

OHDSI Europe Community Calls

December 2025

Call details

- Thursday December 11, 2025 at 1PM CET
- 65 online participants
- Watch online recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZNVfMEZsIM>

Key takeaways

- **Drug vocabulary harmonization is emerging as a shared European priority.** Multiple countries are developing mappings, tools, and workflows, and there is strong momentum to coordinate efforts rather than work in parallel.
- **Austria demonstrated a scalable approach** to mapping a national drug vocabulary of ~20,000 concepts into RxNorm/RxNorm Extension, achieving 95% coverage and sharing their tools openly for community reuse.
- **EURIPID offers a valuable structured drug resource** across 31 European countries. Although not public, it can support OMOP conversion and fills critical gaps for countries lacking well-curated drug metadata.
- **Belgium established a coordinated national vocabulary working group** to reduce duplicate mapping efforts across institutions. Their focus on RIZIV/INAMI illustrates the scale and complexity of national vocabularies and the benefits of shared infrastructure.
- **Collaborative platforms and shared workflows are becoming essential.** Belgium's mapping platform and Austria's open toolchain show how distributed teams can contribute to shared outputs efficiently.
- **A strategic question remains unresolved:** Should Europe aim for full branded-drug mappings across countries or prioritize clinical-drug-level mappings to accelerate progress?
- **Vocabulary integration into Athena requires well-prepared upstream mappings.** Anna's overview of the RxNorm Extension process highlighted both the capabilities of the existing pipeline and its dependence on consistent, structured inputs.
- **Better alignment across national initiatives could accelerate multinational studies,** reduce redundant work, and support projects such as DARWIN EU, which depend on consistent drug representations across data partners.
- **The community sees 2026 as a year for more coordinated action**—bringing together national teams, comparing methods, sharing tools, and shaping a clearer European roadmap for vocabulary harmonization.