



Data harmonization and data use in a federated rare cancer network

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Outline

- EURACAN introduction
- Data harmonization strategy
- Steps to create a federated network
- Challenges
- Lessons learned
- Sneak Peek

Background

EURACAN (European Reference Network for Rare Adult Solid Cancers) is a **collaborative initiative** aimed at improving the diagnosis, treatment, and research of **rare adult solid cancers** across Europe.

- Low incidence (less than 6 per 100 000 people)
- 25% of all cancer diagnoses
- Diverse clinical manifestations

>>> Lack of data interoperability

Two EURACAN projects

Blueberry

- Blueprint for a sustainable, effective, scalable EURACAN registry
- 7 data partners
- OMOP-CDM

IDEA₄RC

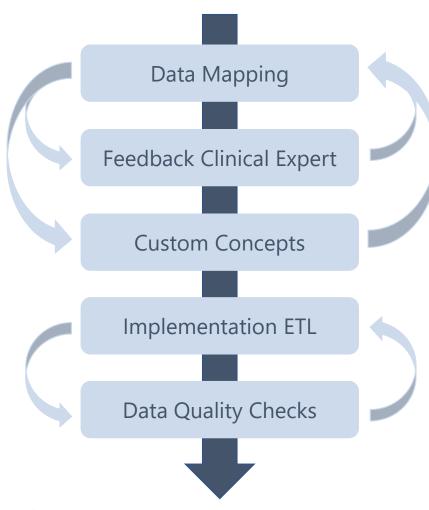
- An intelligent data ecosystem for rare cancers
- 25 partners from 12 European countries
- FHIR and OMOP-CDM

From health data to registry data



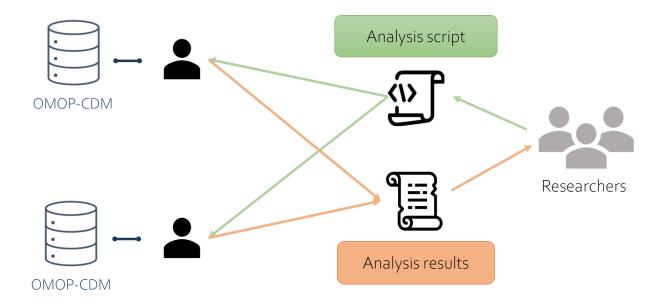
OMOP-CDM: Observation Medical Outcomes Partnership – Common Data Model

Data Harmonization Strategy



From registry data to federated learning network – step 1

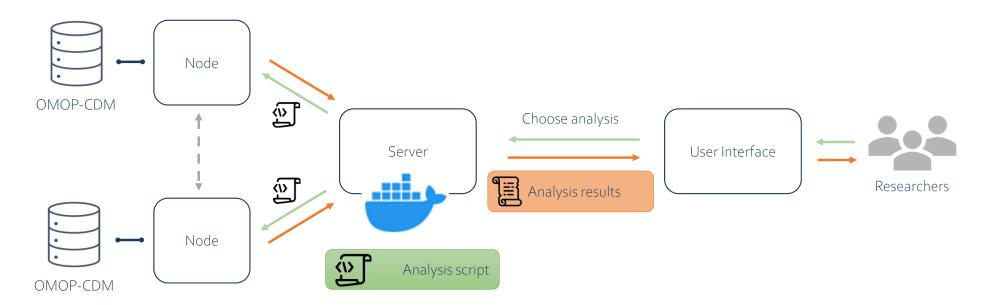




Each data partner runs the same script locally and sends back the results

From registry data to federated learning network — step 2





'Grouped' analysis of different data sources as if data is stored locally

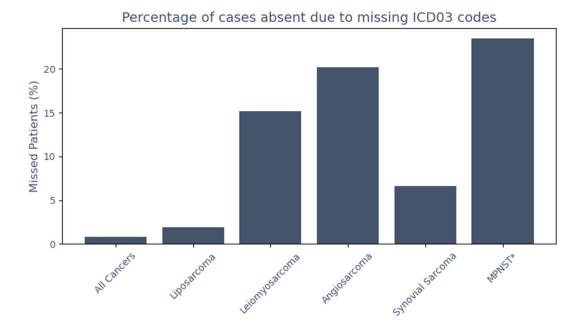


https://distributedlearning.ai

Challenges



• Missing diagnosis (ICDO₃) codes



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Challenges

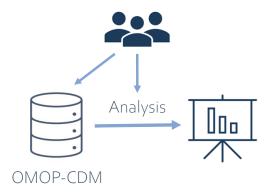


- Knowledge required about OMOP data format
- Cross-links in data





Challenges



- Balancing the wishes of clinicians with what is possible in OMOP-CDM
- Making the registry user-friendly for non-technical users
- Integrating the OHDSI tools into the federated learning network (vantage6)

https://python-ohdsi.readthedocs.io/en/latest/

Lessons learned

- Data harmonization should be done at local and network level
- Performing data harmonization and fit-for-purpose data quality checks in parallel
- Iterative updating of the core dataset
- Clinicians and future user **require training for the use** of the OMOP CDM

Sneak peek

