



# MEDLIOR

HEALTH OUTCOMES RESEARCH

**UNTAPPED: Innovative ways to use big data in healthcare**

Tara Cowling  
October 21, 2019

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CONFIDENTIAL

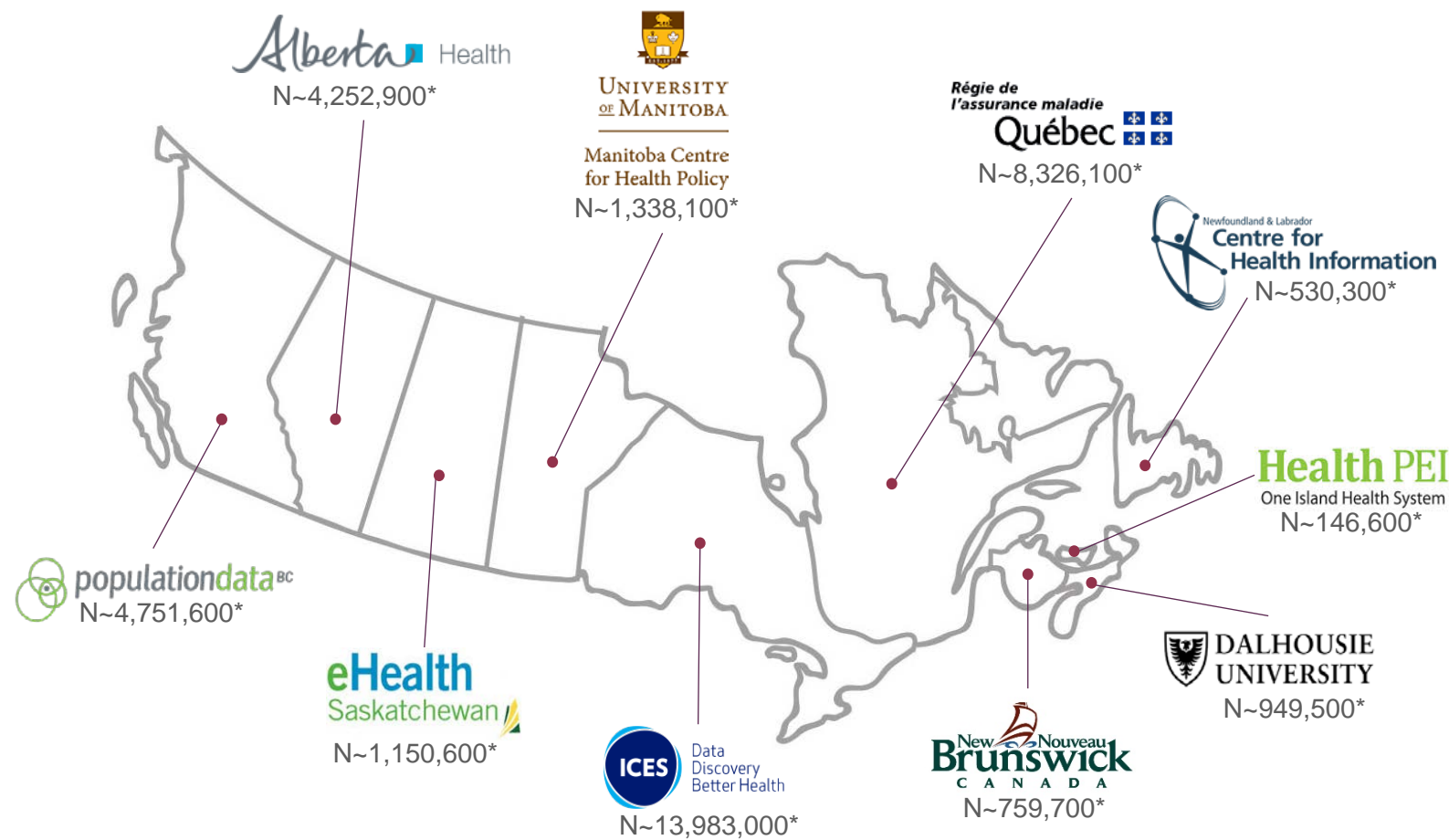
Tara Cowling is the owner of Medlior Health Outcomes Research Ltd.,  
where we engage in industry-funded research projects.

Canadian owned and operated since 2008, Medlior has a strong reputation for providing health economics and outcomes research services in Canada, the US and the UK.



Our multidisciplinary team offers substantial health system, academic, and industry experience which ensures every Medlior project provides meaningful insights.

1. Overview of Canadian RWD
2. Opportunities for prospective data collection in Ophthalmology



Canadian RWE typically includes the following data:

1. Health insurance plan registration
2. Vital statistics
3. Health service records
4. Pharmaceutical claims
5. Laboratory service tests
6. Diagnostic imaging
7. Cancer Registry

\*Number of available admin records based on provincial population estimates (country population of 36,286,400 in 2016)

# Canadian Provincial RWD Overview

Province	Health Services			Pharmaceutical		Public Health Insurance	Vital Statistics	Long-term/ Home Care	Provincial Laboratory Data
	Inpatient Hospitalizations	Ambulatory Care	Physician Claims	Pharmacy-level	Public plan only				
British Columbia	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Alberta	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Saskatchewan	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	-
Manitoba	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ontario	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓ (80%)
Quebec	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-
New Brunswick	✓	-	✓	Unclear	✓	-	✓	Forthcoming	-
Nova Scotia	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓	✓	-	-
Prince Edward Island	✓	✓	✓	✓	-	-	✓	✓	✓
Newfoundland & Labrador	Information not available								

**Note:** Data availability for research may vary across jurisdiction, data holdings and data custodians/owners.

## Health Services Data

- Hospitalizations
- Ambulatory care visits
- Physician claims
- Diagnosis and procedure codes
- Length of stay

## Lab Data

- Test name, date, results
- Abnormal diagnosis
- Reason for test
- IHC/cytopathology

## Drug Data

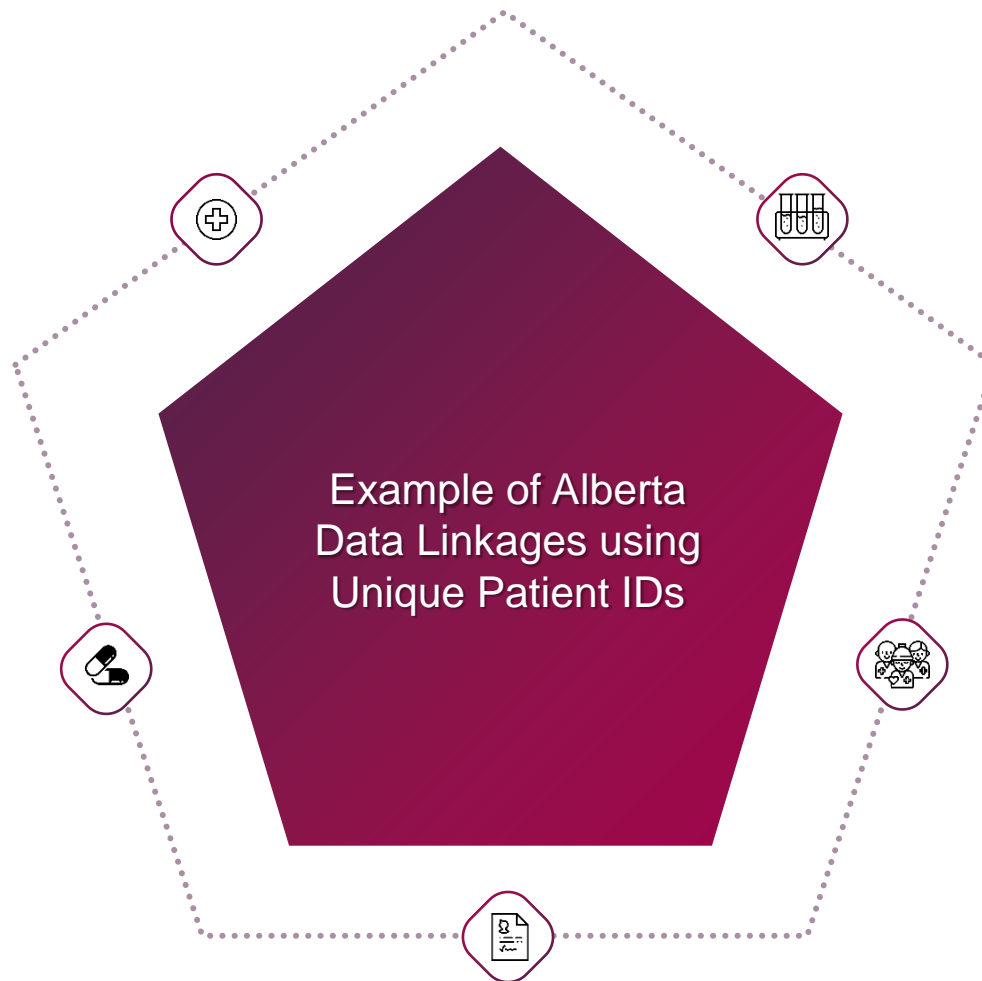
- Private and public plan claims
- Drug names
- Medication Possession Ratio
- Proportion of Days Covered
- Gaps in treatment
- Treatment switching
- Concomitant medication use

## Alberta Cancer Registry

- Patient demographics
- Tumour information
  - Site and stage at diagnosis
  - Topography and morphology
- Initial cancer treatment

## Vital Statistics

- Births/Deaths
- Marriage
- Gender and geographic Information





## Overview

- The economic burden of vision loss in Canada is estimated at **\$15.8 billion CAD** (2007), with the highest direct healthcare cost (\$8.6 billion) for any disease category in Canada.
- Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is the leading cause of vision loss in those  $\geq 50$  years
- By 2032 nearly 1 in 4 Canadians will be  $\geq 65$  years



## Rationale

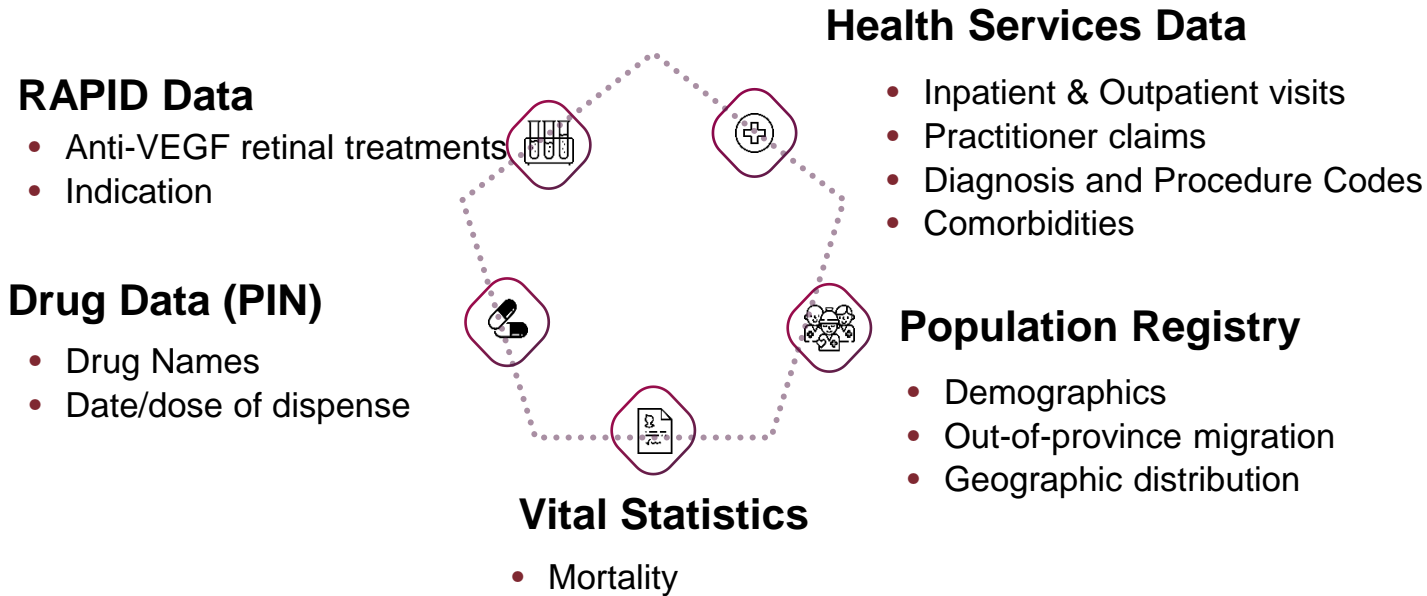
- The surveillance of chronic ophthalmological diseases, like AMD, has remained a persistent gap in public health knowledge, hindering policy development and intervention.
- Real-world evidence in ophthalmology in Canada is lacking

## Purpose

- Request for funding from the Public Health Agency of Canada **Enhanced Surveillance for Chronic Disease Program**
- Objective to establish the foundation for a **longitudinal, province-wide database** and perform a burden of disease study
- Medlior will **collaborate** with the Southern Alberta Primary Care Research Network (SAPRCReN) and the University of Calgary, Centre for Health Informatics

# Ophthalmology Disease Surveillance and Burden of Illness in Alberta

## Data Available in Alberta



- ICD-10 CA codes do not differentiate causes of macular degeneration (age-related/senile cannot be distinguished from other types)
- ✓ In Alberta, anti-VEGF treatments are covered through the Retina Anti-Vascular Endothelial Growth Factor Program for Intraocular Disease (RAPID) Program (2015-present)
- No clinical ophthalmology outcomes are captured in administrative data

## Objective 1: Case Definition and Validation

- A novel case definition/data algorithm will be developed and validated to identify patients with AMD in Canada using CPCSSN
- Data will be linked to administrative health data (including the RAPID) program.

## Objective 2: Analysis and Prospective Data Collection

- Data will be analyzed to establish the burden of AMD and current management in Alberta (incidence, prevalence, healthcare utilization)
- A patient survey will be administered via Alberta Health Services to collect PROs prospectively

## Objective 3: Simulation Model Development

- Using the data generated in Objectives 1 and 2, patient-level simulation model will be developed to project the health and economic impact of AMD in Canada over the next 30 years

# From Real-World Data to Real-World Patients: The O2 Program

Winson Y. Cheung, MD, MPH, FRCPC  
Professor of Medicine, University of Calgary  
Director, Real-World Evidence, Cancer Control Alberta  
Lead, Oncology Outcomes (O2) Program



@WinsonCheung  
@OncOutcomes

# Objectives

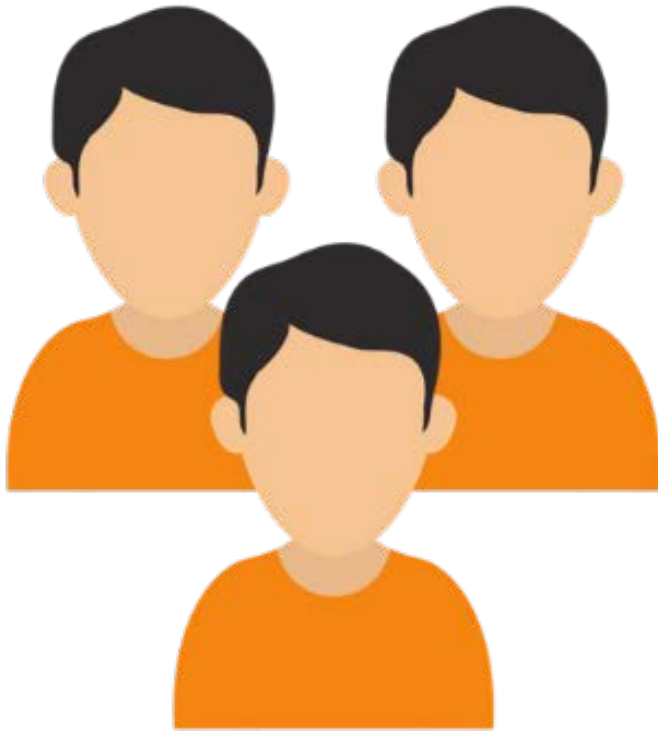
- Introduce the Oncology Outcomes (O2) Program
- Describe real-world evidence (RWE) generation along the oncology product lifecycle: HTA, PHC
- Highlight examples of innovative data technologies and precision/predictive analytics for oncology: AI, ML, and NLP

# Why RWE and why now?

Controlled Setting

≠

Real World








# RCTs $\neq$ Real World

Clinical Trials	Real World Evidence
<b>Internal</b> validity	<b>External</b> validity
<b>Young</b> and <b>fitter</b> patients	<b>Older</b> and <b>frailer</b> patients
<b>Finite</b> follow-up	<b>Longitudinal</b> follow-up
Tumor- <b>specific</b>	Tumor- <b>agnostic</b>
<b>Singular</b> primary endpoints	<b>Multiple</b> potential endpoints
<b>Limited</b> cost and healthcare use information	<b>Comprehensive</b> cost and healthcare use information
<b>Granular</b> data on <b>selected</b> patients	<b>General</b> data on <b>unselected</b> patients
Resource <b>intensive</b>	Relatively <b>inexpensive</b>



# ONCOLOGY OUTCOMES

Breadth of Data | Real-World Inspiration



“To lead in **precision** oncology  
through a **forward-thinking**  
**real-world evidence**  
approach that incorporates  
**enriched data sources** and  
**advanced analytics**”



# ONCOLOGY OUTCOMES

Breadth of Data | Real-World Inspiration



## Breadth of Data

### Registry

- Patient Identifier
- Age
- Sex
- Date of Dx
- Date of F/U
- Date of Death

### EMR

- Date of Referral
- Date of Consult
- Date of Visits
- Chemotherapy
- Radiation
- Oncology Facility
- Oncology Provider

### Claims

- Physician Identifier
- Procedure Codes
- Diagnosis Codes
- Date/Site of Admission/Discharge
- Cost
- Non-Cancer Drugs

### Other

- Lab Results
- DI Results
- Stage\*
- Pathology\*



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### Population-based data

- 2 tertiary centres
- 4 regional centres
- 11 community centres

## Ongoing Enhancements

Patient  
Reported  
Outcomes

Biomarkers  
(POET/ATP)

Physician  
Data  
(CPSA)

Non-Cancer  
Center Data  
(New EMR)

Advanced  
Analytics  
(AI / NLP)\*



# Innovation in Analytics

## Standard

- Univariable
- Multivariable
- Matched

## AI/ML

- Enriching data sources
- Refining outcome measures

## NLP

- Interpreting unstructured data

## Advanced

- Predictive and prognostic tools
- Online / app interfaces





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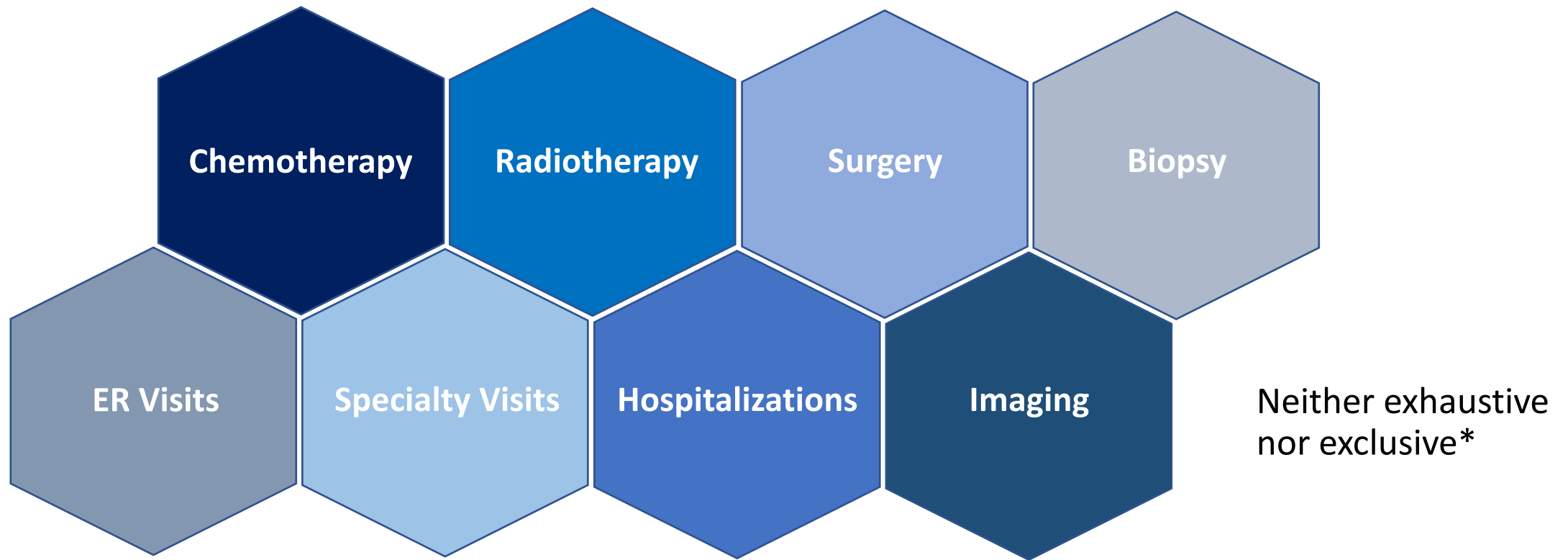
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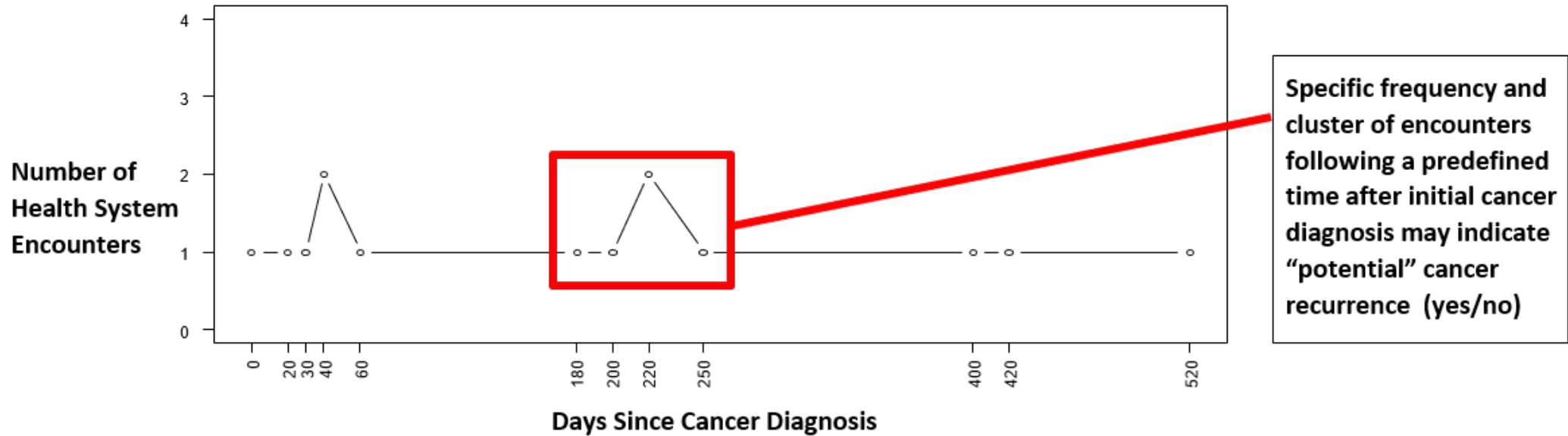


**Important events such  
as cancer recurrence  
and/or progression are  
not routinely captured  
by real-world data  
sources**

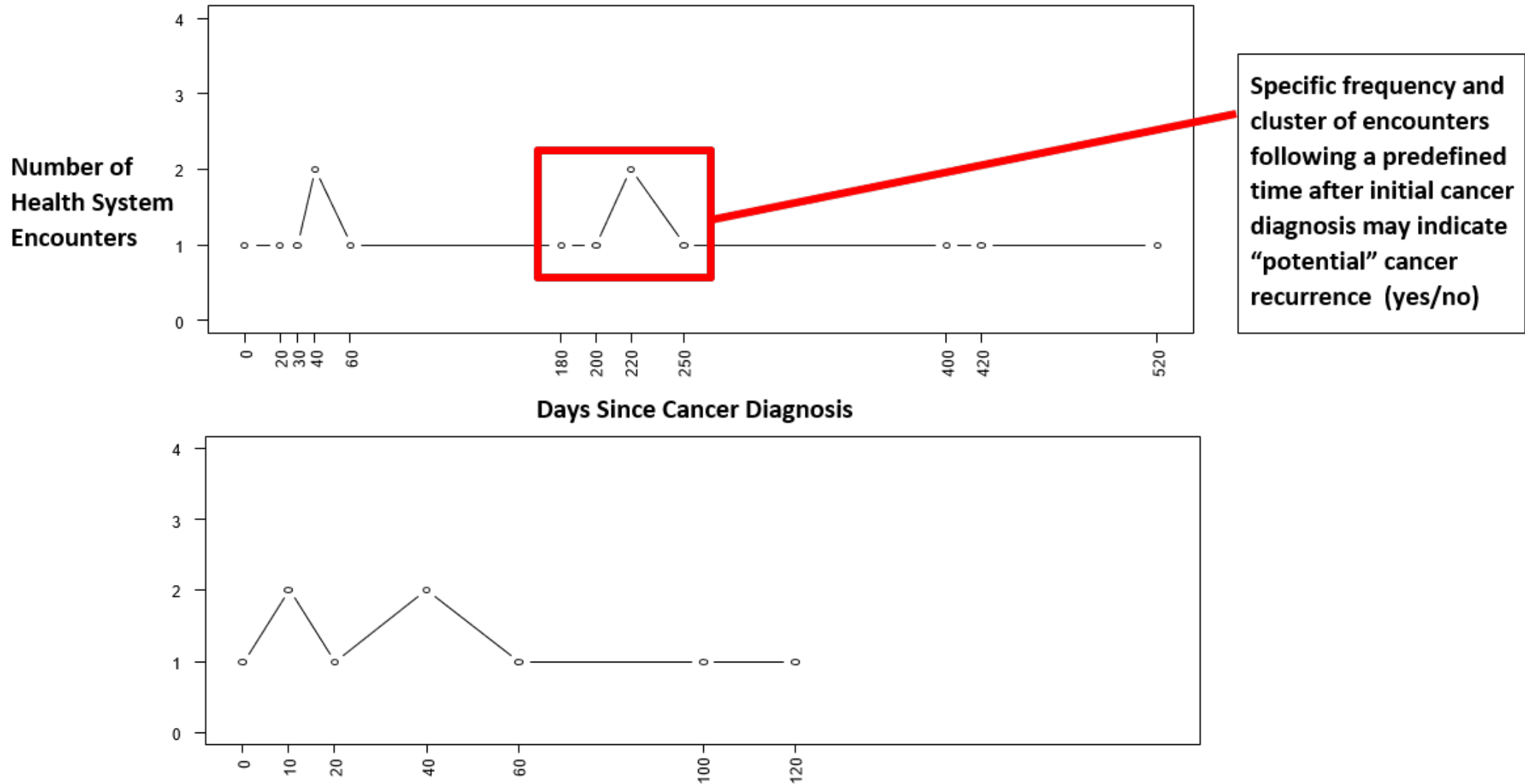
# Cancer Recurrence Algorithms



# Cancer Recurrence Algorithms



# Cancer Recurrence Algorithms



# Development and validation of case-finding algorithms for recurrence of breast cancer using routinely collected administrative data



94% sensitivity  
92% PPV

Yuan Xu<sup>1,2,3\*</sup>, Shiyong Kong<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Winson Y. Cheung<sup>2,3</sup>, Antoine Bouchard-Fortier<sup>1,2,3</sup>, Joseph C. Dort<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, Hude Quan<sup>2</sup>, Elizabeth M. Buie<sup>1</sup>, Geoff McKinnon<sup>1</sup> and May Lynn Quan<sup>1,2,3</sup>

## Abstract

**Background:** Recurrence is not explicitly documented in cancer registry data that are widely used for research. Patterns of events after initial treatment such as oncology visits, re-operation, and receipt of subsequent chemotherapy or radiation may indicate recurrence. This study aimed to develop and validate algorithms for identifying breast cancer recurrence using routinely collected administrative data.

**Methods:** The study cohort included all young ( $\leq 40$  years) breast cancer patients (2007–2010), and all patients receiving neoadjuvant chemotherapy (2012–2014) in Alberta, Canada. Health events (including mastectomy, chemotherapy, radiation, biopsy and specialist visits) were obtained from provincial administrative data. The algorithms were developed using classification and regression tree (CART) models and validated against primary chart review.

**Results:** Among 598 patients, 121 (20.2%) had recurrence after a median follow-up of 4 years. The high sensitivity algorithm achieved 94.2% (95% CI: 90.1–98.4%) sensitivity, 93.7% (91.5–95.9%) specificity, 79.2% (72.5–85.8%) positive predictive value (PPV), and 98.5% (97.3–99.6%) negative predictive value (NPV). The high PPV algorithm had 75.2% (67.5–82.9%) sensitivity, 98.3% (97.2–99.5%) specificity, 91.9% (86.6–97.3%) PPV and 94% (91.9–96.1%) NPV. Combining high PPV and high sensitivity algorithms with additional (7.5%) chart review to resolve discordant cases resulted in 94.2% (90.1–98.4%) sensitivity, 98.3% (97.2–99.5%) specificity, 93.4% (89.1–97.8%) PPV, and 98.5% (97.4–99.6%) NPV.

- **Provincial RWE in pancreatic cancer**
  - What proportion of advanced pancreatic cancer patients are referred to an oncologist?
  - What proportion of referred patients are given systemic therapy?
  - What are the timeliness of:
    - Referral to consultation?
    - Consultation to treatment?



- **Provincial RWE in pancreatic cancer**
  - What proportion of advanced pancreatic cancer patients are referred to an oncologist? **56/100**
  - What proportion of referred patients are given systemic therapy? **31/56**
  - What are the timeliness of:
    - Referral to consultation? **22/56 wait >2 weeks**
    - Consultation to treatment? **25/31 wait <2 weeks**

# Pancreatic Cancer Patient Flow Chart



## URGENT symptoms suggesting **Pancreatic Cancer**

- New diagnosis of diabetes with normal BMI and no family risk factors
- Painless jaundice
- Abdominal pain
- Pale, oily and floating stool

## OTHER symptoms possibly associated with **Pancreatic Cancer**

- Continued back pain
- Itchy skin
- Weight loss
- Nausea and vomiting
- Dark urine
- DVT's
- New diagnosis of depression (along with some urgent symptoms)
- Fatigue

## Imaging and Lab Work



### Ultrasound

(if Ultrasound is negative, please still refer for urgent CT as Ultrasound doesn't always detect masses in pancreas)



### CT Scan

Chest, abdomen and pelvis for Pancreatic Cancer  
Fax: 1 855-776-3818

1. Mass in pancreas  
2. Suspicious lesions in liver or lung



**Most Likely Metastatic**

#### GASTROENTEROLOGY GROUP

EUS and Biopsy to confirm Diagnosis

1. Isolated mass found in pancreas  
2. NO Suspicious lesions in lungs or liver



**Most Likely Local Disease**

#### PANCREATIC CANCER SURGEONS

(also referred to as Hepatobiliary Surgeons)

No mass found in pancreas



**Needs Further Investigation**

#### GASTROENTEROLOGY GROUP

Further investigation to rule out suspected Pancreatic Cancer

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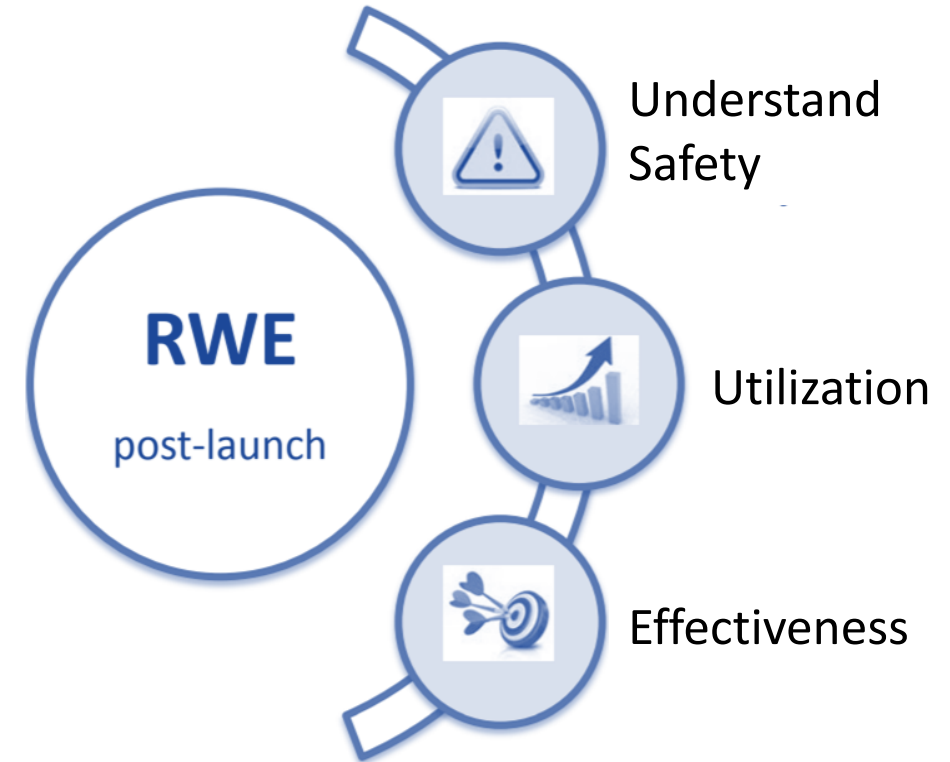
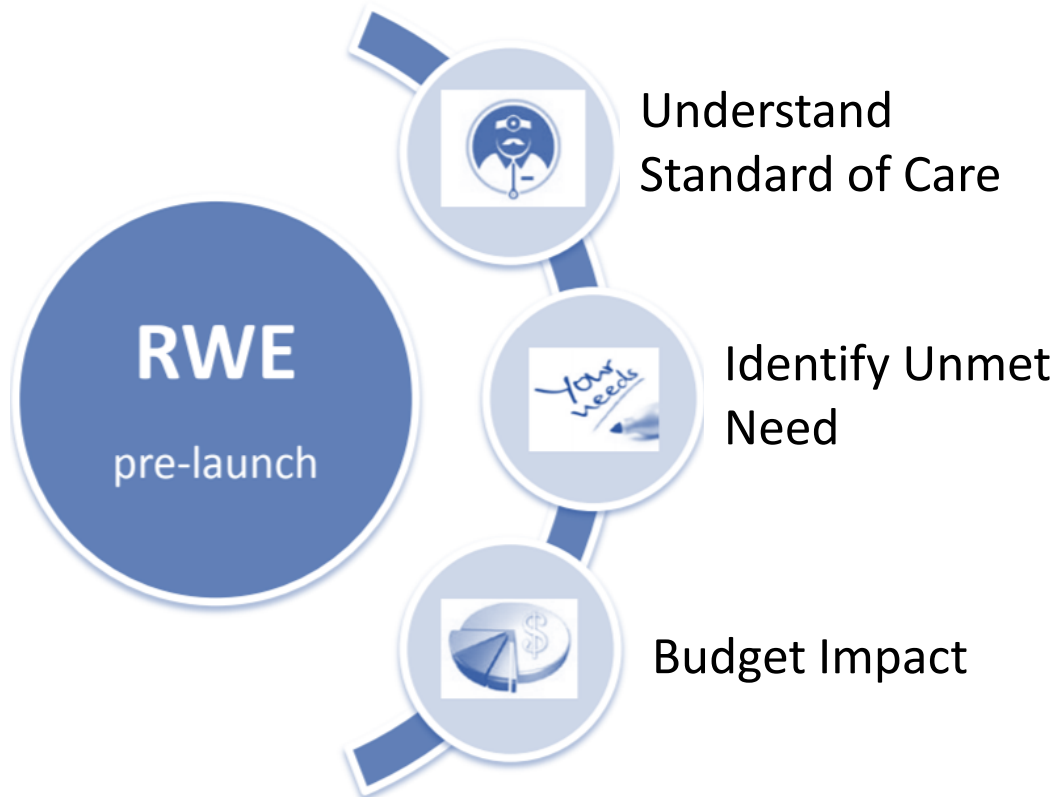
**Referral: 56% → 65%**

**Treatment: 55% → 67%**

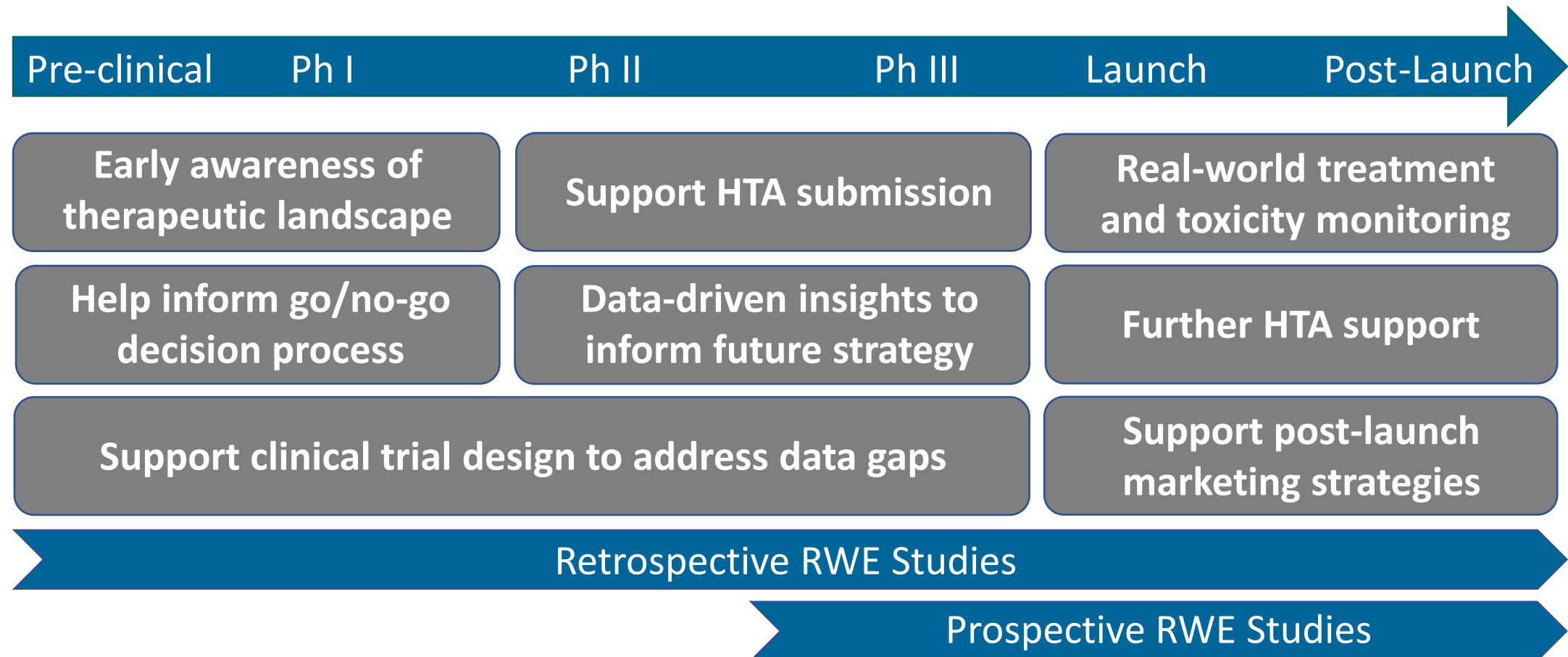
**Timeliness: 39% → 21%**

- **Role of RWE in HTA bodies**
  - Routinely collected data or RWE within health systems are increasingly being viewed as a means to increase payers' and HTA bodies' certainty about the true performance of the drugs or interventions that are funded
  - CADTH/pCODR (oncology)
    - RWE incorporated into 42% of HTA submissions
    - Increasing RWE integration over time

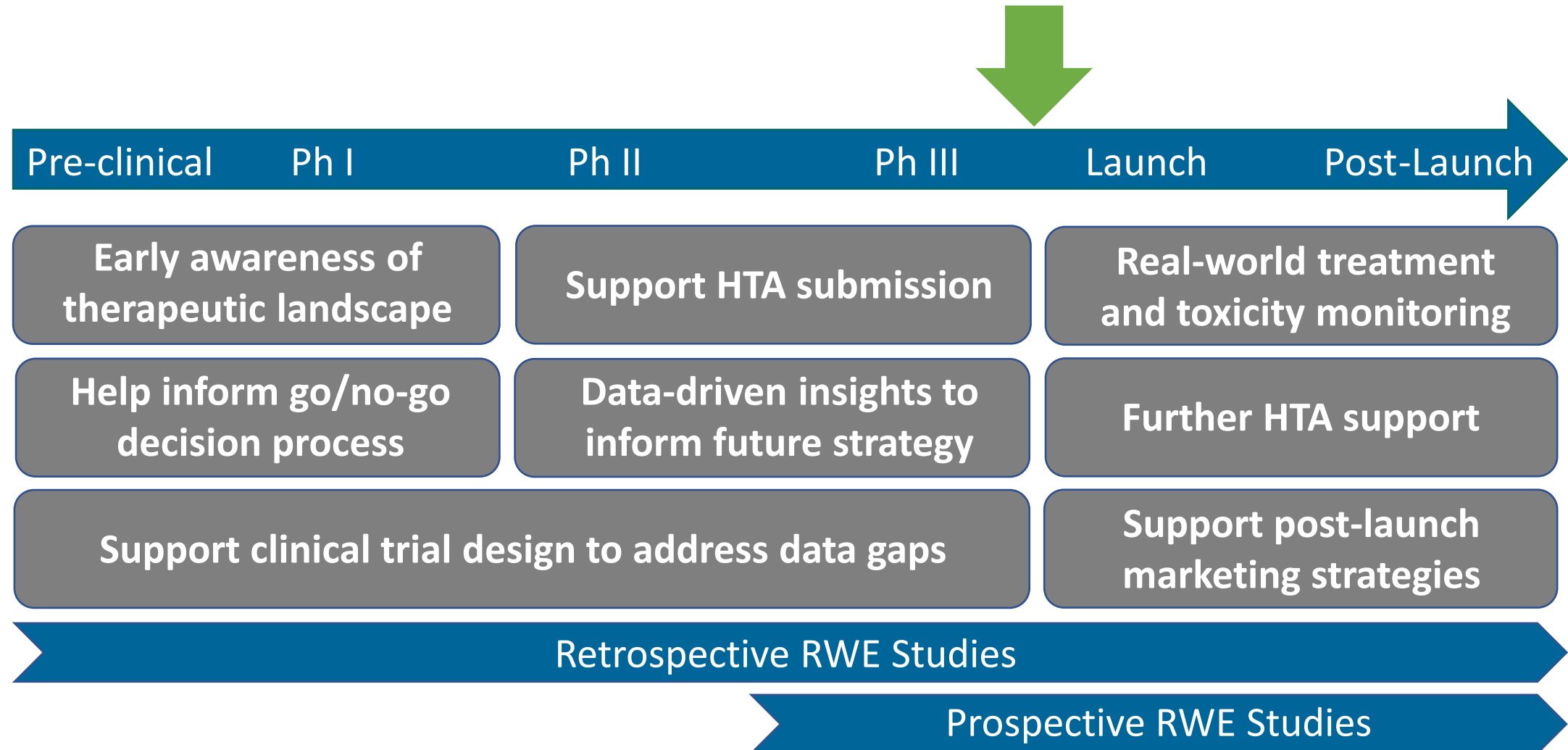
# Health Technology Assessments



# RWE Across Product Lifecycle

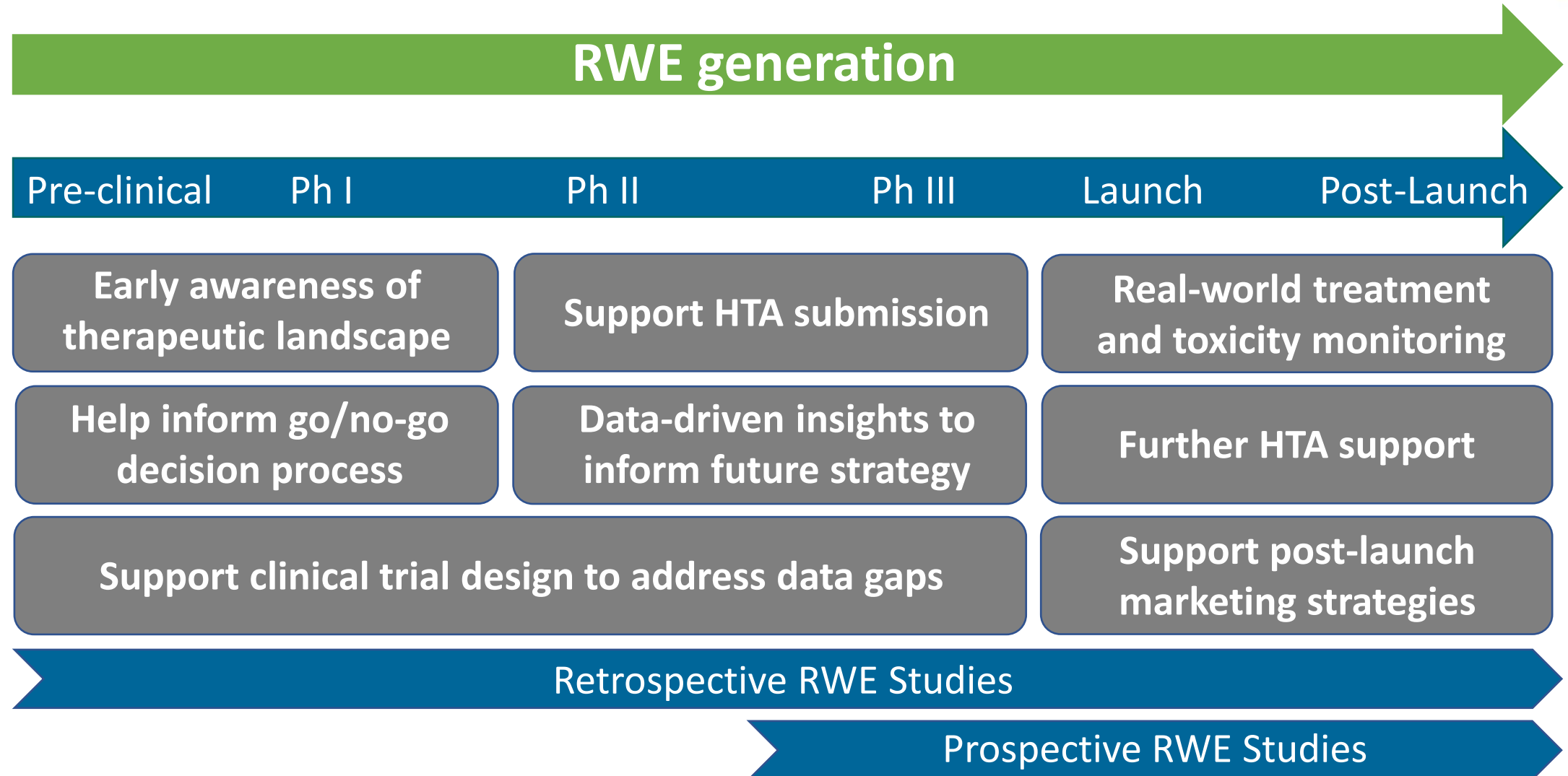


# RWE Across Product Lifecycle





# RWE Across Product Lifecycle




- **Barriers**

- Different interpretation and implementation of data privacy legislation
  - Agreements/contracts
- Challenges associated with data harmonization
  - DD/MM/YY vs. MMM/DD/YYYY
- Authorship governance
- New EMR systems

# RWE Beyond Borders





“To lead in **precision** oncology  
through a **forward-thinking**  
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@WinsonCheung  
@OncOutcomes

ONCOLOGY  
**OUTCOMES**  
Breadth of Data | Real-World Inspiration



**PENTAVERE**







← Back to Patients list

## Preventative Care Dashboard

📅 Daily Weekly Monthly



Rebecca Rowe

🏠 3rd F, Room 7, Bed 4

67  
Years old

Female  
Gender

176 cm  
Height

63.4 kg  
Weight

### Allergies

Nuts

Penicilin

### Conditions

Glaucoma

Add

Edit ✎

Heart Rate

84 bpm



165  
Average

188  
Highest

83  
Lowest

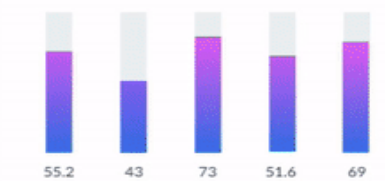
Blood Pressure

130/80 mmHG



### Blood Levels

Vitamine HDL LDL Sodium Glucose



Temperature

36.8 °C

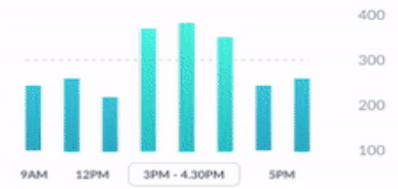


Oxygen Level

93%



### Recent Activity



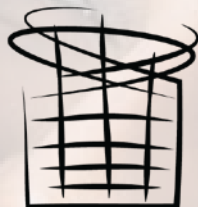
### Body Activity

ACTIVITY DETECTED

We have detected an abnormal activity and sent a notification to the doctor.



MacBook



# PENTAVERE

In Healthcare, Good Data Saves  
Lives

Regional Dictation PAGE 2/25 Fax Server

Patient  
Unit:  
HON:  
DOB:  
Gender:  
Patient Phone:

## Consultation Report

Acct #:	Location:	Admit:
Type:	Room:	Visit:
Service:		Discharge:

Current Report by:

The patient was seen at the request of of the Emergency department on December 28, 2012. Patient presented to the Emergency department complaining of hallucination and low mood.

PATIENT IDENTIFICATION: is -year-old male living alone, supported by ODSP.

HISTORY: Patient has a background history of polysubstance abuse and has presented to the Emergency department a few times in the past few months with similar presentation. It was only a few weeks ago with similar presentation he was under the influence of illicit drugs and threatening to kill himself, complaining of suicidal thoughts. During this presentation too, the patient mentioned he was having suicidal thoughts, was feeling depressed and, when asked about illicit drugs, he said he had not used them in a week, that drugs actually help him to get high and be happy. He is feeling depressed now because he has not used drugs but, according to urine drug screen, his urine was positive for Oxycodone, amphetamine and methamphetamine. When asked about this, he still insisted he has not used all this medication or these illicit drugs in a week. He described poor sleep, poor appetite, low energy. He also complained of chronic pain from knee and shoulder surgery.

CURRENT MEDICATION(S): Olanzapine 5 mg h.s.

PAST MEDICATION(S): Ritalin.

Patient said he complies with his Olanzapine.

ALLERGIES: Nil of note.

ETHANOL AND DRUG HISTORY: The patient denied this but his urine was positive for amphetamine, methamphetamine and Oxycodone.

PERSONAL HISTORY: The patient has some half siblings but does not have any full brothers or sisters. Parents separated. He has no relationship with his father.

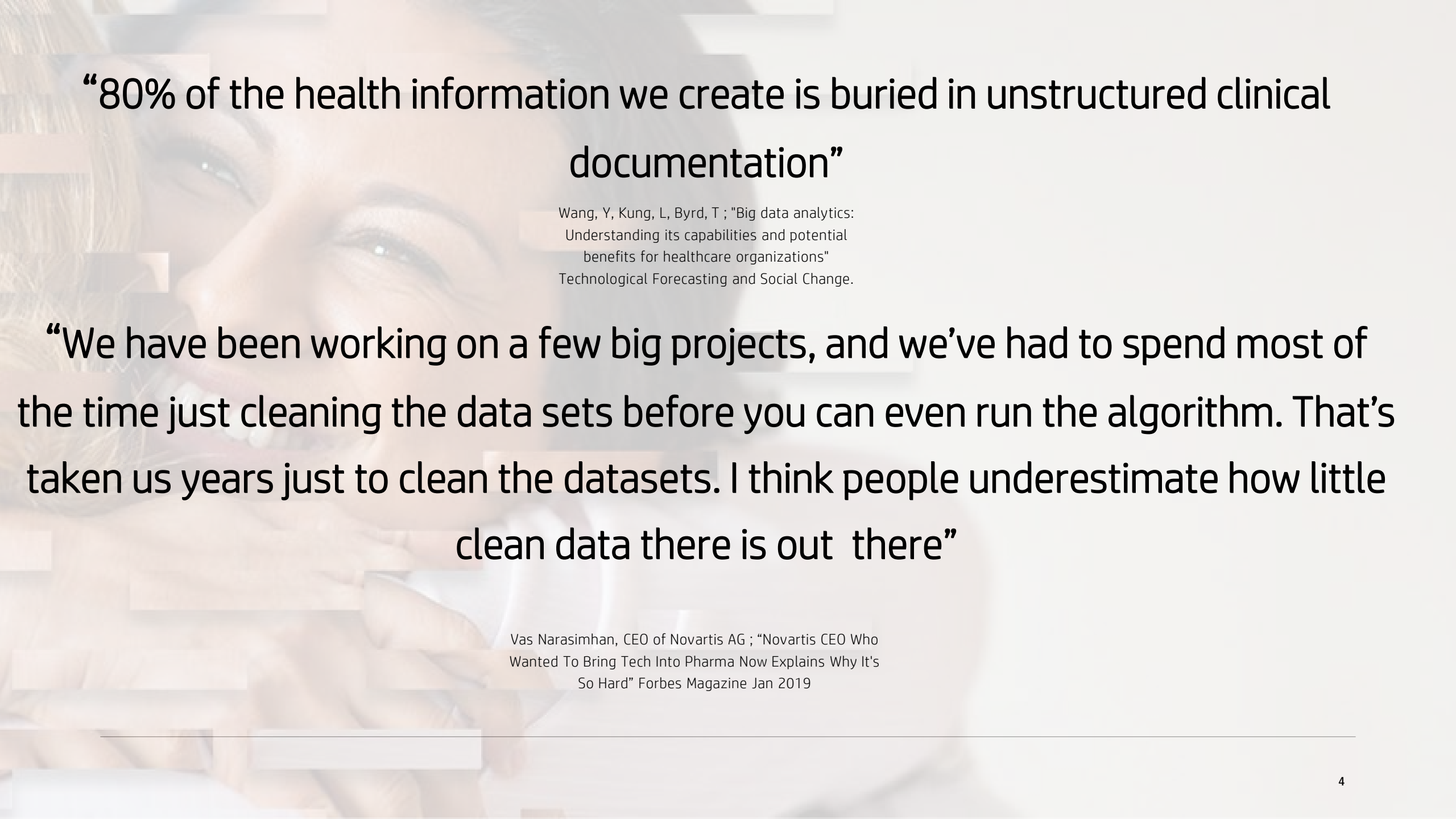
FAMILY HISTORY: Patient's grandmother with mental health problem but does not know the details. Patient is currently unemployed and supported by ODSP.

MENTAL STATUS EXAMINATION: Reveals a young man dressed in hospital gown. Rapport was poor. Patient was threatening suicide. He said that he feels that if he is not going to get any help, he might as well go home. There was poor insight into his drug use. He believes that drugs are the best thing that happens to him. He said, when he is using his drugs, he is fine and he is only having depressive symptoms and suicidal symptoms when he does not use drugs, and he denied using drugs in the past one week. Patient was uncooperative and turned his back to the writer during the interview. At one point he

Copy for Packer, Consultation Report Page 1 of 2

MENTAL STATUS EXAMINATION: Reveals a young man dressed in hospital gown. Rapport was poor. Patient was threatening suicide. [patient] said that [patient] feels that if [patient] is not going to get any help, [patient] might as well go home. There was poor insight into drug use. He believes that drugs are the best thing that happens to said, when is using drugs, he is fine and is only having depressive symptoms and suicidal symptoms when does not use drugs, and denied using drugs in the past one week. Patient was uncooperative and turned back to the writer during the interview. At one-point he said he wanted to leave the hospital so can harm himself, so patient was admitted to EAU unit for observation and patient was given regular Olanzapine p.r.n. to control agitation. The next morning, the patient was noticed to be sweaty, pulse was markedly elevated, so ECG was ordered which was normal, so patient was given some p.r.n. medication, more Diazepam to help with some of withdrawal symptoms.

MacBook

A woman with blonde hair is smiling and looking at a laptop screen. The image is slightly blurred and serves as a background for the text.

“80% of the health information we create is buried in unstructured clinical documentation”

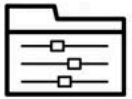
Wang, Y, Kung, L, Byrd, T ; "Big data analytics: Understanding its capabilities and potential benefits for healthcare organizations" Technological Forecasting and Social Change.

“We have been working on a few big projects, and we’ve had to spend most of the time just cleaning the data sets before you can even run the algorithm. That’s taken us years just to clean the datasets. I think people underestimate how little clean data there is out there”

Vas Narasimhan, CEO of Novartis AG ; “Novartis CEO Who Wanted To Bring Tech Into Pharma Now Explains Why It's So Hard” Forbes Magazine Jan 2019



### MANUAL CHART REVIEW



TIME PER  
RECORD

Number of Variables  
+ Complexity of  
Variables

X



NUMBER OF  
PATIENTS

X



HOURLY RATE

=



COST

Cost/  
Investment

# of Patients +  
clinical variables

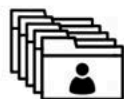
Update  
Data

## DARWEN™ TECHNOLOGY



ONE-TIME COST TO  
TUNE ALGORITHMS  
& BUILD MODELS

+



LICENSE TO PROCESS  
RECORDS ONGOING  
No limit on # of patients

=



COST

Cost/  
Investment

One time setup/tuning  
by variable

# of Patients +  
clinical variables

# The State of Play of Health Data in Canada

SILOD

DIFFERENT FORMATS & STANDARDS

DIFFERENT RULES & REGULATIONS



# Canadian Personalized Health Innovation Network

○ The Canadian Personalized Healthcare Innovation Network (CPHIN) endeavours to address these challenges by **transforming the healthcare system through data**. This transformation will ensure **access to personalized healthcare and precision medicine** for patients from coast to coast to coast. It's about using and leveraging big data in health to **make a positive difference in the lives of patients**.

○ CPHIN **convenes stakeholders and orchestrates initiatives that generate evidence** to accelerate system transformation for personalized healthcare. Through these programs, we will demonstrate **the value of data integration, harmonization, portability, and accessibility** with a focus on real world data for use by clinics, researchers, and innovators.

○ The benefits will be **nationwide**: CPHIN will analyze data housed at institutions across Canada and make the insights available across Canada. **Transparency will lead to equitability in knowledge, insight, access, and most importantly, benefits for patients**.

***CPHIN is a pan-Canadian non-profit backed by a unique group of public and private sector partners:***



**CPHIN**

Canadian Personalized Healthcare  
Innovation Network

# CPHIN Lung Kick Start Program

## *Goal of the Lung Kick Start Program*

To determine, through real-world data, the sequencing of testing and treatment that produces the best health outcomes for specific lung cancer patients.

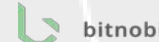


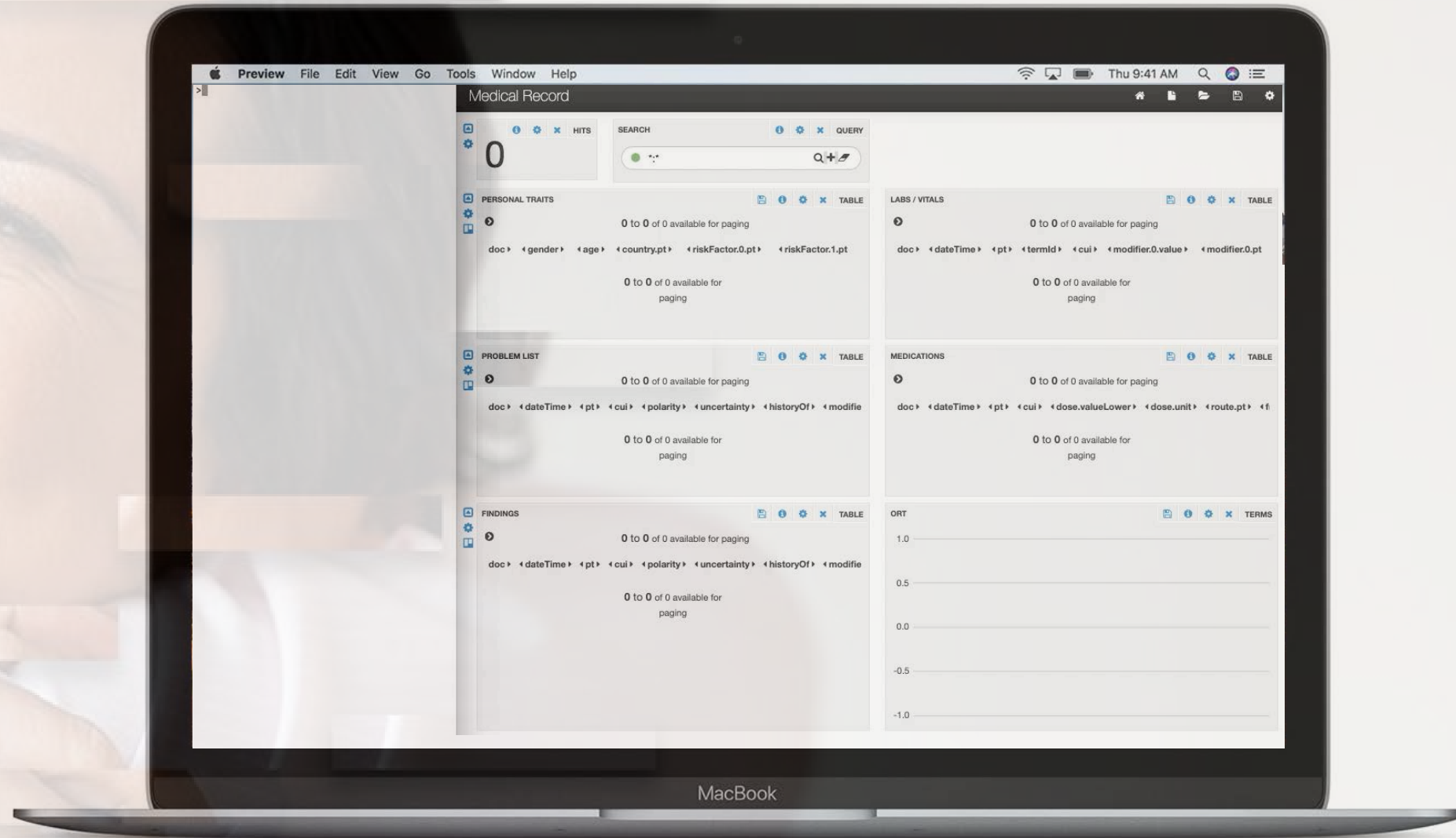
CPHIN will use data analyzed from TBCC as a “small data” dataset and compare to larger, “big data”.

CPHIN will compare TBCC data to all of Alberta’s lung cancer data to see how insights change when comparing institution data with provincial data, and to determine intra-provincial variations in care.

Finally, CPHIN will analyze data aggregated from Alberta plus other provinces. This will allow CPHIN to see how insights change when comparing provincial data to multi-provincial data and to determine if variations are securing better outcomes for patients.

## **Partners**









A close-up photograph of a woman with dark hair smiling warmly while hugging a young child with blonde hair from behind. The woman's face is in profile, showing her teeth in a joyful expression. The child's head is resting against her chest. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. The text "THANK YOU" is centered over the image in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

**THANK YOU**