



# MEDLIOR

HEALTH OUTCOMES RESEARCH

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

Tara Cowling  
October 21, 2019

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CONFIDENTIAL

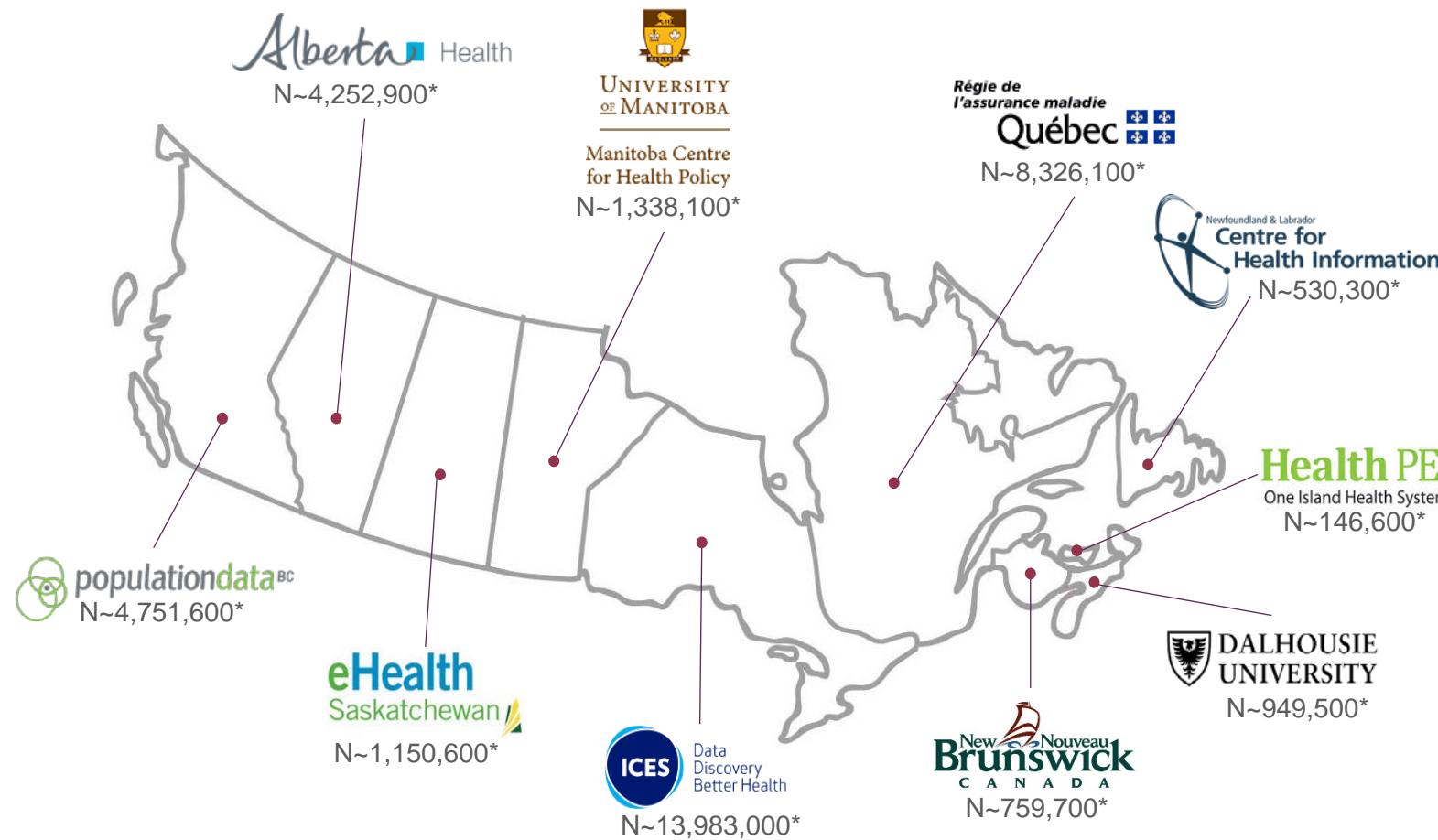
Tara Cowling is the owner of Medlior Health Outcomes Research Ltd.,  
where we engage in industry-funded research projects.

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

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

## Drug Data

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

Example of Alberta  
Data Linkages using  
Unique Patient IDs

## Lab Data

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

## 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

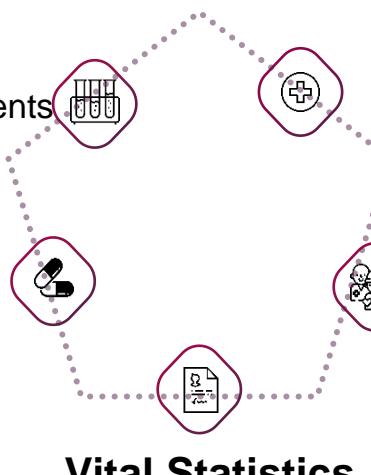
## Data Available in Alberta

### RAPID Data

- Anti-VEGF retinal treatments
- Indication

### Drug Data (PIN)

- Drug Names
- Date/dose of dispense



### Health Services Data

- Inpatient & Outpatient visits
- Practitioner claims
- Diagnosis and Procedure Codes
- Comorbidities

### Population Registry

- Demographics
- Out-of-province migration
- Geographic distribution

### Vital Statistics

- Mortality

- 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

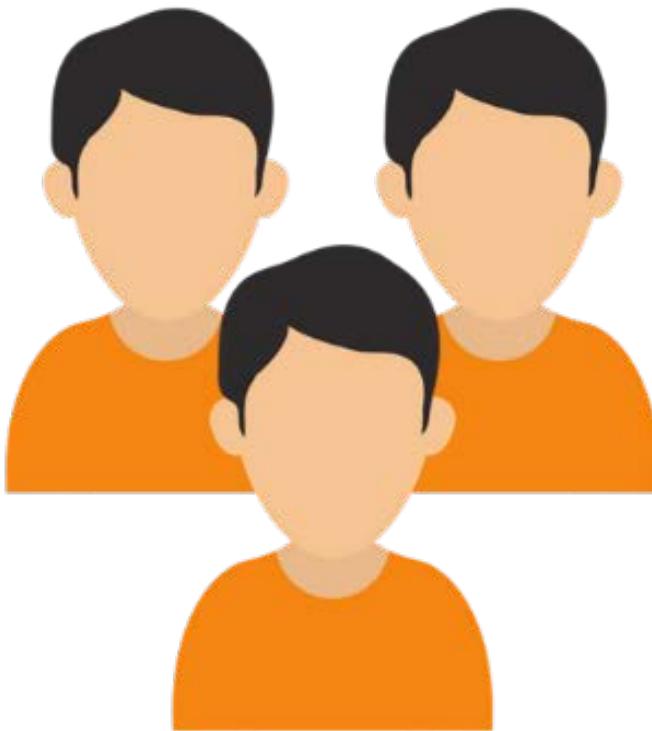
- Introduce the Oncology Outcomes (O2) Program
- Describe real-world evidence (RWE) generation along the oncology product lifecycle: HTA, PHC
- Highlight examples of innovative data technologies and precision/predictive analytics for oncology: AI, ML, and NLP

# Why RWE and why now?

Controlled Setting

≠

Real World





# RCTs ≠ 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\*



# Breadth of Data

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## Other

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

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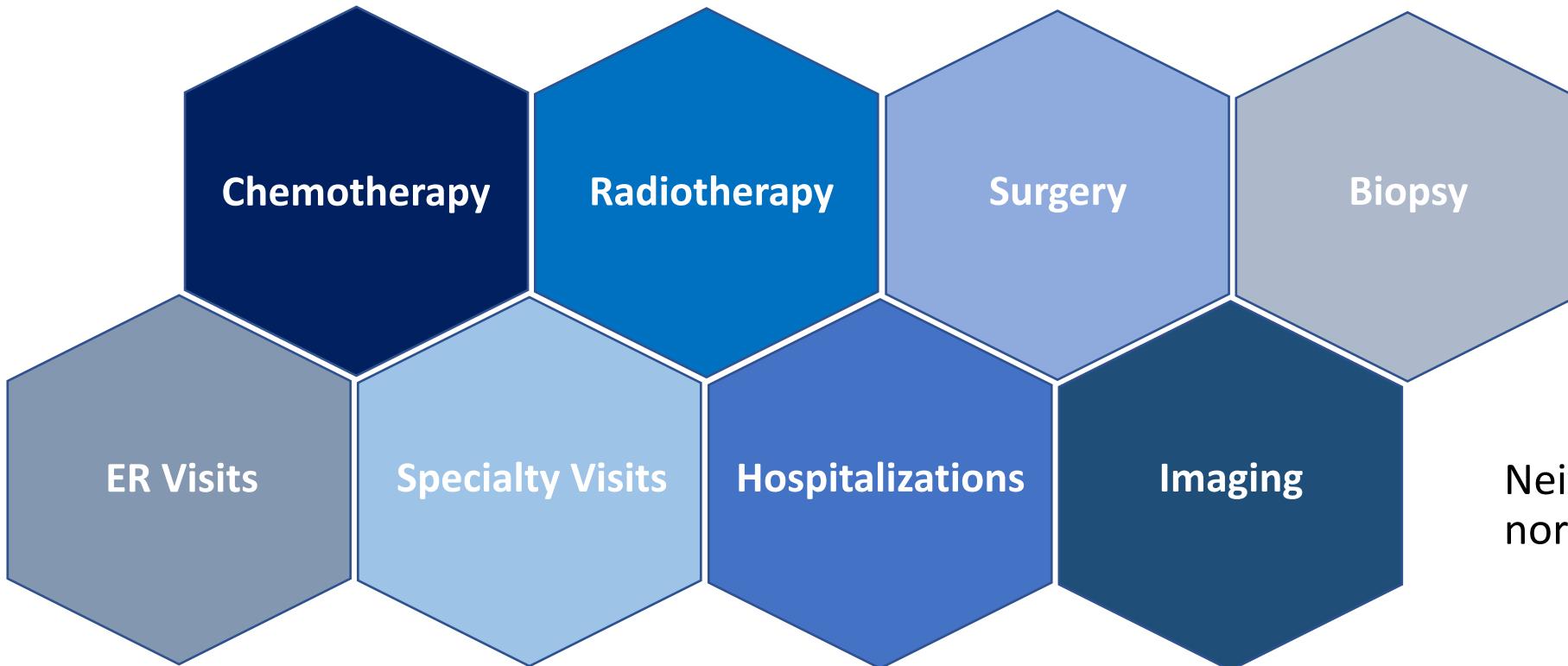
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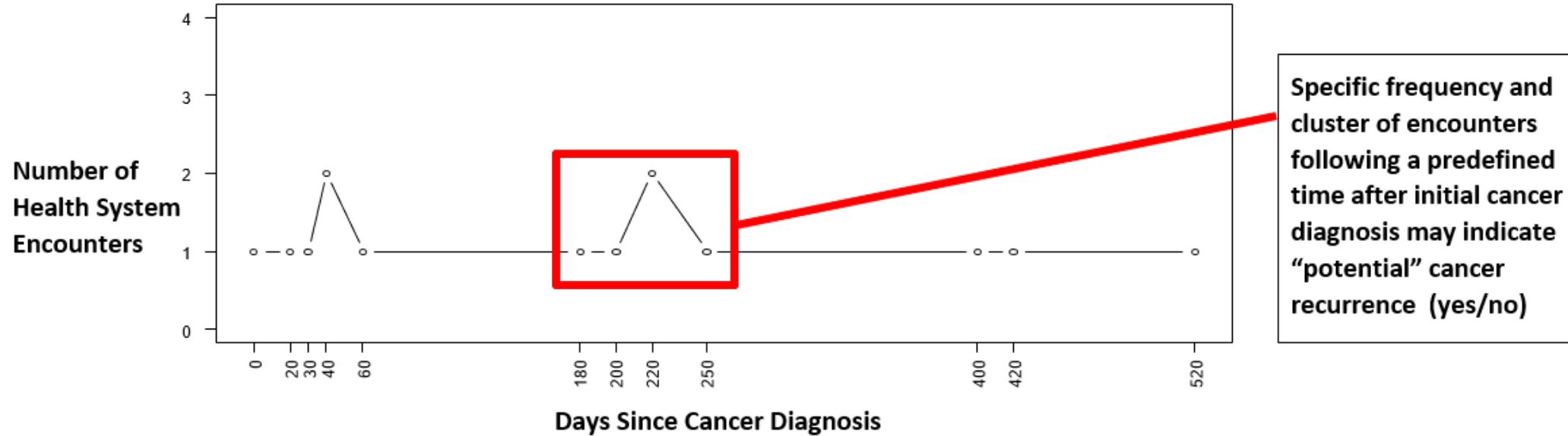
**Important events such  
as cancer recurrence  
and/or progression are  
not routinely captured  
by real-world data  
sources**

# Cancer Recurrence Algorithms



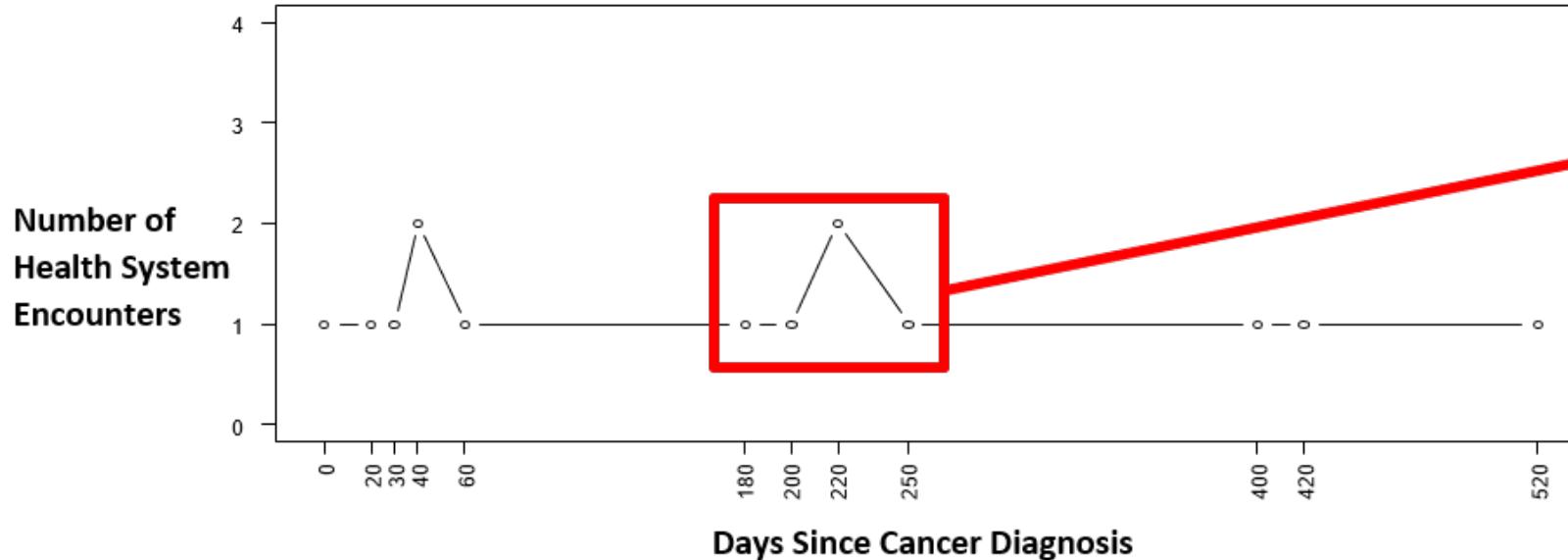
Neither exhaustive  
nor exclusive\*

# Cancer Recurrence Algorithms

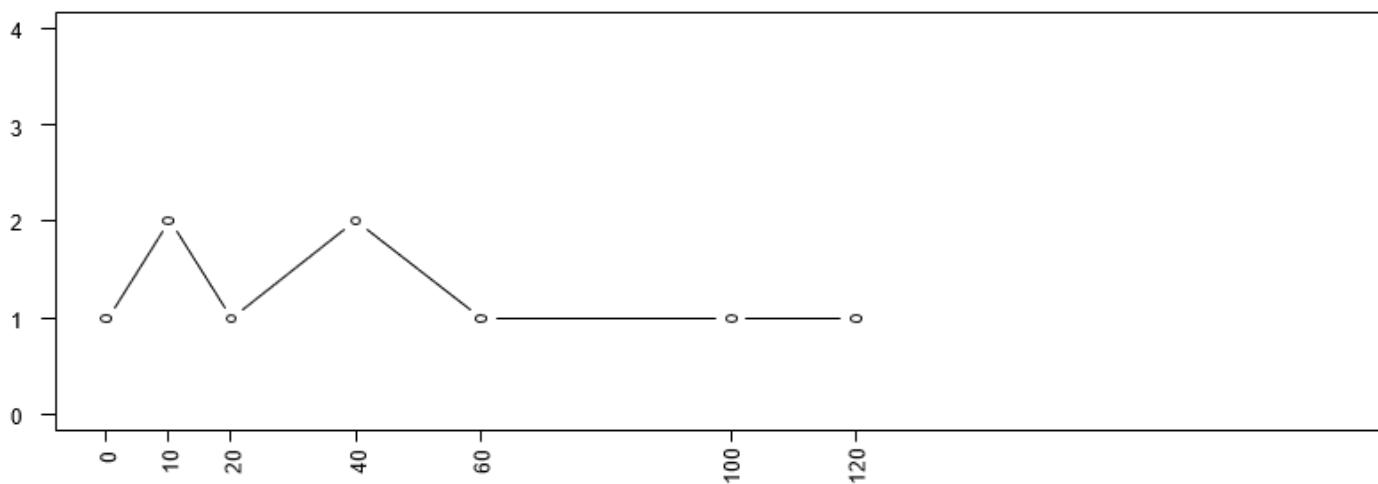


Specific frequency and cluster of encounters following a predefined time after initial cancer diagnosis may indicate “potential” cancer recurrence (yes/no)

# Cancer Recurrence Algorithms



Specific frequency and cluster of encounters following a predefined time after initial cancer diagnosis may indicate “potential” cancer recurrence (yes/no)



# 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>, Shiying 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, 73.7% (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

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

No mass found in pancreas



Most Likely Metastatic



Most Likely Local Disease



Needs Further Investigation

**GASTROENTEROLOGY GROUP**  
EUS and Biopsy to confirm Diagnosis

**PANCREATIC CANCER SURGEONS**  
(also referred to as Hepatobiliary Surgeons)

**GASTROENTEROLOGY GROUP**  
Further investigation to rule out suspected Pancreatic Cancer

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### GASTROENTEROLOGY GROUP

Further investigation to rule out suspected Pancreatic Cancer

Referral: 56% → 65%  
Treatment: 55% → 67%  
Timeliness: 39% → 21%

# Health Technology Assessments

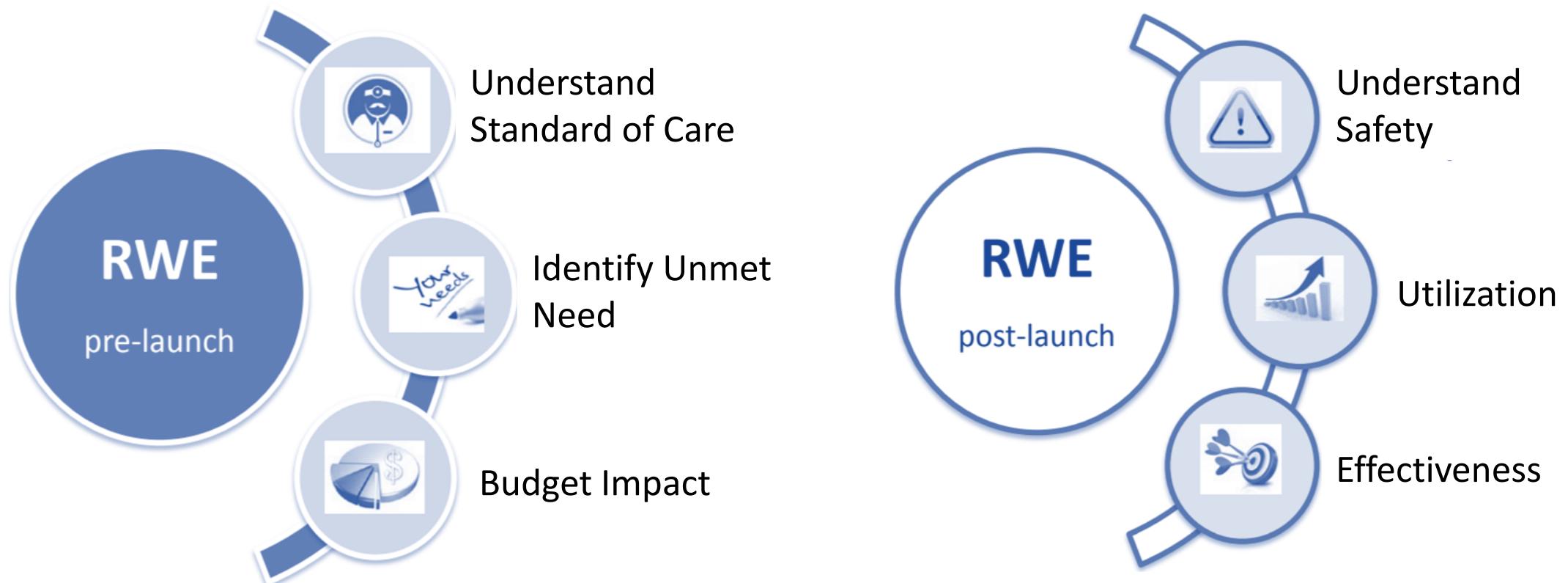
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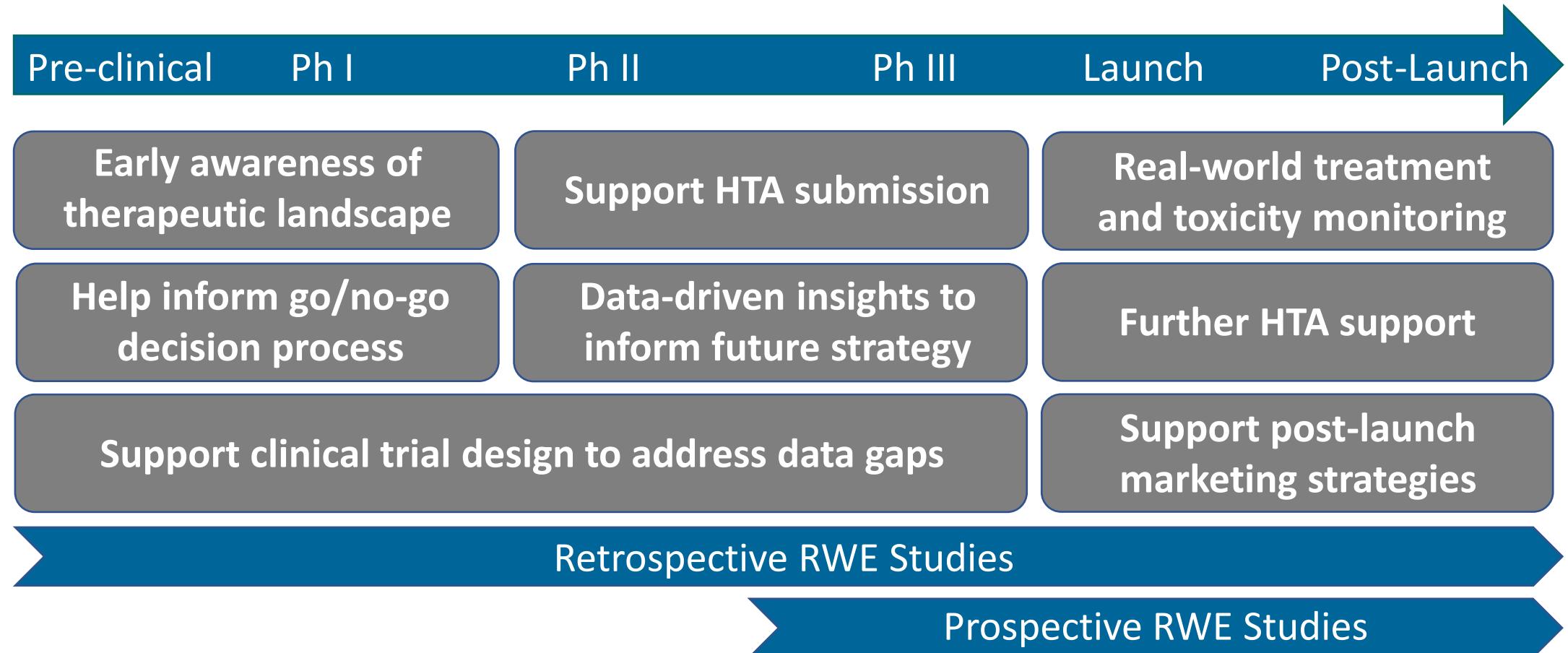
- **Role of RWE in HTA bodies**

- 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

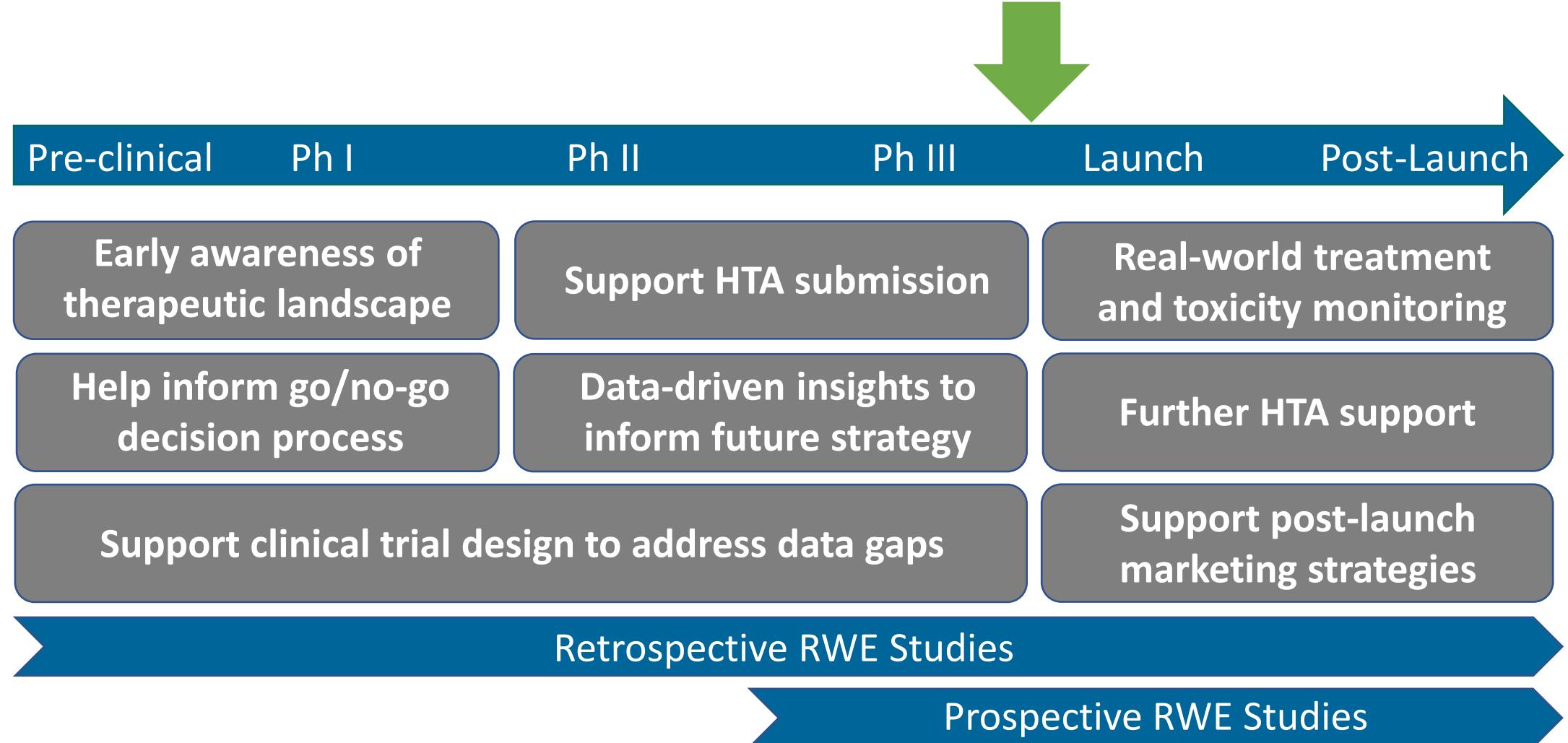
# Health Technology Assessments



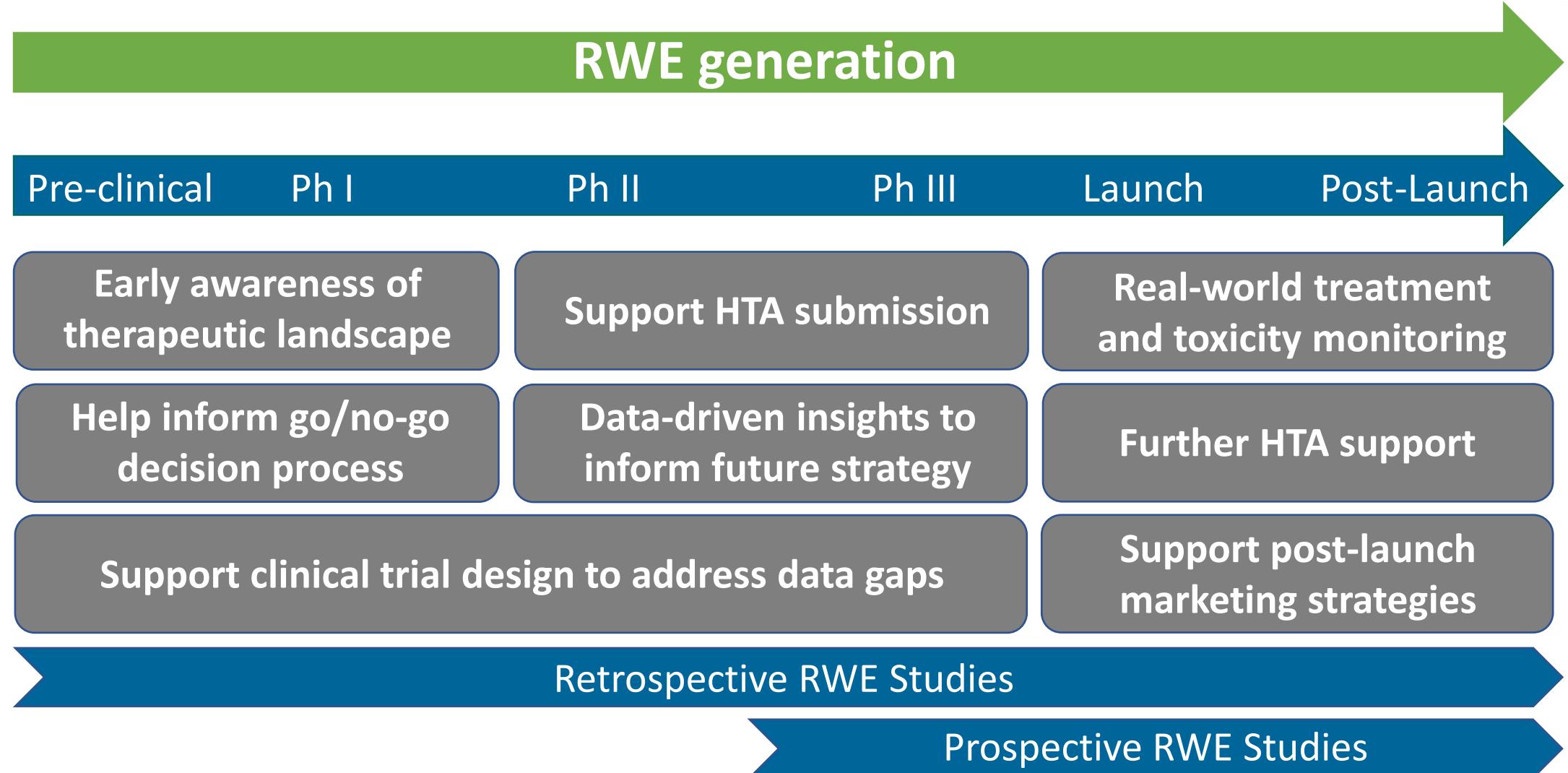
# RWE Across Product Lifecycle



# 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



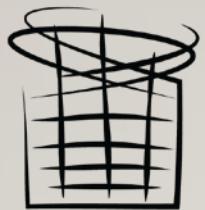


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@WinsonCheung  
@OncOutcomes

ONCOLOGY  
OUTCOMES  
Breadth of Data | Real-World Inspiration



PENTAVERE



Preventative Care Dashboard

Rebecca Rowe

3rd F, Room 7, Bed 4

67 Years old | Female Gender

176 cm Height | 63.4 kg Weight

Allergies: Nuts, Penicillin

Conditions: Glaucoma

Heart Rate: 84 bpm

165 Average | 188 Highest | 83 Lowest

Blood Pressure: 130/80 mmHG

Temperature: 36.8 °C

Oxygen Level: 93%

Recent Activity: 9AM, 12PM, 3PM - 4:30PM, 5PM

Blood Levels: Vitamine, HDL, LDL, Sodium, Glucose

55.2, 43, 73, 51.6, 69

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: [REDACTED]  
HCN: [REDACTED]  
DOB: [REDACTED]  
Gender: [REDACTED]  
Patient Phone: [REDACTED]

Consultation Report

Act #: [REDACTED] Location: [REDACTED] Admit: [REDACTED]  
Type: [REDACTED] Room: [REDACTED] Visit: [REDACTED]  
Service: [REDACTED] Discharge: [REDACTED]

Current Report by [REDACTED]

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

PATIENT IDENTIFICATION: [REDACTED] is a [REDACTED]-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 hopeless and was talking 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 using drugs now because he has not used drugs but, according to urine drug screen, his urine was positive for Oxycontin, 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 p.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 Oxycontin.

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.

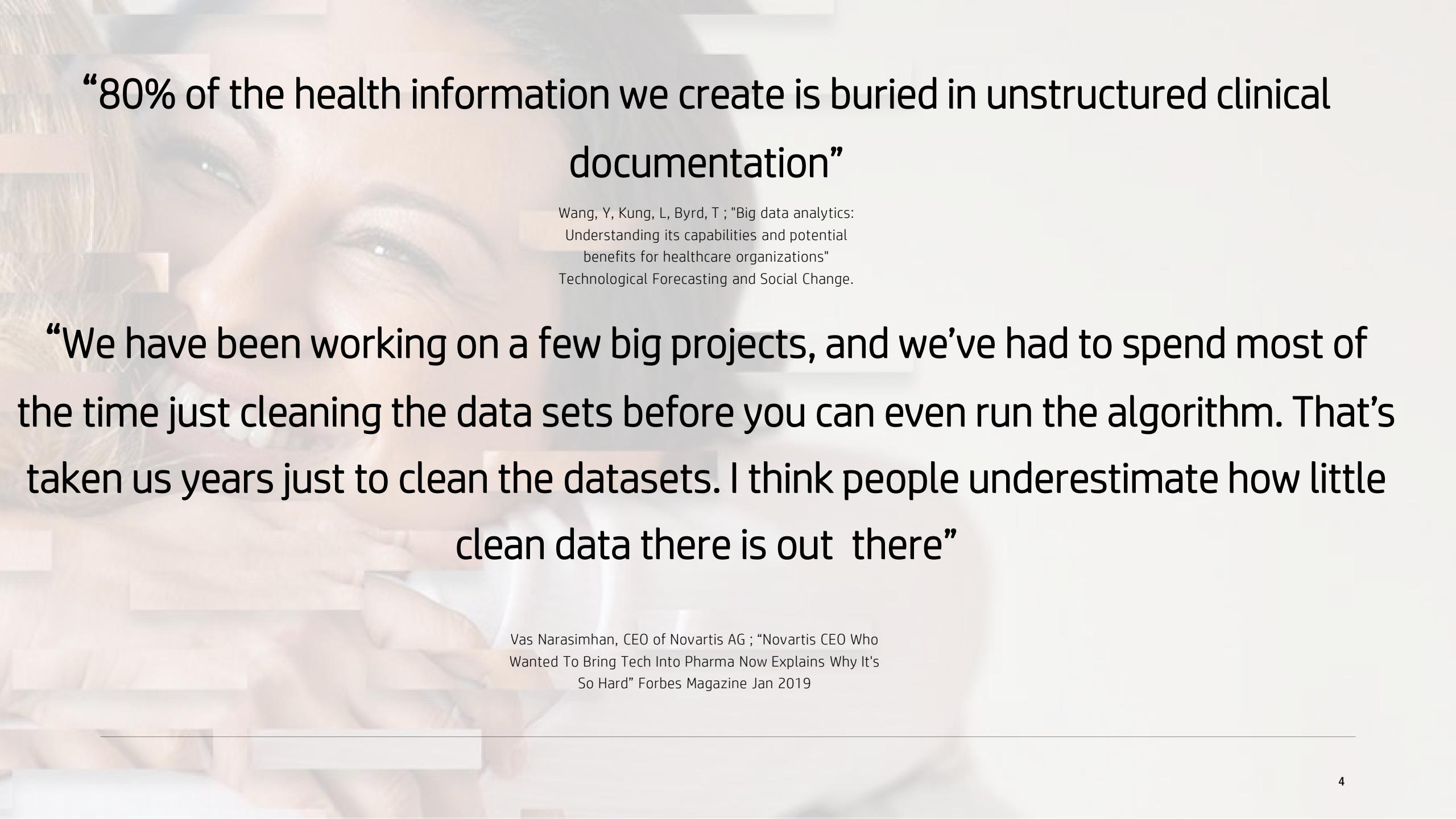
FAMILY HISTORY: Patient's grandmother with mental health problem but does not know the details. Patient is currently unemployed and supported by ODSP.

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 Peckan, [REDACTED] Consultation Report [REDACTED] 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 [patient]. [patient] said, when [patient] is using drugs, [patient] is fine and [patient] is only having depressive symptoms and suicidal symptoms when [patient] does not use drugs, and [patient] denied using drugs in the past one week. [patient] was uncooperative and turned [patient]'s back to the writer during the interview. At one point [patient] he

MacBook



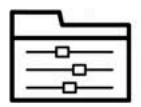
“80% of the health information we create is buried in unstructured clinical documentation”

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”

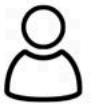
Vas Narasimhan, CEO of Novartis AG ; “Novartis CEO Who  
Wanted To Bring Tech Into Pharma Now Explains Why It's  
So Hard” Forbes Magazine Jan 2019

## MANUAL CHART REVIEW

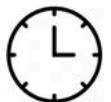


TIME PER RECORD

Number of Variables  
+ Complexity of Variables



NUMBER OF PATIENTS

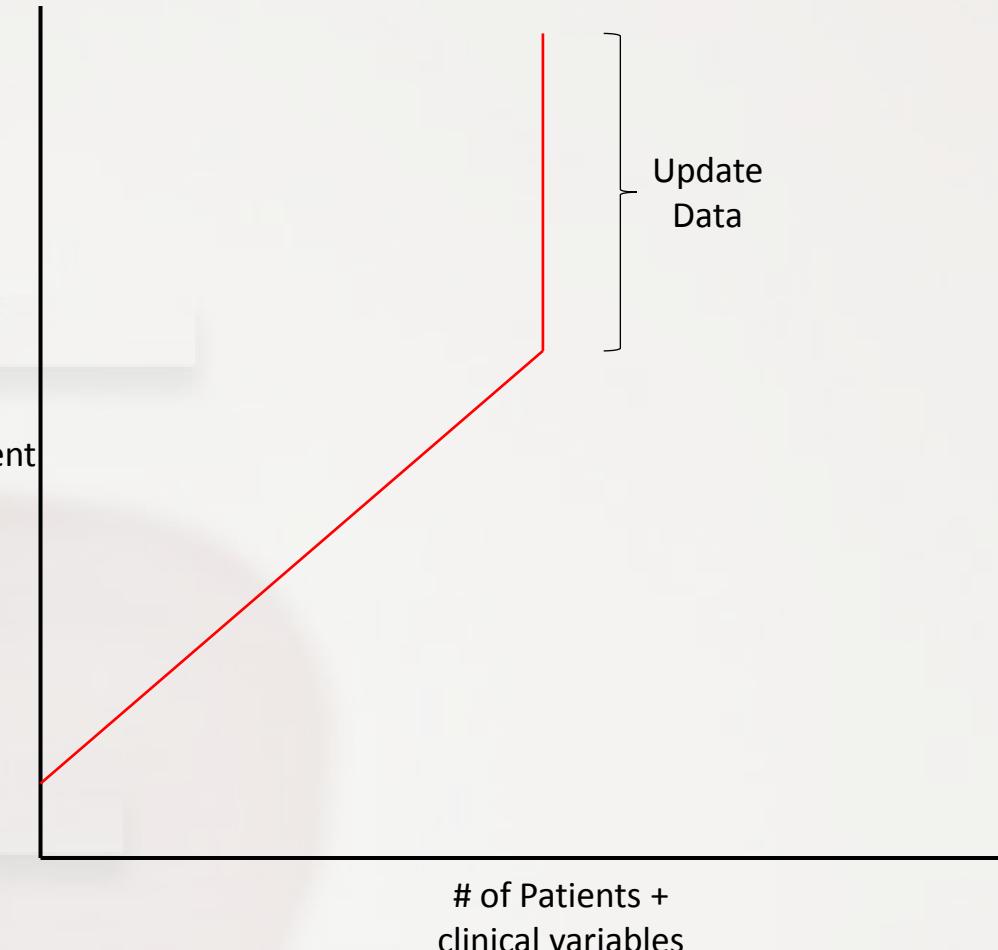


HOURLY RATE



COST

Cost/  
Investment



## 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:*



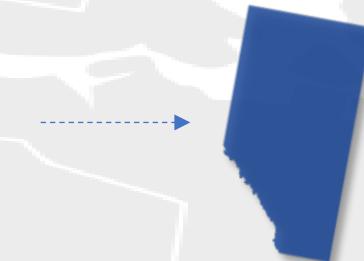
# CPHIN Lung Kick Start Program

## *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*



TOM BAKER  
CANCER CENTRE



PENTAVERE



1QBit



CPHIN

Canadian Personalized Healthcare  
Innovation Network



INSTITUTE OF  
HEALTH ECONOMICS  
ALBERTA CANADA



Colleaga



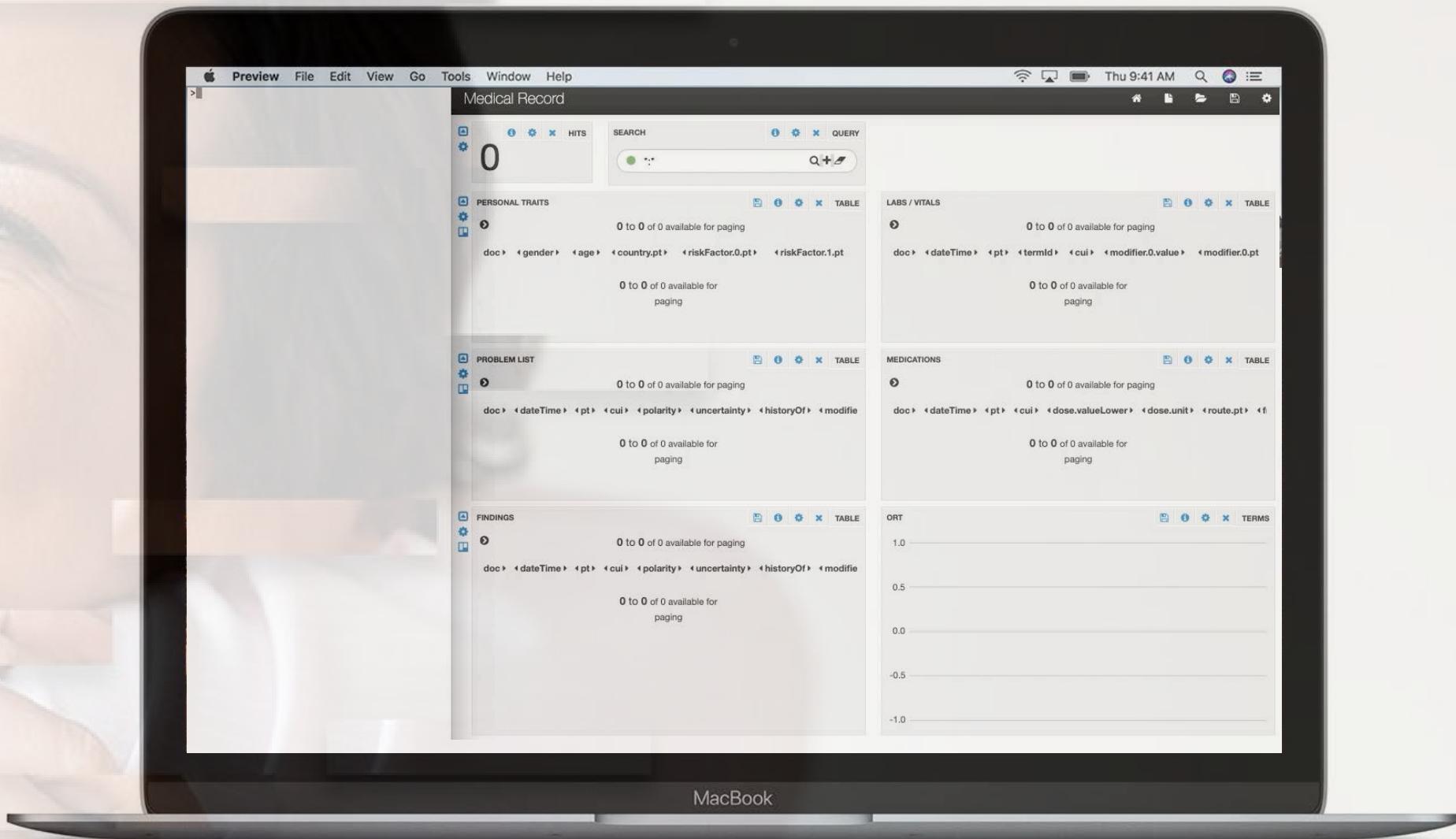
Roche

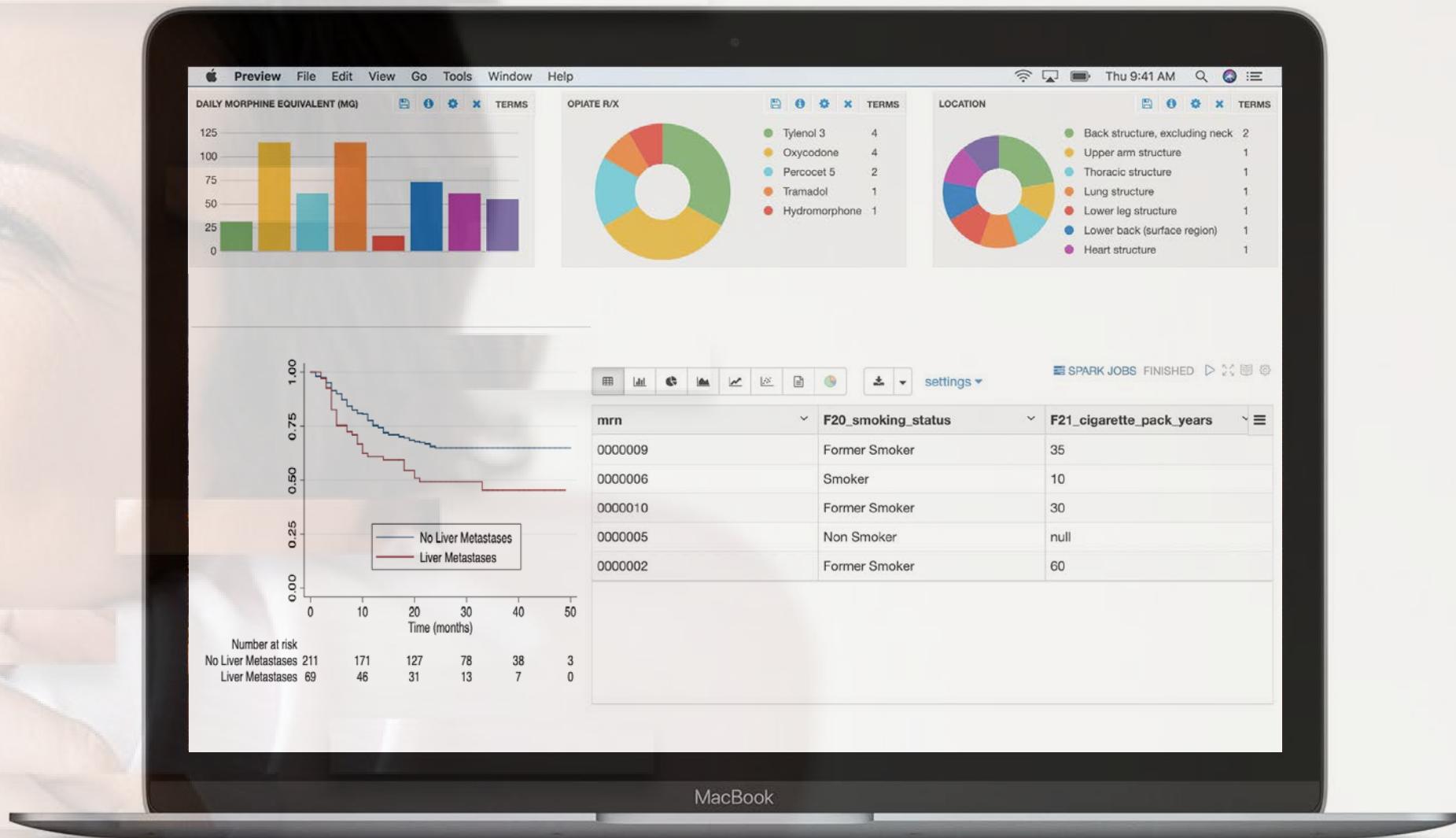


bitnobi



Alberta Health  
Services





A close-up photograph of two women smiling and hugging. The woman on the left has dark hair and is wearing a light-colored blouse. The woman on the right has blonde hair and is wearing a white blouse. They are both smiling broadly, showing their teeth. The background is a plain, light color.

**THANK YOU**