

# GetReal Faster: Advancing Real-World Data and Evidence in Global Contexts

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# Disclaimer

- Mark McClellan is an independent director on the boards of Alignment Healthcare, Cigna, Johnson & Johnson, and PrognomiQ, and receives advisory fees from Arsenal Capital, Blackstone, GRAIL, MITRE, and Resilience Manufacturing.

# Overview

- **Where Are We Now? Keys to Progress From The U.S. Experience**
  - Public-private momentum: bipartisan legislation, regulatory frameworks, and demonstration projects
  - Broad stakeholder collaboration: Duke-Margolis RWE Collaborative and other collaborative efforts supporting and informing the process
- **Where Are We Going?**
  - Shared motivating vision for high-impact, systematic, confident RWE – regulatory applications plus more
  - Building an ecosystem of “fit for purpose” data infrastructure to support lifecycle RWE
  - Validated, well-developed “fit for purpose” methods that are well understood – and keep getting better
- **How Do We Get There?**
  - People, platforms, and policy to advance RWE applications and platforms
  - Key role for multistakeholder collaboratives
- **How Do We Get There Together? Opportunities for Faster Progress Through Global Coordination and Convergence**

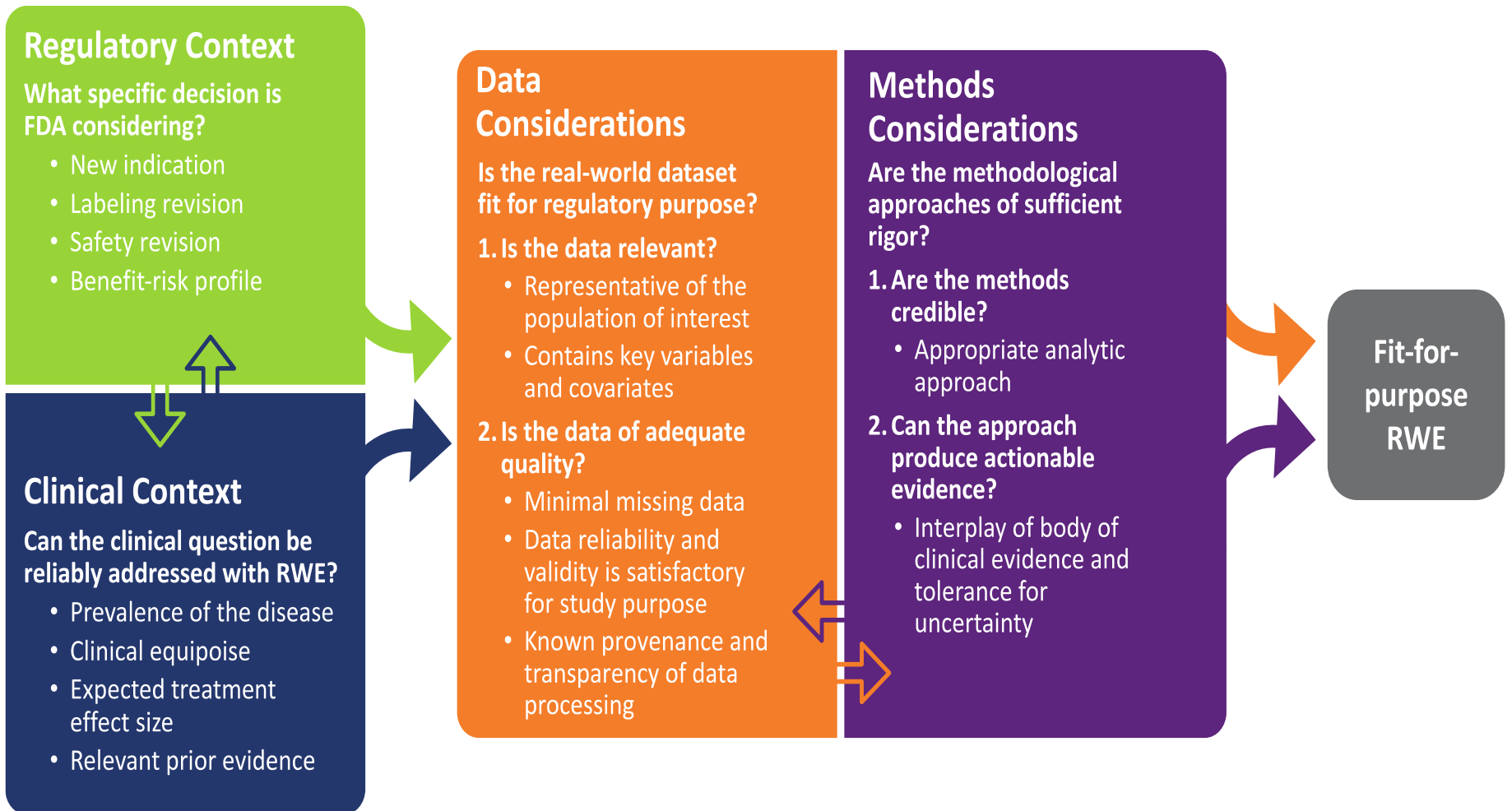
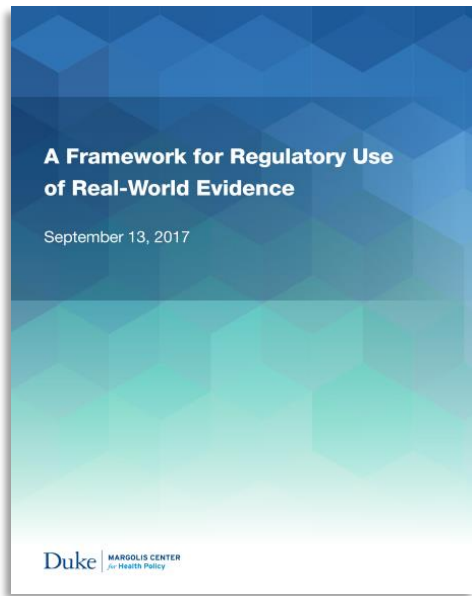
**Where are we now?**

# 21st Century Cures Act of 2016

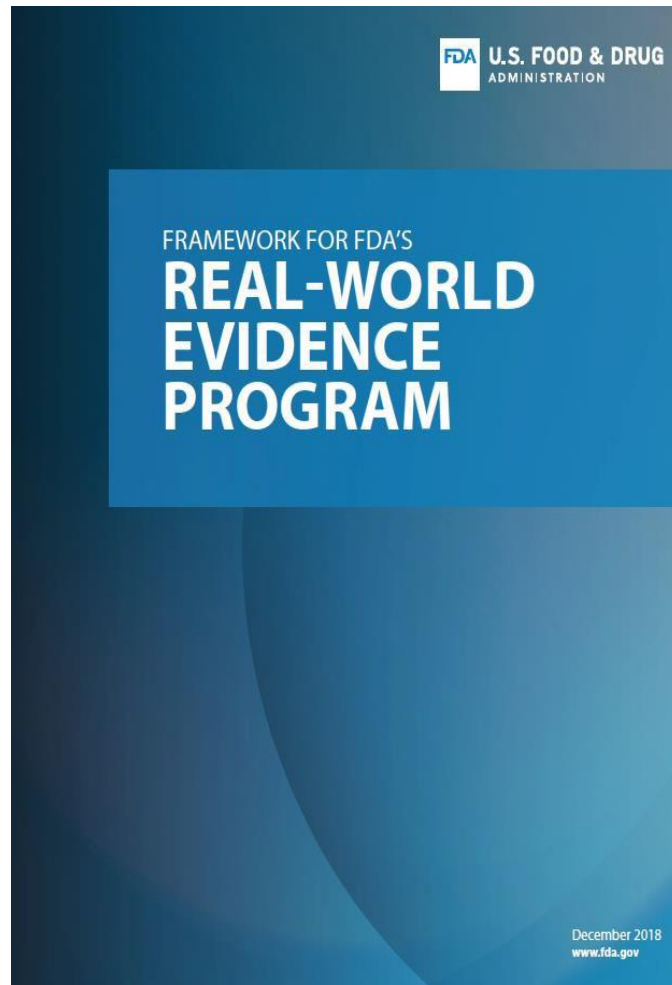


- **Building on the Sentinel Initiative and other public-private collaborations, FDA established a program to evaluate the potential use of real-world evidence (RWE) to:**
  - **Support a new indication for a drug approved under section 505(c)**
  - **Satisfy post-approval study requirements**
- **Draft framework issued in December 2018:**
  - **Describe sources of RWE, challenges, pilot opportunities, etc.**
- **Draft guidance for industry issued in Sep, Oct, Nov, Dec 2021**
- **Standard for substantial evidence remains unchanged; commitments met for Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) VI; new Advancing RWE initiatives in PDUFA VII** ←

# Generating RWE Fit for Regulatory Purpose



*Matching data sources and methods to answer specific clinical and regulatory questions determines applicability of RWE for different regulatory uses*



- **Applies to Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER), Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER), & Oncology Center of Excellence (OCE)**
- **Key components for assessing submissions with RWE:**
  - **Real world data's fitness for use**
  - **Appropriate and rigorous study designs**
  - **Ensuring reliable applications of regulatory processes and study conduct**

## Guidance for Industry

*DRAFT GUIDANCE*

Real-World Data: Assessing Electronic Health Records and Medical Claims Data To Support Regulatory Decision-Making for Drug and Biological Products

Real-World Data: Assessing Registries to Support Regulatory Decision-Making for Drug and Biological Products

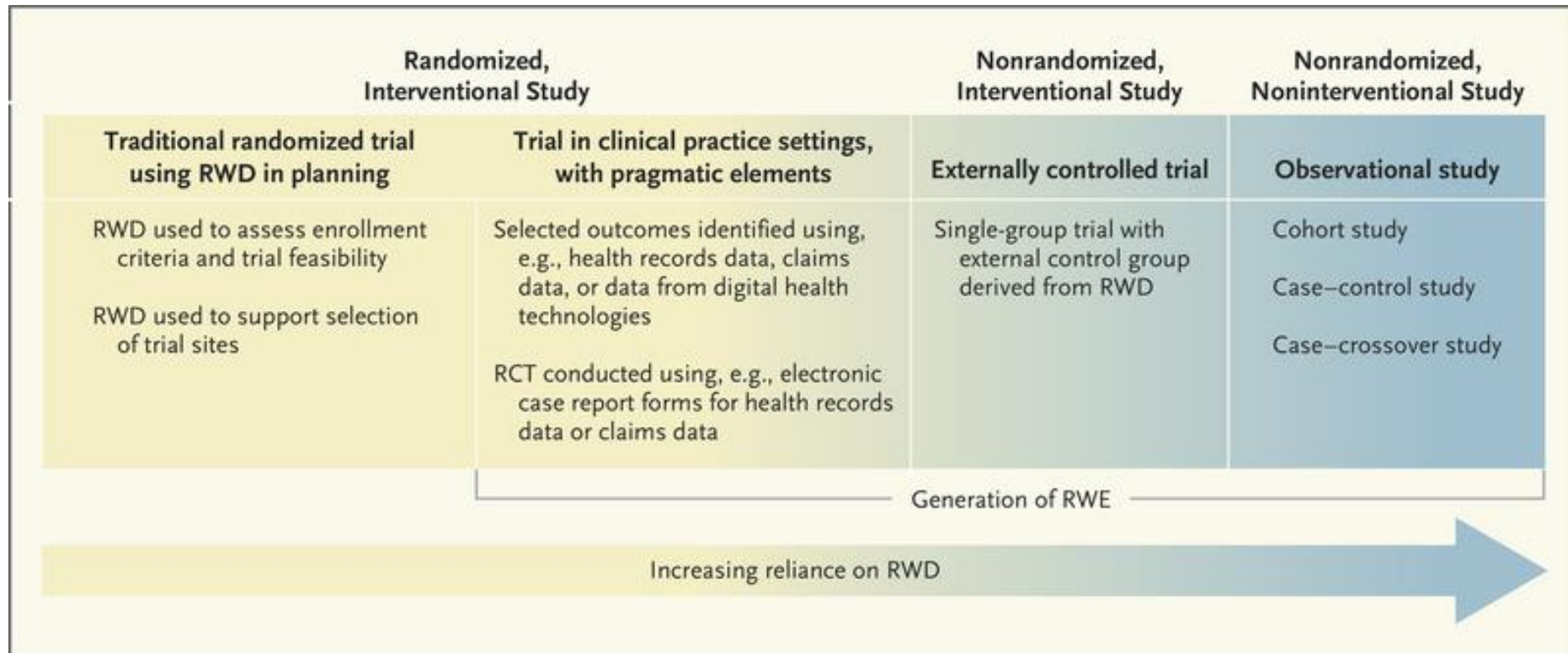
Data Standards for Drug and Biological Product Submissions Containing Real-World Data

Considerations for the Use of Real-World Data and Real-World Evidence to Support Regulatory Decision-Making for Drug and Biological Products



# Real-World Evidence — Where Are We Now?

John Concato, M.D., M.P.H., and Jacqueline Corrigan-Curay, J.D., M.D.



## Reliance on RWD in Representative Types of Study Design.

RCT denotes randomized, controlled trial; RWD real-world data; and RWE real-world evidence.

# RWE Demonstration Projects – Informal Categories



- **Quality**
- **Relevancy**
- **Linkage**



- **Aspects of trial design**
- **Assessments of non-interventional methods**



- **Common data models**
- **Analytics**
- **Mobile technologies**

# Growing Range of Regulatory RWE Applications

- Post market safety surveillance studies (long established use of RWE)
- Supplemental applications for label expansions (FDA's 2018 framework)
- Moving towards primary evidence
  - Recent precedence for leveraging observational studies as “adequate and well-controlled” (Concato and Corrigan-Curay, 2022)
  - Emerging opportunities for postmarket “label deepening” in support of precision medicine and informing care and payment models
    - Due to improving study methods and data reliability

# Real-World Evidence Uses Are Expanding

## Lifecycle Approach for Real-World Data and Evidence

### 1. Medical Product Development

- Inform biological understanding of disease
- Identify unmet need
- Drug selection
- Improve RCT recruitment efficiency

### 2. Regulatory Review

- Inform PM safety
- Inform new approvals in rare diseases
- Inform indication and labeling decisions

### 3. Care Delivery

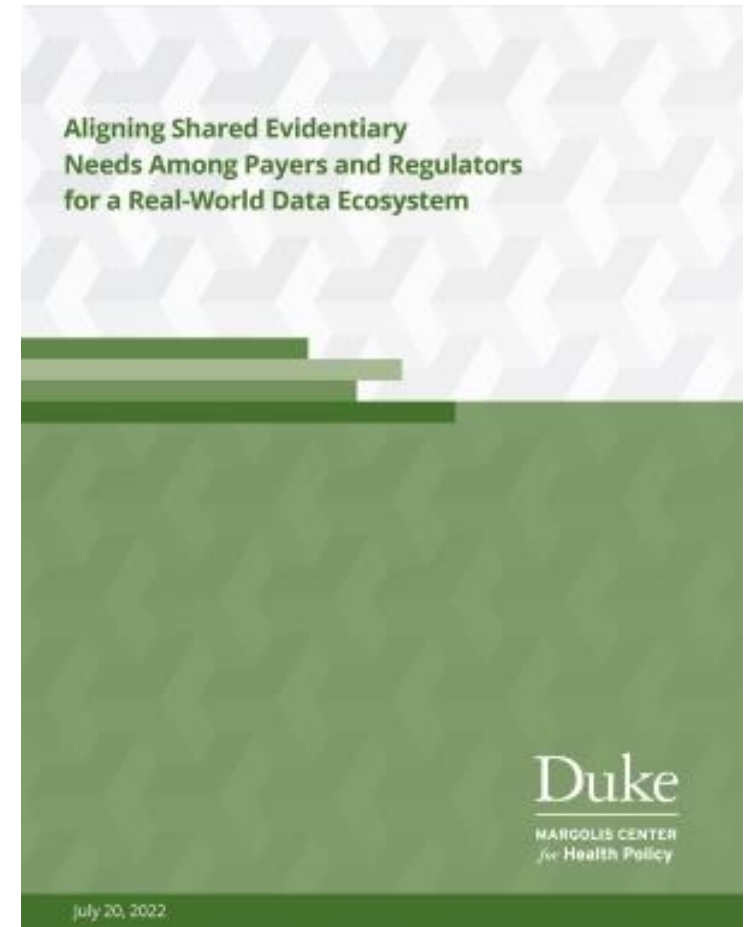
- AI-enabled CDS to personalize dx and tx decisions
- Support patients' engagement in their own care decisions
- Help drive higher-value care

### 4. Value-Based Payment and Coverage

- Increase stakeholder understanding of value of technology by incorporating RWE
- “De-risk” payment for high cost treatments to increase access

# Shared Evidentiary Opportunities: FDA & CMS

- Duke-Margolis 2021 white paper: "Aligning Shared Evidentiary Needs Among Payers and Regulators for a Real-World Data Ecosystem"
- Duke-Margolis is now exploring and disseminating evidentiary opportunities within the FDA Accelerated Approval pathway and CMS Coverage with Evidence Development program
- Recent CMS announcement about price negotiations under the Inflation Reduction Act: “foundation” of price negotiation will be clinical impact of product including comparative effectiveness, intended to drive further investment in RWE on this topic



# Duke-Margolis RWE Activities

- Duke-Margolis RWE Collaborative
  - Comments on all recent FDA RWE guidance documents
  - Regulatory Acceptability of RWE
  - Learning Health Care Systems
  - Master RWE Protocols
  - Real-World Efficacy: Patient Subgroups
  - Causal Inference and RWE
  - Shared Evidentiary Opportunities: Regulators and Payers
  - Clinical Trial Diversity
  - Patient-Generated Health Data and Genomic Data
  - International harmonization of RWE definitions and standards
- Recent FDA-supported Duke-Margolis convening and reports related to RWE
  - [Understanding the Use of Negative Controls to Assess the Validity of Non-Interventional Studies of Treatment Using Real-World Evidence](#)
  - [The State of Real-World Evidence Policy](#)
  - [Fourteenth Annual Sentinel Initiative Public Workshop](#)
  - [Lessons Learned from Trial Replication Analyses: Findings from the DUPLICATE Demonstration Project](#)

Where are we going?



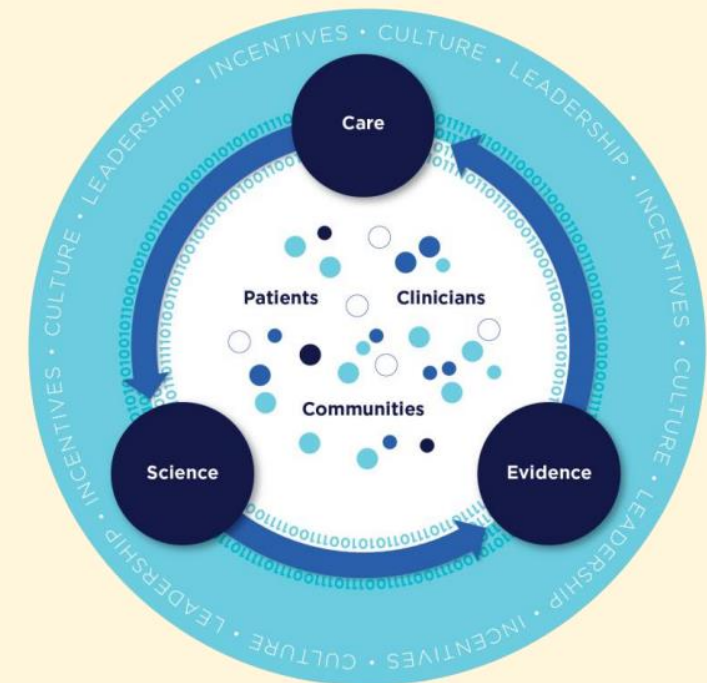
# Vision: Learning Health Care System with Robust Evidence Generation Infrastructure

- Key needs for developing a robust evidence generation infrastructure:
  - Engage participants and clinicians
  - Outcome measurement and payment that aligns RWE ecosystem with better participant/patient outcomes
  - Transparent, shared information across the ecosystem
  - Quality by design to have the right amount of oversight to optimize useful research results
  - Data quality and societal norms for data sharing and reciprocal obligations of data aggregators



INSTITUTE OF MEDICINE  
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Continuous Learning, Best Care, Lower Cost





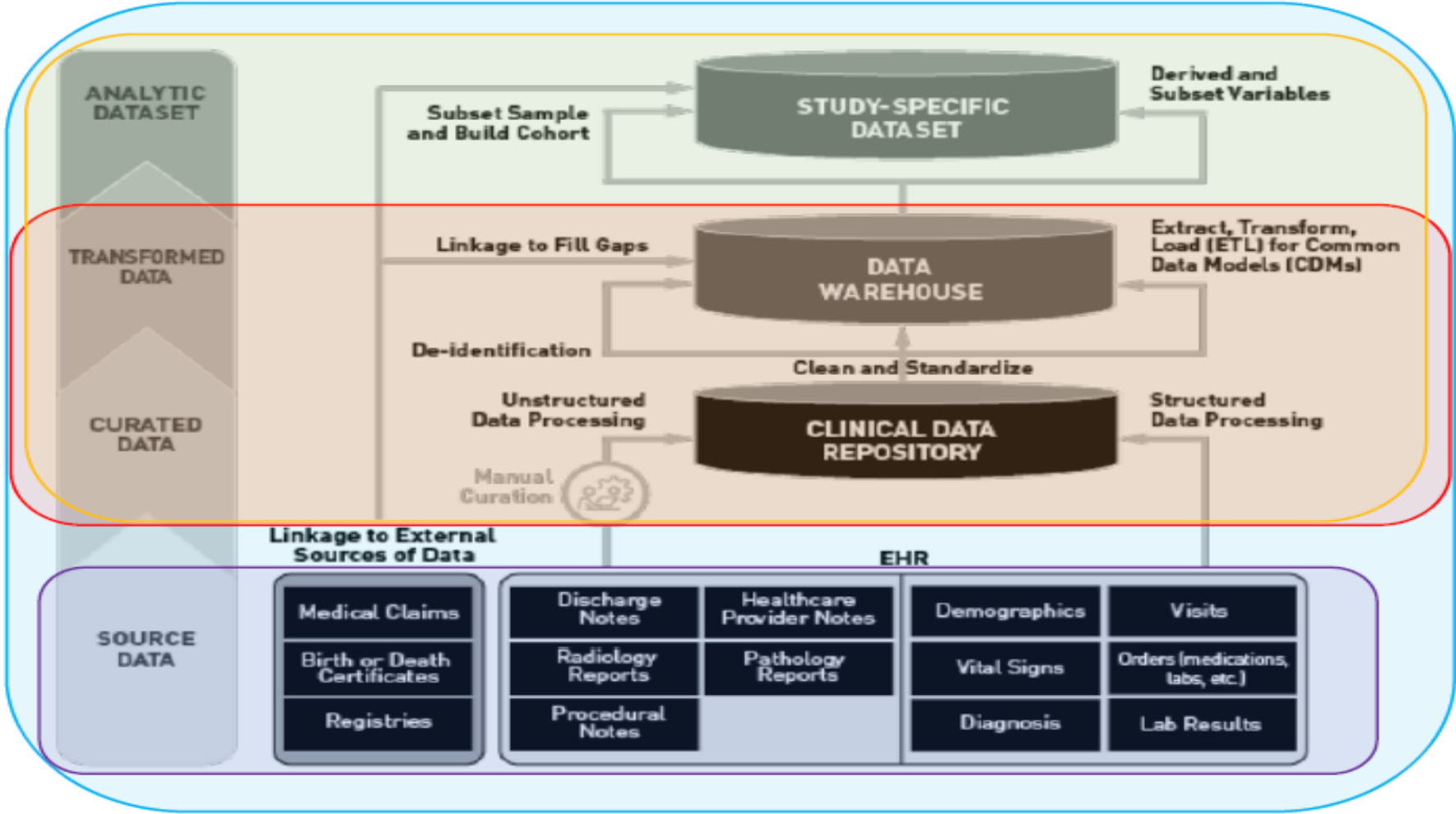
# Vision for RWD

Trust and Transparency

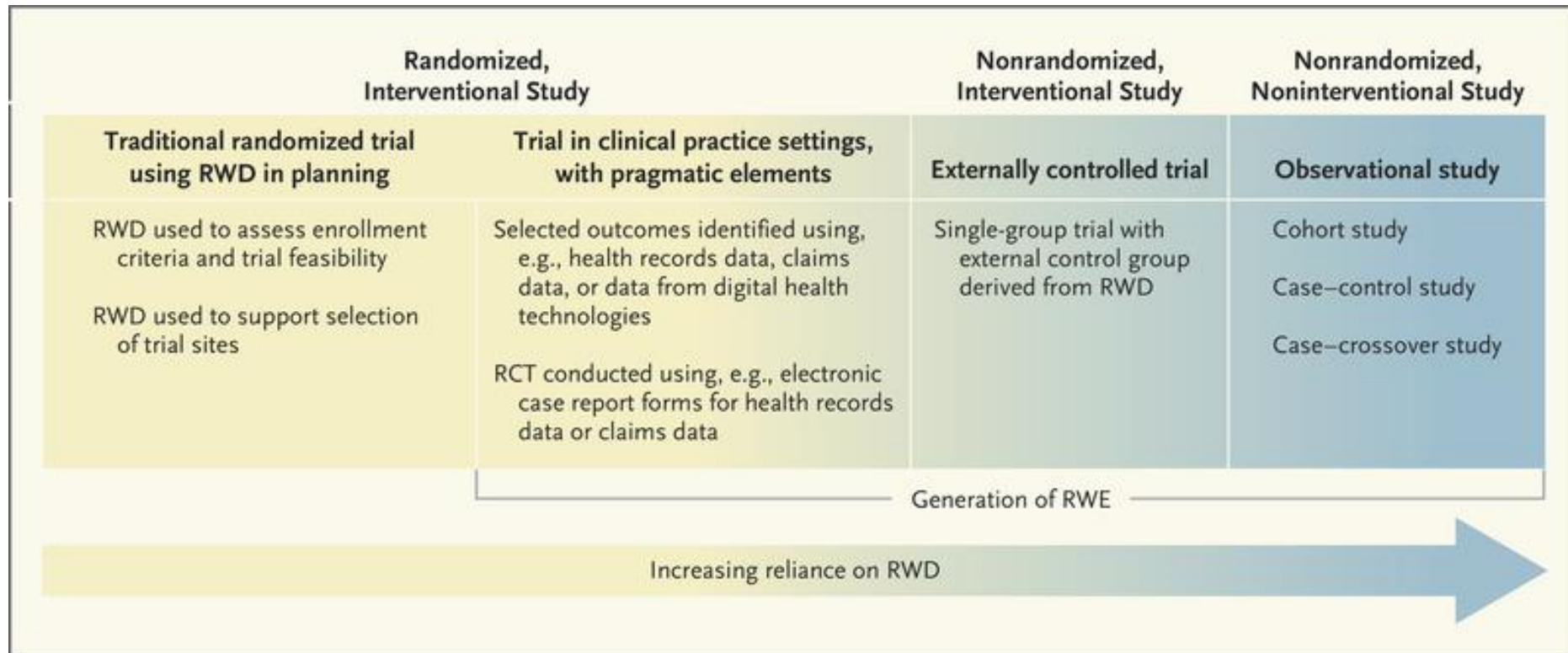
Stakeholder Alignment and Shared Understanding of RWD

Standardization, Technology, and Analytical Methods

Overarching Data Considerations



# Real-World Evidence — Where Are We Now? — Going?



Further development and validation of methods to address bias 

How do we get there?

# Coordination of people, platforms, and policy

- **Infrastructure:**
  - Randomised: Point-of-Care Clinical Trials
  - Observational: Interoperable Validated Platforms
- **Tools for transparent and consistent implementation of RWE:**
  - RWE Master Protocols
  - HARPER Template
- **Innovative scientific methods to improve causal inferences**
  - Trial Emulations (e.g., RCT Duplicate, Operand)
  - Negative Controls
  - Subgroup Analyses
- **Keys for coordination:**
  - Harmonizing evidentiary needs for ecosystem stakeholders (e.g., regulator and payer)
  - Harmonizing stakeholder goals and initiatives in a pre-competitive space
  - Supporting robust data collection and curation and evidence generation
- **Keys for motivation and momentum for collaboration:**
  - Engaging “use cases” to highlight how initiatives address key evidentiary gaps to motivate collaboration and practical focus
  - Plan for supporting resources via multi-stakeholder legislation and collaboration

# Point-of-Care Clinical Trials



Priority Solutions for Improving and Scaling Point-of-Care Trials	
Improving the Point-of-Care Approach	Scaling the Point-of-Care Approach
Supplement EHR data with other sources (i.e., PROs, wearables).	Secure key investments in reusable trial infrastructure.
Leverage existing interoperability standards (e.g., FHIR).	Align incentives to support point-of-care trial networks that will monitor long-term patient outcomes.
Use data surveillance systems and establishing a minimum set of common data elements.	Create an engagement framework to help build capacity for future point-of-care trial research based on key stakeholder perspectives, questions, and experiences.
Align incentives both internal and external to health systems.	Create a national point-of-care trials network and hub that establishes standards for data collection, tools, and other supports.
Adopt a risk-proportionate regulatory framework.	Develop ongoing partnerships between sponsors, clinicians, patients, and other health system stakeholders.
Streamline eligibility criteria and the consenting process.	Foster a culture of patient engagement and trust.

# Frontline Randomized Trial Networks for Improving Evidence for Patient Care

- Advancing Clinical Trials at the Point of Care (ACT@POC) Coalition engages health care systems and their frontline clinicians to integrate clinical research to routine care
- Effort originated from concerns of health system leaders of failure to generate timely needed evidence in COVID-19 through existing clinical trial infrastructure
- Focus extended to address critical gaps in clinically relevant evidence to guide use of new and existing treatments to reduce risks and complications from common chronic diseases
- Three major buckets of work:
  - Platform pilot projects
  - Policy updates: regulatory, payment, health system culture
  - Digital tools
- Similar (and collaborative) efforts underway with PROTAS in Europe

# RWE Master Protocols

- Momentum for RWE master protocols borne out of coordination of research and resources during the Covid 19 pandemic.
- Benefits parallel master protocols for clinical trials:
  - Improve RWE study efficiency, transparency, scale, and consistency
- Areas for innovation:
  - Establishing infrastructure and governance to streamline logistics, improve data quality, and facilitate data sharing
  - Developing common protocols that incorporate innovative study designs, statistical approaches, and data analyses





## COVID-19 Natural History Master Protocol

W. Katherine Yih, PhD, MPH, Wei Hua, MD, PhD, MHS, MS,\* Christine Draper, BA,\* Sarah Dutcher, PhD, MS,\* Candace Fuller, PhD, MPH,\* Maria Kempner, BA,\* Brian Kih, MD, MPH,\* Jennifer Lyons, PhD, MPH,\* Meighan Rogers Driscoll, MPH,\* Darren Toh, ScD,\* Vincent Lo Re III, MD, MSCE\*

Affiliations: 1. Department of Population Medicine, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA; 2. Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, US Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD; 3. Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine and Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA

Version 3.0  
October 9, 2020

The Sentinel System is sponsored by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to proactively monitor the safety of FDA-regulated medical products and complements other existing FDA safety surveillance capabilities. The Sentinel System is one piece of FDA's Sentinel Initiative, a long-term, multi-faceted effort to develop a national electronic system. Sentinel Collaborators include Data and Academic Partners that provide access to healthcare data and ongoing scientific, technical, methodological, and organizational expertise. The Sentinel Operations Center is funded by the FDA through the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Task order Z5940119910007.

> PLoS One. 2021 Mar 17;16(3):e0248128. doi: 10.1371/journal.pone.0248128. eCollection 2021.

## COVID-19 Evidence Accelerator: A parallel analysis to describe the use of Hydroxychloroquine with or without Azithromycin among hospitalized COVID-19 patients

Mark Stewart<sup>1</sup>, Carla Rodriguez-Watson<sup>2</sup>, Adem Albayrak<sup>3</sup>, Julius Asubonteng<sup>4</sup>, Andrew Belli<sup>5</sup>, Thomas Brown<sup>6</sup>, Kelly Cho<sup>7</sup>, Ritankar Das<sup>9</sup>, Elizabeth Eldridge<sup>3</sup>, Nicolle Gatto<sup>10</sup>, Alice Gelman<sup>3</sup>, Hanna Gerlovin<sup>7</sup>, Stuart L Goldberg<sup>11</sup>, Eric Hansen<sup>5</sup>, Jonathan Hirsch<sup>6</sup>, Yuk-Lam Ho<sup>7</sup>, Andrew Ip<sup>11</sup>, Monika Izano<sup>6</sup>, Jason Jones<sup>3</sup>, Amy C Justice<sup>12, 13</sup>, Reyna Klesh<sup>14</sup>, Seth Kuranz<sup>15</sup>, Carson Lam<sup>9</sup>, Qingqing Mao<sup>9</sup>, Samson Mataraso<sup>9</sup>, Robertino Mera<sup>4</sup>, Daniel C Posner<sup>7</sup>, Jeremy A Rassen<sup>10</sup>, Anna Siefkas<sup>9</sup>, Andrew Schrag<sup>6</sup>, Georgia Tourassi<sup>16</sup>, Andrew Weckstein<sup>10</sup>, Frank Wolf<sup>6</sup>, Amar Bhat<sup>2</sup>, Susan Winckler<sup>2</sup>, Ellen V Sigal<sup>1, 2</sup>, Jeff Allen<sup>1</sup>

Affiliations + expand  
PMID: 33730088 PMCID: PMC7968637 DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0248128  
Free PMC article

### Abstract

**Background:** The COVID-19 pandemic remains a significant global threat. However, despite urgent need, there remains uncertainty surrounding best practices for pharmaceutical interventions to treat COVID-19. In particular, conflicting evidence has emerged surrounding the use of hydroxychloroquine and azithromycin, alone or in combination, for COVID-19. The COVID-19 Evidence Accelerator convened by the Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA, in collaboration with Friends of Cancer Research, assembled experts from the health systems research, regulatory science, data science, and epidemiology to participate in a large parallel analysis of different data sets to further explore the effectiveness of these treatments.



## Study Synopsis: Natural History of Coagulopathy in COVID-19

Vincent Lo Re III, MD, MSCE,\* Sarah K. Dutcher, PhD,\* Silvia Perez-Vilar, PharmD, PhD,\* Dena M. Carbonari, MS,\* Sean Hennessy, PharmD, PhD,\* Maria E. Kempner, BA,\* Brian Kih, MD,\* Jenice Ko, BS,\* Allyson M. Fishko, MD, MSCE,\* Meighan Rogers Driscoll, MPH,\* Jeffrey Brown, PhD,\* Noelle Cocoros, JSc,\* MPH\*

Affiliations: 1. Division of Infectious Diseases, Department of Medicine, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA; 2. Department of Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Informatics, Center for Clinical Epidemiology and Biostatistics, Center for Pharmacoeconomics Research and Training, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA; 3. Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, US Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD; 4. Department of Population Medicine, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA; 5. Division of Hematology and Oncology, Department of Medicine, Perelman School of Medicine, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA.

Version 2.0  
June 4, 2021

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> Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf. 2023 Jan;32(1):44-55. doi: 10.1002/pds.5507. Epub 2022 Oct 10.

## Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research Office of Biostatistics and Epidemiology

# CBER Surveillance Program

## Draft Master Protocol Assessment of Risk of Safety Outcomes Following COVID-19 Vaccination

March 23, 2021

### Prepared By:

Ellen Tworkoski, MS, MPH, Hui-Lee Wong, PhD, Cindy Ke Zhou, PhD, Bradley Lufkin, MPA, MSES, Rositsa Dimova, PhD, MSPH, Manzi Ngaiza, MPH, Deborah Thompson, MD, MSPH, Talum Turetzky, BA, An-Chi Lo, MS, MPH, Shamal Sivaraguan, MPH, Mao Hu, BS, Yoganand Chhillarjee, MPA, Nirmal Choradia, MD, Laurie Feinberg, MD, MPH, MS, Richard Forshee, PhD, Steven A. Anderson, PhD, MPP

### Study Team:

US FDA: Hui-Lee Wong, PhD, Cindy Ke Zhou, PhD, Deborah Thompson, MD, MSPH, Rositsa Dimova PhD, Joyce Obidi, PhD, Richard Forshee, PhD, Azadeh Shoaibi, PhD, Steven A. Anderson, PhD, MPP

https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33730088/  
https://bestinitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/COVID-19-Vaccine-Safety-Inferential-Draft-Master-Protocol.pdf  
https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36215113/



## COVID-19 Pregnancy Study Protocol

Mayura Shinde, DrPH, MPH,\* Susan Andrade, ScD,\* Jennifer G. Lyons, PhD, MPH,\* Nicole Haug, MPH,\* Austin Cosgrove, BA,\* Adele Kennedy, MS, MPH,\* Jolene Damon, MPH,\* Patrick Dowe, MPH,\* Jenice Ko,\* Danijela Stojanovic, PharmD, PhD,\* Ben Wong, PhD,\* Leyla Sahin, MD,\* Yueqin Zhao, PhD,\* Darren Toh, ScD,\* Wei Hua, MD, PhD, MHS, MS\*

Affiliations: 1. Department of Population Medicine, Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA; 2. The Meyers Primary Care Institute, University of Massachusetts Medical School, Rollins Medical Group, and Fallon Health, Worcester, MA USA; 3. Office of Surveillance and Epidemiology, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, US Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD; 4. Office of Biostatistics, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, US Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD; 5. Office of New Drugs, Center for Drug Evaluation and Research, US Food and Drug Administration, Silver Spring, MD

Version 1.0  
May 19, 2021

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> Pharmacoepidemiol Drug Saf. 2023 Jan;32(1):44-55. doi: 10.1002/pds.5507. Epub 2022 Oct 10.

## HARmonized Protocol Template to Enhance Reproducibility of hypothesis evaluating real-world evidence studies on treatment effects: A good practices report of a joint ISPE/ISPOR task force

Shirley V Wang<sup>1</sup>, Anton Pottgård<sup>2</sup>, William Crown<sup>3</sup>, Peter Arlett<sup>4</sup>, Darren M Ashcroft<sup>5</sup>, Eric I Benchimol<sup>6, 7, 8</sup>, Marc L Berger<sup>9</sup>, Gracy Crane<sup>10</sup>, Wim Goettsch<sup>11, 12</sup>, Wei Hua<sup>13</sup>, Shaum Kabadi<sup>14</sup>, David M Kern<sup>15</sup>, Xavier Kurz<sup>4</sup>, Sinead Langan<sup>16</sup>, Takahiro Nonaka<sup>17</sup>, Lucinda Orsini<sup>18</sup>, Susana Perez-Gutthann<sup>19</sup>, Simone Pinheiro<sup>13</sup>, Nicole Pratt<sup>20</sup>, Sebastian Schneeweiss<sup>1</sup>, Massoud Toussi<sup>21</sup>, Rebecca J Williams<sup>22</sup>

Affiliations + expand  
PMID: 36215113 PMCID: PMC9771861 (available on 2024-01-01) DOI: 10.1002/pds.5507

### Abstract

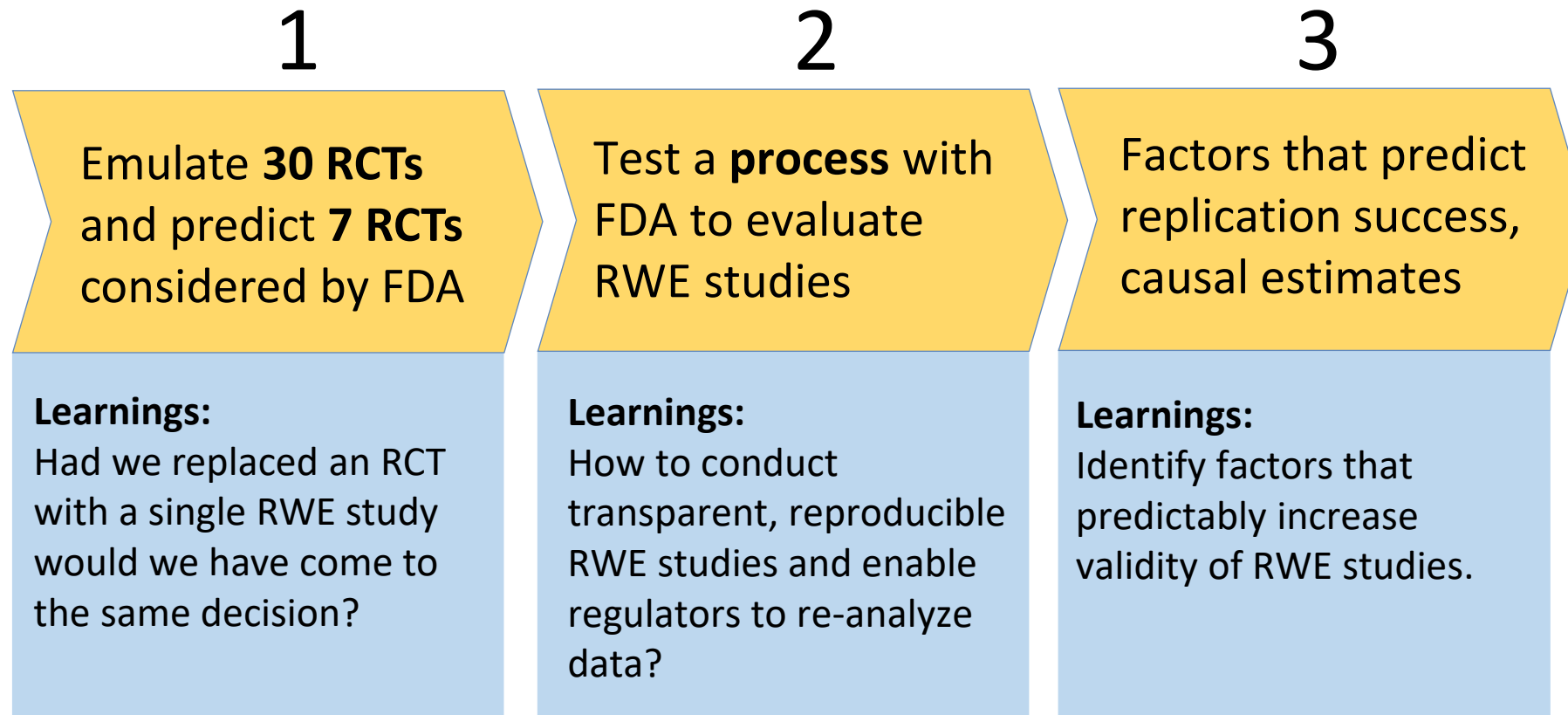
**Problem:** Ambiguity in communication of key study parameters limits the utility of real-world evidence (RWE) studies in healthcare decision-making. Clear communication about data provenance, design, analysis, and implementation is needed. This would facilitate reproducibility, replication in independent data, and assessment of potential sources of bias.

https://www.sentinelinitiative.org/sites/default/files/documents/Pregnancy\_Protocol\_COVID\_19.pdf  
https://www.sentinelinitiative.org/sites/default/files/documents/Coagulopathy\_COVID19\_Study\_Synopsis\_v2.0\_0.pdf  
https://www.sentinelinitiative.org/sites/default/files/Methods/COVID-19-Natural\_History\_Protocol\_v3.0.pdf



# RCT-DUPLICATE: A methods demonstration project

Objective: To understand and improve the validity of RWE studies to support regulatory decision making



# Executive Summary

**Knowledge gap:** When can RWE provide valid causal estimates of treatment effects?

**Objective:** To emulate 30 RCTs using clinical practice data and compare findings

**Approach:** Using claims data, investigators applied a pre-defined, transparent process to emulate RCTs with RWE and compare treatment effect estimates

**Findings:**

- 50% of the selected RCTs could be emulated closely regarding design, analysis
- Closely emulated RCTs found comparable treatment effects to the RWE studies
- RCT and RWE findings were more likely to diverge when there were substantive emulation challenges, perhaps answering different target questions or due to bias

**Implications:** Rigorous epidemiologic methods combined with fit-for-purpose data and target trial approaches can produce valid inference from RWE studies – but that's not always feasible

# Improving RWE Methods: Negative Controls

- **Negative Control Exposure (NCE):**
  - A variable that shares the same potential source of bias with the exposure of interest but is not causally related to the outcome of interest.
- **Negative Control Outcome (NCO):**
  - A variable that shares the same potential source of bias with the outcome of interest but is not causally related to the exposure of interest.
- **Next steps for advancing potential regulatory use of negative controls**
  - More methods development for identifying and validating NCEs and NCOs.
  - Key assumptions that underpin negative controls must be thoroughly tested for regulatory use (e.g., thresholds for identifying unmeasured bias and confounding).
  - More collaborations are needed to improve stakeholder understanding around context of use and utility.
    - Reference set of negative controls shared by the OHDSI community used in analyses [Reference set library – OHDSI](#)

The screenshot shows the website for the Duke Margolis Center for Health Policy. The header includes the Duke logo and navigation links for ABOUT, CAREERS, RESOURCE PORTAL, and CONTACT. Below the header, there are links for People, Research & Policy, Education, News, Events, Give, and a search icon. The main content area features an event titled "FDA Convening: Understanding the Use of Negative Controls to Assess the Validity of Non-Interventional Studies of Treatment Using Real-World Evidence". The event is scheduled for March 8, 2023, from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM, and is a virtual event. Contact information for Luke Durocher is provided, along with a link to margolisevents@duke.edu. There are also links to download materials: Negative Controls Agenda Final.pdf, Negative Controls Overview Table.pdf, and Negative Controls Speaker Biosheet Final.pdf. A "REGISTER" button is visible. Below the event details, there is a smaller version of the event banner. At the bottom, there is a paragraph of text explaining the importance of negative controls in RWE studies.

# How Do We Get There Together? Opportunities for Faster Progress Through Global Coordination and Convergence

## Guidance for Industry

*DRAFT GUIDANCE*

Real-World Data: Assessing Electronic Health Records and Medical Claims Data To Support Regulatory Decision-Making for Drug and Biological Products

Real-World Data: Assessing Registries to Support Regulatory Decision-Making for Drug and Biological Products

Data Standards for Drug and Biological Product Submissions Containing Real-World Data

Considerations for the Use of Real-World Data and Real-World Evidence to Support Regulatory Decision-Making for Drug and Biological Products

<https://www.fda.gov/science-research/science-and-research-special-topics/real-world-evidence>

# Current landscape of relevant EU guidance on RWE



EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

22 October 2021  
EMA/426390/2021  
Committee for Human Medicinal Products (CHMP)

Guideline on registry-based studies

Oct. 2021




EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

16 December 2021  
EMA/447502/2021

European Medicines Regulatory Network Data Standardisation Strategy

Dec. 2021




EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY

31 May 2022  
EMA/563896/2022

List of metadata for Real World Data catalogues

May 2022



DARWIN  
EU

2022-2025




EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH



30 September 2022  
Data Analytics and Methods Task Force  
European Medicines Agency

Data Quality Framework for EU medicines regulation

Start of public consultation	10 October
End of consultation	18 November

Comments should be provided using this [template](#). The completed comments form should be sent to [dataqualityframework@ema.europa.eu](mailto:dataqualityframework@ema.europa.eu)

Consultations launched in Sept. 2022

EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

1 September 2022  
EMA/787647/2022  
European Medicines Agency

Good Practice Guide for the use of the Metadata Catalogue of Real-World Data Sources V 1.0

Start of public consultation	27 September 2022
End of consultation	16 November 2022

Comments should be provided using this [template](#). The completed comments form should be sent to [metadata@ema.europa.eu](mailto:metadata@ema.europa.eu)

June 2022




EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

EMA/95098/2010 Rev.10

European Network of Centres for Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance

The European Network of Centres for Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance (ENCePP) Guide on Methodological Standards in Pharmacoepidemiology (Revision 10)

For revision in 2023




EUROPEAN MEDICINES AGENCY  
SCIENCE MEDICINES HEALTH

9 October 2017  
EMA/813938/2011 Rev 3\*

Guideline on good pharmacovigilance practices (GVP) Module VIII – Post-authorisation safety studies (Rev 3)



# NICE recently published its RWE framework, which describes best practices for the planning, conduct, and reporting of RWE studies



## Overarching Principals for NICE RWE Framework<sup>1</sup>



**NICE** National Institute for Health and Care Excellence

1. Generating evidence in a transparent way “with integrity from study planning to study conduct and reporting”
2. Ensuring that the data is of good provenance, that it is trustworthy and fit for purpose
3. The use of appropriate analytical methods that minimize the risk of bias and characterize uncertainty

- ▶ Enhancing use of real-world data to resolve gaps in knowledge and drive forward access to innovative medicines for patients was noted as a strategic focus in the NICE Strategy 2021 to 2026<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ As a result, NICE published the RWE framework in June 2022 to help deliver on this ambition by<sup>2</sup>:
  - Identifying when real-world data can be used to reduce uncertainties and improve guidance
  - Clearly describing best-practices for planning, conduct, and reporting RWE studies to improve the quality and transparency of evidence
- ▶ The framework provides transparency by advising clear specification of research questions, early planning of studies, and clear descriptions of data sources and data curation data sources<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ It is intended to be a “living document” that will broaden overtime according to need<sup>2</sup>

**Abbreviations:** NICE - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; RWE - Real-world evidence

**References:** 1) Bruce, Francesca. England. HTA Body NICE Makes Big RWE Push. Pink Sheet Pharma Intelligence. Available at <https://pink.pharmaintelligence.informa.com/PS146414/England-HTA-Body-NICE-Makes-Big-RWE-Push>. Accessed 3 November 2022. 2) National Institute for Health and Care Excellence. NICE real-world evidence framework. Corporate document [ECD9]. 2022.

# Preliminary Takeaways from Emerging Landscape of *RWD* Regulatory Frameworks

- Generally, support for and broad understanding of potential regulatory use cases for regulatory RWE (safety and effectiveness) and definitions/considerations surrounding fit-for-purpose datasets.
- However, there appears to be early potential divergence in terminologies and concepts:
  - Defining fitness-for-use datasets:
    - FDA: Reliability and Relevance
      - Reliability: data accuracy, completeness, provenance, and traceability
      - Relevance: availability of key data elements (exposure, outcomes, covariates) and sufficient numbers of representative patients for the study
    - EMA: Reliability, Relevance, Extensiveness, Coherence, and Timeliness
      - Reliability: precision, accuracy, and plausibility
      - Relevance: covers how closely the data reflects the aspects of reality that we intend to measure
    - NICE: Quality and Relevance
      - Reliability: completeness and accuracy
      - Relevance: data content, coverage, and characteristics
  - Challenging to apply and operationalize these concepts as part of fit-for-purpose assessment frameworks (e.g., validation approaches, quality checks, and documentation needs)
- Interactions with HTA for fit-for-purpose RWD guiding clinical practice and payment decisions are becoming clearer – similar issues for supporting evidence on comparative effectiveness and “label deepening” (clinical guidelines, increasing impact in care delivery)



# RWD Audit Readiness Initiative: Landscape Assessment Insights Framework

2020-2021 Literature Review Findings\*

**DRAFT**

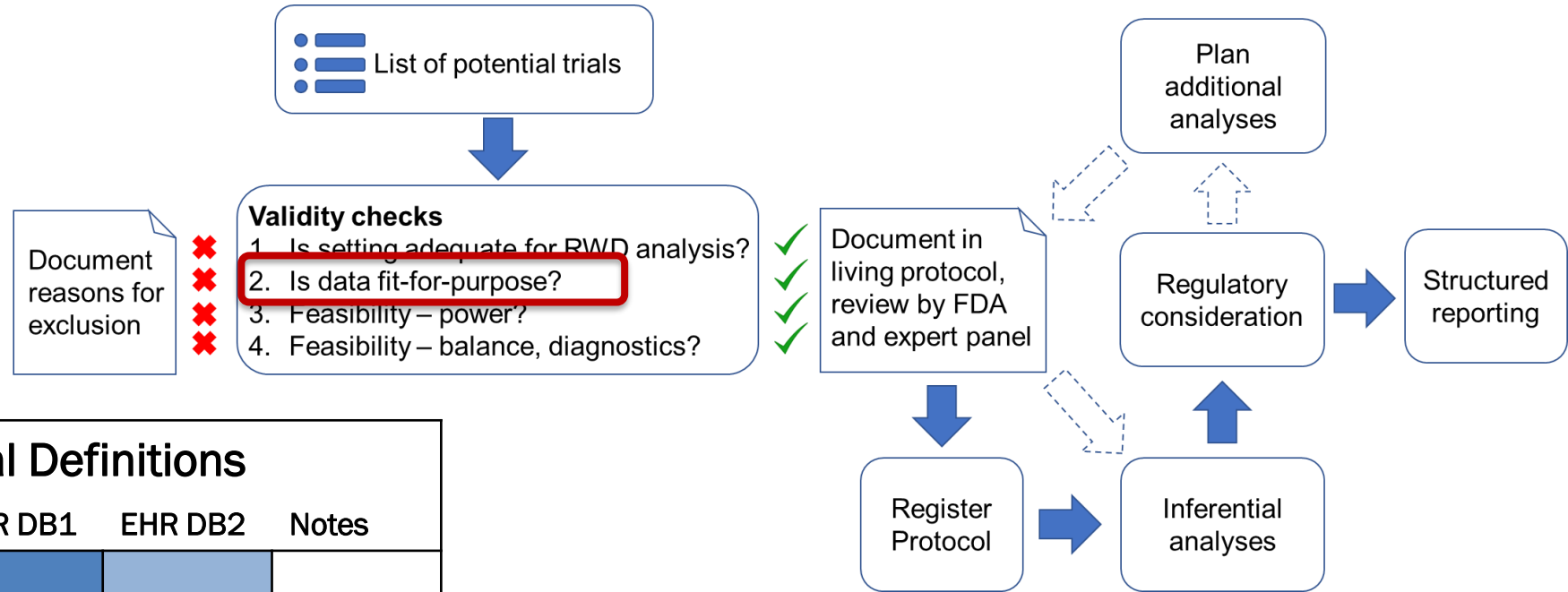
	Data Relevance		Data Reliability		
	RELEVANCE	ACCRUAL	PROVENANCE	COMPLETENESS	ACCURACY
Definition	Robust and representative of the population of interest, and the data elements available for analysis address scientific/regulatory questions when valid and appropriate analytic methods are applied (PICOTS)	Process by which data are collected/aggregated and patients are included in a study (including record prompts for entry/exit from dataset, operational definitions, and inclusion/exclusion criteria)	Origin(s) of data, sometimes including a chronological record of data custodians and transformations (sometimes referred to as 'data lineage' or 'data traceability').	Presence of all needed and expected elements for a given percentage of data points of an individual variable	Whether data values stored for an object are correct values and stored in consistent and unambiguous form
Documentation	Protocol; Final study report (FSR)	Protocol; Statistical analysis plan (SAP); Data mgmt. plan (DMP); Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs)	Protocol; SAP; DMP; SOPs	Customized report for key variables; DMP; SOPs; FSR	Customized report for key variables; DMP; SOPs; FSR
Gaps	No widely accepted approach for validation	No widely accepted approach (level of detail) or most appropriate place to document	No widely accepted approach (level of detail, structured vs. unstructured) or most appropriate place to document	None evident	Unclear: Validation or verification
<b>Validation Process</b>					

\* Insights gathered from targeted literature review, including the following sources: Daniel et al. Characterizing RWD Quality and Relevancy for Regulatory Purposes. Oct 2018; Franklin et al. Evaluating the use of nonrandomized real-world data analyses for regulatory decision making. Clin Pharmacol Ther 2019;105:867; Kahn et al. A Harmonized Data Quality Assessment Terminology and Framework for the Secondary Use of Electronic Health Record Data. Egems 2016;4:1244; Mahendraratnam et al. Determining Real-World Data's Fitness for Use and the Role of Reliability. Sep 2019; US FDA. Framework for FDA's Real-World Evidence Program. Dec 2018

Slide presented by Dr. Cathy Critchlow, DIA, 2022



# Assessing fitness of data



Operational Definitions				
	RCT	EHR DB1	EHR DB2	Notes
Time 0		Dark Blue	Light Blue	
Exposure		Dark Blue	Light Blue	
Comparator		Dark Blue	Light Blue	
Outcome		Light Blue	Dark Blue	
Follow up start		Dark Blue	Light Blue	
Follow up end		Dark Blue	Light Blue	
Inclusion criteria		Light Blue	Dark Blue	
Exclusion criteria		Light Blue	Dark Blue	
Effect estimation		Light Blue	Dark Blue	
Causal estimand				

## Operational definitions

- Where do the algorithms come from?
- What are the performance characteristics?
- Relevance, reliability of data for key study parameters?
- Color code to summarize and help make decisions, fit-for-purpose?

Gatto et al 2022, CPT, SPIFD  
Wang et al 2022, PDS & ViH, HARPER

The June 2022 ICMRA workshop on RWE identified four areas of opportunities for regulatory collaboration which could help address common challenges and further enable the integration of RWE into regulatory decision-making.

- **Harmonisation of RWD and RWE terminologies:**

- Generate common operational definitions of RWD and RWE, with clear scope and level of granularity (e.g., pertaining to RCTs and observational studies);
- Leverage existing ICH activities, such as M14 on *“General principles on planning and designing pharmacoepidemiological studies that utilize real-world data for safety assessment of a medicine”*.

- **Convergence on RWD and RWE guidance and best practice, including:**

- Common principles for RWD quality;
- Metadata to enable characterisation and discoverability of RWD;
- Suitable scenarios where RWE may contribute to regulatory decision-making, building on existing use-cases;
- Templates for study protocols/reports that can be used in multiple regulatory jurisdictions.

# Enabling Pathways to Convergence

- Varying regulatory requirements for documenting RWD and generating RWE as part of submissions will slow progress on achieving RWD/RWE vision
- More systematic efforts to promote clear and consistent use of RWD/E concepts and terminology should be combined with increasing opportunities to apply them to practical examples and use cases that matter globally – from concepts to larger-scale implementation
  - Sentinel, DARWIN are platforms supported by regulatory agencies that can provide models for transparency, shared learning, and extension to additional industry applications
  - Creating additional opportunities to support RWE applications by product developers can increase “use case” implementations and advance RWE platforms
- “Coordinated” strategy to highlight and leverage US, EMA, and other shared topics of interest will lead to synergies and more progress globally on RWE

# Thank You!

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