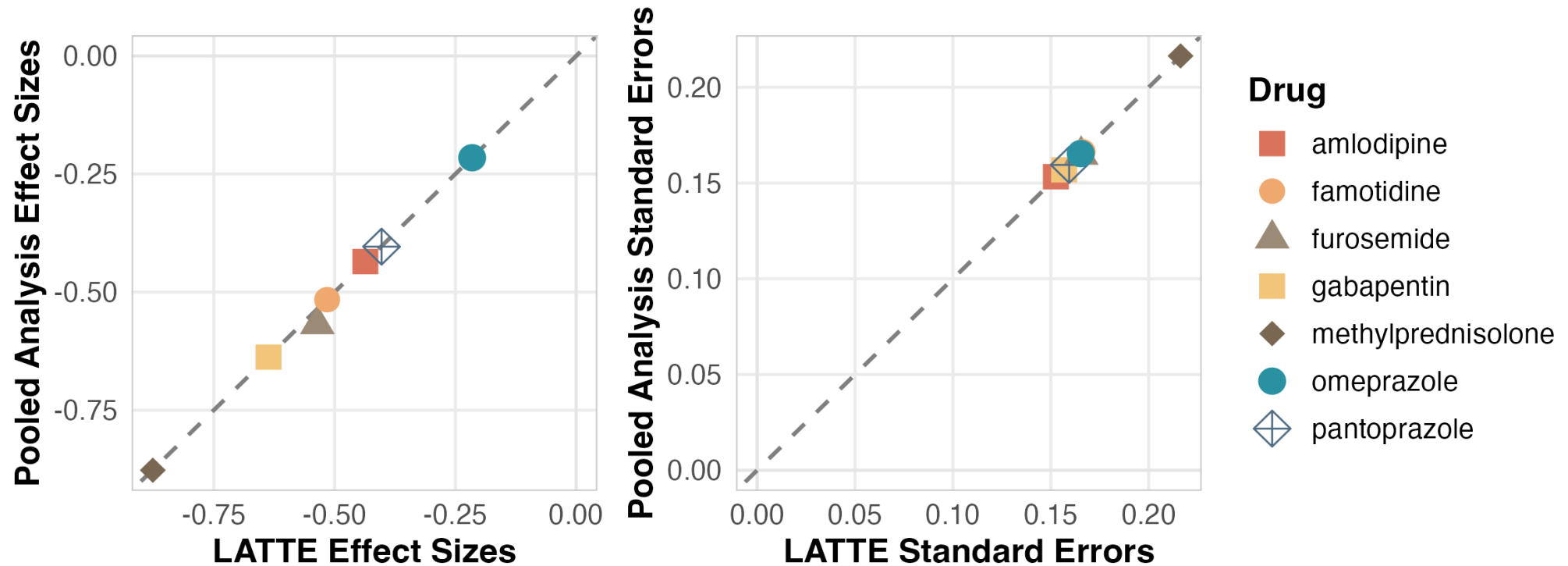
$$\hat{\tau}_q = \operatorname{argmax}_q \ell_q(\tau_q)$$
$$l(\tau, \xi^2) \propto \prod_{q=1}^Q \int p(\hat{\tau}_q | \tau_q, \tau, \xi) p(\tau_q | \tau, \xi) d\tau_q$$
$$\hat{\beta}_{\text{calibrated}} = \hat{\beta} - \hat{\tau}.$$



**Debiased
Treatment Effect
Estimates**

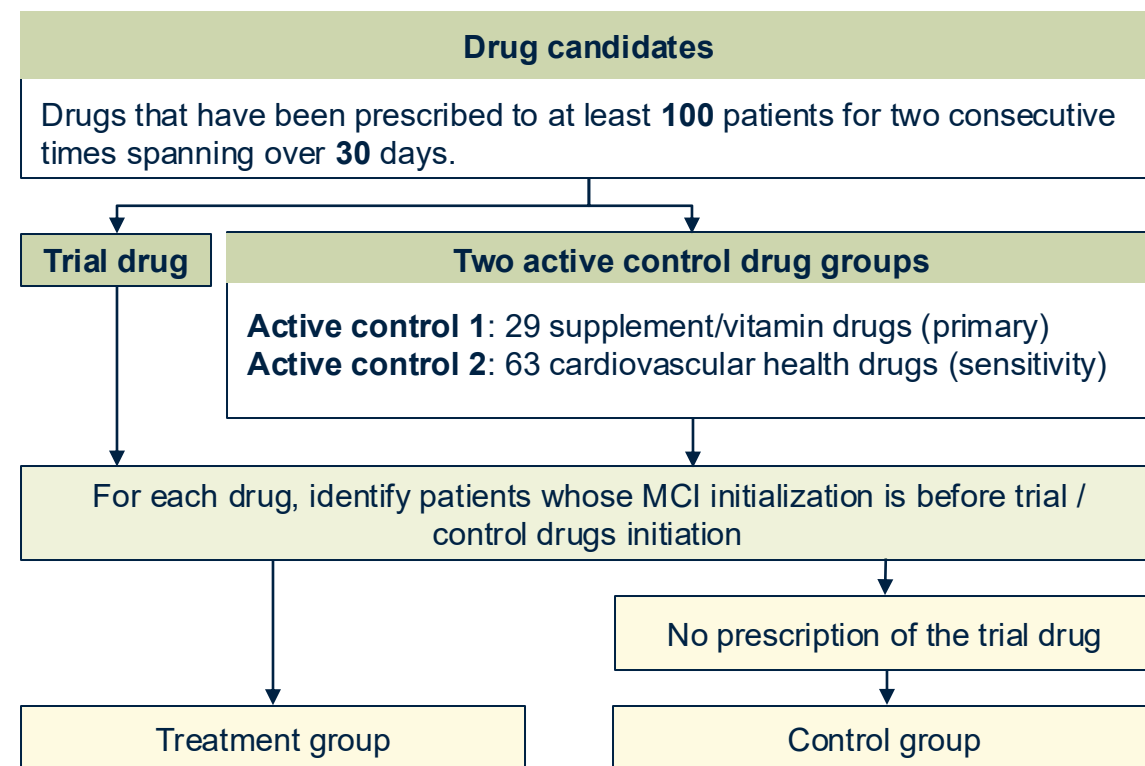
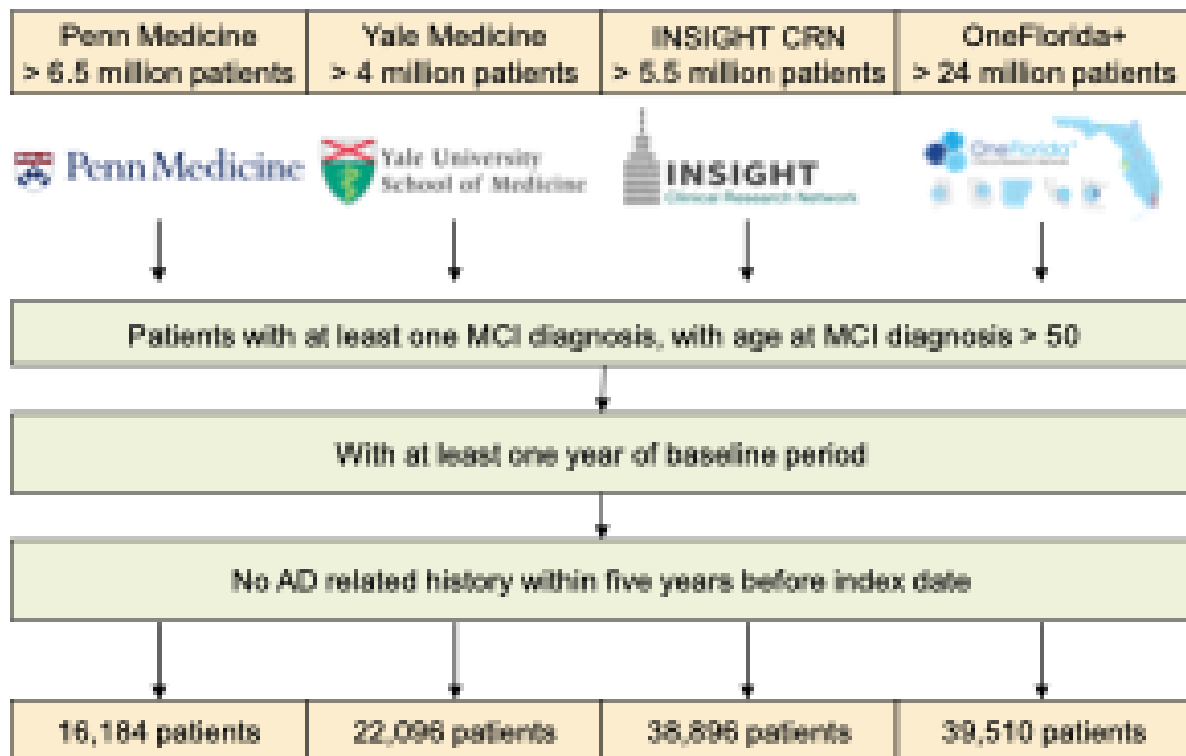
Simulation studies

- ▶ We randomly split the data at Penn Medicine into 3 sites
- ▶ Compared the results from pooled analysis and LATTE



Real-world application to ADRD drug repurposing

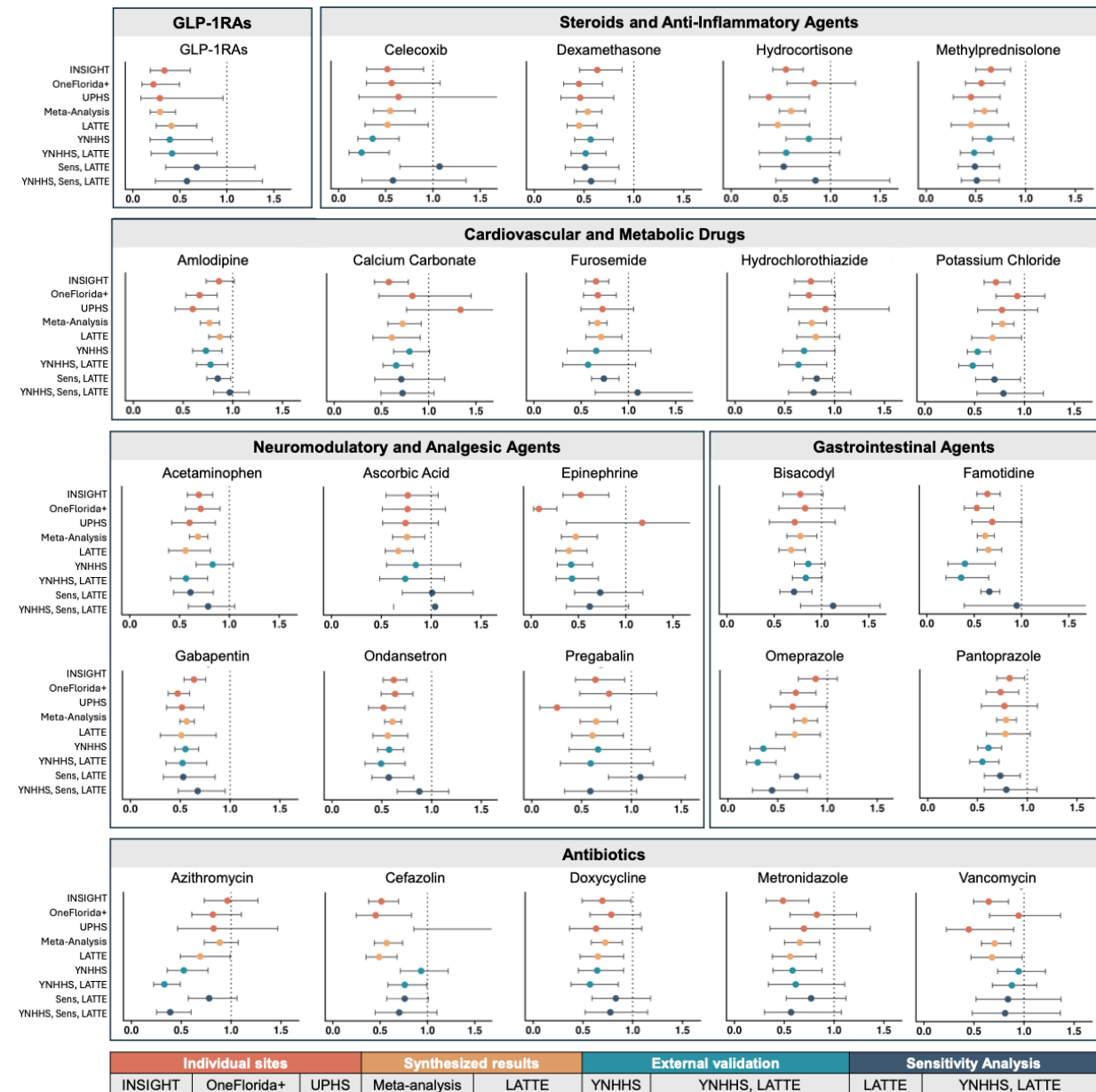
- ▶ **Scientific question** Which drugs can potentially be repurposed to slow down progression from MCI to ADRD?
- ▶ **Datasets** 4 large-scale academic hospitals, covering > **40 million** patients.
- ▶ **Drug candidates** **112 commonly used drugs** that have been prescribed to at least 100 patients for two consecutive times spanning over 30 days.
- ▶ **Empirical calibration** **24 NCOs** selected by domain clinical experts.



Results

► Identified **25 drugs candidates** from **6 drug classes**

- GLP-1RAs
 - GLP-1RAs (aOR 0.41, 95% CI: 0.25–0.68)
- Steroids and Anti-Inflammatory Agents
 - Celecoxib (aOR 0.52, 95% CI 0.28-0.95) ...
- Cardiovascular and Metabolic Drugs
 - Amlodipine (aOR 0.87, 95% CI 0.76-0.98) ...
- Neuromodulatory and Analgesic Agents
 - Ondansetron (aOR 0.56, 95% CI 0.41-0.76) ...
- Gastrointestinal Agents
 - Famotidine (aOR 0.65, 95% CI 0.53-0.79) ...
- Antibiotics
 - Doxycycline (aOR 0.65, 95% CI 0.47-0.91) ...



Results

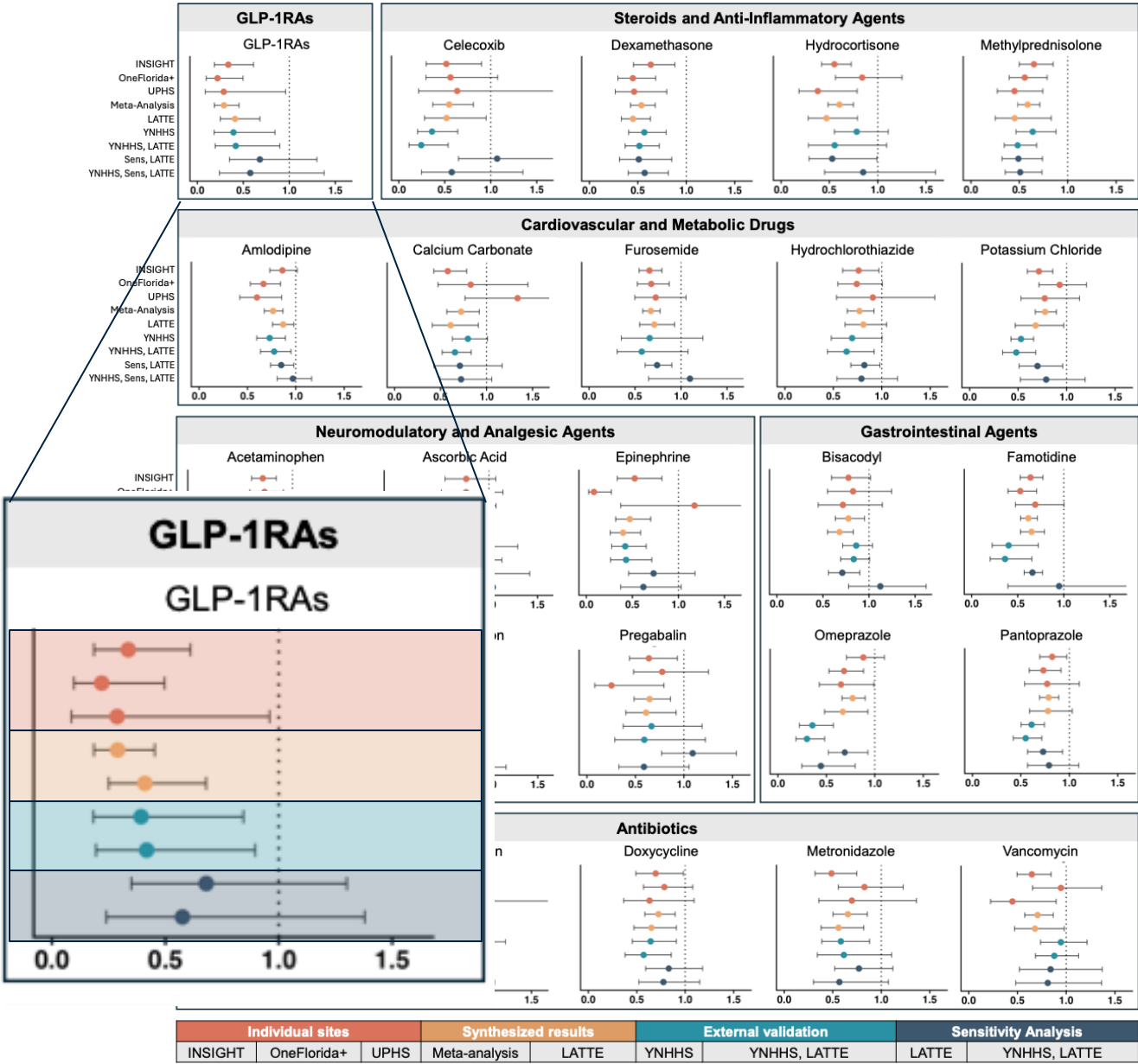
- Identified **25 drugs candidates** from **6 drug classes**
 - GLP-1RAs
 - Steroids and Anti-Inflammatory Agents
 - Cardiovascular and Metabolic Drugs
 - Neuromodulatory and Analgesic Agents
 - Gastrointestinal Agents
 - Antibiotics

Discovery set

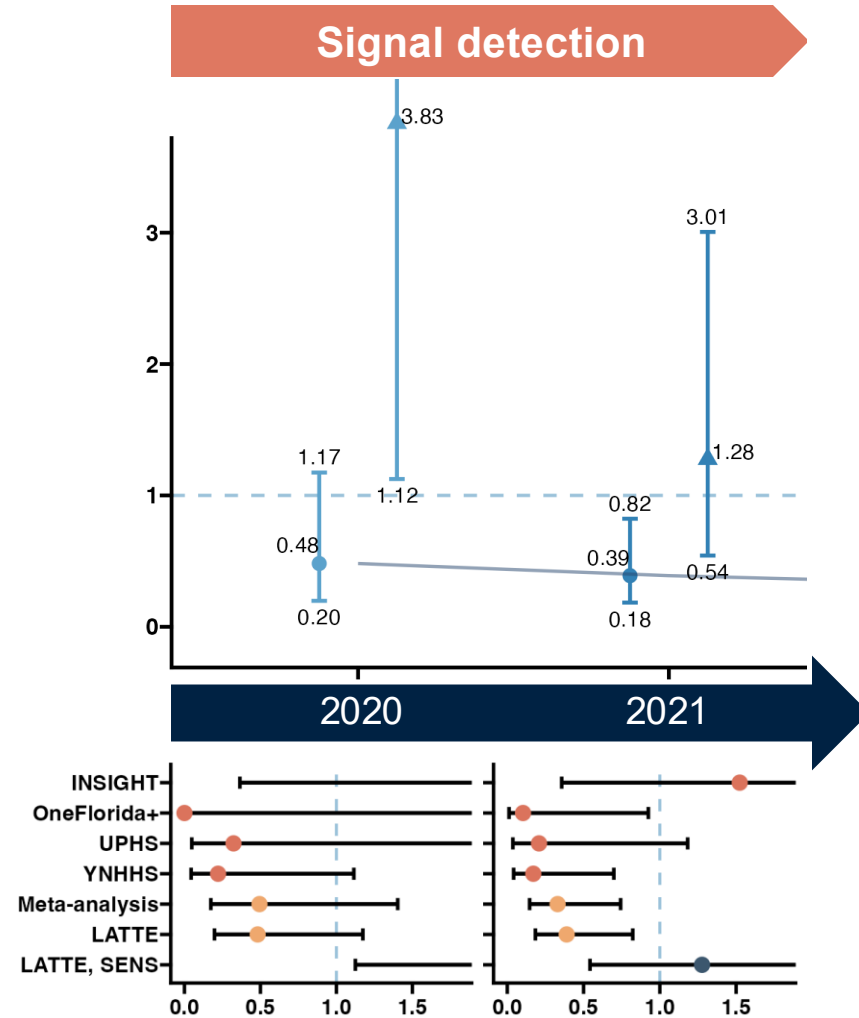
Synthesize results

Validation set

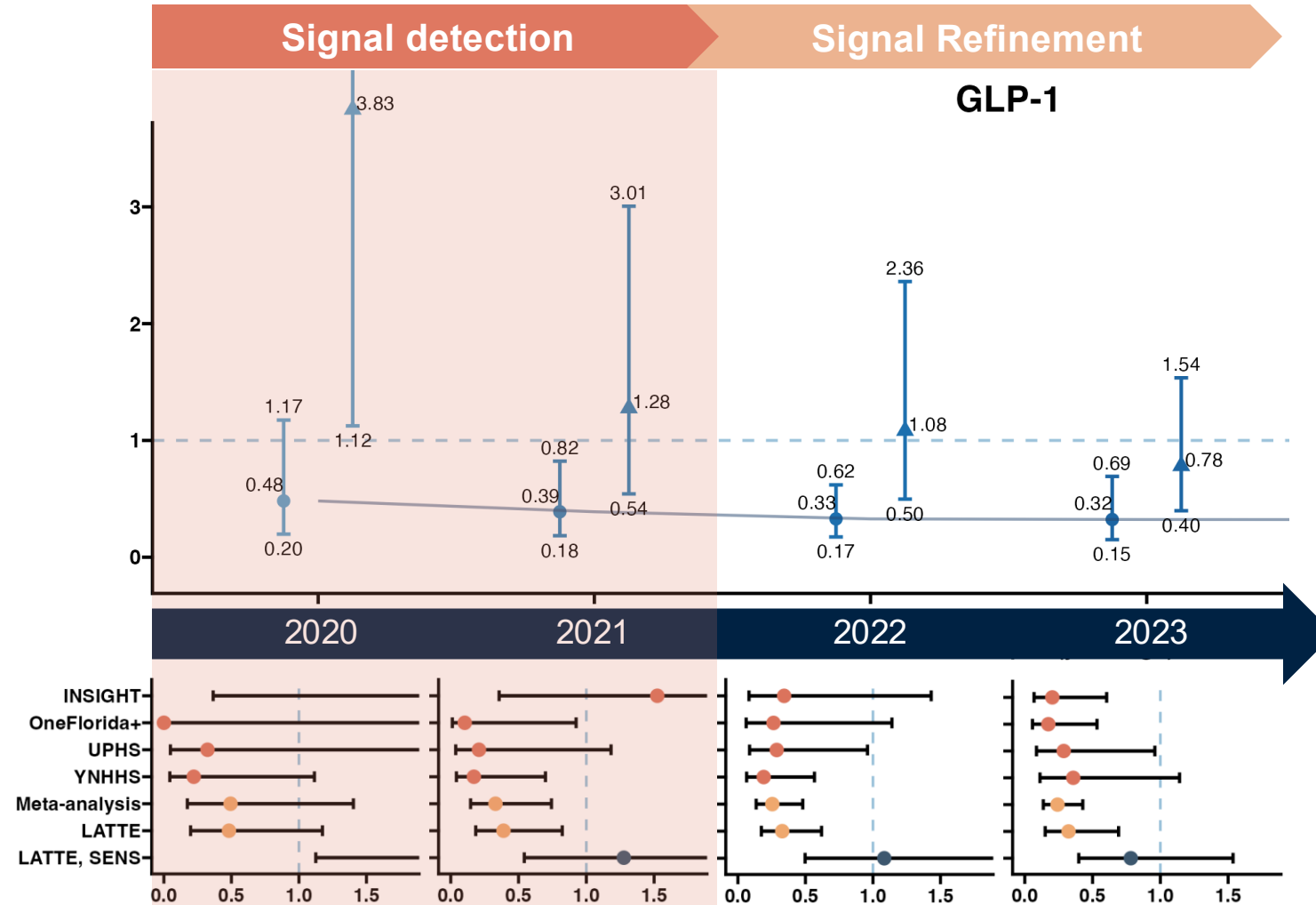
Sensitivity results



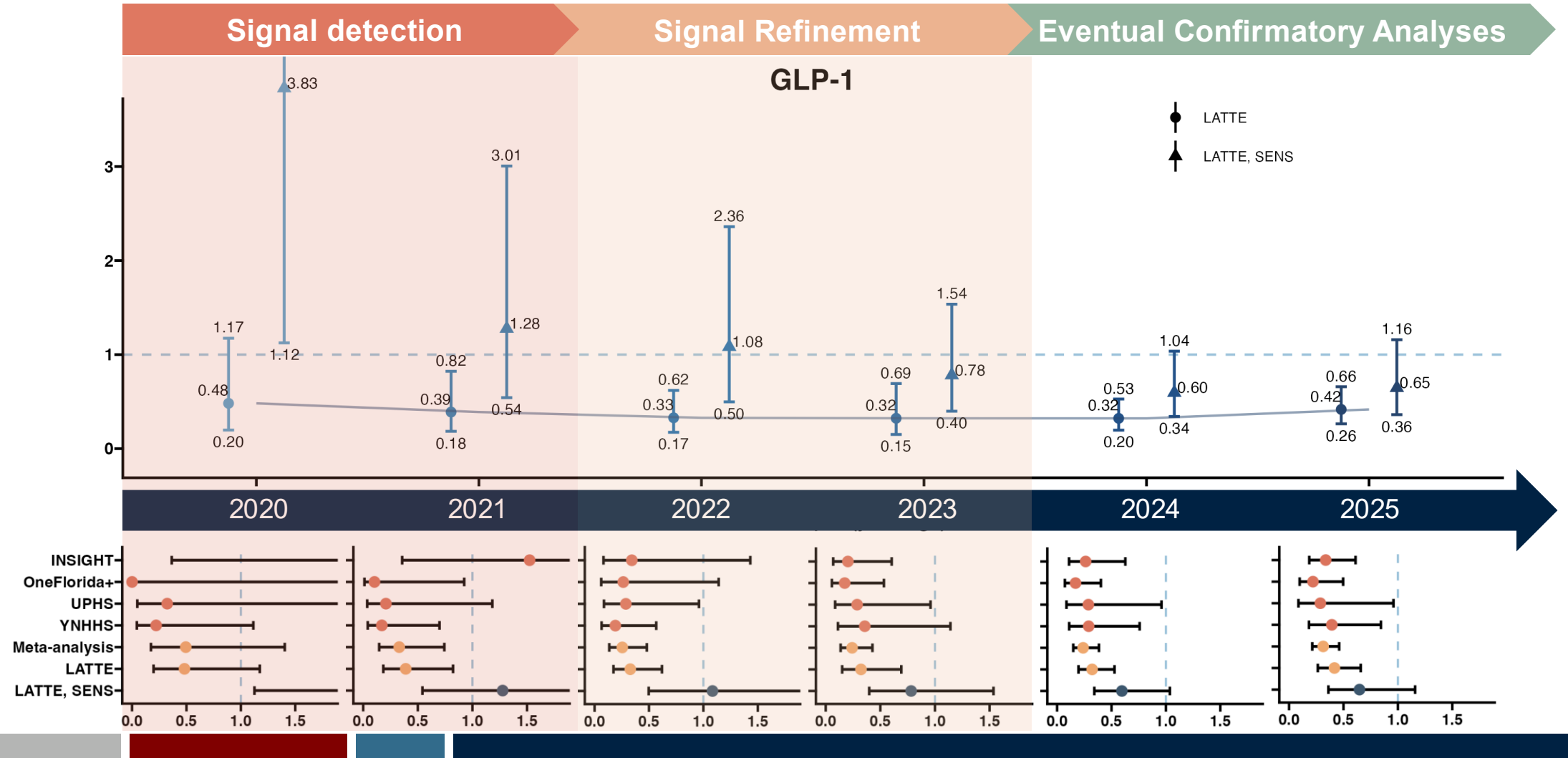
LATTE for Continuous Monitoring



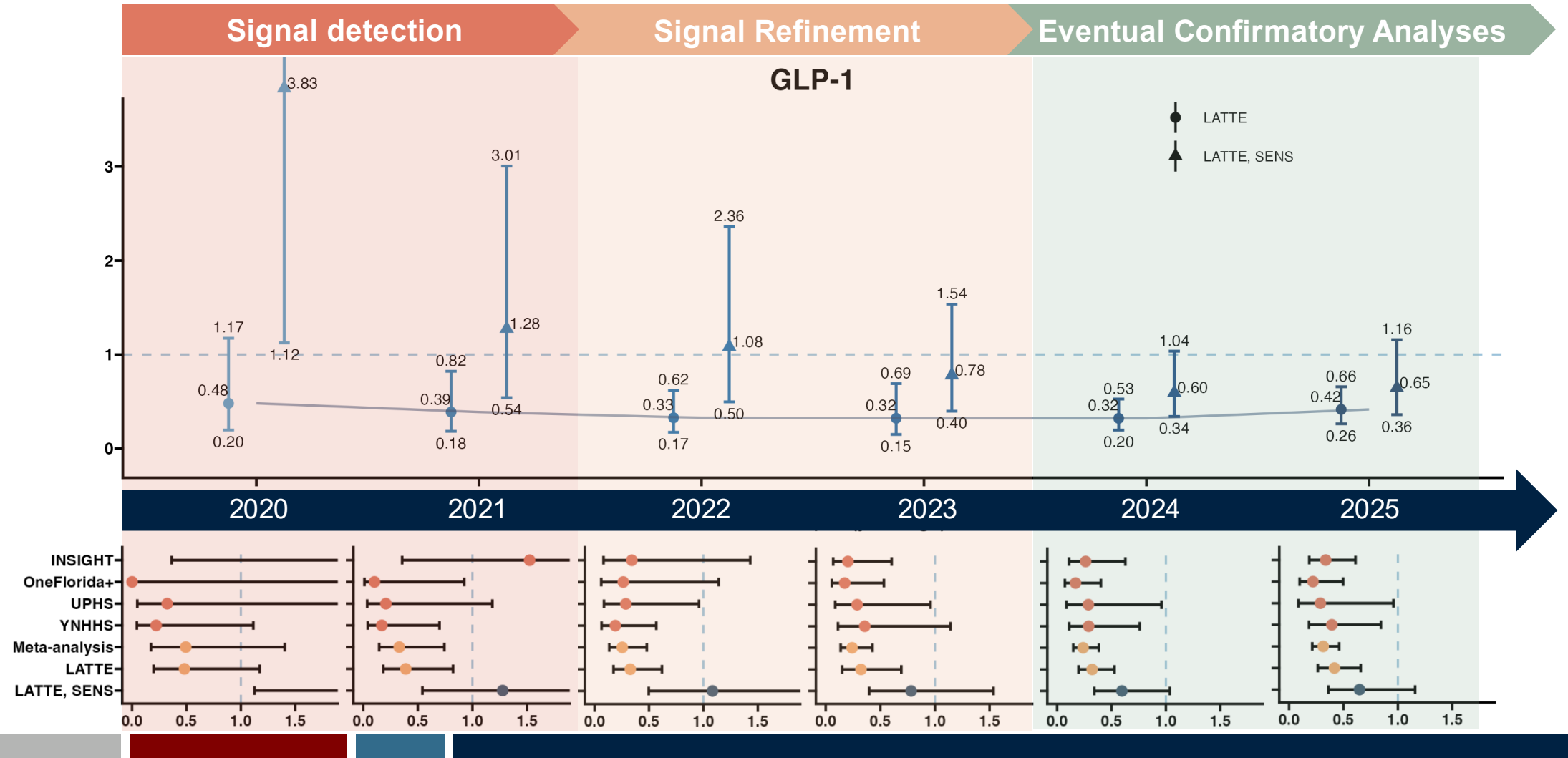
LATTE for Continuous Monitoring



LATTE for Continuous Monitoring



LATTE for Continuous Monitoring



Summary

- ▶ **LATTE** performs federated target trial emulation in **one-shot, lossless** manner, while **mitigating systematic biases**
- ▶ **Summary statistics only**
- ▶ **Ready-to-use** within 'pda' package

LATTE: Lossless One-shot Algorithm for Federated Target Trial Emulation



R package: 'pda'



<https://github.com/PennCIL/pda>

Acknowledgments

 **Poster: # 607**

- Yong Chen, University of Pennsylvania
- David A. Asch, University of Pennsylvania
- Qiong Wu, University of Pittsburgh
- Yiwen Lu, University of Pennsylvania
- Kyra S. O'Brien, University of Pennsylvania
- Bingyu Zhang, University of Pennsylvania
- Ting Zhou, University of Pennsylvania
- Jiayi Tong, University of Pennsylvania
- Dazheng Zhang, University of Pennsylvania
- Yuqing Lei, University of Pennsylvania
- Huilin Tang, University of Pennsylvania
- Haoyang Li, Cornell University
- Zhenxing Xu, Cornell University
- Yu Huang, Indiana University
- Yu Hu, University of Florida
- Yujia Zhou, Yale University
- Fongci Lin, Yale University
- Ying Jiang, Third Affiliated Hospital of Sun Yat-sen University
- Fei Wang, Cornell University
- Jiang Bian, Indiana University
- Hua Xu, Yale University
- Yong Chen, Pfizer Inc
- Jeff D. Williamson, Wake Forest University
- David A. Wolk, University of Pennsylvania
- Yun Lu, Food and Drug Administration

Correspondence to:

Yong Chen, ychen123@upenn.edu

Lu Li, luli1@sas.upenn.edu



OHDSI 2025 Collaborator Showcase

Lightning Talks Round 2

End: Lu Li

Next up: Georgina Kennedy



Maridulu
Budyari
Gumal

Cancer
Clinical Academic Group

OHDSI
Global Symposium
2025

From Data Quality to Clinical Quality

Episodes as Enablers for Next Generation Dashboarding

SPHERE CANCER CLINICAL ACADEMIC GROUP

Dr Georgina Kennedy
Senior Research Fellow, Ingham Institute



Proudly supported by
Cancer Institute NSW



UNSW
SYDNEY



Health System & Specialty Networks



Health
South Western Sydney
Local Health District



The Sydney
children's
Hospitals Network



Health
South Eastern Sydney
Local Health District



ST VINCENT'S
HOSPITAL
SYDNEY

Additional Support &



Maridulu Budyari Gumal
Working together for good health and wellbeing

Partnerships

Cancer
Clinical Academic Group



Proudly supported by
Cancer Institute NSW



Universities



UNSW
SYDNEY



WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



UTS
UNIVERSITY
OF TECHNOLOGY
SYDNEY



ACU
AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Medical Research Institutes



Ingham Institute
Applied Medical Research



Garvan Institute
of Medical Research



THE GEORGE INSTITUTE
for Global Health



Black Dog
Institute



NeuRA

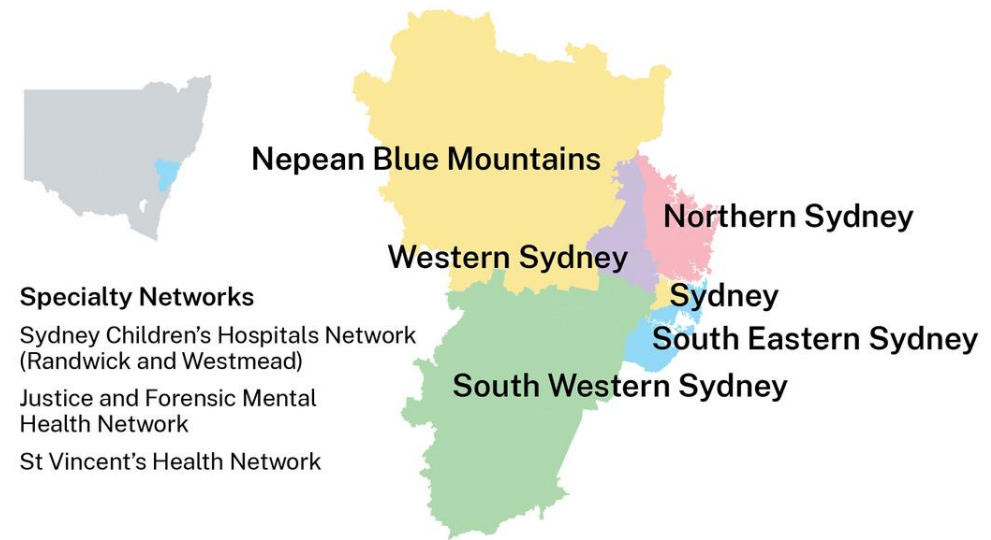
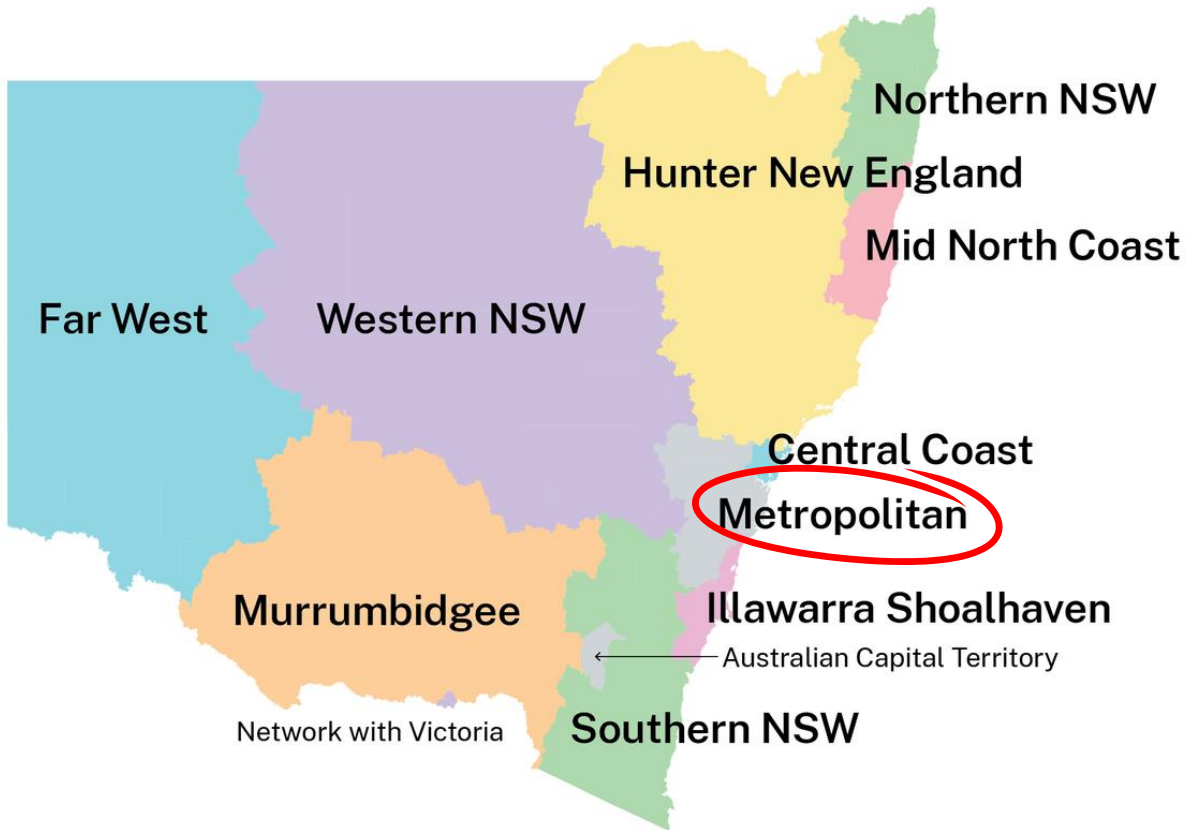


Victor Chang
Cardiac Research Institute

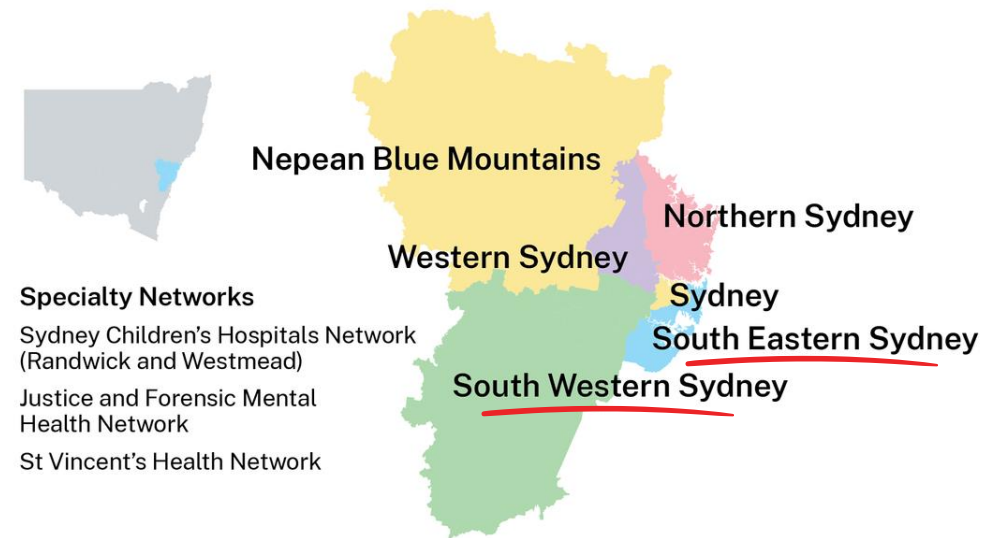
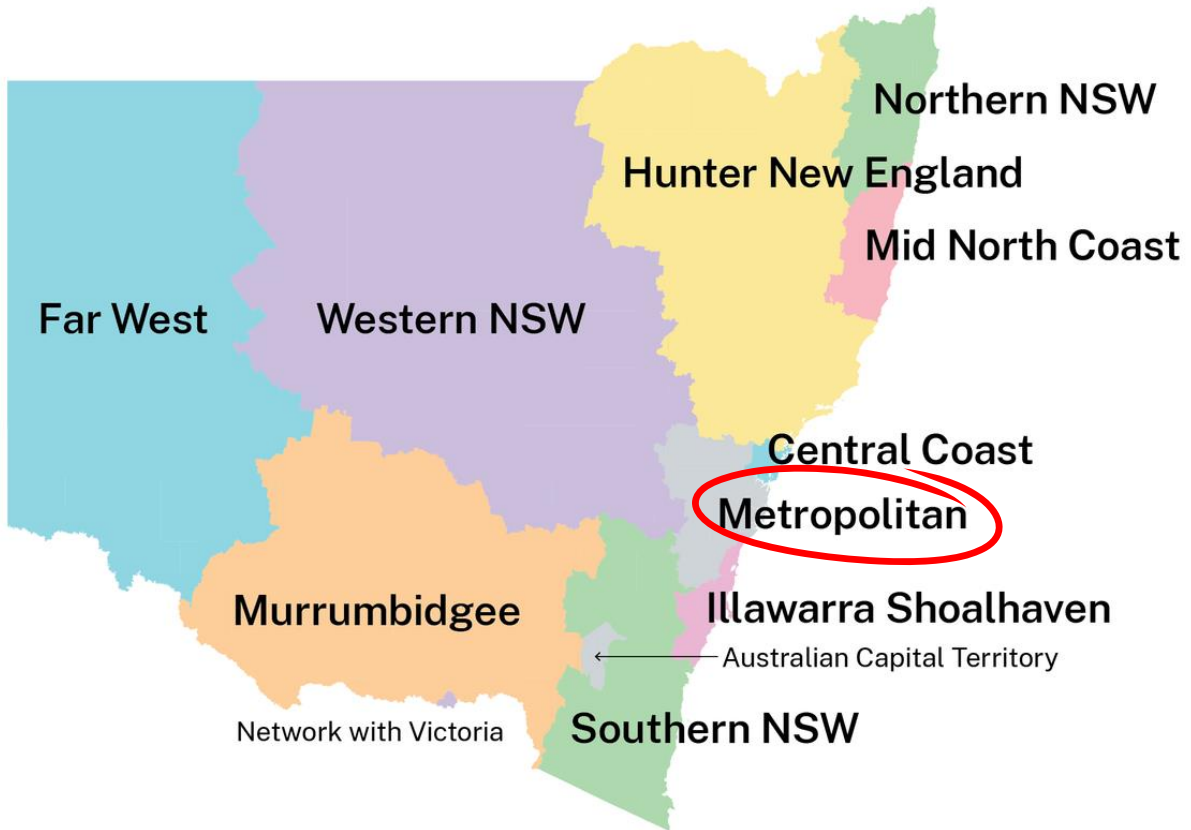


Maridulu Budyari Gumal
Working together for good health and wellbeing

Maridulu Budyari Gumal / SPHERE



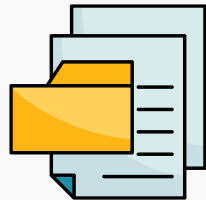
Specialty Networks
Sydney Children's Hospitals Network
(Randwick and Westmead)
Justice and Forensic Mental
Health Network
St Vincent's Health Network



NO HARMONISATION

DISCONNECTED

HETEROGENEOUS; TEXT



MANUAL
ABSTRACTION

POST-HOC REVIEW ONLY



Functional Requirements



Improved timeliness



Lower manual effort



Increased clinical scope



Functional Requirements



Improved timeliness



Lower manual effort



Increased clinical scope

Technical Requirements



Modular & configurable

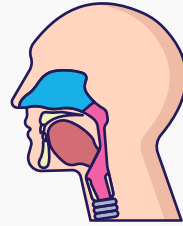
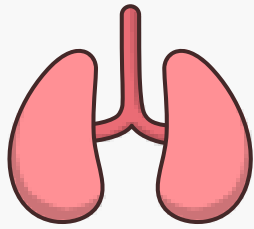


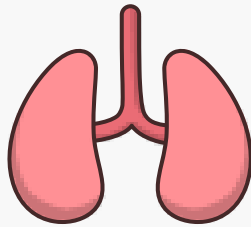
Extensible; sharable



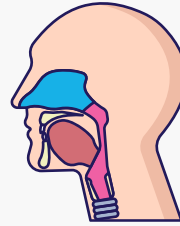
Low maintenance costs







*Strong engagement,
mature reporting practice*

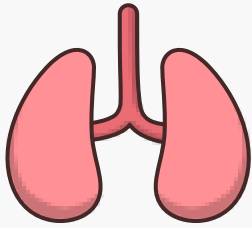


*Complex,
high supportive-care needs*



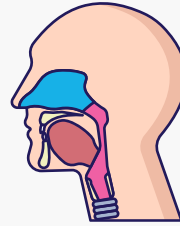
*Large population,
capacity for improvement*





*Strong engagement,
mature reporting practice*

CQI status: Release candidate



*Complex,
high supportive-care needs*

CQI status: Alpha definitions



*Large population,
capacity for improvement*

CQI status: To do



Semantic Convergence with LLMs for Head and Neck Cancer Quality Indicators

Georgina KENNEDY^{a,b,c,1}, Marnie HARRIS^b, Arya SHINDE^b, April MATT^b, Nico LOESCH^{b,d}, Timothy CHURCHES^{b,c}, Andy YANG^{b,c}, Meredith JOHNSTON^e, Geoffrey DELANEY^{a,b,e}, Merran FINDLAY^{a,b,f,g,h}

^aMaridulu Budyari Gumal (SPHERE) Cancer Clinical Academic Group

^bUniversity of NSW, Sydney, NSW, Australia

^cIngham Institute for Applied Medical Research

^dAustralian Artificial Intelligence Unit, University of Technology, NSW, Australia

^eLiverpool Cancer Therapy Centre, South Western Sydney Local Health District

^fCancer Services, Royal Prince Alfred Hospital, Sydney Local Health District

^gChris O'Brien Lifehouse, Sydney, NSW, Australia

^hThe Daffodil Centre, The University of Sydney, NSW, Australia

Abstract. We developed a novel method for leveraging large language models (LLM) to systematically filter and categorize large numbers of clinical quality indicators (CQI) for head and neck cancer. This was used to transform a tedious, human-resource intensive review process into a more efficient, knowledge-driven approach. Although we have successfully demonstrated the successful application of this approach to reduce manual effort overall, it is not possible to rely entirely on language models for such a task. We have delivered a generalizable approach that offers a promising pathway for more efficient and systematic clinical quality indicator management in other settings.

Keywords. Clinical Quality Indicators, Large Language Models, Oncology

1. Introduction

Traditional methods for the monitoring of clinical care quality are constrained by misaligned timescales and contextual disparities, limiting our ability to draw direct links between evidence generation and care improvement. Although retrospective analysis of patient data provides valuable insights, it cannot directly enhance outcomes for patients currently receiving treatment. This disconnect is particularly evident in cancer care, where determining the appropriateness of variation from recommended treatment regimens is complex and time sensitive. A true learning health system that integrates continuous data collection and analysis with routine care delivery enables real-time monitoring and adjustment of clinical practices, creating a dynamic feedback loop between care delivery and system improvement.

800+ CLINICAL GUIDELINE-BASED BEST PRACTICE INDICATORS REVIEWED

- CLINICAL CONSENSUS
 - MEASURABILITY
 - IMPACT
 - PRIORITY
- TECHNICAL FEASIBILITY
 - MODULARITY
 - REUSE & GENERALISABILITY



Maridulu Budyari Gumal

Working together for good health and wellbeing



Clinician-led co-design

Improving Lung Cancer Care in Australia

A national collaboration

Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death in Australia and has the lowest survival rate.

Lung cancer accounts for 9% of all cancers but is responsible for 18% of deaths from all cancers in Australia. The number of years of potential life lost each year to lung cancer in Australia is estimated to be similar to that of colorectal and breast cancer *combined*.

Despite advances in treatments and evidence-based guidelines to inform best clinical practice, the five year survival for all lung cancer in Australia remains terribly low at only 19%.



LUCAP drives change to improve standards of lung cancer care

What is LUCAP?

LUCAP is a patient-focused research group who are developing a national clinical quality data platform for lung cancer that collects, analyses and reports on information like how quickly people get lung cancer tests, what sort of tests are done and how quickly people get treatments.

Our Mission

Our mission is to improve the safety, quality and outcomes of health care for all lung cancer patients in Australia.

Our Vision

A national data platform that enables the performance of lung cancer service providers to be compared against a set of national standards and supports innovative research in lung cancer care and treatments.



Prof Shalini Vinod
Radiation Oncologist

[https://lucap-
au.com/](https://lucap-au.com/)

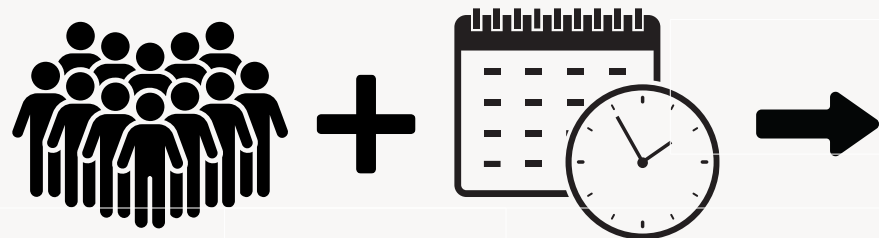


Maridulu Budyari Gumal

Working together for good health and wellbeing



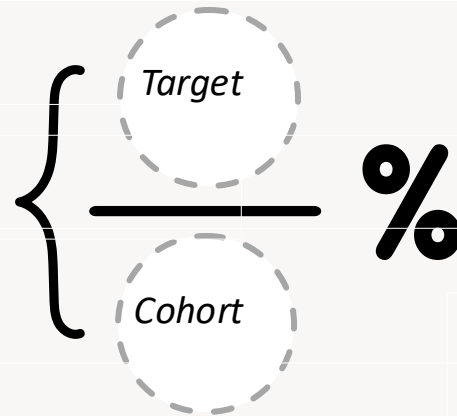
Clinician-led co-design



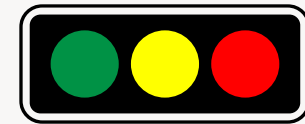
Population

Temporality

Rate



\pm



$=$

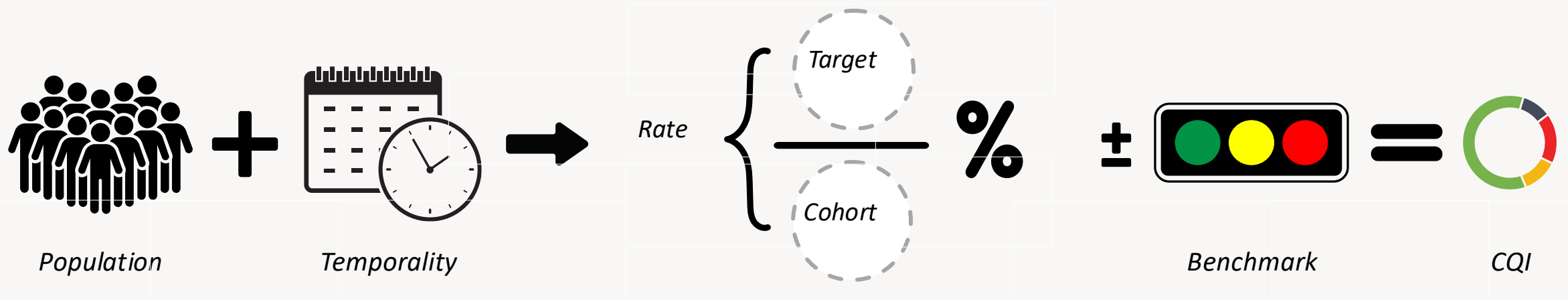


Benchmark

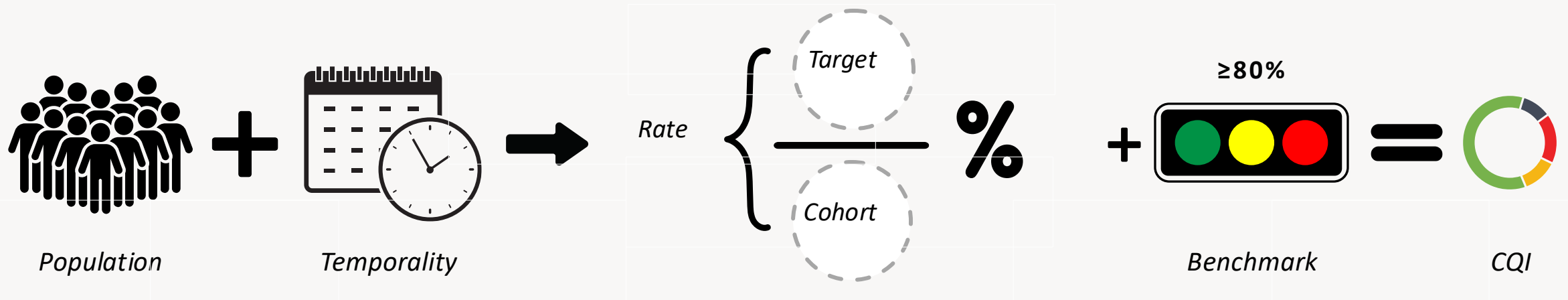
CQI



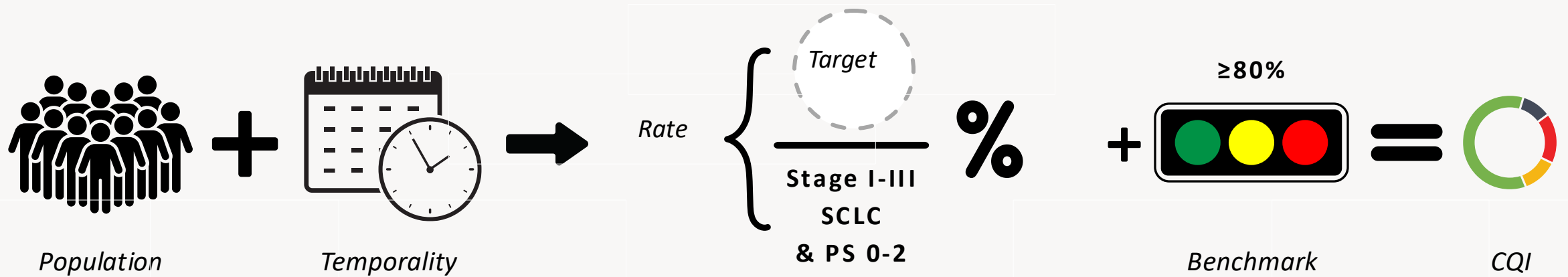
≥80% of patients with Stage I–III SCLC and PS 0–2 should receive chemoradiation



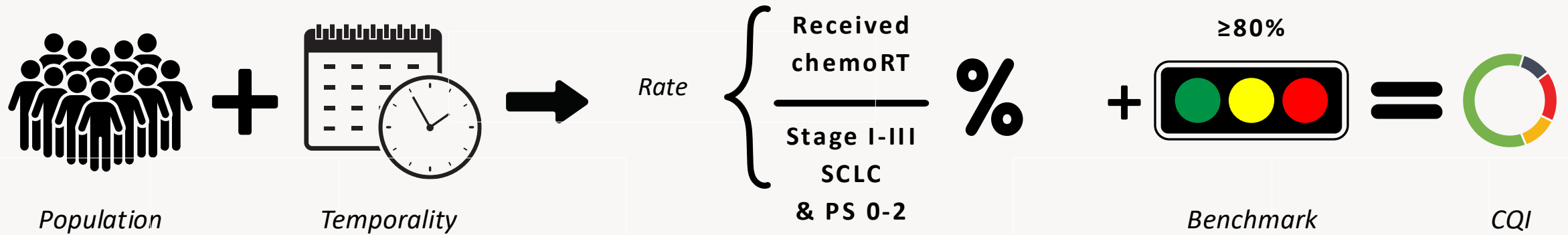
≥80% of patients with Stage I–III SCLC and PS 0–2 should receive chemoradiation



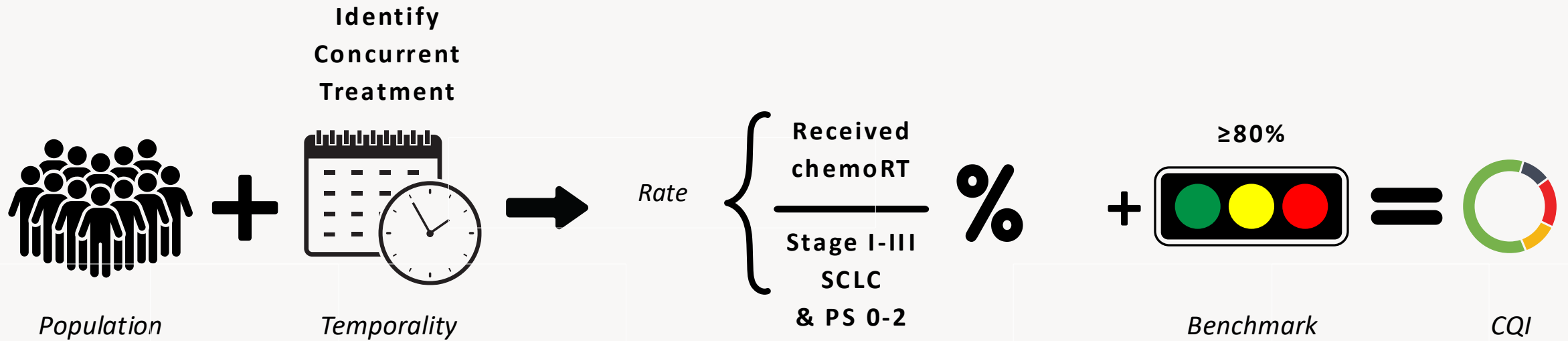
≥80% of patients with Stage I–III SCLC and PS 0–2 should receive chemoradiation



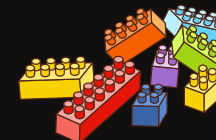
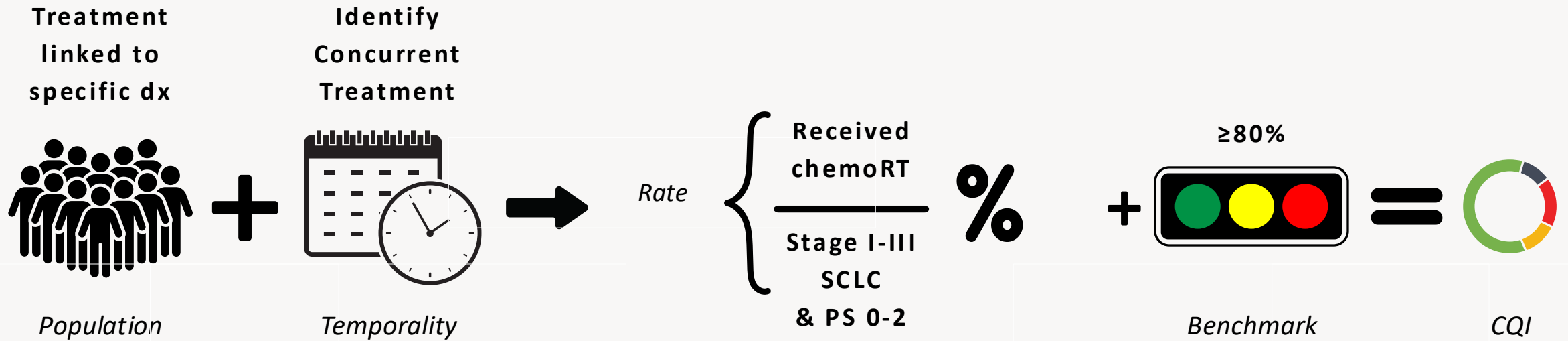
≥80% of patients with Stage I–III SCLC and PS 0–2 should receive chemoradiation



≥80% of patients with Stage I–III SCLC and PS 0–2 should receive chemoradiation



≥80% of patients with Stage I–III SCLC and PS 0–2 should receive chemoradiation





UX elements filter date range
and sub-cohorts

Cohort Filter



Report Metadata

Cohorts

Measures

Indicators

Measures

Report

Report Data

Measures

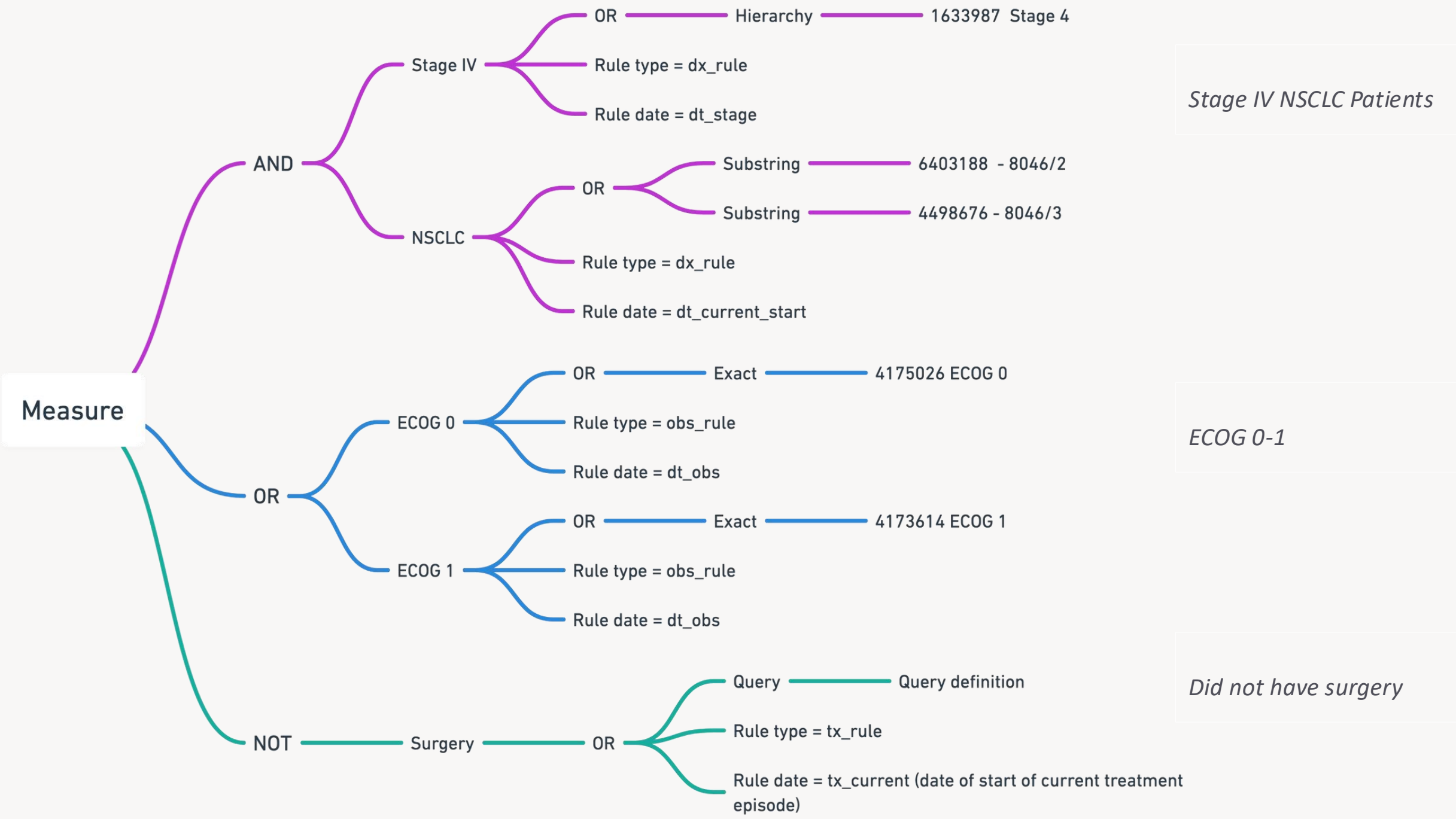
Measure Members



Indicator elements update
to reflect filter selections



Temporal buckets offer
trend analysis



DASHBOARDS

Clinical >

Trends >

DATA TABULATION

Patient Journey

Dose Modulation

Data Quality Reports

APPLICATION

Users

Report Definitions

SETTINGS

Profile

Report Composition

Database

Vocabulary

Report Definition: Lung Cancer MDT

- Lung cancer MDT quality indicators v0.1 (alpha)

Cohort	Cohort definition	Measure
Primary Lung	Mesothelioma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mesothelioma, malignant (9050/3) Epithelioid mesothelioma, malignant (9052/3) Fibrous mesothelioma, malignant (9051/3) Mesothelioma, biphasic, malignant (9053/3)
	Lung Cancer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Malignant tumor of bronchus (363493006) Malignant tumor of lung (363358000)
Lung Mets	Mets to lung	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Metastasis to same lobe of lung (OMOP4997758) Metastasis to a different ipsilateral lobe of lung (OMOP4997846) Metastasis to ipsilateral lung (OMOP4999209) Metastasis to contralateral lobe of lung (OMOP4999769) Metastasis to lung (OMOP4999962) Metastasis to hilus of lung (OMOP5031648) Metastasis to left lower lobe of lung (OMOP5031693) Metastasis to left lung (OMOP5031694) Metastasis to left upper lobe of lung (OMOP5031696) Metastasis to right lower lobe of lung (OMOP5031845) Metastasis to right lung (OMOP5031846) Metastasis to right middle lobe of lung (OMOP5031847) Metastasis to right upper lobe of lung (OMOP5031849)

DASHBOARDS

- Clinical
- Trends

DATA TABULATION

- Patient Journey
- Dose Modulation
- Data Quality Reports

APPLICATION

- Users
- Report Definitions

SETTINGS

- Profile
- Report Composition
- Database
- Vocabulary

Report Definition: Lung Cancer MDT

Indicator	Indicator Description	Indicator Reference	Numerator	Numerator Measure	Denominator	Denominator Measure
1	Lung cancer patients presented at lung MDT meeting	LUCAP 3.1	Discussed at MDT	33	Full report cohort	0
2	Lung cancer patients that have a confirmed pathological diagnosis	LUCAP 2.1	Confirmed pathologic dx	16	Full report cohort	0
3	Lung cancer patients with documented ECOG status	LUCAP 3.2	Documented ECOG	30	Full report cohort	0
4	Lung cancer patients with documented smoking status	LUCAP 4.1	Documented smoking status	31	Full report cohort	0
5	Stage I-II NSCLC undergoing curative Rx who have pulmonary function before treatment (surgery)	LUCAP 2.7	Pulmonary function	32	Stage I-II NSCLC undergoing curative Rx (Surgery)	47
6	Stage I-II NSCLC undergoing curative Rx who have pulmonary function before treatment (RT)	LUCAP 2.7	Pulmonary function	32	Stage I-II NSCLC undergoing curative Rx (RT)	48
7	Stage I-II NSCLC who had curative surgery	LUCAP 4.4	Surgery	19	Stage I-II NSCLC	41
8	Stage I-II NSCLC who did not have surgery, who had curative RT	LUCAP 4.6	Curative RT	21	Stage I-II NSCLC who did not have surgery	49
9	Stage II NSCLC with ECOG 0-1 who did not undergo surgery, and had both curative RT and chemotherapy	LUCAP 4.9	Both curative RT and chemotherapy	53	Stage II NSCLC with ECOG 0-1 who did not undergo surgery	51
10	Stage II-III NSCLC patients who receive neoadjuvant or adjuvant chemotherapy before or after surgery	LUCAP 4.8	Any systemic therapy	22	Stage II-III NSCLC patients who had surgery	54
13	Stage I-II SCLC patients who received concurrent chemoRT	LUCAP New	Concurrent chemoRT	23	Stage I-II SCLC	43
15	Stage IV lung cancer patients referred to palliative care	None	Palliative care referral	34	Stage 4	15
16	Stage IV NSCLC lung cancer patients receiving systemic therapy	LUCAP 4.1	Any systemic therapy	22	Stage IV NSCLC	45
17	Lung cancer patients receiving any treatment	LUCAP 4.2	Any treatment	24	Full report cohort	0
18	Lung cancer patients seen by specialist nurse at diagnosis time	LUCAP 5.1	Seen by specialist lung cancer nurse	35	Full report cohort	0
20	Time from gp referral to first specialist seen	LUCAP 1.1	First specialist seen	36	Full report cohort	0
21	Time from gp referral to first treatment or palliative care contact	None	Any treatment or palliative care referral	52	Full report cohort	0
22	Time from diagnosis to palliative care referral for lung cancer	None	Palliative care referral	34	Stage 4	15

Dates filter underlying report data

Columns in the report correspond to a measure and associated measure date. Each measure may be a True/False boolean type, or have a single associated scalar value.

Dash Report

Person	Cohort Date	Measure 1	Measure Date	Measure 2	Measure Date
1	YYYY-MM-DD	10	YYYY-MM-DD		
2	YYYY-MM-DD			TRUE	YYYY-MM-DD
3	YYYY-MM-DD	11	YYYY-MM-DD	TRUE	YYYY-MM-DD
4	YYYY-MM-DD				
5	YYYY-MM-DD				
6	YYYY-MM-DD			TRUE	YYYY-MM-DD
7	YYYY-MM-DD				
8	YYYY-MM-DD				
9	YYYY-MM-DD				
10	YYYY-MM-DD				
11	YYYY-MM-DD	3	YYYY-MM-DD	TRUE	YYYY-MM-DD
12	YYYY-MM-DD				
13	YYYY-MM-DD			TRUE	YYYY-MM-DD
14	YYYY-MM-DD				

Report cohort: 1 row per person who meets the qualifying cohort measure criteria

Report Cohort

Date that this person qualified for the report cohort, as expressed by the cohort measure - used to include or exclude the person from dashboard summary when applying date range filters.

Indicators

Indicator visualisations correspond to measure definitions (columns) in underlying dash report

From

To



Underlying report data

Indicators are typically process / quality specific - bulk operations and drill down for details only when outliers identified



DASHBOARDS

Clinical

Trends

Lung

Head & Neck

Colorectal

DATA TABULATION

Patient Journey

Dose Modulation

Data Quality Reports

APPLICATION

Users

Report Definitions

SETTINGS

Profile

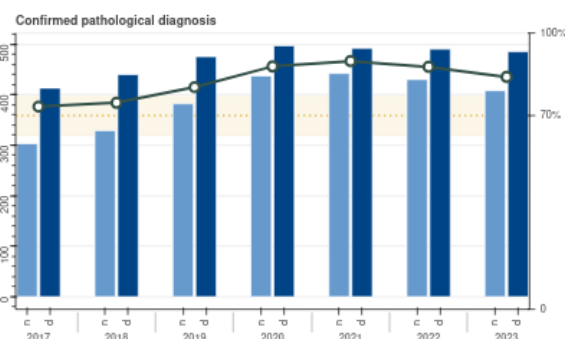
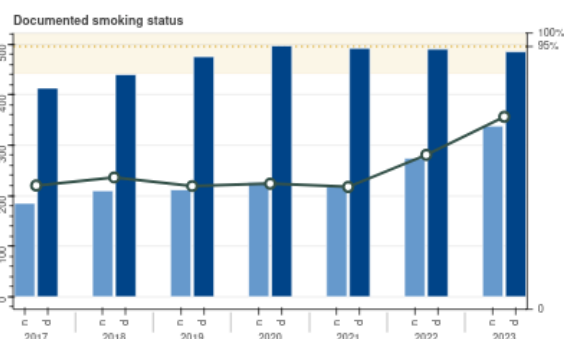
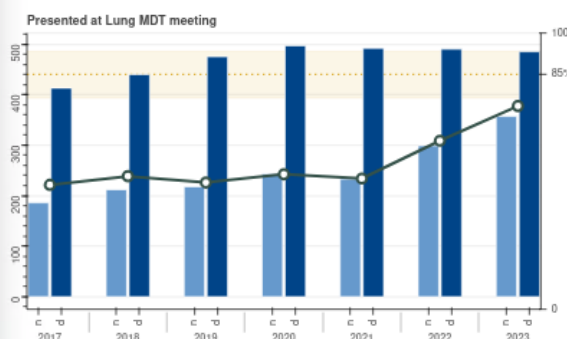
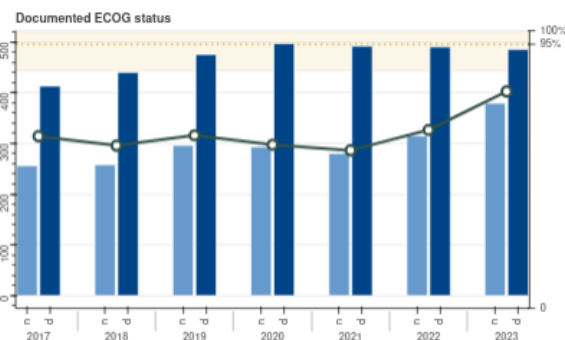
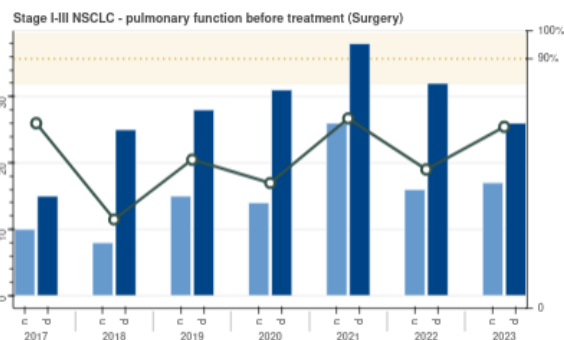
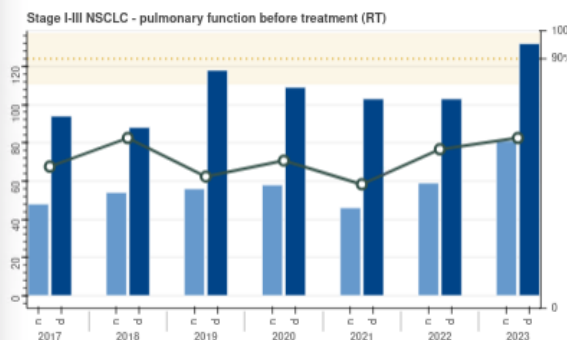
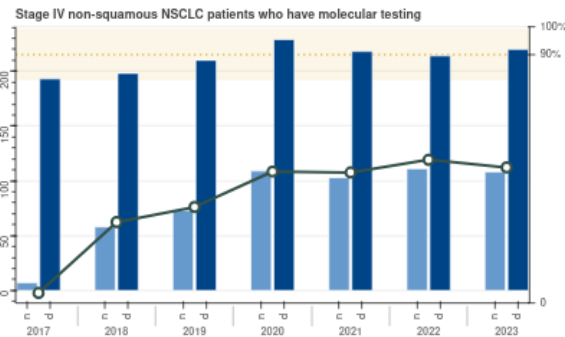
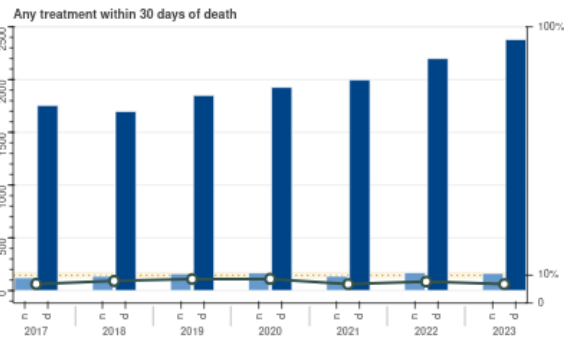
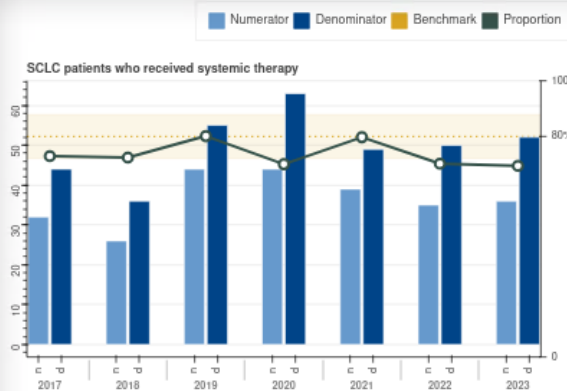
Report Composition

Database

Vocabulary

Logged in as:

User 1



Can we actually change?

DASHBOARDS

Clinical

Trends

Lung

Head & Neck

Colorectal

DATA TABULATION

Patient Journey

Dose Modulation

Data Quality Reports

APPLICATION

Users

Report Definitions

SETTINGS

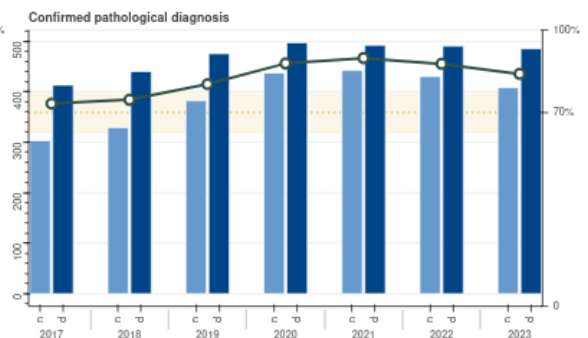
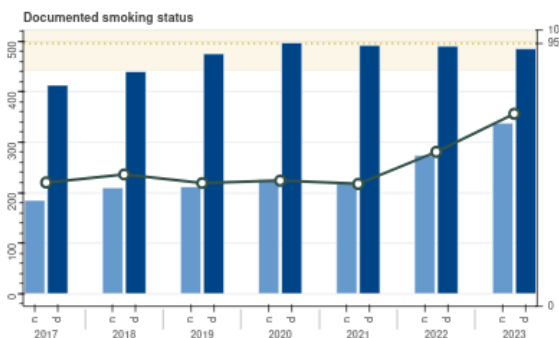
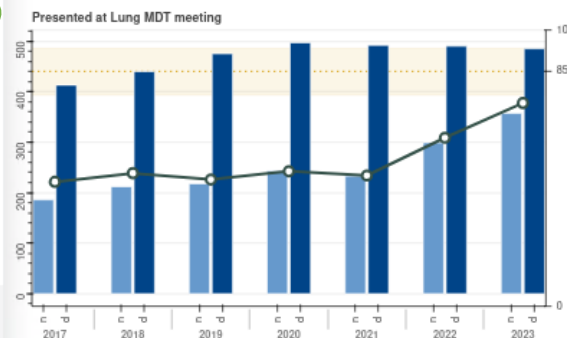
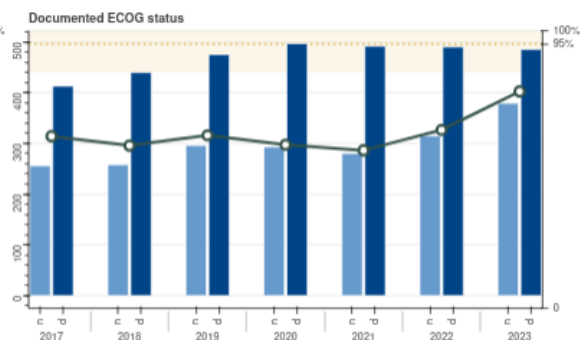
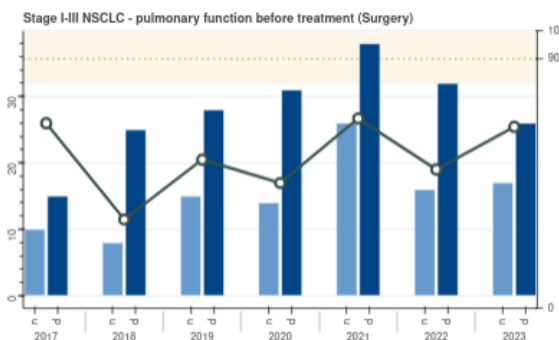
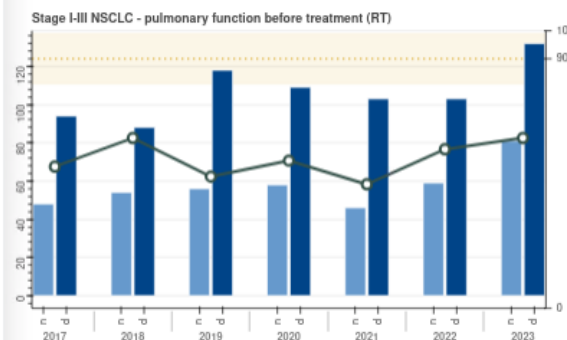
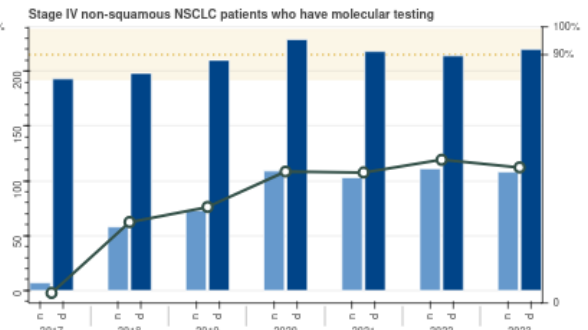
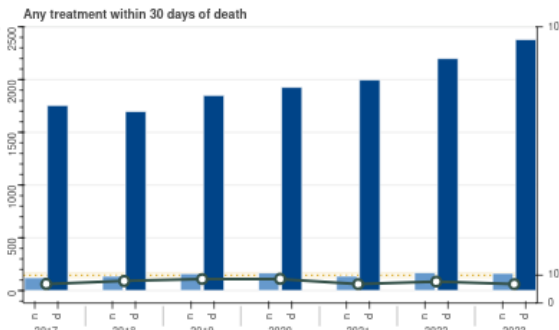
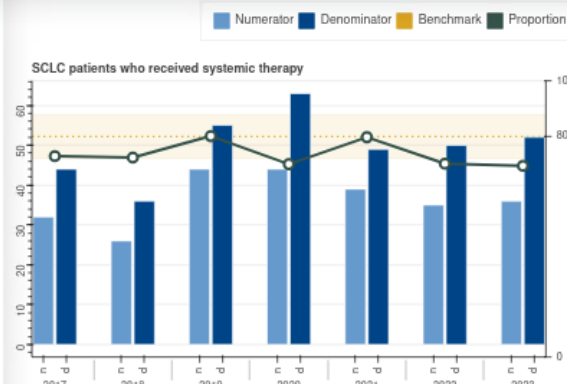
Profile

Report Components

Vocabulary

Logged in as:

User 1



Can we actually change?

DASHBOARDS

Clinical

Trends

Lung

Head & Neck

Colorectal

DATA TABULATION

Patient Journey

Dose Modulation

Data Quality Reports

APPLICATION

Users

Report Definitions

SETTINGS

Profile

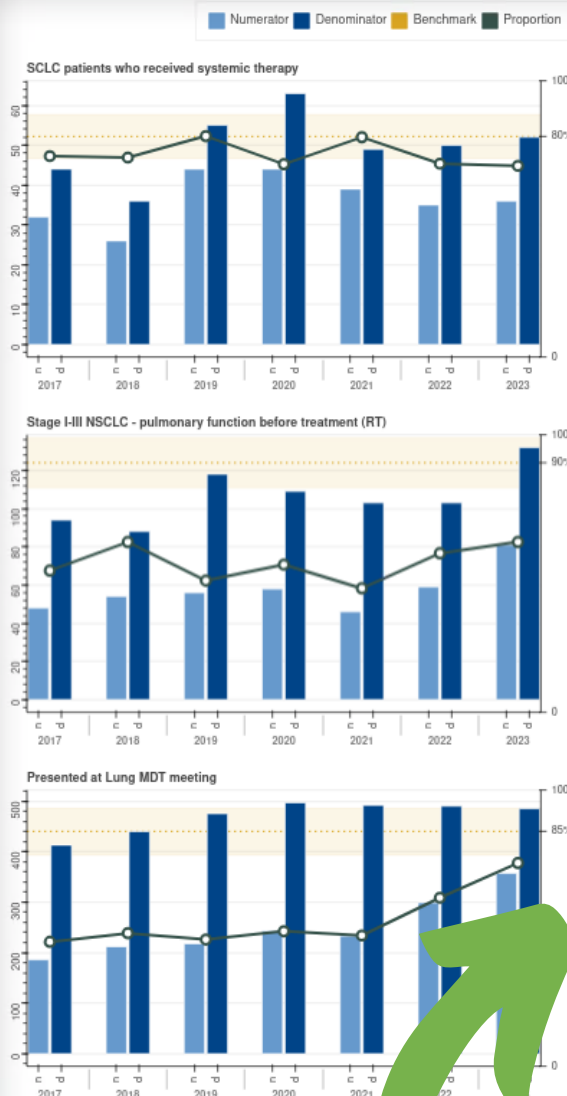
Report Composition

Database

Vocabulary

Logged in as:

User 1



Can we actually change?

DASHBOARDS

Clinical

Trends

Lung

Head & Neck

Colorectal

DATA TABULATION

Patient Journey

Dose Modulation

Data Quality Reports

APPLICATION

Users

Report Definitions

SETTINGS

Profile

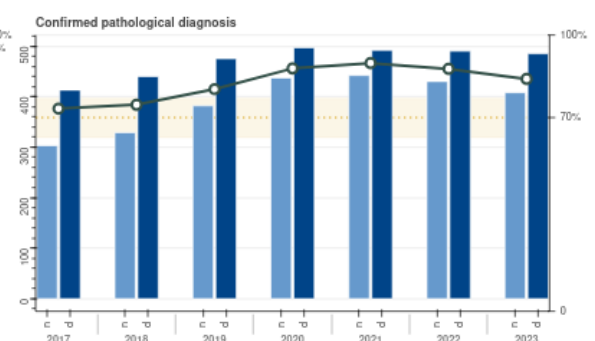
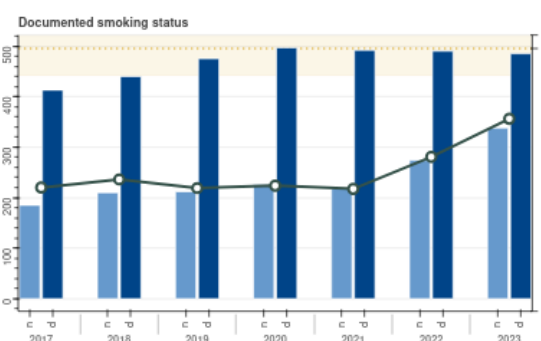
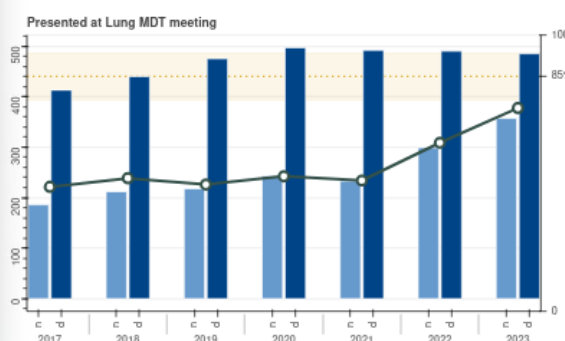
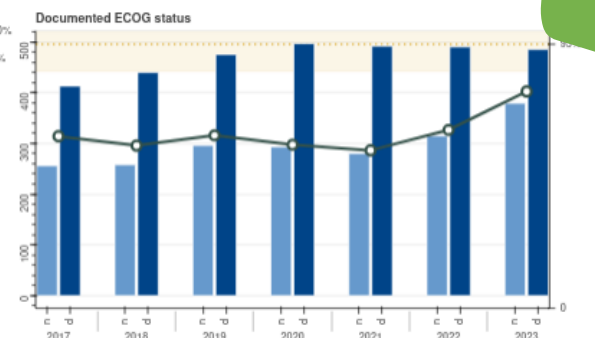
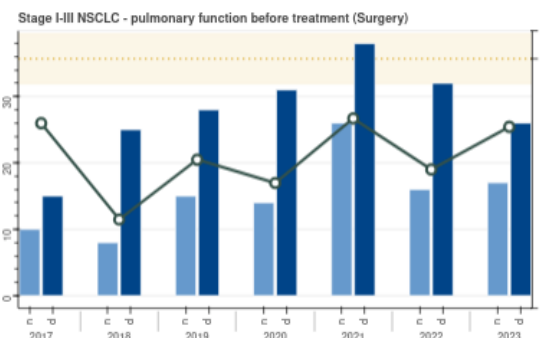
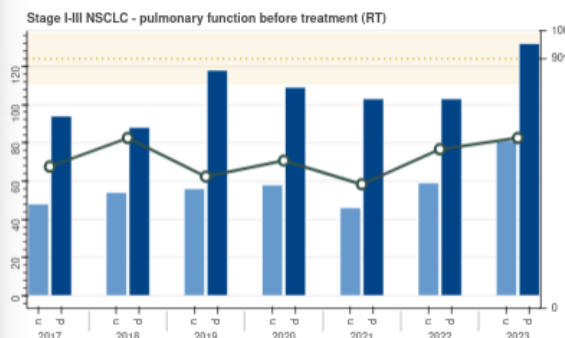
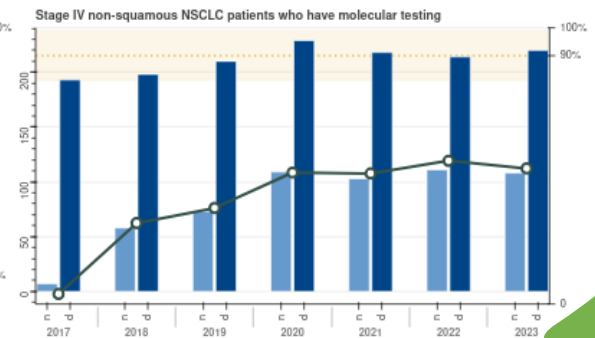
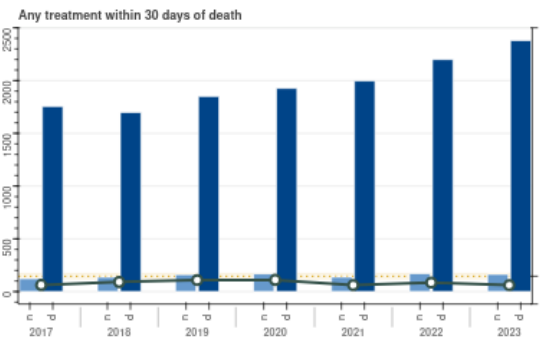
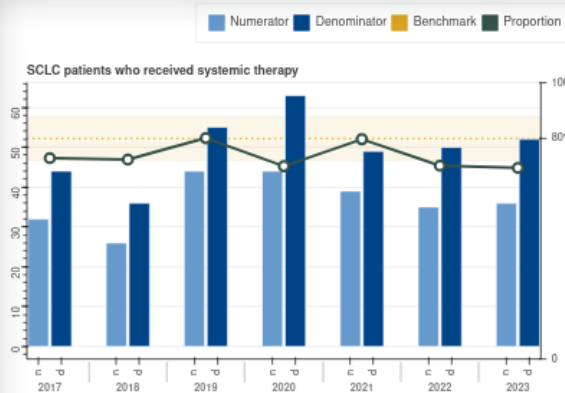
Report Composition

Database

Vocabulary

Logged in as:

User 1



Can we actually change?



OMOP_ALCHEMY

```
class Treatment_Window(Base):
    """
    This mapper returns the bounds of a treatment window, looking for earliest and latest RT/SACT events

    Note that surgical procedures are not currently mapped into episodes, but current mappings
    are only for manually entered, relevant surgical procedures, so this is robust at the person level.

    """

    __table__ = dx_treatment_window
    person_id = dx_treatment_window.c.person_id
    episode_id = dx_treatment_window.c.episode_id
    episode_start_datetime = so.column_property(dx_treatment_window.c.episode_start_datetime)
    death_datetime = so.column_property(dx_treatment_window.c.death_datetime)
    rt_start = so.column_property(dx_treatment_window.c.rt_start)
    sact_start = so.column_property(dx_treatment_window.c.sact_start)
    rt_end = so.column_property(dx_treatment_window.c.rt_end)
    sact_end = so.column_property(dx_treatment_window.c.sact_end)
    procedure_datetime = so.column_property(dx_treatment_window.c.procedure_datetime)

    @sa.ext.hybrid.hybrid_property
    def latest_treatment(self):
        treat_ends = [d for d in [self.rt_end, self.sact_end, self.procedure_datetime] if d is not None]
        if not(treat_ends):
            return None
        return max(treat_ends)

    @sa.ext.hybrid.hybrid_property
    def treatment_days_before_death(self):
        latest_treatment = self.latest_treatment
        if not(latest_treatment) or not(self.death_datetime):
            return None
        delta = self.death_datetime.date() - latest_treatment
        return delta.days

    @latest_treatment.expression
    def latest_treatment(cls):
        return sa.func.greatest(
            sa.case((cls.rt_end != None, cls.rt_end), else_=None),
            sa.case((cls.sact_end != None, cls.sact_end), else_=None),
            sa.case((cls.procedure_datetime != None, sa.cast(cls.procedure_datetime, sa.Date)), else_=None))

    @treatment_days_before_death.expression
    def treatment_days_before_death(cls):
        return sa.cast(cls.death_datetime, sa.Date) - cls.latest_treatment
```

ITERATIVELY BUILD COMPLEXITY → COMPOSABLE MAPPERS DEFINE TESTABLE CONVENTIONS



OA_COHORTS

```
class Measure(Base):
    """Measure class can combine child measures using boolean logic to an arbitrary depth in order to build complex definitions.

    A measure that contains a subquery should be the root measure definition and therefore not contain any child measures of its own.

    An example measure may have the sub-queries _Lung Cancer_ **and** _Stage IV_, to select all patients with Stage IV lung cancer,
    or it could be broken down further with sub-query _Lung Cancer_ **and** a child measure representing the combination (_Stage I_
    **or** _Stage 2_).
    """
    __tablename__ = 'measure'
    measure_id: so.Mapped[int] = so.mapped_column(primary_key=True)
    id = so.synonym('measure_id')

    measure_name: so.Mapped[str] = so.mapped_column(sa.String(250))
    measure_combination: so.Mapped[int] = so.mapped_column(sa.Enum(RuleCombination)) # rule_and, rule_or, rule_except
    subquery_id: so.Mapped[Optional[int]] = so.mapped_column(sa.ForeignKey('subquery.subquery_id'), nullable=True)
    person_ep_override: so.Mapped[bool] = so.mapped_column(sa.Boolean)

    subquery: so.Mapped["Subquery"] = so.relationship("Subquery", foreign_keys=[subquery_id], back_populates='measures')
    in_dash_cohort: so.Mapped[List['Dash_Cohort_Def']] = so.relationship("Dash_Cohort_Def", back_populates="dash_cohort_measure")

    child_measures: so.Mapped[List["Measure_Relationship"]] = so.relationship("Measure_Relationship",
                                                                              foreign_keys="Measure_Relationship.parent_measure_id",
                                                                              viewonly=True)
    parent_measures: so.Mapped[List["Measure_Relationship"]] = so.relationship("Measure_Relationship",
                                                                              foreign_keys="Measure_Relationship.child_measure_id",
                                                                              viewonly=True)

    def get_measure(self, ep_override=False):
        ep_override = self.person_ep_override or ep_override
        if self.subquery:
            return self.subquery.get_subquery_any(ep_override)
        elif self.measure_combination==RuleCombination.rule_or:
            return sa.union_all(*[m.get_measure(ep_override) for m in self.children])
        else:
            return self.get_measure_first_qualifying(ep_override)

    def get_measure_any(self, ep_override=False):
        ep_override = self.person_ep_override or ep_override
        if self.subquery:
            return self.subquery.get_subquery_any(ep_override)
        else:
            return sa.union(*[m.get_measure_any(ep_override) for m in self.children])

    def get_measure_earliest(self, ep_override=False):
        ...
        return earliest

    def get_measure_first_qualifying(self, ep_override=False):
        ...
        return combined

    def execute_measure(self, db, people=[], force_refresh=False):
        if not force_refresh and len(self._members) > 0:
            return self._members
        query = self.get_measure()
        if len(people) > 0:
            query = sa.select(query.subquery()).filter(sa.column('person_id').in_(people))
        self._members = db.execute(query).all()
        return self._members
```



OHDSI 2025 Collaborator Showcase

Lightning Talks Round 2

End: Georgina Kennedy

Next up: Cindy Chen



Heterogeneity of Treatment Effects Across Nine Glucose-Lowering Drug Classes in Type 2 Diabetes

Extension of the LEGEND-T2DM Network Study

Hsin Yi Chen, Thomas Falconer, Anna Ostropolets, Tara V. Anand,
Xinzhuo Jiang, David Dávila-García, Linying Zhang, Ruochong Fan,
Hannah Morgan-Cooper, George Hripcsak



Motivation

- Type 2 diabetes (T2DM) affects more than 525 million people globally
- OHDSI's LEGEND-T2DM study (Khera et. al 2024) investigated the relative treatment effects of different antihyperglycemic agents
- However, T2DM patients are a heterogeneous group:
 - Different demographics and baseline risks can modify the benefits and risks associated with different drugs



Do risks of health outcomes differ based on patient characteristics?

Extend LEGEND T2DM → Stratify treatment effect estimation by clinical and demographic subgroups.



Methods: Study Design

- Target Cohorts: Adults (≥ 18 years of age) diagnosed with T2DM who initiated treatment with a drug agent from one of the nine specified glucose-lowering drug classes: (1) Alpha-Glucosidase Inhibitors, (2) Biguanides, (3) DPP-4 inhibitors, (4) GIP and GLP-1 RA, (5) GLP-1RA, (6) Meglitinides, (7) SGLT-2 inhibitors, (8) Sulfonylureas, and (9) Thiazolidinediones.



Methods: Study Design

- Target Cohorts: Adults (≥ 18 years of age) diagnosed with T2DM who initiated treatment with a drug agent from one of the nine specified glucose-lowering drug classes: (1) Alpha-Glucosidase Inhibitors, (2) **Biguanides**, (3) **DPP-4 inhibitors**, (4) GIP and GLP-1 RA, (5) **GLP-1RA**, (6) Meglitinides, (7) **SGLT-2 inhibitors**, (8) **Sulfonylureas**, and (9) Thiazolidinediones.
- Outcomes of interest: Acute myocardial infarction, acute renal failure, hospitalization for heart failure, stroke, abnormal weight gain, acute pancreatitis, diabetic ketoacidosis, diarrhea, hypoglycemia, vomiting, and hepatic failure.
- Subgroups of interest: Age, sex, renal impairment, obesity, poorly controlled diabetes, HTN, HLD, diabetic ketoacidosis, diabetic retinopathy, MASLD



How we quantified “heterogeneity of treatment effect”

- Calculated pair-wise hazard ratios for each target-comparator-outcome-subgroup combination
- Example of a HR interpretation:
 - Target = Sulfonylureas
 - Comparator = GLP-1 RA
 - A HR of 1.5 would mean that the **risk of the outcome is 1.5 times higher for SU vs. GLP-1 RA**

$$HR = \frac{h_{target}(t)}{h_{comparator}(t)}$$



How we quantified “heterogeneity of treatment effect”

- To quantify “heterogeneity of treatment effect”, we calculated the difference in log transformed HRs between two subgroups
- Then, we performed meta-analysis on $\Delta \ln(HR)$ for available databases

$$HR = \frac{h_{target}(t)}{h_{comparator}(t)}$$

$$\Delta \ln(HR) = \ln(HR_{subgroup1}) - \ln(HR_{subgroup2})$$



How we quantified “heterogeneity of treatment effect”

Hyperlipidemia (HLD) Subgroups (HLD vs. No HLD)					
Outcome	Target	Comparator	HR (HLD)	HR (No HLD)	p-value
Stroke	Biguanide	SGLT-2i	1.76 (0.91,3.43)	0.73 (0.44,1.23)	0.04

Subgroup p-value of $\Delta \ln(HR)$:
HR for the group with the subgroups
hyperlipidemia, different? (is there HTE?)

Interpretation: There is a **differential effect** in the HLD vs. Non-HLD groups when comparing Biguanide and SGLT-2i for stroke



Results

- 6 Different databases, 5 of which passed diagnostics
- Hyperlipemia, Hypertension, Obesity, Sex, and Age (>60y vs. 21-60y) passed diagnostics
 - Many other subgroups (ex: renal impairment, diabetic ketoacidosis, etc.) did not pass diagnostics
 - All subgroups but age had some evidence of outcomes with HTE



Some Interesting Subgroup Comparisons!

- In general: aligns with known pharmacologic patterns
- Obesity Subgroup
 - Obese patients have a *greater benefit* on biguanide (vs. DPP-4i) against hospitalization with heart failure events
- Sex Subgroup
 - Female patients have a higher risk of diarrhea on GLP-1 RA (vs. DPP-4i), and SU (vs. DPP-4i).
 - Female patients have a lower risk of stroke on SGLT-2i (vs. DPP-4i)



Key Takeaways & Next Steps

- Hypothesis generating study—lots of null results, some databases/comparisons did not pass diagnostics
 - However: there is potential evidence of treatment heterogeneity!
- Potential for personalized T2DM treatments in the future
- The power of OHDSI and large-scale studies!



More @ Poster #609!

Contact: hc3292@cumc.columbia.edu

Thank you to the Hripcsak Lab,
Columbia Department of Biomedical
Informatics, and the OHDSI community
for making this project possible!





OHDSI 2025 Collaborator Showcase

Lightning Talks Round 2

End: Cindy Chen

Next up: Katia Verhamme



Coordination Centre

A multi-national network cohort and self-controlled case series study of the effect of doxycycline on the risk of suicidality, depression and anxiety in individuals with acne

Nicholas B. Hunt, Guido J. van Leeuwen, Maarten van Kessel, Anna Palomar-Cros, Antonella Delmestri, Agustina Giuliadori, Talita Duarte Salles, Mandickel Kamtengeni, Ross D. Williams, Daniel Prieto Alhambra, **Katia Verhamme (presenter)**

OHDSI Global 2025

Disclosure

This study was funded by EMA and performed via DARWIN EU[®]. The study funder was involved in revising the study protocol and the objectives and reviewing the study report including the results. Data partners' role is only to execute code at their data source. They do not have an investigator role.

This communication represents the views of the DARWIN EU[®] Coordination Centre only and cannot be interpreted as reflecting those of the EMA or the European Medicines Regulatory Network

- Doxycycline is a tetracycline antibiotic which is widely used for treating acne, upper respiratory tract infections, sexually transmittable diseases and rosacea
- There are case reports about a potential association between doxycycline and suicide



- EMA commissioned a study to be conducted within the DARWIN EU® network

Objective: to estimate the risk of suicide-related events, anxiety and depression during doxycycline use for the treatment of acne

Study design: **new-user active comparator cohort** and **self-controlled case series study** (SCCS) to assess the association between doxycycline and the composite outcome of suicide-related events, depression, and anxiety in individuals with acne

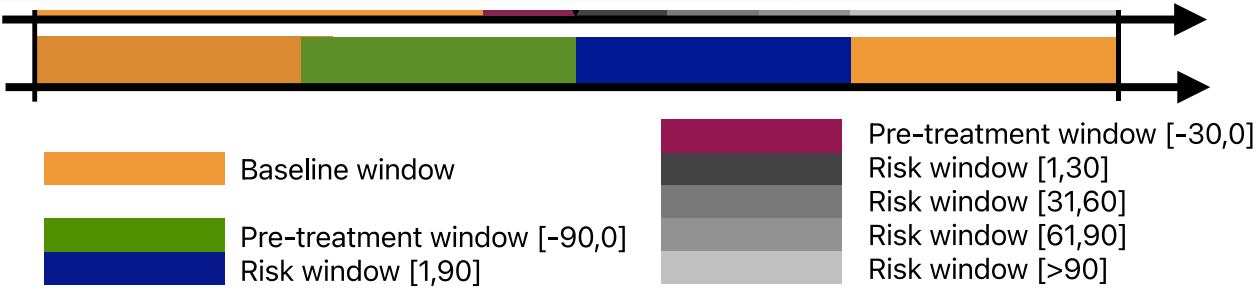
Primary care EHR data sources: IPCI (Netherlands), CPRD GOLD (UK) and SIDIAP (Spain)

Cohort Method and Self Controlled Case Series

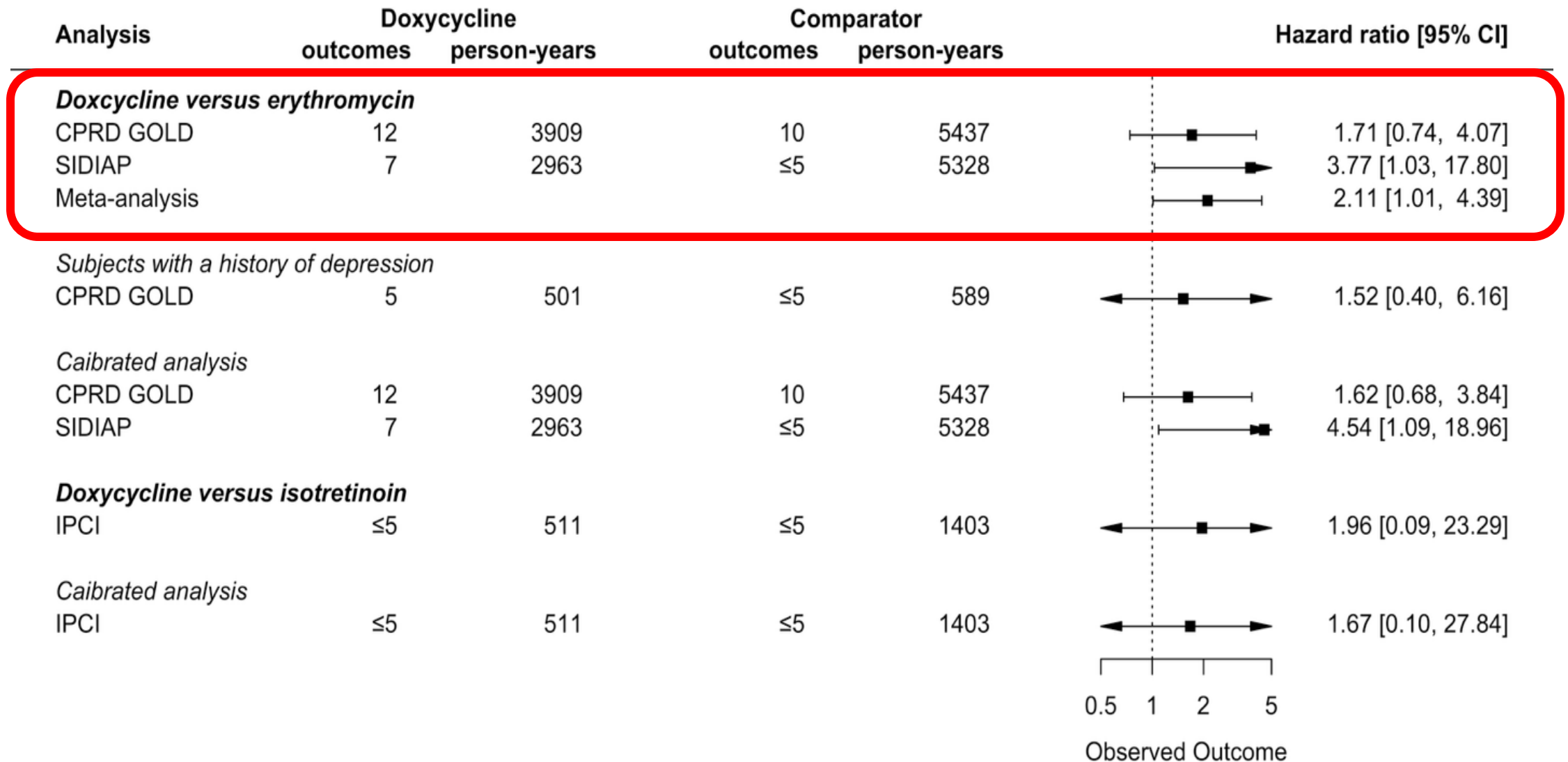
	CPRD GOLD (UK)		IPCI (Netherlands)		SIDIAP (Spain)	
Cohort	Doxycycline	Erythromycin	Doxycycline	Erythromycin	Doxycycline	Erythromycin
Subjects (n)	18,054	30,682	778	793	12,265	16,998
Cohort	Doxycycline	Isotretinoin	Doxycycline	Isotretinoin	Doxycycline	Isotretinoin
Subjects (n)	655	1,064	2,757	3,534	6,090	9,350

1. Doxycycline vs erythromycin
2. Doxycycline vs isotretinoin

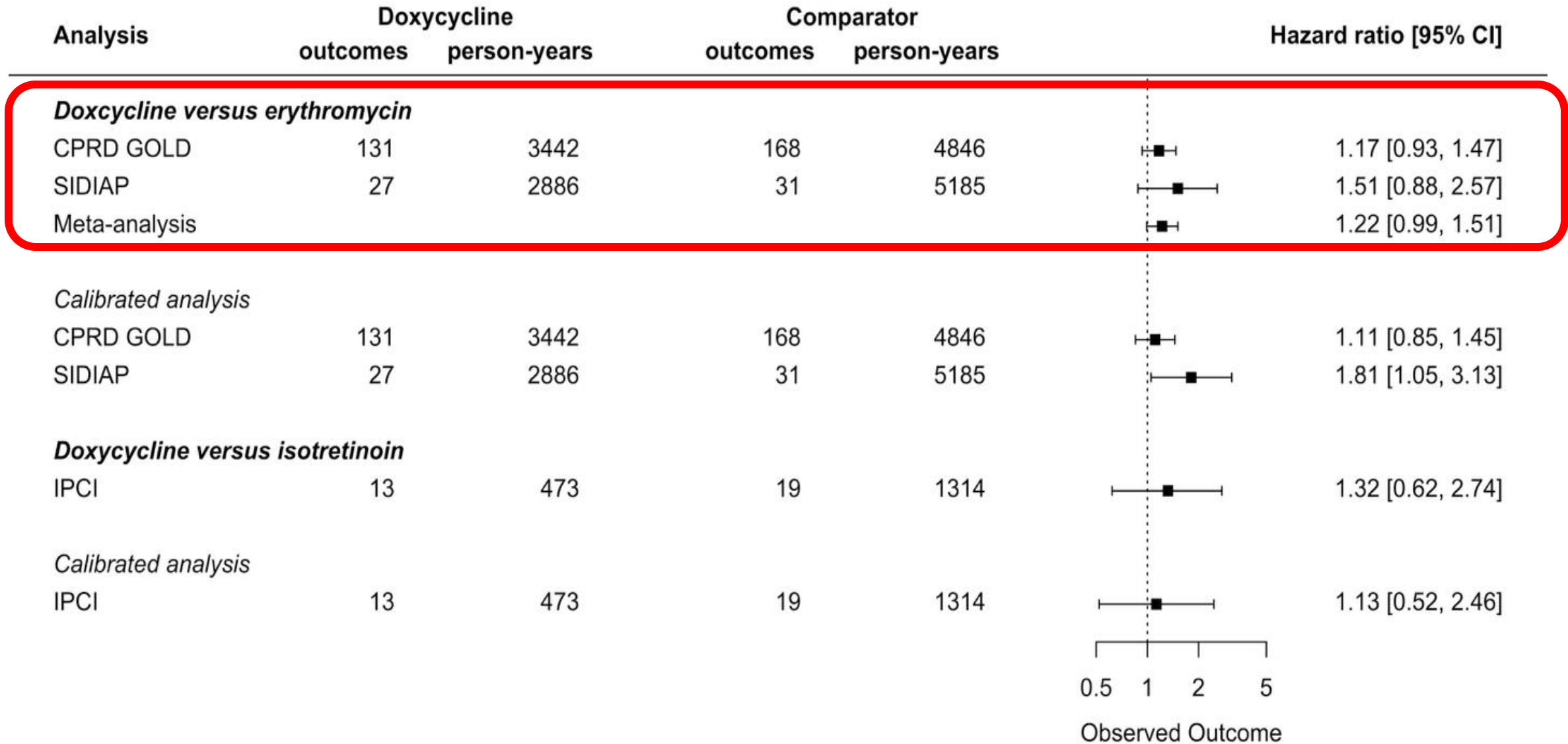
Sub-analyses: individuals with a history of depression and calibration by negative control outcomes



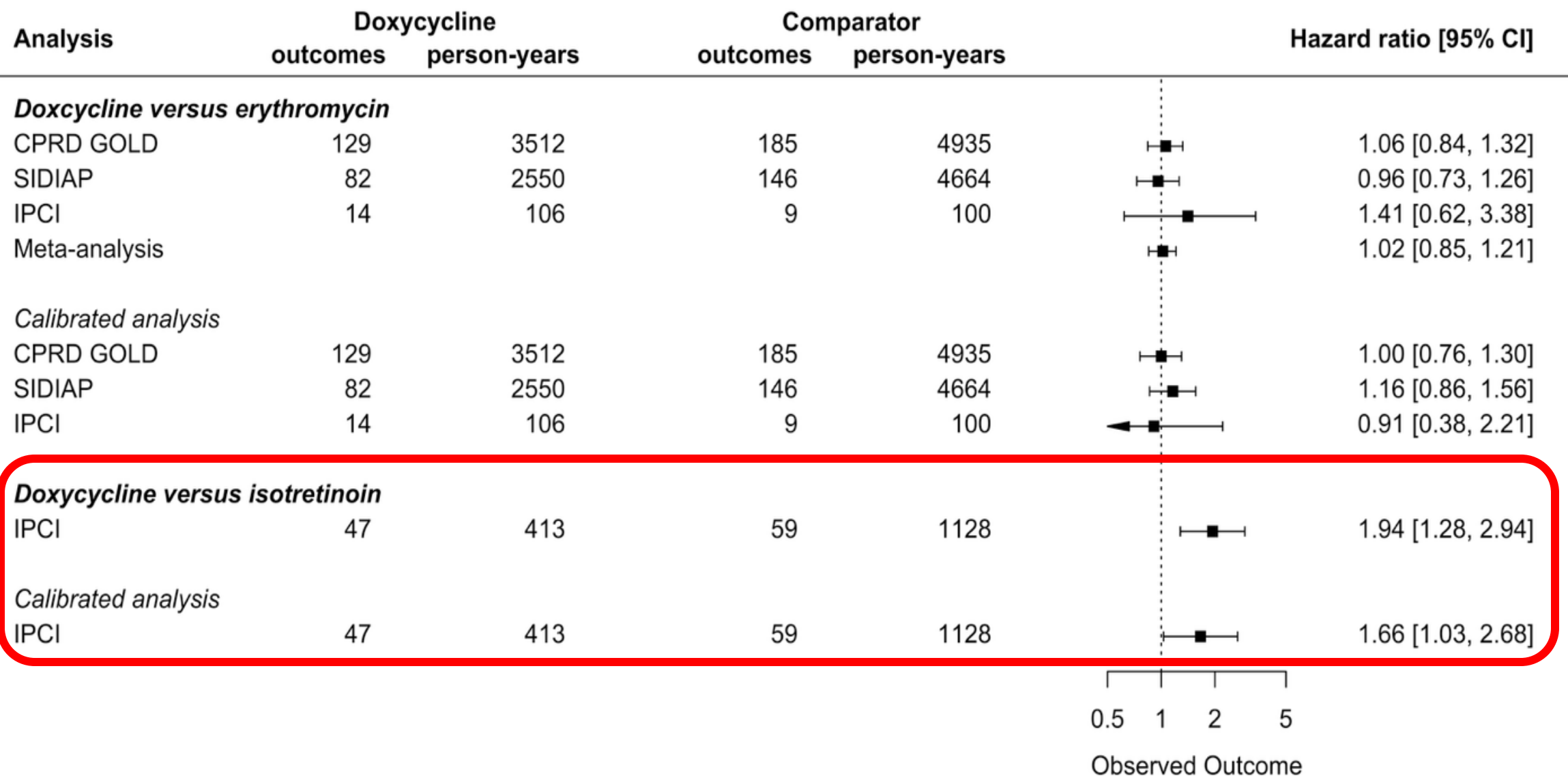
Cohort study results - suicide-related events as outcome



Cohort study results – depression as outcome

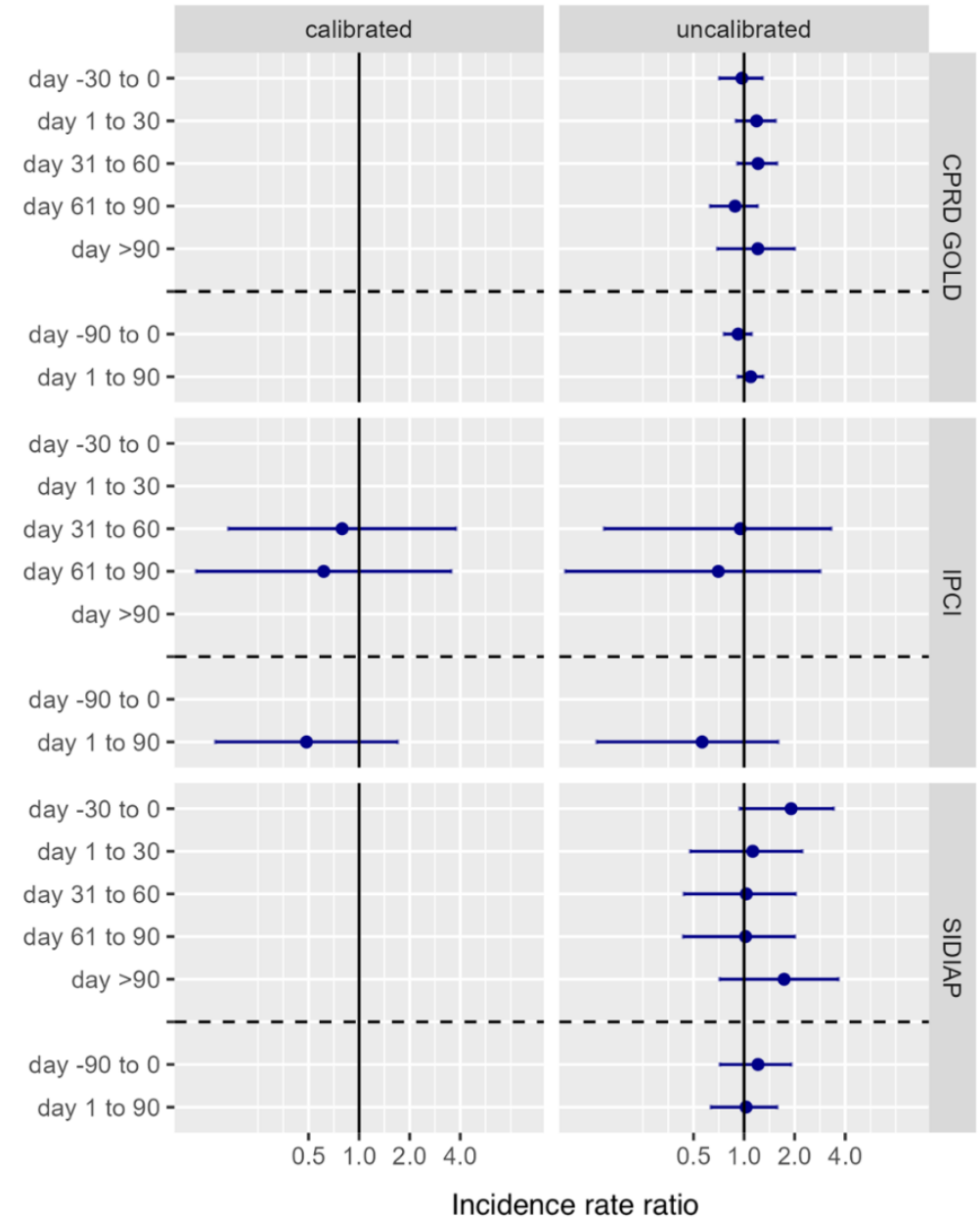


Cohort study results – anxiety as outcome



Self-controlled case series

- Non-fatal suicide-related events: **there were no associations identified**
- Depression [1,90 days] window: CPRD GOLD (**IRR 0.90, 95%CI [0.84-0.97]**)
- Anxiety 1,90 days] window: CPRD GOLD (**IRR 0.94, 95%CI [0.88-1.00]**) and IPCI (**IRR 0.91, 95%CI [0.80-1.02]**)



Cohort study results

- Two-fold increased risk of suicide-related events with doxycycline use compared to erythromycin use across CPRD GOLD and SIDIAP.
- Increased association of depression with doxycycline use compared to erythromycin. (CPRD GOLD and SIDIAP)
- Small but increased association of anxiety with doxycycline use compared to erythromycin or isotretinoin use. (IPCI only)

SCCS results

- No associations identified for suicide-related events.
- (Small) protective effect on anxiety and depression outcomes in some of the time-frames.

Limitations: (1) underreporting of outcome, (2) inconsistent time trends leading to censored analyses, (3) SCCS did not take prescription duration into account, (4) confounding by (acne)-severity



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

 Search

Medicines ▾ Human regulatory ▾ Veterinary regulatory ▾ Committees ▾ News & events ▾ Partners & networks ▾ About us ▾

Home > News > Meeting highlights from the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) 25-28 November 2024



Meeting highlights from the Pharmacovigilance Risk Assessment Committee (PRAC) 25-28 November 2024

Share

29 November 2024

Doxycycline: currently available evidence not supporting link with risk of suicidality

News

Human

Medicines

Pharmacovigilance

Referrals


Doxycycline: currently available evidence not supporting link with risk of suicidality

EMA's safety committee (PRAC) has concluded that the currently available evidence is not sufficient to establish a causal relationship between the use of the antibiotic doxycycline and the risk of suicidality.

Doxycycline is a broad-spectrum antibiotic, widely used to treat a wide range of infections caused by bacteria such as acne, urinary and lower respiratory tract infections, dental infections, and skin infections. It is also used to prevent the development of certain infections, such as malaria.

A safety signal on the risk of suicidality, suicidal thoughts or actions with doxycycline was raised based on cases reported to the Finnish national competent authority, as well as further cases reported to EudraVigilance, the centralised European database of suspected side effects reports, and the medical literature.

The PRAC started its review in November 2023 and requested the marketing authorisation holders for doxycycline to perform a cumulative review of the data from all relevant sources.

The PRAC also requested a study based on real-world evidence, which includes data from electronic health records and disease registries, through [DARWIN EU](#)  to facilitate the assessment of the signal. After reviewing all available evidence from spontaneous reports, the literature, the discussion on possible mechanisms and the study performed via DARWIN EU, the PRAC considered that the evidence is not sufficient to establish a causal relationship and that no update to the product information of doxycycline is warranted.

Suicide-related events in relation to doxycycline will be closely monitored and any new evidence will be discussed in the Periodic Safety Update Reports (PSURs).

DARWIN EU® Coordination Centre



Executive Director
Prof. Peter Rijnbeek



Contractor

Erasmus MC
Universitair Medisch Centrum Rotterdam

Thank you on behalf of the whole Darwin EU®
Coordination Centre

