

Title:

Develop a framework for overall cost of treatment or burden of cancer (and not just anti-cancer drugs) for pharmacoeconomic or cost-effectiveness evaluation

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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

To support research, better the quality of cancer therapy, and improve patient outcomes, a strong framework for data exchange and policy must be established in oncology care. This approach should strike a balance between patient privacy and data security and the requirement for data accessible.

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

Framework for Evaluating the Overall Cost of Cancer Treatment Cancer treatment generally tends to be a constantly complex and economic burden which is normally much more expensive due to factors like drugs, hospital stays, lab tests, tests, etc. Treatment cost in this case is made up of a variety of elements including the direct medical costs and non-medical expenses, indirect costs, and intangible costs.

1. Key Components of Cancer Treatment Cost Framework

A. Direct Medical Costs

Diagnosis & Staging:

The following are part of the diagnosis of a type of cancer that is a very costly process and includes the following: Imaging (CT, MRI, PET scans) (Imaging tests) Biopsies, genetic and molecular testing (Tests of the genetic code or levels of certain proteins and other molecules in the human body) Blood tests, biomarkers (Measurement of specified blood substances)

Treatment Costs:

The Anti-cancer drugs (chemotherapy, immunotherapy, targeted therapy), the Surgery Radiation therapy, and the Robotic interventions are some of the drug classes that the administration of these drugs fall within. The hospital stays, the ICU care, and the emergency visits

B. Direct Non-Medical Costs

Travel & Accommodation: Charges for transport costs, staying near therapy centres. Caregiver

Expenses: Professional caregivers, home nursing

informal giving Special Diet & Supplements: Nutritional requirements, dietary changes

C. Indirect Costs

Lost Productivity: Time off work taken by patients and carers

Premature Mortality Costs: The national economy suffering from the absence of workers

Long-term Disability & Rehabilitation: Effect on quality of life and working capabilities

D. Intangible Costs

Emotional & Psychological Burden: Trauma, depression, and anxiety, which is experienced by the patient and the beloved

Social Impact: Life style drives, cost of care, for an instance, of independence

2. Pharmacoeconomic & Cost-Effectiveness Evaluation

To assess the economic impact of cancer treatments, several models are used:

A. Cost-Minimization Cost-Effectiveness Analysis (CEA): Compares two equally effective treatments with respect to cost

B. Cost-Minimization Analysis (CMA): Measures the cost per unit of health benefit Comparing chemotherapy regimens

C. Case -Utility Analysis (CUA): Utilizes Quality-Adjusted Life Years (QALYs) in order to measure outcomes of targeted treatment and a standard approach

D. Budget Impact Analysis (BIA): Computes financial attributes on healthcare systems resulting from the new immunotherapy approval.

3. Strategies to Reduce Cancer Treatment Costs:

A higher-level investment strategy where the pricing of cancer drugs is tied to the treatment success level is an option. The approach will promote pricing cancer drugs that are more beneficial to the patient by including patient-level data and treatment results in the pricing scheme. Usage of adaptive trial designs, relapse-free survival, and duration of treatment, as a measure of success will improve cost-effectiveness and innovation. This approach will be bioinformatics or computation-driven with advanced statistical techniques for modelling measurements that reflect the pharmacodynamics.

Framework

1. Core Components of an Oncology Data-Sharing Framework:

A. Standardized Data Collection:

Electronic Health Records (EHRs): Collection of standardized clinical notes for cancer diagnosis and treatment

Real-World Evidence (RWE): Combination of data from patient reports in addition to insurance claims and genomics

Clinical Trial Data Sharing: Internet journal sites of enterprises that give the latest news on new treatment assessments

B. Interoperability & Secure Data Exchange: HL7 FHIR (Fast Healthcare Interoperability Resources)

Use without barriers for data sharing Public blockchain-based solution for patient ease of access to healthcare data: Patients take charge of their healthcare data of which the system encrypts it and only the patient can control

Global Cancer Registries: Cancer registries in every hospital, research center, and drug maker which are standardized to allow interoperability of their records and the best quality cancer care worldwide

C. Ethical & Legal Considerations:

HIPAA/GDPR Compliance: Making measures to save the privacy of the patient's medical data:

Informed Consent: Patients deciding the extent of sharing their medical history to their doctors or keeping it private

Public-Private Partnerships: Successful partnerships between hospitals, biotech companies, and the government

2. Implementation of a Structured Data Policy in Oncology:

Key Component Implementation Strategy

National Oncology Database- Centralized platform linking hospitals and research centers

Artificial Intelligence & Big Data-AI-driven models to predict treatment outcomes & cost-effectiveness

Telemedicine & Remote Monitoring-Digital oncology platforms for remote patient care

Patient Data Ownership- Blockchain-based personal health records

Public-Private Partnerships-Data-driven collaborations to improve affordability & access

The Case for Centralized Data Stewardship in Oncology Care Introduction. In all clinical facilities, both big and small, cancer care is experiencing a growing burden especially with the increasing number of high-end treatments available. For patients' health improvement, better management of resources for environment-stimulating purposes, as well as securing access to what is new, data-based decision-making is critical. Data stewardship in a centralized manner is a method where data is obtained, standardized, and managed on a world or national level, this way it can link the gap between research, policy, and clinical care.

1. The Necessity of Centralized Data Management

A. The Fragmentation of Oncology Data Up to now, oncology data is distributed across various sources-hospitals, research institutions, pharmaceutical companies and government agencies, which results in:

- Duplication of efforts and inconsistent reporting
 - Limited interoperability between health systems
 - Shortcomings in policy decisions due to the failure to obtain real-time data
- B. The Power of Real-World Evidence (RWE) According to the different genomic, demographic, and socio-economic disparities, the effectiveness of cancer treatments varies. A central data platform is the key to:
- Comparative research (evaluating the treatment performance in diverse populations)
 - Early signal identification for safety issues (after the new therapies were put on the market)
 - Progress in precision oncology (genomics-guided treatment decisions)
- C. Coping with Cost & Access Disparities Policy makers can apply the integration of financial and clinical data to design cost-effective treatments that ensure disadvantaged patients can obtain life-saving medications.
2. Advantages of a Data Centralized Data Stewardship Model Key Benefit Impact Key Benefit Impact Standardized Data Collection-Its application establishes consistency in cancer diagnosis, treatment, and outcome tracking
- Interoperability & Integration- Linking hospitals, research centers and pharmaceutical companies' points of view worldwide
- Data-Led Policy Decisions-Evidence based funding, drug approvals, and reimbursement models have better chances of being successful
- Artificial Intelligence & Big Data Analytics: Rocking the markets by forecasting trends, improving treatment protocols, and increasing the cost-efficiency
- Faster Clinical Trials & Drug Approvals-Fast tracking procedures for new cancer treatments not only save time but also assure that the quality is good.

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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

Centralized data stewardship can improve data quality, standardize data across institutions, foster accountability, and enhance research and policy. A suggested framework for data collection and integration includes Electronic Health Records (EHRs), claims data, patient registries, clinical trial data, and socioeconomic and demographic data. Integration mechanisms include a centralized repository, interoperable standards, automated processes, and governance. Striking a balance between data accessibility and privacy requires techniques such as de-identification, encryption, secure access protocols, adherence to regulations, tiered access levels, federated learning, consent management systems, and ethical oversight. Additionally, maintaining transparency through reporting is crucial.

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

Advocating for Centralized Data Stewardship At a central level, it can:

1. Improve Data Quality: Centralized stewardship guarantees the accuracy, completeness, and timeliness of data, which are vital for pharmacoeconomic assessments.
2. Enable Standardization: Consistent data standards across various institutions allow for easier integration and comparison.

3. Foster Accountability: A central authority can monitor data usage, ensuring adherence to ethical standards and legalities.

4. Enhance Research and Policy: High-quality centralized data can support evidence-based policymaking and innovative researches.

Suggested Framework for Data Collection and Integration Data Sources:

Electronic Health Records (EHRs) -Claims Data -Patient Registries -Clinical Trial Data - Socioeconomic and Demographic Data – Integration Mechanisms: -Create a centralized data repository with a strong infrastructure. -

Utilize interoperable standards such as HL7 and FHIR for smooth data exchange. -Implement automated processes for data validation and cleaning. - Governance: - Clearly define roles and responsibilities for data custodians. -Establish policies for data sharing, access, and retention. -Conduct regular audits to ensure compliance and maintain data integrity.

Balancing Data Accessibility with Privacy

To promote research while safeguarding patient rights, the following strategies can be employed:

1. Privacy Measures: -Apply de-identification methods to anonymize patient information.
2. Use encryption and secure access protocols.
3. Ensure compliance with regulations like GDPR and HIPAA.
4. Accessibility Strategies: -Develop tiered access levels based on user roles (e.g., researchers, policymakers).
5. Implement federated learning to facilitate collaborative research without sharing raw data.
6. Create a consent management system that allows patients to control how their data is used.
7. Ethical Oversight: -Form an ethics committee to evaluate data usage requests.
8. Increase transparency by publishing reports on data usage.

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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

A central, secure, and ethical data-sharing framework is vital for advancing oncology care while safeguarding patient trust.

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

A robust framework for data sharing in oncology is crucial to improving cancer care, advancing research, and shaping better policies. At its core, it requires centralized data stewardship—a trusted national body that can oversee how data is collected, shared, and protected. This central body ensures standardization, avoids duplication, and enables the development of real-time insights into cancer trends, treatment effectiveness, and patient outcomes. To make this work, we need a structured, unified system for data collection and integration. This could include electronic health records (EHRs) with common formats across hospitals, labs, and cancer registries. A central cancer data platform should collect de-identified data from both public and private institutions, covering everything from diagnosis and treatment to outcomes and follow-up. Integrating this with existing health systems like insurance programs or national health registries can add further value. But with data sharing comes the responsibility to protect patient privacy. All shared data must be de-identified and encrypted. Access

should be role-based—researchers, clinicians, and policymakers should only see what they need. Patients should be involved too, through informed and dynamic consent models, so they can decide how their data is used over time. Finally, strong oversight mechanisms, including ethical review boards and digital audits, can ensure that data is used responsibly and ethically. With the right balance of accessibility, transparency, and security, this framework can help turn raw health data into better cancer care for all.

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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

1. A centralized, standardized framework capturing all cancer treatment costs (drugs, surgery, supportive care, indirect expenses) and outcomes (survival, QoL).
2. This enables accurate pharmacoeconomic evaluations (e.g., cost per QALY) to guide policies optimizing resource allocation.
3. Secure, anonymized data sharing balances research access with privacy, while aggregated insights highlight disparities (rural vs. urban costs, financial toxicity).
4. Data-driven decisions reduce patient burden, prioritize high-value care, and promote equitable, affordable cancer treatment

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

1. Case for Centralized Data Stewardship

Unified Governance & Standards

- a. Ensures consistency in data definitions (e.g., staging, outcomes) across institutions
- b. Facilitates national benchmarking and policy making

Equity: Highlights disparities in financial toxicity (e.g. rural vs. urban costs) to guide subsidies.

Policy Impact: Enables evidence-based decisions for resource allocation (e.g., prioritizing high-value interventions).

2. Framework for Central Data Collection & Integration

Data Sources & Types

- a. Electronic health records (demographics, diagnoses, treatments)
- Cancer registries (incidence, survival)
- Patient reported outcomes (QoL, PRO surveys)
- Claims and cost data (hospitalizations, supportive care)

Architecture & Standards Interoperability:

- a. Adopt FHIR and DICOM for clinical and imaging data
- b. Common Data Model: Use OMOP CDM to harmonize disparate datasets
- c. APIs & Data Lake: Secure, role based APIs feeding a centralized data lake

Governance Structure

- a. Stewardship Board: Multi stakeholder council (clinicians, patients, regulators)
- b. Data Use Committees: Review research proposals and monitor compliance
- c. Metadata Catalog: Public registry of available datasets and access procedures

3. Balancing Accessibility with Privacy & Security

Tiered Access Controls

- a. Open Access: Aggregate, de identified summary statistics for public health
- b. Controlled Access: Pseudonymized patient level data under data use agreements
- c. Restricted Access: Identifiable data only for approved public health investigations

Privacy Safeguards

- a. De identification & Tokenization: Remove direct identifiers; use consistent tokens
- b. Differential Privacy: Add statistical noise to limit re identification risk
- c. Audit Trails & Monitoring: Log all data access and flag anomalous usage

Legal & Ethical Framework

- a. Consent Management: Dynamic, patient centric consent with opt in/opt out portals
- b. Compliance: Align with national (e.g., India's Digital Personal Data Protection Act) and international (e.g., GDPR) regulations.

Transparency: Publicly publish data sharing policies, approved studies, and outcomes.

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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

To establish a centralized, patient-centered framework for data stewardship that harmonizes the dual goals of enhancing cancer treatment outcomes through research and upholding patient privacy. This proposal aims to ensure a seamless, ethical flow of cancer-related data from multiple sources clinics, hospitals, and research institutions while safeguarding patient rights and confidentiality. By fostering an environment where data accessibility drives innovation, accelerates treatment protocols, and empowers personalized care, the goal is to create a transparent, accountable system where both patient empowerment and scientific advancement flourish. The ultimate aim is to shape an ecosystem where every cancer patients data is a building block towards better care, informed decisions, and optimized outcomes.

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

To bridge the gap between data sharing and patient privacy, we propose a centralized data stewardship model that empowers oncology care with real-time insights while safeguarding patient rights. This framework should be grounded in ethical governance, transparent protocols, and technological innovation.

1. Centralized Data Stewardship: A National Oncology Data Authority (NODA) should be established to oversee data collection, integration, and sharing across healthcare systems, research institutions, and regulatory bodies. NODA will manage data centralization and ensure uniform data standards, creating a reliable resource for researchers, clinicians, and policymakers.

2. Comprehensive Data Collection & Integration:

Multi-source Data Aggregation: Integrate patient data from hospitals, clinics, and labs in real-time, ensuring a 360-degree view of cancer care (diagnostics, treatments, outcomes, etc.).

Data Linkage Models: Use longitudinal data to track patient progress and assess treatment efficacy.

Interoperability: Ensure that platforms across institutions can seamlessly exchange data through secure APIs.

3. Balancing Access & Privacy:

- a. Data Encryption & De-identification: Ensure robust data encryption and anonymization techniques to maintain patient privacy while enabling research.
- b. Patient Consent Management: Implement blockchain-based consent systems, allowing patients to control what data is shared and with whom.
- c. Auditing and Oversight: Set up auditing mechanisms for accountability, ensuring that data usage is in line with ethical standards.
- 4. Encouraging Research & Innovation:
Foster public-private partnerships to promote AI-driven oncology research using the data pool while ensuring equal access to cutting-edge therapies.

Conclusion:

This framework aligns scientific advancement with patient empowerment, ensuring that data serves not only research but the patients right to privacy and dignity

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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

The primary outcome of is to create a secure, unified, and ethically governed national oncology data ecosystem

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

OncoData Trust: A Federated, Ethical Framework for Unified Cancer Data Governance

1. The Case for Centralized Data Stewardship Fragmentation Crisis: 92% of Indian cancer data remains siloed across hospitals, missing critical patterns (e.g., regional variations in oral cancer mutations).

Research Delay: 18-month lag to aggregate retrospective studies manually.

Equity Imperative: Central oversight prevents bias (e.g., rural/urban representation in datasets).

2. Framework for National Oncology Data Integration

A. Architecture Federated Learning Network: Hospitals retain raw data; only AI model weights are shared (preserves privacy).

Blockchain-Anchored Metadata: Tamper-proof logs of data provenance (who contributed what, when).

B. Standardized Data Collection Smart Case Report Forms: Auto-populates from EHRs using NLP (captures 80% unstructured oncologist notes).

Patient-Generated Data: Wearables/symptom apps feed into PRO (Patient-Reported Outcome) modules.

C. Tiered Access Control Researchers- De-identified datasets- Mutational trends Clinicians- Pseudonymized records - Treatment history Pharma- Synthetic data*- Trial design Patients- Own records + aggregate insights - Your tumor resembles 100 others; 70% responded to X therapy. Privacy-Security Innovations Dynamic Consent Management: Patients set granular permissions via app (e.g., "Share genomics but not address"). Differential Privacy: Adds "mathematical noise" to prevent re-identification (<0.01% risk). Cyber Threat Simulation: Red-team hackers stress-test defenses quarterly.

4. Incentivized Participation Data Donor Credits: Patients earn non-monetary benefits (e.g., faster trial matching). Hospital ROI Dashboards: Shows how their data improved national survival rates.

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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

Balancing data access ability with privacy and security

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

Establishing central level stewardship, it ensures oncology care data is standardised, accessible, secure and ethical and equitable, we can data framework can be made at national level, enabling real time integration of data from hospitals, labs, pharmacies, collecting QOL and symptom burden directly from patients via digital tools, Cost of treatment can be divided into direct medical cost like- anti cancer drugs, surgery, RT, hospital stays, non medical costs like transportation, care giving, food, nutrition support, indirect costs include productivity loss, intangible costs - pain, emotional distress and reduced quality of life, Solutions include cloud funding, developing more trust hospitals, hospice care facilities at lower cost by asking NGOs to come forward and help cancer patients, encouraging recovered and cancer free patients to help others by what they have gone through and how positive attitude help them to come out of this, and encouraging government schemes (like pension schemes) to help cancer patients as most of the patients have to stay at the hospital for long time

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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

To develop a holistic and sustainable approach to cancer care by integrating comprehensive cost evaluation with secure, ethical data sharing. This solution aims to improve patient outcomes, enhance coordination among stakeholders, and guide evidence-based policy decisions through centralized data systems and a unified cost framework.

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

Introduction & Objectives:

Cancer care costs go far beyond anti-cancer drug expenses. To improve patient outcomes and economic sustainability, we must adopt a total cost framework and ethical data policies.

Total Cost of Cancer Care:

We propose a framework that considers all facets of cancer treatment: diagnostics, therapies, hospitalizations, follow-ups, and supportive care. Understanding the full economic burden helps in planning effective interventions.

Centralized Data Storage & Collection:

A centralized oncology data platform is essential. Consolidating patient data ensures better coordination, outcome tracking, and policy evaluation. This requires robust, standardized data integration from all stakeholders.

Data Stakeholders and Integration: Hospitals, insurers, researchers, and government agencies all play a role. Seamless integration ensures comprehensive insight across the care continuum.

Privacy & Ethical Sharing:

Patient-identifiable information (PII) must be protected. We must address challenges in data sharing with technologies and policies that prioritize privacy and security.

Key Recommendations:

- a. Develop a unified cost framework for cancer care.
- b. Implement secure, centralized data collection systems.
- c. Create clear ethical guidelines for data use.
- d. Foster cross-sector collaboration for data integration.
- e. Empower patients with data control and transparency.

Conclusion

Integrating cost awareness with ethical data sharing lays the foundation for better outcomes in oncology. With the right framework and policies, we can advance both care and sustainability.

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Objective of your solution: (Briefly define the primary outcome of your solution to this challenge):

A robust, multi-dimensional framework for evaluating the overall cost of cancer treatment paired with a centralized, secure, and ethically governed data-sharing ecosystem is essential to advancing both pharmaco-economic research and clinical outcomes in oncology. Through integrated stewardship, transparent governance, and privacy-conscious accessibility, stakeholders can ensure equitable, effective, and innovative cancer care.

Describe your solution / proposal: Provide a detailed account of your solution/ proposal to this challenge. You could type your solution/ proposal here. (Disclaimer: Solution/proposal should not exceed more than 300 words.):

Framework for Evaluating the Cost of Cancer Treatment and Data Policy in Oncology

I. Framework for Evaluating the Overall Cost of Cancer Treatment (Beyond Anti-Cancer Drugs)

A. Rationale

Evaluating the overall burden of cancer treatment goes far beyond drug costs. It encompasses diagnostics, hospitalization, supportive care, indirect costs, and long-term effects. A comprehensive cost framework is essential for:

- Health technology assessments (HTA)
- Budget impact analysis
- Cost-effectiveness and cost-utility evaluations

B. Components of the Cost-of-Treatment Framework

Direct Medical Costs

- Diagnostics: Imaging (PET, CT, MRI), biopsies, genetic profiling
- Therapeutics: Surgery, radiotherapy, chemotherapy, immunotherapy, targeted therapy
- Supportive Care: Anti-emetics, antibiotics, blood products, bisphosphonates, growth factors

Direct Non-Medical Costs

- Transportation, accommodation (especially for rural patients)
- Home modification and caregiving resources

Indirect Costs

- Loss of income (patients and caregivers)
- Reduced productivity
- Long-term disability and societal burden

Intangible Costs

- Psychological stress, pain, and reduced quality of life

Time Costs

- Time spent in treatment centers and recovery impacting daily life and employment

II. Structured Framework for Data Sharing and Policy in Oncology Care

A. The Case for Central-Level Data Stewardship

1. Standardization: Ensures uniform coding, terminology, and data fields across systems
2. Governance: Central body can enforce compliance with ethical, legal, and security guidelines
3. Accountability: Establishes oversight on how data is collected, stored, used, and shared

B. Proposed Central Framework for Data Collection and Integration

1. Data Stewardship Body

Government-backed or public-private consortium (e.g., National Cancer Data Authority). Oversees interoperability, quality control, ethics compliance, and certification.

2. Data Sources Integrated

- Clinical Data: EHRs, pathology, radiology, surgical notes
- Genomic & Biomarker Data: NGS reports, biobanks

3. Infrastructure Features

- Federated data architecture to allow local data storage but centralized querying
- Cloud-based secure repositories with real-time de-identified data analytics
- AI-enabled dashboards for trend analysis, outcome prediction, and research

C. Balancing Data Accessibility and Privacy:

1. Data Accessibility Measures

- Tiered Access Model: Open access to de-identified aggregate data; Controlled access to patient-level data for approved researchers
- Research Sandboxes: Secure environments for data analysis without data download
- Interoperability and APIs: Enable integration with research platforms

2. Privacy & Security Solutions

- De-identification and Tokenization
 - Patient Consent Portals with dynamic sharing options
 - Blockchain for Audit Trails
 - Data Use Agreements (DUAs)
-