# **Reimagining Cancer Care & Drug Development** through Real-World Data Creation



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#### **BACKGROUND & OBJECTIVES**

- To date, the gold standard for evidence generation for oncology treatment has been prospective clinical trials; yet, the generalizability and representativeness of findings from clinical trials remain a challenge,<sup>1-3</sup> with only approximately 5% of cancer patients participating in clinical trials.<sup>4,5</sup>
- The potential applications of real-world data (RWD) in improving cancer care have become a growing focus in recent years. In Japan, while the development and application of RWD have gained traction in recent years, there remains room for improvement in data quality and methodological approaches.<sup>6,7</sup> • This ongoing study therefore aims to contribute to improving cancer treatment and outcomes in Japan by constructing electronic health record (EHR)-based, longitudinal, patient-level RWD.

#### **METHODS**

- Flatiron Health is constructing oncology RWD by processing information extracted from clinical systems in Japanese hospitals.
- By leveraging over 10 years of experience in the US, and adapting the US-proven approach of abstraction,<sup>8,9</sup> Flatiron Health K.K. is developing local methodologies to curate high-quality oncology RWD in Japan (Figure 1).

#### Figure 1. Flatiron Health's real-world data curation approach.

	Data Elements		
<b>Structured Data</b> Data formatted and stored in a pre-defined systematic manner	<ul> <li>Demographics</li> <li>Diagnosis</li> <li>Visit date</li> <li>Test results</li> <li>Therapies etc.</li> </ul>	→ Structured Data Processing	-→ Real-
Unstructured Data Data such as free text that are not organized in a pre-defined systematic manner and not readily usable for quantitative analyses	<ul> <li>Radiology reports</li> <li>Pathology reports</li> <li>Physician notes</li> <li>Scanned documents etc.</li> </ul>	Unstructured Data Data Processing Abstraction (conducted by Flatiron Health Abstractors)	World Data

Extracted from hospital clinical information systems (including EHR)

# **FLATIRON HEALTH IN THE US**



#### **CONTINUOUS ADVANCEMENT OF METHODOLOGIES AND QUALITY OF ONCOLOGY RWD**

Assessing Data Quality in Flatiron Health RWD:		R R	لا	Improving Data Quality and Scope of Flatiron Health RWD			
Relevancy			Reliability			Linkage with the	<ul> <li>Linkage of EHR-derived data with other data sources including clinico-genomics data</li> </ul>
		Q Q Q	The degree to which data <b>represent the clinical concept</b>		Ext	ternal Data Sources	claims data, obituary data and prospectively-collected data for specific use cases.

**Development of NLP/ML** 

approaches for effective

unstructured data processing



• Leveraging natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning (ML), in addition to abstraction, for greater efficiency in unstructured data processing.<sup>9,17</sup>

• For example, an algorithm was developed for accurately extracting ECOG PS scores from unstructured data, improving data completeness from 61.5% to 75.6%<sup>18</sup>

## FLATIRON HEALTH IN JAPAN: COLLABORATION WITH NATIONAL CANCER CENTER HOSPITAL EAST

#### **Objective: To curate high-quality oncology RWD in Japan**

		PATIENT CONSENT	DATA TRANSFER IN JAPAN	DATA PROCESSING IN JAPAN	PROVISION OF RWD Research-Ready Datasets
Comparison with Flatiron Health's Approach in the US	Approach	<ul> <li>Obtain relevant <u>informed</u> <u>consent (IC)</u> from eligible patients with a diagnosis of gastrointestinal cancers or other cancers.</li> <li>Only the medical records of patients who provide IC will be utilized.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Reduce sensitivity and securely share data with Flatiron Health K.K.</li> <li>Data transfer approach customized to meet <u>NCCHE's</u> <u>technical infrastructure and</u> <u>requirements.</u></li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Medical records are <u>appropriately de-identified</u> in line with local legal, ethical and security requirements*.</li> <li>De-identified data are processed locally via <u>abstraction and other</u> <u>data processing</u> approaches.</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The first Japan RWD products will be made available to researchers by the end of 2023.</li> </ul>
	Similarities	<ul> <li>Protecting patient privacy is central</li> <li>Handling of data privacy in accordate privacy and legal requirements*</li> </ul>	to all Flatiron Health activities ance with relevant local ethics,	<ul> <li>Same <u>high-quality, validated data</u> processing approaches (harmonization, abstraction etc.)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Rich <u>longitudinal datasets</u> based on <u>unstructured and structured EHR</u> <u>data</u></li> </ul>
	Differences	• Obtaining IC from eligible patients, instead of the opt-out framework under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)	<ul> <li>Data transfer approach <u>tailored to</u> <u>Japanese EHR systems</u>, including local language and system requirements</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Abstraction and other data processing conducted in Japan, in line with local clinical context and in local language</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Data model adapted for local standard of care</li> <li>Provided via the Flatiron Research Platform, based on the robust Trusted Research Environment framework's requirements<sup>19</sup></li> </ul>

#### **Potential Use Cases Utilizing Flatiron Health Japan's RWD**

- Regulatory use cases (e.g. new drug application, label expansion)
- Integrated evidence generation
- Characterize therapeutic context (e.g., treatment sequencing, testing) patterns)
- Characterize additional cohorts not included in clinical studies
- Serve as a data source for external controls
- Evaluation of real-world clinical endpoints such as progression-free survival (PFS), overall survival (OS), time to treatment discontinuation (TTD), time to next treatment (TTNT) etc. in the post-marketing setting

- Explore real-world treatment patterns, testing patterns, patient journey etc.
- Evaluate comparative effectiveness and association between clinical outcomes, treatment or testing patterns and patients' demographic / clinical characteristics (e.g. age, gender, ECOG PS)
- Methodological advancements
  - Investigating approaches for improving quality, minimizing bias, and identifying fit-for-purpose, multinational applications of EHR-based RWD

\* To safeguard patient privacy, handling of personal information and data privacy are conducted in accordance with the Declaration of Helsinki, the Ethical Guidelines for Life Science and Medical Research Involving Human Subjects, and the Act on the Protection of Personal Information in Japan.

## **PLANS FOR THE FUTURE**

- RWD can play an important role in accelerating cancer research and improving outcomes. To date, high-quality, fit-for-purpose sources of RWD have not been readily available in Japan, but this novel collaboration aims to address this challenge. Flatiron Health Japan RWD are anticipated to inform cancer research and decision-making by clinicians, health authorities, and industry stakeholders.
- In addition to launching its first Japanese datasets in gastric and colorectal cancer in late 2023, Flatiron Health is also establishing a network of partnerships across the country, with the goal of curating a representative database of cancer treatments and outcomes across Japan. Data from these partnerships will be curated and made available for research in 2024 and beyond.
- Flatiron Health also aims to engage local regulatory authorities and other experts in Japan to discuss and establish best practices for the fit-for-purpose usage of RWD in supporting regulatory submissions and other use cases.

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