



# Natural History Studies and Registries in the Development of Rare Disease Treatments

**Hybrid Public Workshop**  
May 13, 2024 | 10am-4pm (eastern)



**The public meeting will begin shortly**

A workshop prepared in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration and the NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences





# Natural History Studies and Registries in the Development of Rare Disease Treatments

**Hybrid Public Workshop**  
May 13, 2024 | 10am-4pm (eastern)



A workshop prepared in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration and the NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

This activity is supported by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of an award of \$97,915 in federal funds (100% of the project). The contents are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official views of, nor an endorsement, by FDA, HHS, or the U.S. Government. For more information, please visit [FDA.gov](https://www.fda.gov).

REAGAN-UDALL  
**FOUNDATION**  
FOR THE FDA






# Welcome

**Susan C. Winckler, RPh, Esq.**

Chief Executive Officer

Reagan-Udall Foundation for the FDA

# Hybrid Meeting

 Joining online:  
Microphone and video will remain off during the meeting  
Share your questions using the Zoom Q&A function

 Joining in-person:  
Please write your questions on the index cards provided

 This public meeting is being recorded  
The slides, transcript, and video will be available at [www.ReaganUdall.org](http://www.ReaganUdall.org)

# Today's Agenda (Eastern Time)



- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| <b>10am</b>    | Welcome & Opening Remarks  |
| <b>10:15am</b> | "What Are Registries and Natural History Studies"<br>"Why Registries and Natural History Studies are Critical to Rare Disease Treatment Development" |
| <b>10:30am</b> | Getting Started: Developing Registries and Designing Natural History Studies   |
| <b>11:25am</b> | Addressing Challenges in Registry and Natural History Data Collection  |
| <b>12:25pm</b> | Funding Opportunities  |
| <b>12:40pm</b> | Lunch  |
| <b>1:35pm</b>  | Collecting Fit for Purpose Data to Inform Regulatory Decision Making   |
| <b>2:35pm</b>  | Case Examples  |
| <b>3:45pm</b>  | Closing Remarks & Adjourn  |

# Opening Remarks

**Patrizia Cavazzoni, MD**

Director

Center for Drug Evaluation and Research  
U.S. Food and Drug Administration

# “What Are Registries and Natural History Studies?”

**Dominique Pichard, MD, MS**

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, NIH



# What are registries and natural history studies?

Dominique C. Pichard, MD, MS

*Director*

*Division of Rare Diseases Research Innovation, NCATS*



# Definitions

- **Natural history of a disease:** the course a disease takes in the absence of intervention in individuals with the disease, from disease onset until either the disease's resolution or death.
- **Natural history study:** a preplanned observational study intended to track the course of a disease over time.
- **Registry:** a collection of information about a specified group of people
  - Ex. Contact registry, disease registry, population registry



# Examples of registries



National Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS) Registry



Rett Syndrome  
Registry™



National Center  
for Advancing  
Translational Sciences

# Definitions

- **Natural history of a disease:** the course a disease takes in the absence of intervention in individuals with the disease, from disease onset until either the disease's resolution or death.
- **Natural history study:** a preplanned observational study intended to track the course of a disease over time.
- **Registry:** a collection of information about a specified group of people
  - Ex. Contact registry, disease registry, population registry



# NCATS

**COLLABORATE. INNOVATE. ACCELERATE.**

 [ncats.nih.gov](https://ncats.nih.gov)

 [@ncats\\_nih\\_gov](https://twitter.com/ncats_nih_gov)

 [@ncats.nih.gov](https://www.facebook.com/ncats.nih.gov)

 [NIH-NCATS](https://www.linkedin.com/company/NIH-NCATS)



**NIH** National Center  
for Advancing  
Translational Sciences

# “What Are Registries and Natural History Studies?”

**Kerry Jo Lee, MD**

Center for Drug Development and Research, FDA



Accelerating Rare disease Cures (ARC) Program

## NATURAL HISTORY STUDIES AND REGISTRIES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF RARE DISEASE TREATMENTS

Kerry Jo Lee, M.D.

Associate Director for Rare Diseases

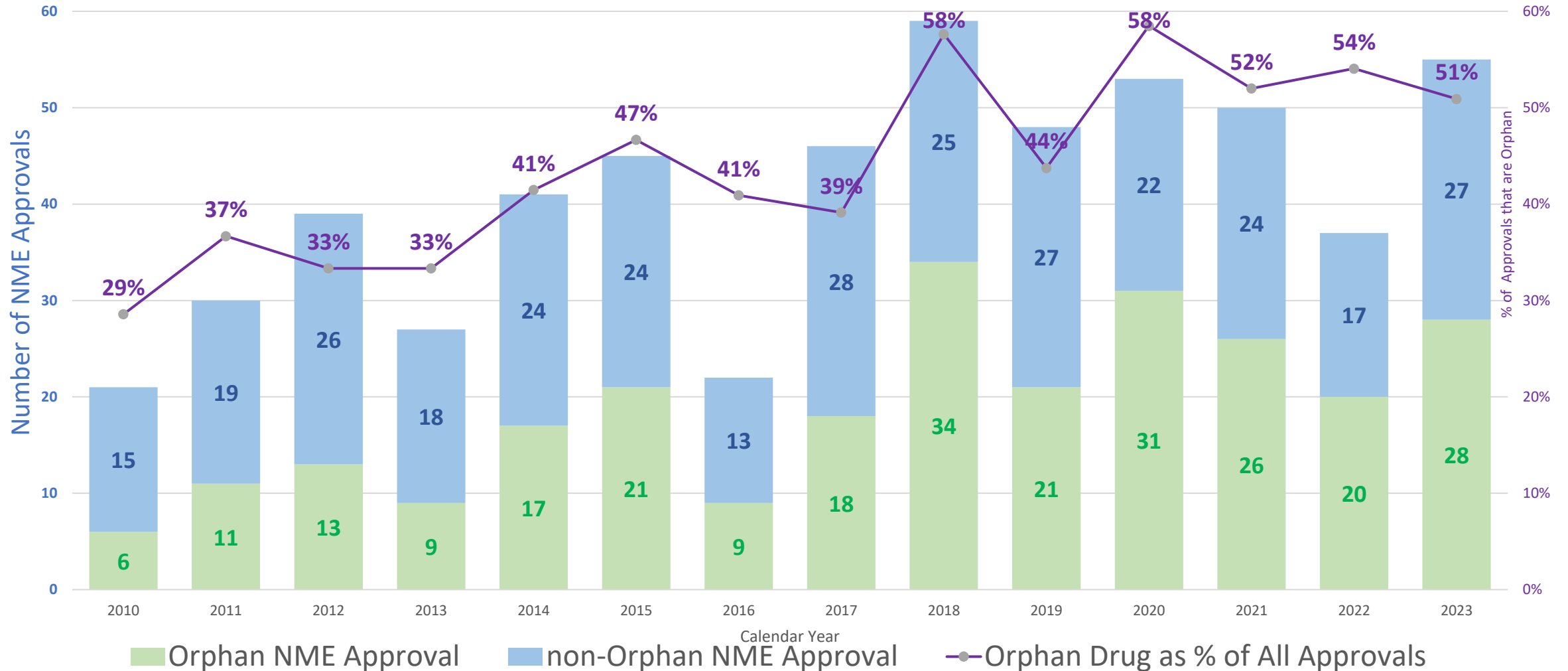
Rare Diseases Team

DRDMG | ORPURN | CDER | US FDA



**U.S. FOOD & DRUG**  
ADMINISTRATION

# Proportion of CDER Novel Drug Approvals that are Orphan





# We Face Common Challenges in Rare Disease Drug Development

- **Natural history** is often poorly understood
- Diseases are progressive, **serious, life-limiting** *and* often lack adequate **approved therapies** – **urgent needs**, many have **pediatric onset**
- **Small populations** often restrict study design options
- **Phenotypic and genotypic** diversity within a disorder
- **Development programs often lack solid translational background**
- **Drug development tools - outcome measures and biomarkers often lacking**
- Lack of **precedent**, including **clinically meaningful endpoints**, for drug development in many rare diseases

# Supporting the Design and Conduct of Clinical Trials for Rare Diseases



*Search for Selected FDA Guidance Documents by Topic Relevant to Rare Disease Drug Development*

<https://www.fda.gov/drugs/guidances-drugs/guidance-documents-rare-disease-drug-development>

## Rare Diseases: Natural History Studies for Drug Development Guidance for Industry

### *DRAFT GUIDANCE*

This guidance document is being distributed for comment purposes only.

Comments and suggestions regarding this draft document should be submitted within 90 days of publication in the *Federal Register* of the notice announcing the availability of the draft guidance. Submit electronic comments to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. All comments should be identified with the docket number listed in the notice of availability that publishes in the *Federal Register*.

For questions regarding this draft document, contact (CDER) Lucas Kempf at 301-796-1140; (CBER) Office of Communication, Outreach, and Development at 800-835-4709 or 240-402-8010; or Office of Orphan Products Development (OOPD) at 301-796-8660.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)  
Office of Orphan Products Development (OOPD)

March 2019  
Rare Diseases

## Demonstrating Substantial Evidence of Effectiveness With One Adequate and Well-Controlled Clinical Investigation and Confirmatory Evidence Guidance for Industry

### *DRAFT GUIDANCE*

This guidance document is being distributed for comment purposes only.

Comments and suggestions regarding this draft document should be submitted within 90 days of publication in the *Federal Register* of the notice announcing the availability of the draft guidance. Submit electronic comments to <https://www.regulations.gov>. Submit written comments to the Dockets Management Staff (HFA-305), Food and Drug Administration, 5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061, Rockville, MD 20852. All comments should be identified with the docket number listed in the notice of availability that publishes in the *Federal Register*.

For questions regarding this draft document, contact (CDER) Office of New Drug Policy, Eithu Lwin, 301-796-0728, or (CBER) Office of Communication, Outreach and Development, 800-835-4709 or 240-402-8010.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Oncology Center of Excellence (OCE)  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)

September 2023  
Clinical/Medical

## Rare Diseases: Considerations for the Development of Drugs and Biological Products Guidance for Industry

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)

December 2023  
Rare Diseases

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

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
Food and Drug Administration  
Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)  
Center for Biologics Evaluation and Research (CBER)  
Oncology Center of Excellence (OCE)

December 2023  
Real World Data/Real World Evidence (RWD/RWE)

# Visit the ARC website for conference recordings and other resources

- <https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/center-drug-evaluation-and-research-cder/accelerating-rare-disease-cures-arc-program>



# Getting Started: Developing Registries and Designing Natural History Studies

## **Presenters**

**Leslie Gordon, MD, PhD**

The Progeria Research Foundation

**Eileen King, PhD**

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

**Michael Wagner, PhD**

University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

**Kristen Wheeden, MBA**

United Porphyrias Association

# Getting Started: Developing Registries and Designing Natural History Studies



Photo Courtesy of PRF

**Leslie B. Gordon, MD, PhD**

The Progeria Research Foundation

Hasbro Children's Hospital & Alpert Medical School of Brown U.  
Boston Children's Hospital Boston and Harvard Medical School

**Reagan-Udall Foundation For The FDA**

May 13, 2024



# Photo Permissions

Families sign consents for PRF to permit use of their photographs. To respect those families and children's wishes, please do not use the photos in this presentation.

Please contact The Progeria Research Foundation for image use permissions.

Thank you very much.

Together We *WILL* Find The Cure!

[www.progeriaresearch.org](http://www.progeriaresearch.org)

# Learning From Each Other: PRF Road to the Cure Using Registry, Database, Natural History Studies



Photo Courtesy of PRF

*Provide you with some of the key thematic lessons learned through our journey with progeria, so that we can all become better, faster and stronger towards curing our patients.*

**Because TIME is not on our side...**

# This Is Progeria (HGPS)



Rachel: Newborn



Toddler



2<sup>nd</sup> grade



9 years old

- Segmental Premature Aging
- Autosomal Dominant
- Lifespan Ave. 14.6 yrs. (5-21y) without treatment
- Premature atherosclerosis, CV failure



# 1998 - There Was No Hope...



Photo Courtesy of PRF

- 2 or 3 scientists working on Progeria
- No Research Funding
- Was this a genetic disease?
- No Central Source of Clinical Information
- Clinical Disease Poorly Defined
- No Treatment Prospects
- No Place for Families and Physicians to go for Help

# The Progeria Research Foundation - 1999



Photo Courtesy of PRF

## Mission

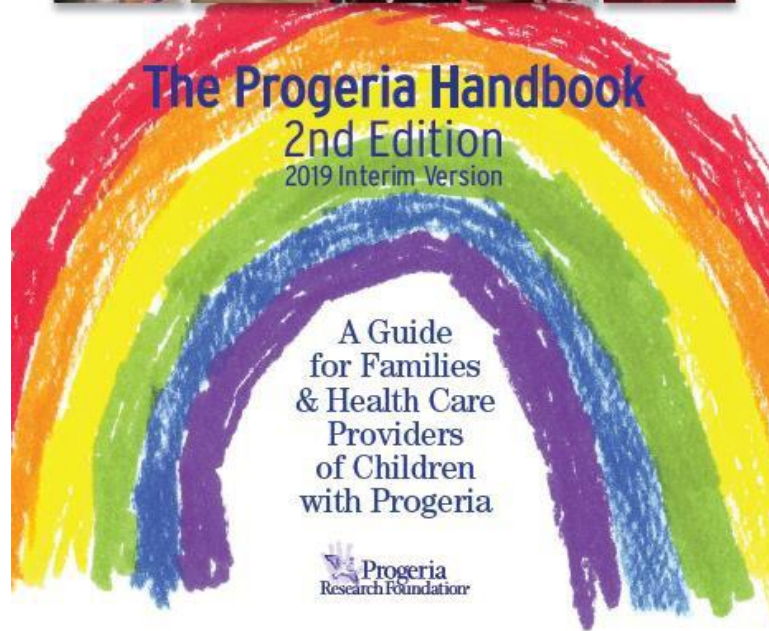
- Cause
- Treatment
- Cure

Together We *WILL* Find The Cure!

[www.progeriaresearch.org](http://www.progeriaresearch.org)

# A Few Milestones

PREPARED BY THE PROGERIA RESEARCH FOUNDATION



- Gene Mutations Discovered and Defined (Nature, 2003)
- CV-faithful Progerin-producing Mouse Models Developed
- Natural History Study at NIH Clinical Center (NEJM, 2008)
- 4 Clinical Treatment Trials – fully enrolled months after initiation – 107 children from 42 countries
- World's Progeria Experts at Boston Children's Hospital
- 130-Page Clinical Care Handbook
- Plasma Progerin Biomarker in Validation (Circulation, 2021)

# Nov 30, 2020: PRF Joins only 5% of Rare Diseases with an Approved Drug

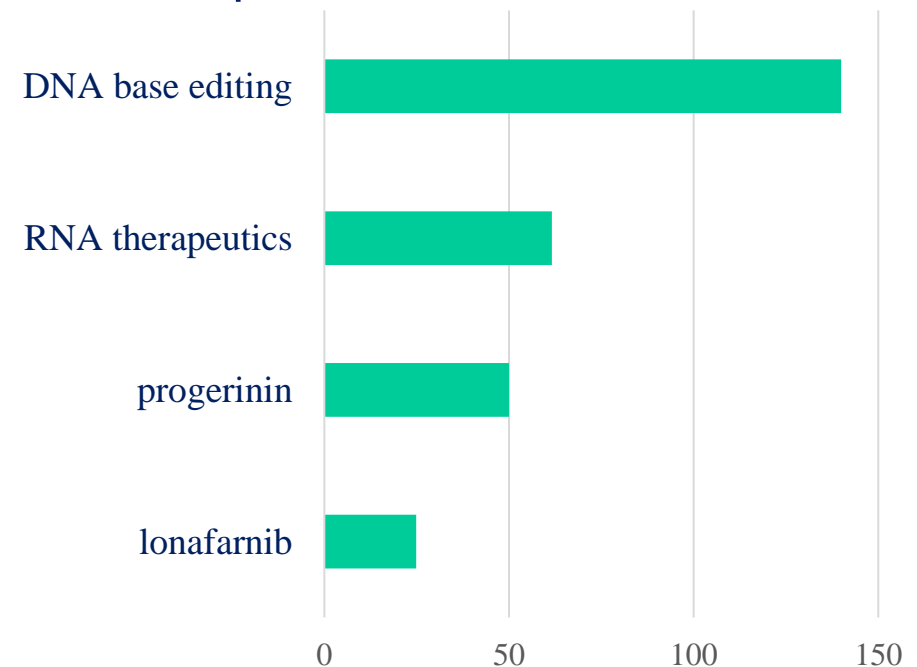


- 21 years from Registry initiation to approval
- 13 y. of continuous clinical trials with lonafarnib
- Lifespan Extension Avg. 4.2 yrs (JAMA, 2023)

Photo Courtesy of PRF

## What's Next?

% Increase in Progeria Mouse Lifespan compared to Untreated Controls



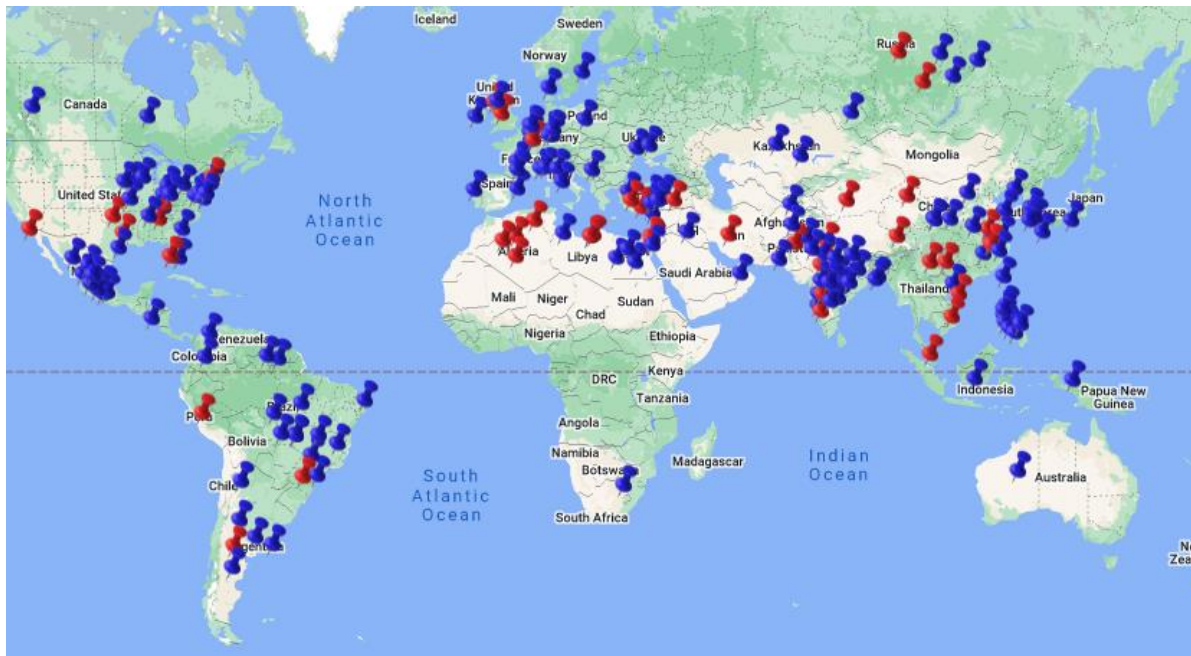
# ***NONE* of These Accomplishments Would Be Possible Without the PRF International Registry, Database, & Natural History Studies**



Photos Courtesy of PRF

# PRF Progeria International Registry: ~40% of World's Population Living With Progeria

- Top Priority Upon Contact with MD or Patient Family
- Unconsented
- Longitudinal Communication → Trust, Education → Program, Trial Participation
- Info packets sent to MD and Family Immediately



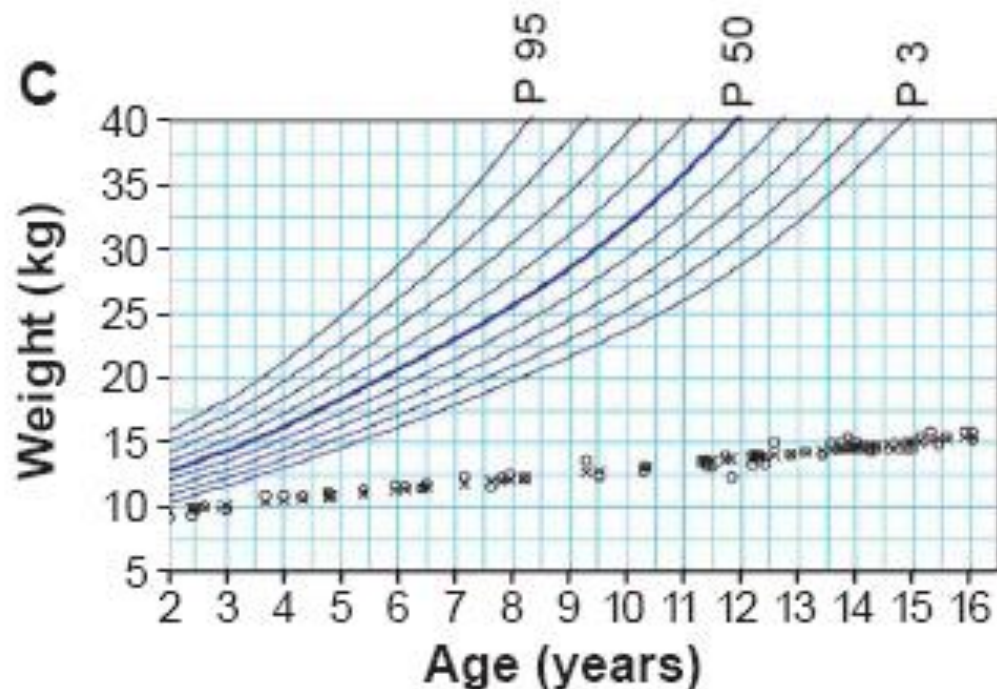
149 Patients  
51 Countries  
35 Languages



Photo Courtesy of PRF

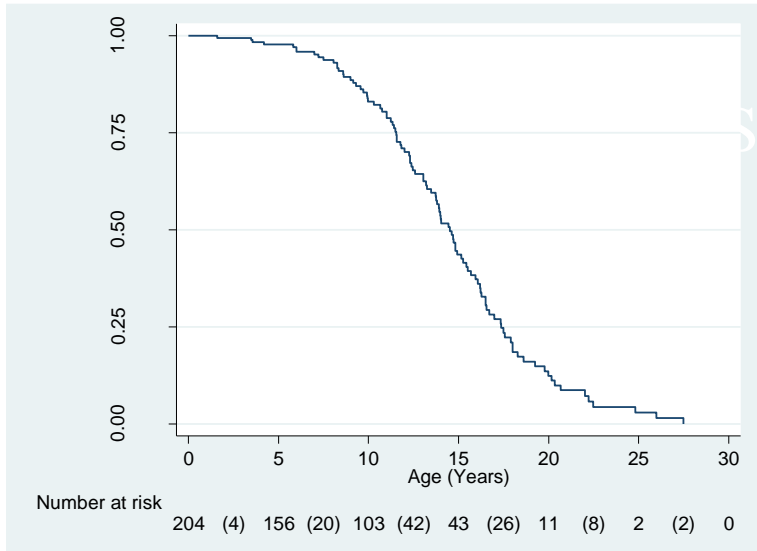
# Medical & Research Database

- **Consented Program (IRB-approved)**
- **Longitudinal Collection of Clinical Data**
- **Outcomes must be objectively evaluable, statistically abnormal, affecting how a patient feels, functions or survives**



- ✓ **Primary Outcome for the Natural History Study at NIH and First 2 Clinical Trials came from Database Weight Analysis**
- ✓ **This outcome did not show improvement, but the evaluation gave us our first trials, an important gateway**
- ✓ **34 Peer-reviewed Publications**

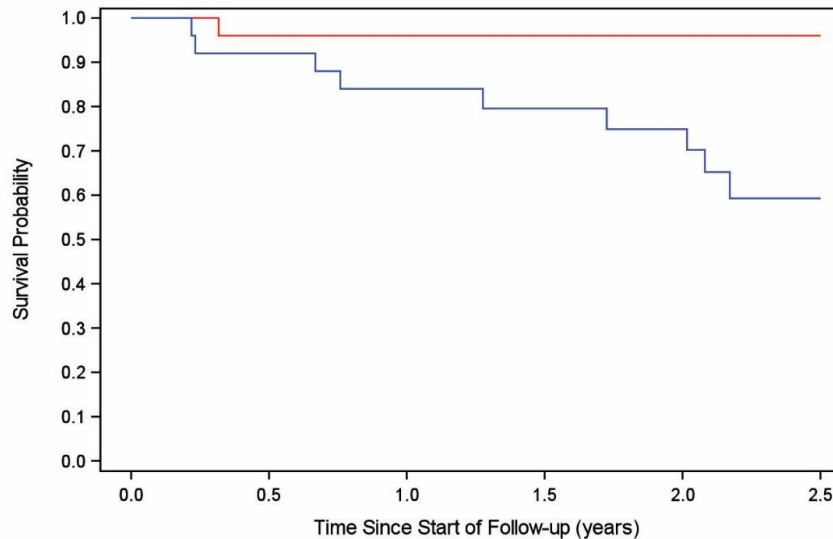
# PRF Registry and Database Survival Data, With Time On Therapy, Was The Primary Outcome Used for Drug Approval



**Circulation**  
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN HEART ASSOCIATION



**Impact of Farnesylation Inhibitors on Survival in Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome**  
Leslie B. Gordon, Joe Massaro, Ralph B. D'Agostino, Sr., Susan E. Campbell, Joan Brazier, W. Ted Brown, Monica E. Kleinman and Mark W. Kieran



|           | Treatment Group |         |           |         |         |        |
|-----------|-----------------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|--------|
|           | Treated         |         | Untreated |         |         |        |
| Treated   | 27 ( 0)         | 24 ( 1) | 23 ( 0)   | 21 ( 0) | 20 ( 0) | 1 ( 0) |
| Untreated | 27 ( 0)         | 23 ( 3) | 21 ( 1)   | 17 ( 2) | 16 ( 1) | 3 ( 2) |

JAMA | Preliminary Communication

**Association of Lonafarnib Treatment vs No Treatment With Mortality Rate in Patients With Hutchinson-Gilford Progeria Syndrome**

**FDA Special Report**



Suzuki, et al, 2022

**Long-term Survival Benefit of Lonafarnib Also Came From The Registry and Database: 2.2→4.3 years...**



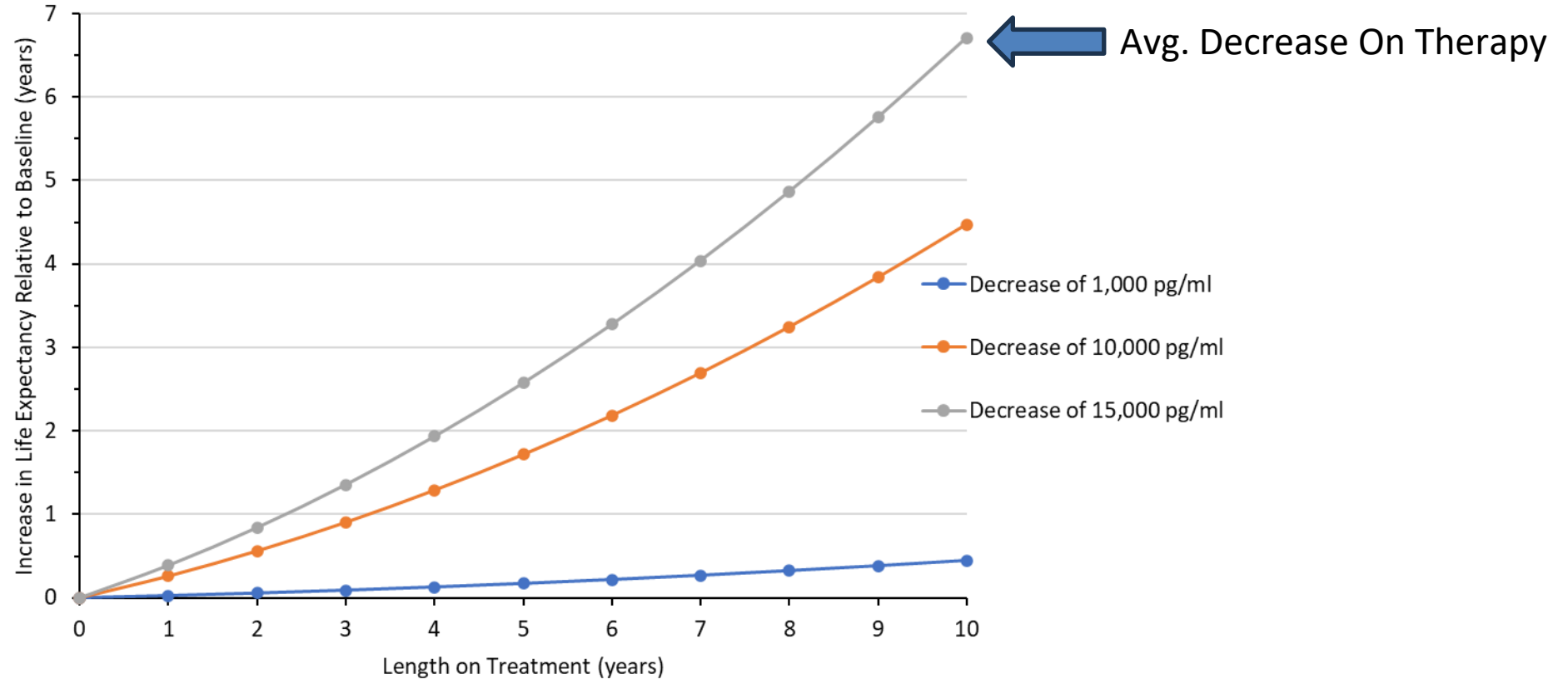
# Dual Purpose: Progeria Treatment Trials Also Serve As Natural History Studies



Photo Courtesy of PRF

- **29 Scientific articles published from BCH Progeria clinical trial data**
- **Now that lonafarnib is the standard of care, a new “natural history” on this medication must be defined, to use as comparison to any new drug added to lonafarnib in a trial**
- **We are continually working to define a primary outcome measure for future trials**

# Registry and Database Survival Data Essential for Defining Plasma Progerin Biomarker Being Validated as our Primary Trial Biomarker Outcome Measure



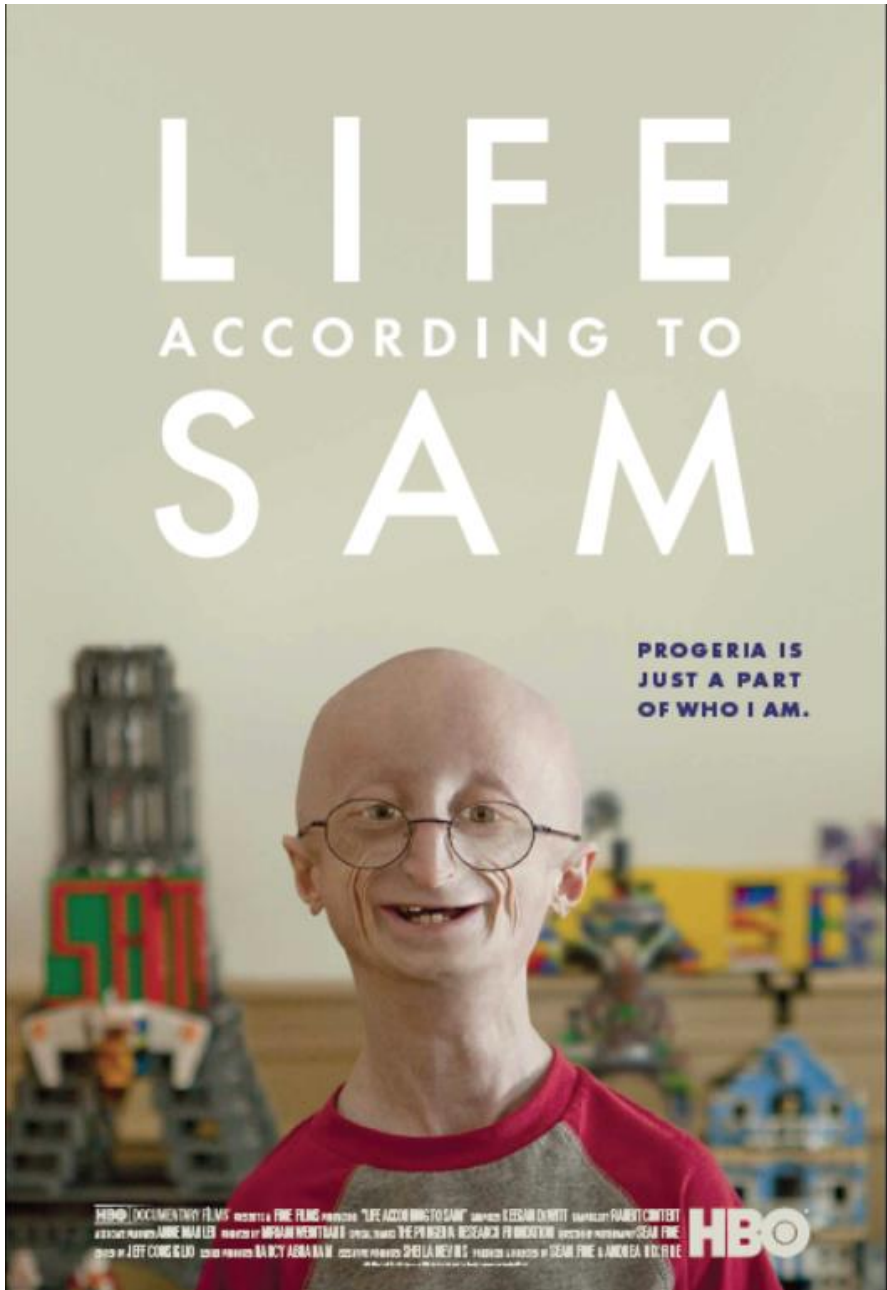
- Lonafarnib Therapy: Lifespan Benefit with Decreased Progerin
- The lower you go, the longer you stay low, the greater the benefit

# A Few Take-home Messages



Photo Courtesy of PRF

- **Patient families are passionate partners.**
- **Always assume your data will be used for drug approval, so use RedCap or similar database system**
- **Raw data will be useful many times over, so safeguard your source data.**
- **Patient Registries and Nature History Studies are critical foundational tools for the Cure.**



**Thank You!**

**Reagan-Udall Organizers**

**Many Talented Collaborators**



**Together We *WILL* Find The Cure!**

# Getting Started: Developing Registries and Designing Natural History Studies

Eileen King, Ph.D.

Michael Wagner, Ph.D.

Data Management and Coordinating Center

Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network

Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center

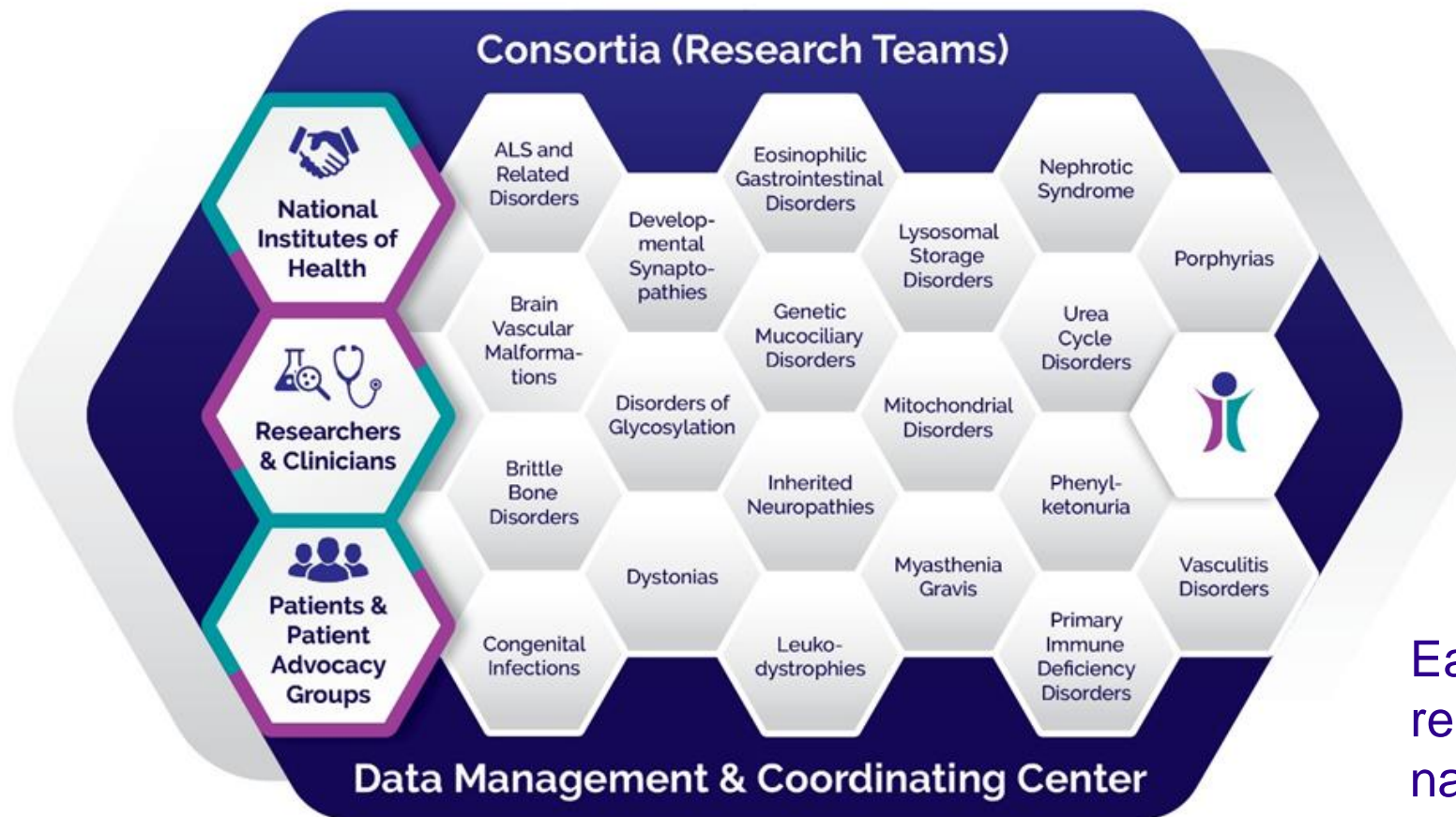
May 13, 2024

<https://rarediseasesnetwork.org>

# Agenda

- Overview of Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (RDCRN)
- Data Collection, Formatting and Quality Assurance
- Data Storage, Maintenance and Sharing

A network of 20 research teams collaborating to achieve faster diagnosis and better treatments for patients with rare diseases



Each consortium is required to have a natural history study.

- |  |   |   |  |   |   |   |  |                                     |                               |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences | National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke | National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases | National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases | Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development | National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases | National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute | National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research | National Institute of Mental Health | Office of Dietary Supplements |
|--|---|---|--|---|---|---|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|



**Funded by  
the  
National  
Institutes  
of Health**

- Now in its fourth 5-year funding cycle
- Led by the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) through its Division of Rare Diseases Research Innovation (DRDRI).
- Established by Congress under the **Rare Diseases Act of 2002**
- Findings from the RDCRN have contributed to the **approval of 8 treatments** by the FDA.

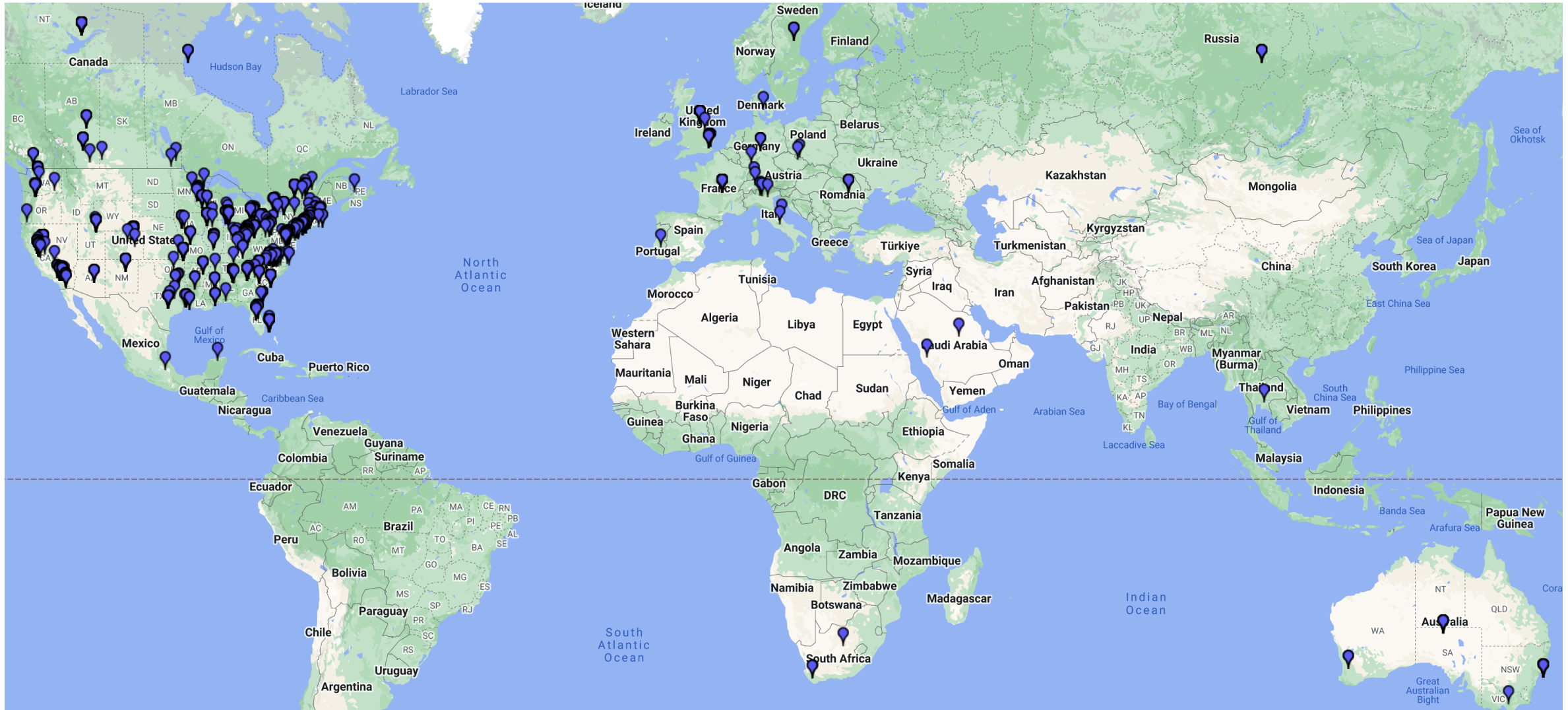


# Data Collection, Formatting, and Quality Assurance

# Data Collection Platform for RDCRN Natural History Studies: REDCap (Research Electronic Data Capture)

- A secure, web-based EDC system designed and supported by Vanderbilt U. featuring
  - an intuitive interface for validated data capture
  - audit trails for tracking data manipulation and export procedures
  - automated export procedures for seamless data downloads to common statistical packages
  - procedures for data integration and interoperability with external sources via APIs.
- Widely available, well supported by most academic health centers (7178 institutions, 156 countries, 2M projects, 3.1M Users)
- Projects and data are very portable
- CCHMC was early adopter and has deep expertise
- Good support for data standards in REDCap, availability of form libraries, great community support

# RDCRN REDCap logins (9/2022-8/2023)



# Data Quality, Integrity, Standards for RDCRN

DMCC has policies and procedures in place

Every study has these 4 documents

Data  
Management  
Plan (DMP)

Data Quality  
Plan (DQP)

Data Transfer  
Specifications  
(DTS)

Database  
Lock  
Checklist

# Data Standards for RDCRN Studies

CDISC/CDASH Standards whenever applicable



When CDISC not available, reference REDCap Shared Library, NDA Repository, NLM Library



Downloads direct from instrument publishers

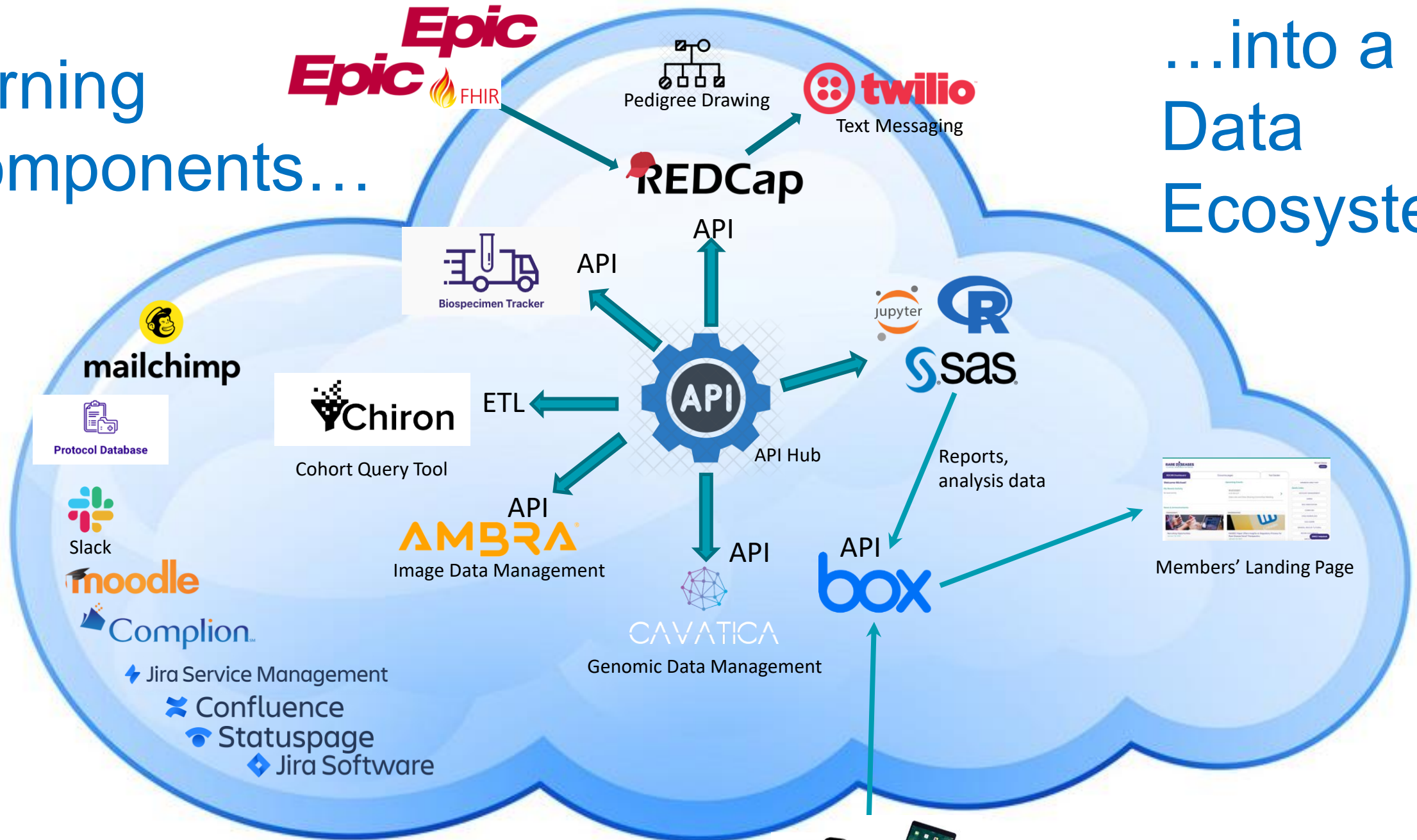


Looking forward, increased use of direct REDCap links to CDASH forms and CDEs

# Data Storage, Maintenance and Sharing

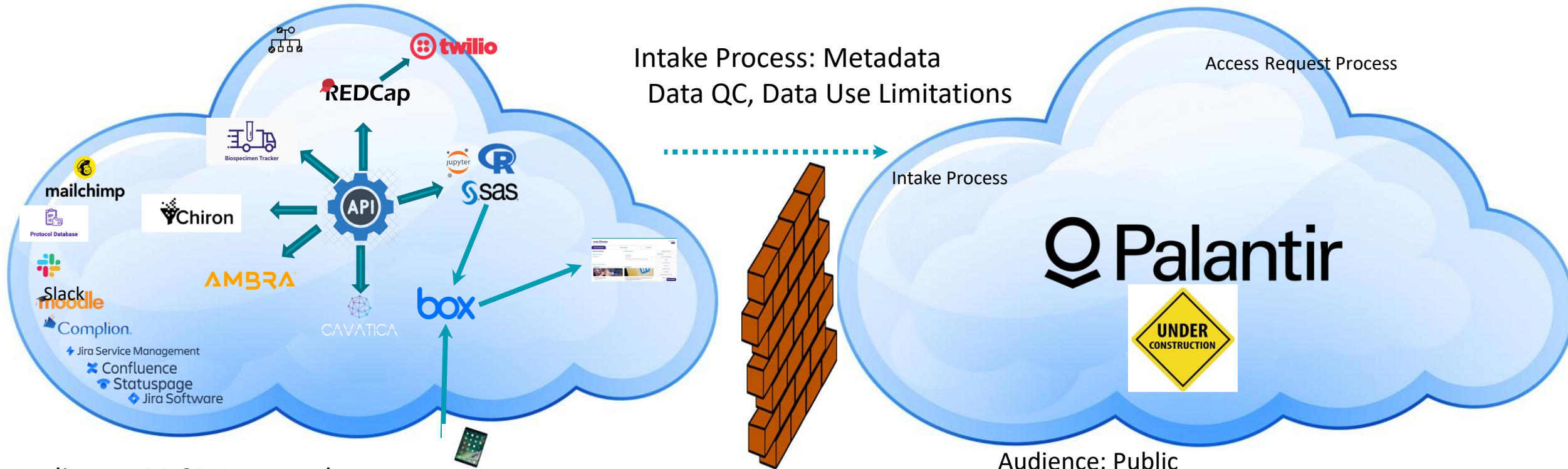
# Turning Components...

# ...into a Data Ecosystem



# Operational Environment

# RDCRN Data Repository



Audience: RDCRN researchers  
Authentication: RDCRN login page  
Authorization: Consortia  
Data governance: Consortia and DMCC  
*Internal* data sharing

Audience: Public  
Data Governance: NIH  
NIH-regulated access and authorization  
Official NIH repository



# RDCRN Data Sharing Framework

- NIH required Rare Disease Consortia to share data funded by RDCRN.
- DMCC developed framework: template language for DUAs and sharing agreements.
- DMCC helps consortia to document participant-level data use limitations in REDCap as metadata.
- NCATS Data Access Committee will adjudicate Data Repository access requests and ensure appropriate data use.

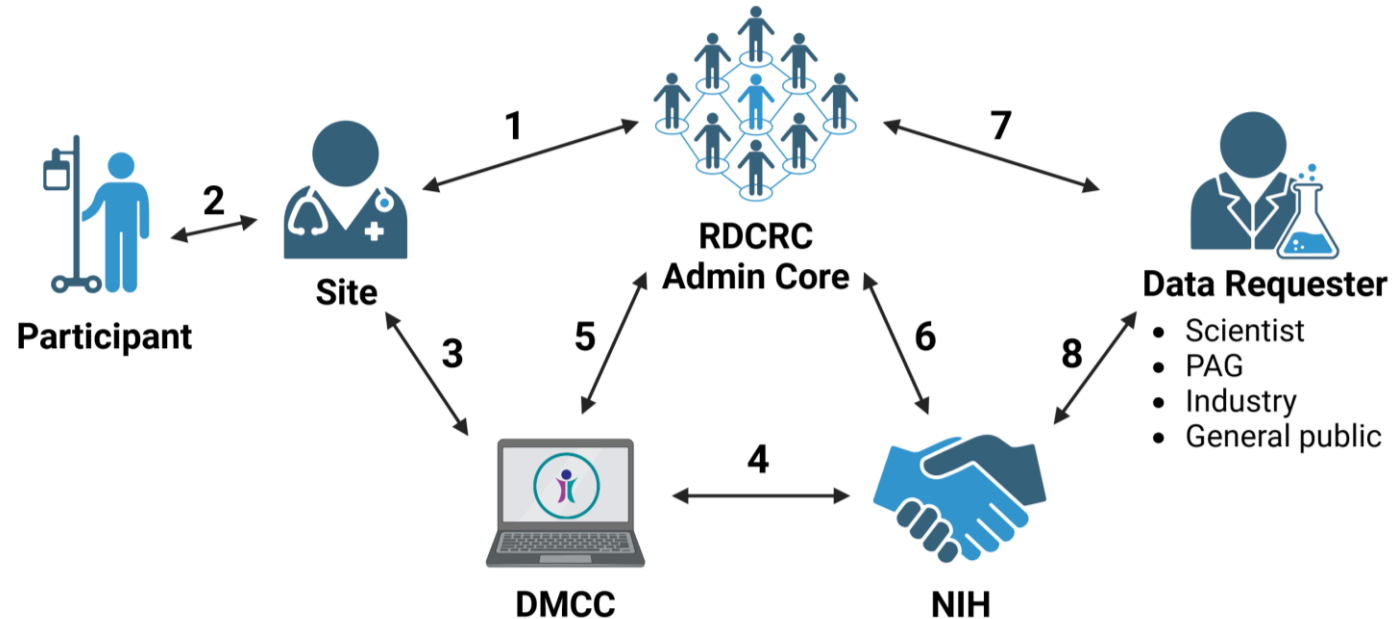
# Principles of Data Sharing – Informed Consent

Informed Consent should include language that allows broad data sharing while protecting confidentiality of the participant:

- Sharing data with the Admin Core of the RDCRC as a limited data set.
- Sharing data with DMCC.
- Sharing data with other researchers for future studies.
- Allowing transfer of data, without identifiers, to a federal data repository.
- Options for restricting data sharing that investigators deem necessary to offer the participant (e.g., as mandated by the IRB).
- Incorporation of participant selections/consent category into the research database.

<https://www.rarediseasesnetwork.org/research/data-sharing-and-standards/data-sharing-resources>

# Relationships Among The Parties Involved In Data Sharing



1. Subcontract Award
2. Informed Consent
3. Data Use/Hosting Agreement
4. U2 Cooperative Agreement

5. Data Use/Transfer Agreement
6. U54 Cooperative Agreement
7. RDCRC Data Sharing Policy & Data Use Agreement
8. Federal DAC & Data Use Agreement

# RDCRN Data Repository - Required Metadata

## Hard Requirements

- Schedule of Events
- Protocol Synopsis
- Data Dictionary
- Codebook
- Extramural Institutional Certification
- Consent Table

## Soft Requirements

- IRB Approved Protocol
- Data Management Plan
- Data Quality Plan
- Annotated Blank CRFs

# RDCRN Data Repository – QC Framework

## Hard Requirements

- Compare
  - Participant IDs in data tables to consent table
  - Variables from data dictionary to contents of data table
- Check for proper delimiters, carriage returns
- Convert dates to age at visit/event

## Soft Requirements

- Compare
  - Schedule of Events (SoE) to visit/events in data
- Run Variable Code/Value Consistency report
- Check for version differences in submitted data sets

# RDCRN Data Repository – QC Framework

## Hard Requirements

- Participant ID Anonymization
- Create Study ID for RDCRN Data Repository
- QC Checks for non-clinical data (i.e., imaging, EEGs, ECHO, etc.)
  - Convert dates to age at event/visit
  - Check for Participant ID; match to clinical data and consent table
- PII flagging process

# Summary

- Natural history data for patients with rare diseases is critical for advancing rare disease research to speed diagnosis and identify new treatments
- Data must be collected and managed using state-of-the-art systems, processes and procedures to ensure high quality data
- NIH-funded studies are required to share data with the general research community which maximizes its value for clinical trial readiness and approval of treatments

# Thank you

5U2CTR002818



**COLLABORATE. INNOVATE. ACCELERATE.**

Tiina Urv, Ph.D.  
Joanne Lumsden, Ph.D.  
Sam Michael, Ph.D.



CCHMC DMAC, IS4R & Research IT teams  
RDCRN Project Managers  
RDCRN Consortia and research participants,  
who entrust their data to us!





# Learn More

## VISIT

our website [rdcrn.org](http://rdcrn.org)

---

## SUBSCRIBE

to our newsletter

[rdcrn.org/spotlight/subscribe](http://rdcrn.org/spotlight/subscribe)

to our podcast on your favorite platform

**Rare Research Report**

---

## READ

our blog [rdcrn.org/news](http://rdcrn.org/news)

## Follow us on social



@RareDiseasesNet



@RDCRN



@RDCRN



@RDCRN



Rare Research Report

# UNITED PORPHYRIAS ASSOCIATION

Advancing Awareness, Research and Therapies

Kristen Wheeden  
President



[porphyria.org](http://porphyria.org)

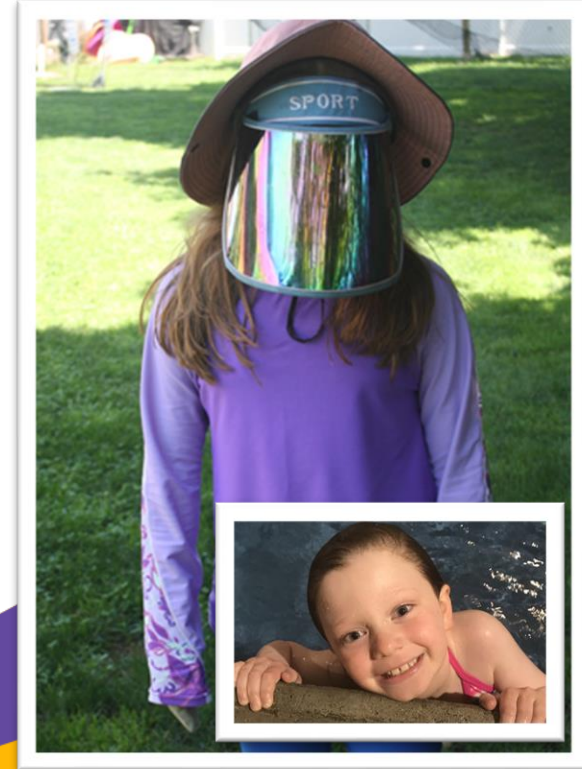
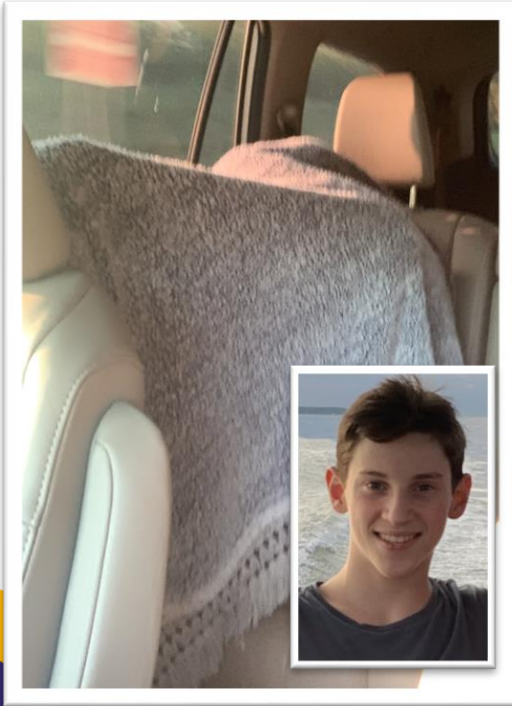
# Our Patient Community

*“Like putting my hand in a fire then cutting it with a knife”*

*“There are no words in the English language to describe the pain”*

*“Like I’m trapped in a cage” “Like being in boiling water”*

*“Like a chemical burn”*



# United Porphyrias Association



Research



Education



Awareness



Advocacy



Support



# PATIENT REGISTRIES



**UNITED PORPHYRIAS**  
ASSOCIATION

[porphyria.org](http://porphyria.org)

# PATIENT REGISTRY IN PORPHYRIA

- ✓ **Established in 2008**
- ✓ **1000+ Participants**
- ✓ **14 Academic Institutions/Study Sites**
- ✓ **Separate Contact Database (CRM)**
- ✓ **Results**
  - ✓ **Publications**
  - ✓ **Studies**
  - ✓ **Patient Reported Outcome measures**



**UNITED PORPHYRIAS**  
ASSOCIATION

# PATIENT REGISTRY CONSIDERATIONS

## ✓ Objectives

- ✓ Research
- ✓ Clinical Care
- ✓ Advocacy and Funding

## ✓ Stakeholder Engagement

- ✓ Engaging patients
- ✓ Collaboration with researchers
- ✓ Regulatory involvement

## ✓ Ensure

- ✓ Inclusivity
- ✓ Data Quality
- ✓ Privacy and Ethics



**UNITED PORPHYRIAS**  
ASSOCIATION

# **PATIENT REGISTRY BEST PRACTICES**

- ✓ **Standardized Data Collection**
- ✓ **Technology Utilization**
- ✓ **Collaboration**
- ✓ **Considerations for rare diseases**



**UNITED PORPHYRIAS**  
ASSOCIATION



# Contact UPA

Kristen Wheeden  
[kristen@porphyria.org](mailto:kristen@porphyria.org)

800-868-1292  
porphyria.org

# Addressing Challenges in Registry and Natural History Data Collection

## Presenters

**Benjamin Forred, MBA, ACRP-CP**

Sanford Research

**Zohreh Talebizadeh, PhD**

Global Genes

## Reactor Panel

**Henry Kaminski, MD**, George Washington University

**Suzanne Pattee**, Office of the Commissioner, FDA

**Dominique Pichard, MD, MS**, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, NIH

CoRDS Registry

Coordination of Rare Diseases  
at Sanford



# Addressing Challenges in Registry and Natural History Data Collection – Bioinformatics plans, Ethics, and Data Sharing & Privacy

Benjamin Forred

Director, Translational Research & the CoRDS Registry

Sanford Research

# What is CoRDS?

- CoRDS is a patient registry for all rare diseases, unaffected carriers & the undiagnosed - it ties together patients, advocacy groups, and researchers.
- Unlike many other registries, as a Sanford Health sponsored initiative, CoRDS is made available at no cost to patients, advocacy groups, or researchers. It is free and it always will be.

# Setting yourself up for effective bioinformatics approaches

- Standardize questions using established data elements
  - NIH common data elements & CoRDS
  - Interoperability with other formats (CDISC, OMOP, etc.)
- Discrete fields used contributes to clean data and decrease analysis time
  - Can lead to effective translation into other languages
- Systematic procedures for ingesting large datasets from external sources

# Ethics Considerations

- Data needs to be collected the right way from the start
  - IRB approved protocol & consent documents
  - Privacy laws & regulations (21 cfr part 11, HIPAA, GDPR, etc.)
- Simply put: Participants must know what they're getting into when they sign on to participate. They have rights. It's your job to know them AND protect them.

# Using and Sharing Data

- Put a governance and procedure around data sharing
  - CoRDS has an internal scientific advisory council that reviews requests for data
- Identifiable or deidentified data?
  - Be aware of the difference
  - You absolutely have to adhere to the language in the informed consent form
- Security measures around sharing data
  - HIPAA covered entity?
  - SFTP sites are commonly used
  - Get very clear answers before committing to a tool
  - Legal agreement with the recipient

**CoRDS Registry**

Coordination of Rare Diseases  
at Sanford



Thanks to all of our participants – and  
thank you for your attention

[Benjamin.Forred@sanfordhealth.org](mailto:Benjamin.Forred@sanfordhealth.org)

[Research.sanfordhealth.org](https://Research.sanfordhealth.org)



# **RARE-X Research Program:** **Virtual Data Collection and Connection** *Serving All Stakeholders in Rare Disease*

**Zohreh Talebizadeh, PhD**

Senior Director, RARE-X Research Program

**May 13, 2024**



# What Is RARE-X?

RARE-X, a program of Global Genes, launched in April 2021, to **accelerate** rare disease research & treatments by **removing barriers** for data collection & sharing

The speed and productivity of innovation in rare disease is limited by cost and lack of access to standardized, structured patient data



Data exists, but is captive within silos



Data is not in a structured, standardized format that is useful to research/patient communities



Data doesn't yet exist; many new diseases and most groups don't have resources to collect data properly

# RARE-X Data Collection Platform (DCP)

## RARE-X Supports:

- Individuals (n=1, undiagnosed)
- Patient Communities (small or large)
- Disease Consortium (body system or symptom)



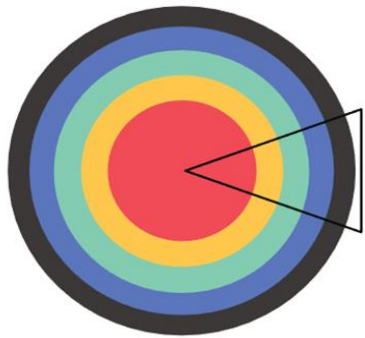
## Branching Logic:

- Series of surveys - based on answers, additional prioritized & validated surveys open up

Consent & Data Sharing Preference

Demographics & Role

**"Head to Toe" Survey**  
General Medical, Health & Development



- 1 General core**  
• "Head to Toe Survey"
- 2 Disease core (by domains)**  
• HPO- mapped domain-specific data
- 3 Supplemental disease data**  
• Detailed disease-specific data
- 4 Integrated &/or federated data**  
• EMR/ EHR, clinical reports, custom curation
- 5 Exploratory study data**  
• Research study-based, raw WGS data

Level 2 Survey  
(ex: Neuro)

Level 2 Survey  
(ex: Cardiac)

Level 2 Survey  
(ex: Renal)

Survey Layer 3

Survey Layer 3

Survey Layer 3

Survey Layer 3

Validated Instrument

Validated Instrument

Validated Instrument

Validated Instrument

Layer 5 + - Continued buildout of Layered Patient Report Data layered and accessed based on preferences – Branch Chain Logic

## Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs)

### Domains Implemented:

- Neurodevelopmental
- Neurodegenerative
- Neuromuscular
- Central Disorders of Hypersomnolence

### In Process:

- Primary Immune Deficiency (90% completion)
- Cognitive Decline & Associated Depression (adult onset neurodegenerative) (20% completion)

## Expert Working Groups for Domain Development

### Data Surveys Built to Generate Research-Grade, Comparable Data

Clinicians and scientists from industry and academia serve side-by-side with patients on expert working groups to identify robust data collection surveys, usually from standard measures.



Expert Working Group Formed



Prioritize Domains, Deep Review



Landscape to Identify Measures



Evaluate and Select Measures



License & Implement Measures



# The RARE-X Partner Ecosystem

RARE-X has built a fully integrated platform to support patients as partners in research and has also developed a service model to support biopharma & researchers.  
A turn-key comprehensive solution for patients.

## Patient Advocates & Orgs

- Patient owned & stewarded data
- Technology & platform for data collection & sharing
- GDPR compliance, data privacy, and governance & consents
- No cost to patients or their orgs
- Education & communications support
- Sponsored studies & consortia

## Researchers

- In-depth engagement with patient orgs and development of registries
- Natural history studies including clinician-reported data
- Analysis platform powered by Broad, facilitated by ontology architecture
- Federated learning & data connection for deeper analysis
- Sponsored studies & consortia

## BioPharm

- Data sharing post study completion
- Clinical trial readiness surveys
- Patient identification for recruitment into clinical trials
- Federated learning & data connection for deeper analysis
- Sponsored studies & consortia

# RARE-X Data Overview



# RARE-X

by the numbers

*\*As of May 7, 2024*

67   
Disease Communities

106   
Patient Advocacy Groups

7,704   
Participants Enrolled

90   
Countries  
~39% ex-US

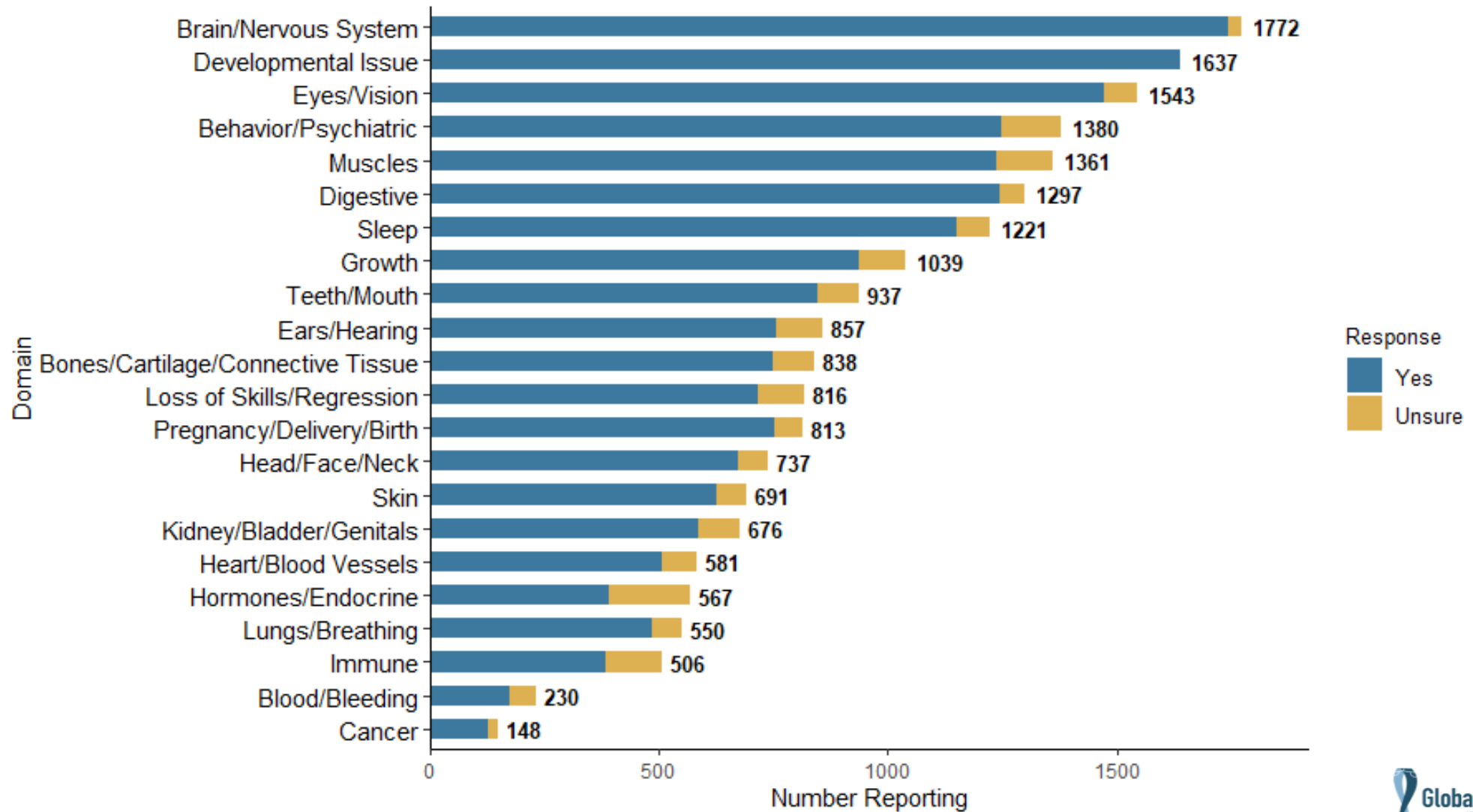
 51%  
Overall % of Surveys Completed

 615  
Reports uploaded with genetic testing information

 62%  
Brain & Nervous System is top domain for patients symptoms

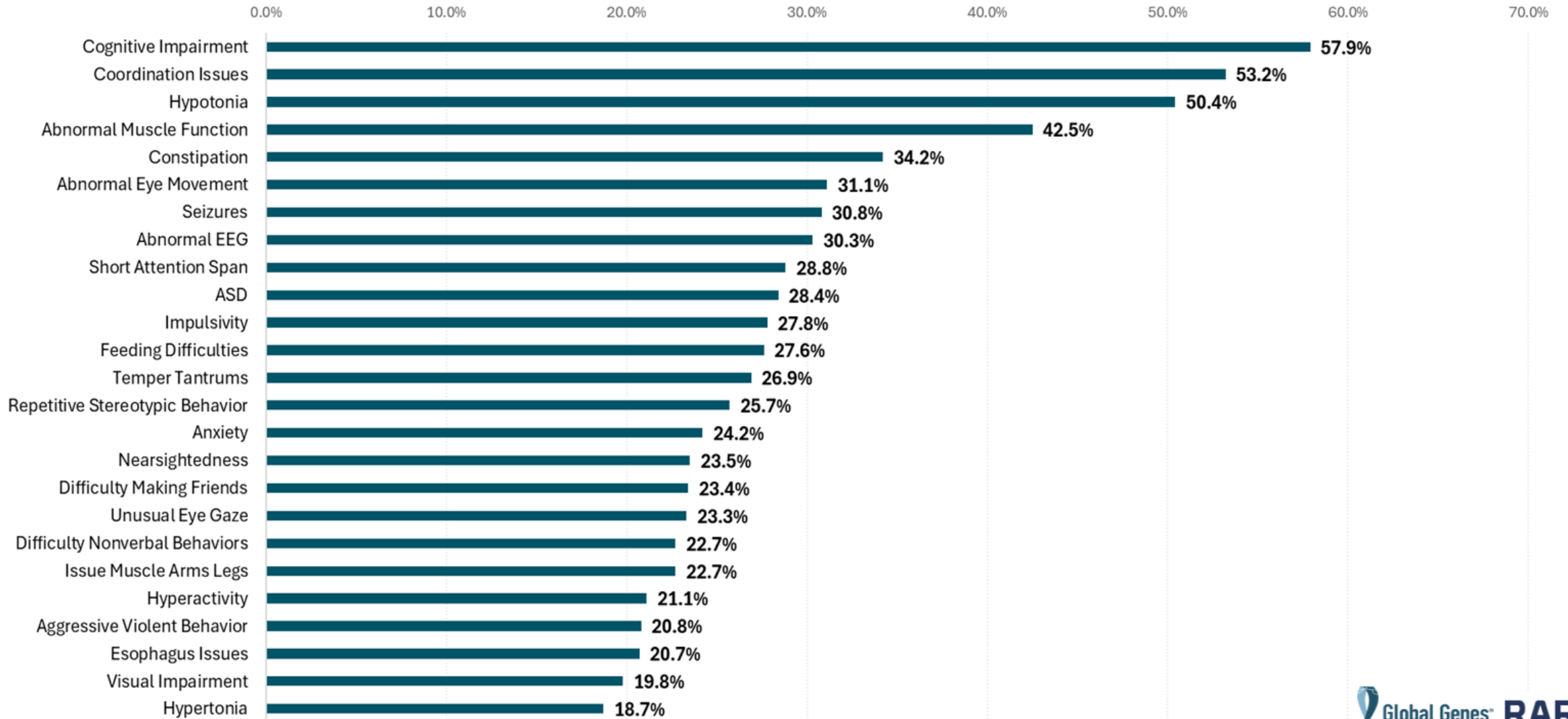
 78%  
Respondents reported having concern about development

# Domains Patients Experience Symptoms in





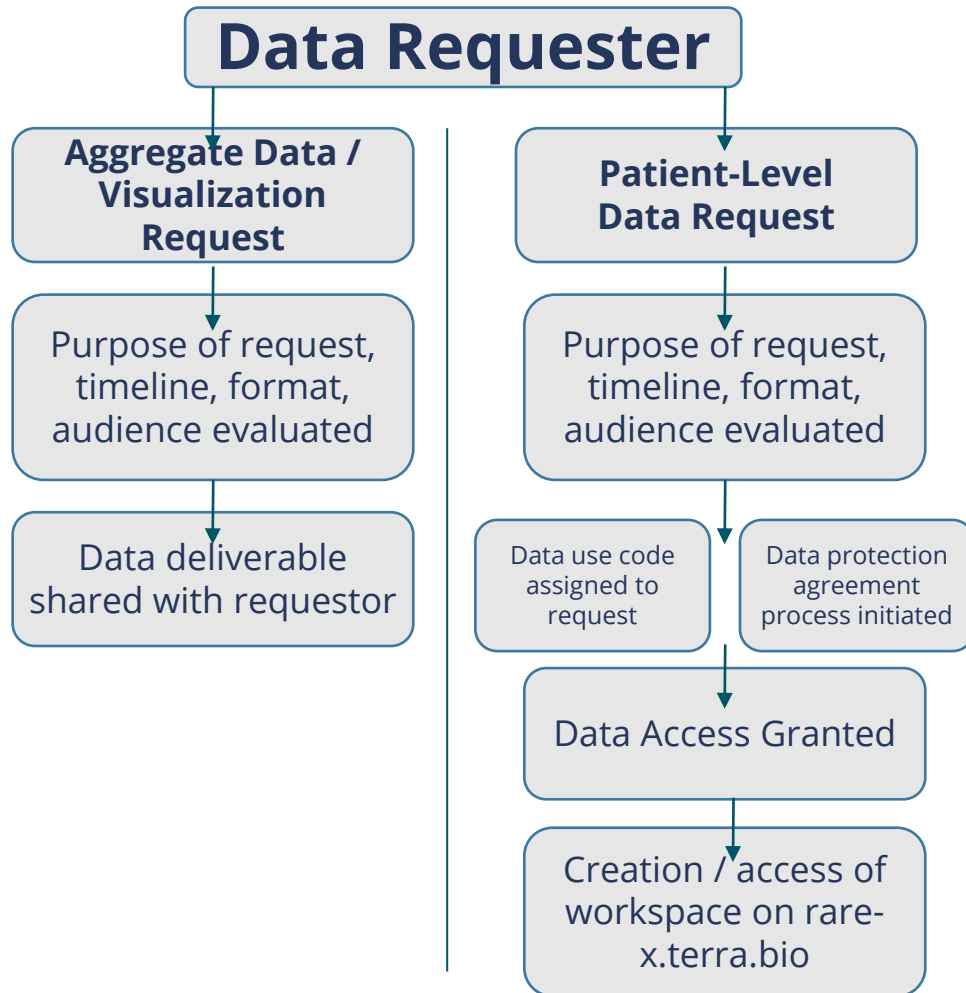
# Top Symptoms Reported across the DCP



# Data Access



# Data Access



The RARE-X consent process enable the RARE-X program to assign data use ontologies and allows different levels of data access to requesters. Enrollees always have access to and control of, all their own data.

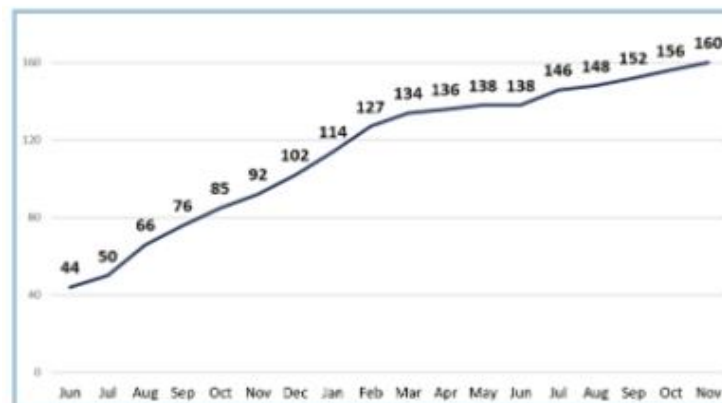
## There are 2 types of external data access requests

- Aggregate data (survey level counts, graphs, etc) via a project share.
- Participant level de-identified data (Via <https://rare-x.terra.bio/>)

All requesters are required to complete a **Data Access Request** form that outlines the requested data usage as well as data protection procedures.

- This allows Global Genes to track data use and analysis projects and timelines.
- All data requests are reviewed by **Global Genes RARE-X Data Access Committee**. This is to ensure the requestor's needs are being fulfilled as well as data protection requirements are met.

# Data Visualization Request Examples

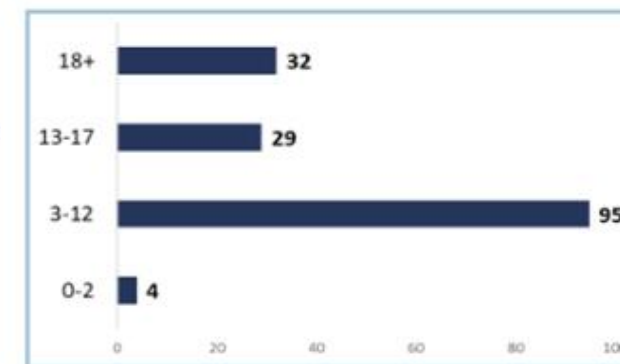


## PARTICIPATION OVER TIME

The number of **participants currently enrolled** in the PAG data collection program is **160**.

## DISTRIBUTION BY AGE GROUP

Over half of participants fall in the age range of **3 to 12 years old** with the second most common age category being **participants aged 18 and above**.



84

Total enrollees that identify as **Male**. This makes up **52.5% of all participants**.

70

Total enrollees that identify as **Female**. This makes up **44% of all participants**.

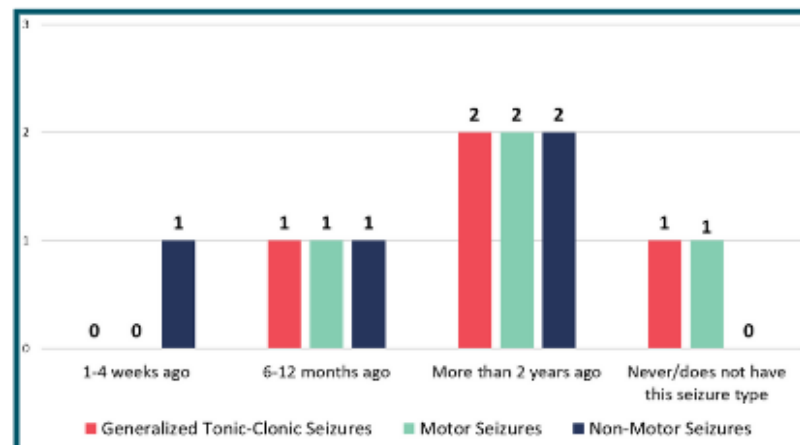
6

Total enrollees that identify as **Non-binary** or selected that they **Prefer Not To Answer**.

# Data Visualization Request Examples

OF 4 PAG RESPONDENTS, 100% REPORTED THAT THE CHILD HAS EPILEPSY OR THE CHILD HAS HAD A SEIZURE.

When did the last Generalized Tonic-Clonic Seizure, Motor Seizure, and Non-Motor Seizure occur?



## CURRENT EPILEPSY SYNDROMES REPORTED BY RESPONDENTS

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Childhood. Benign epilepsy with centrotemporal spikes (BECTS) | 1 |
| DeSanto Shinawi Syndrome                                      | 1 |
| Not a syndrome (nonsyndromic, uncertain, too early to tell)   | 1 |
| Does not have epilepsy  | 1 |

50%

Reported that the patient's epilepsy type is **both focal & generalized**

50%

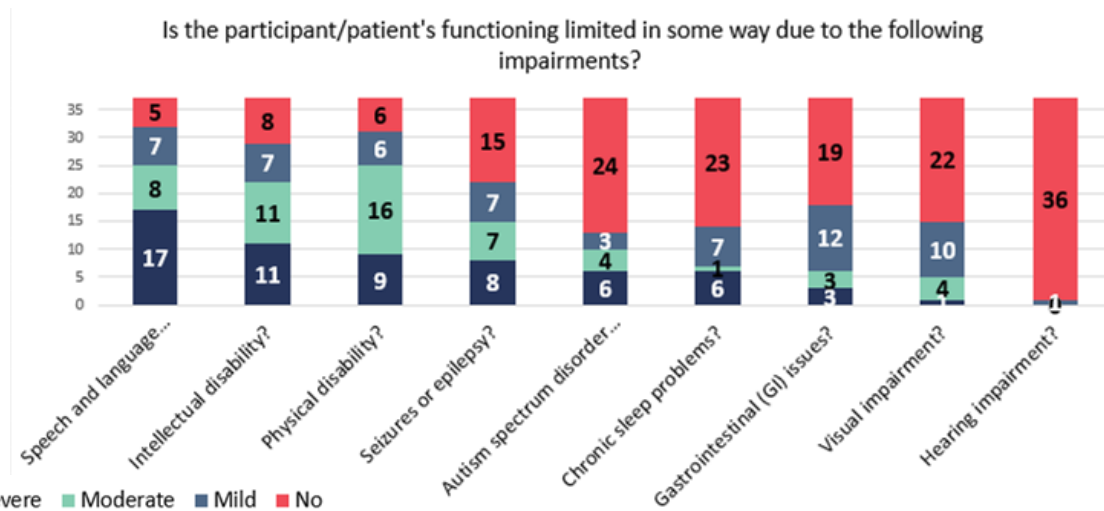
Reported that the patient's epilepsy type is **unknown**

100%

Of patients who have epilepsy reported that it is **NOT treatment resistant**

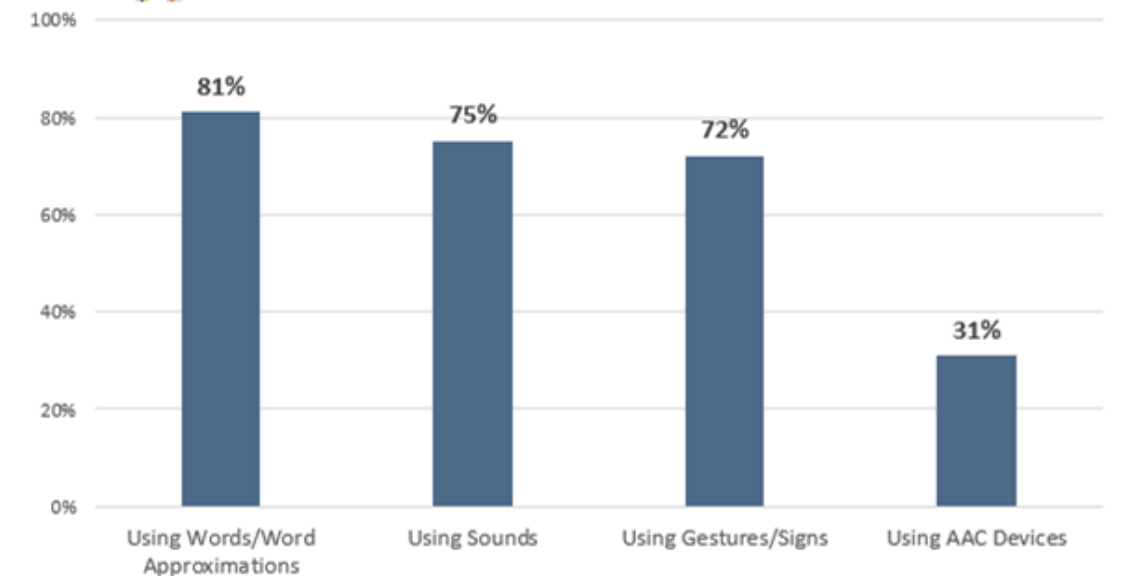
# Data Visualization Request Examples

| Is the participant/patient's functioning limited in some way due to the following impairments? | Severe | Moderate | Mild | No |
|--|--------|----------|------|----|
| Speech & language impairment   | 17     | 8        | 7    | 5  |
| Intellectual disability  | 11     | 11       | 7    | 8  |
| Physical activity  | 9      | 16       | 6    | 6  |
| Seizures or epilepsy   | 8      | 7        | 7    | 15 |
| Autism spectrum disorder (ASD)   | 6      | 4        | 3    | 24 |
| Chronic sleep problems   | 6      | 1        | 7    | 23 |
| Gastrointestinal (GI) issues   | 3      | 3        | 12   | 19 |
| Visual impairment  | 1      | 4        | 10   | 22 |
| Hearing impairment   | 0      | 0        | 1    | 36 |



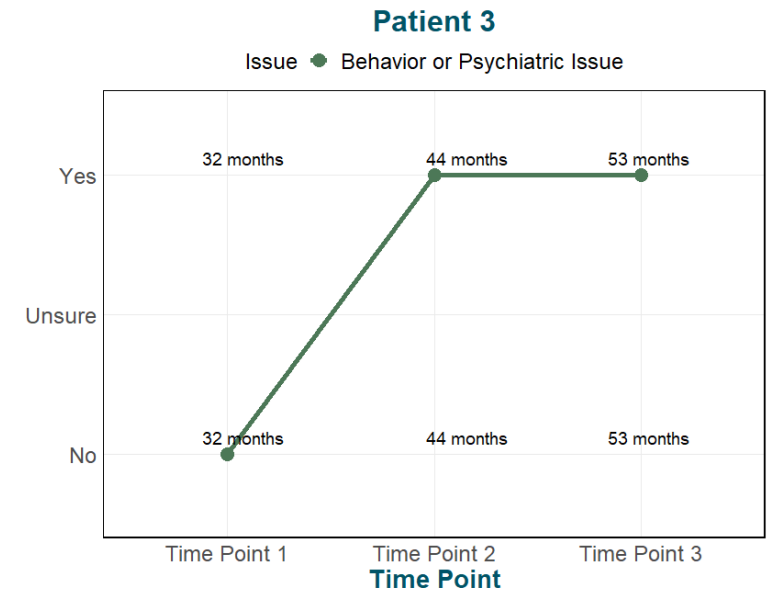
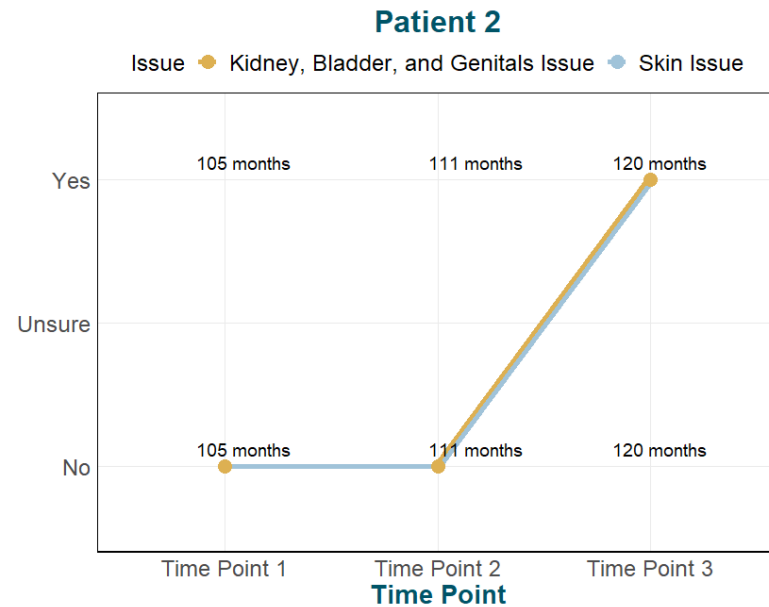
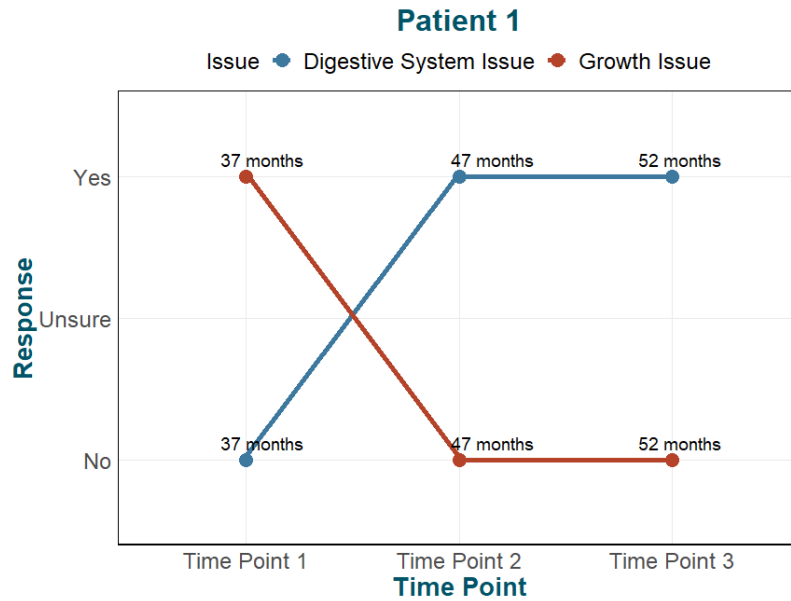
| How patient communicated in past 30 days | % of all respondents | Number respondents |
|--|----------------------|--------------------|
| Using words/word approximations          | 81%                  | 26                 |
| Using sounds                             | 75%                  | 24                 |
| Using gestures/signs                     | 72%                  | 23                 |
| Using AAC devices                        | 31%                  | 10                 |

**RARE X** In the past 30 days, how did your child communicate with you?



# Longitudinal Data Collection Example

Three different patients with the same rare disease



# Applications





# Applications

- **PRO Survey Validation**
  - Implement established surveys for validation in larger population
  - Development of new surveys addressing unmet needs, validated against established measures on RARE-X platform
- **Contribute to Natural History Studies**
  - Partner with IRB approved natural history study to administer & transfer PRO data to data collection site, enabling participants to update symptoms
  - Participants participating in RARE-X & natural history study to complete relevant PRO data one time for both studies, accelerating real word data collection on disease progression
- **Research Consortia**
  - Bring together diverse stakeholders to create collaborative data collection program with a specific aim
- **Partnership & Data Integration**
  - Rich repository of genetic data mapped to phenotypic data collected in platform
  - Robust data collection available to researchers

# Partnership & Data Integration

## *With the Commission for Novel Technologies for Neurodevelopmental CNVs ("Commission")*

*Background: RARE-X previously completed biosample collections as a part of a sub-study that was developed in partnership with the Commission for Novel Technologies for Neurodevelopmental CNVs ("Commission").*



RARE-X and the Commission partnered with the biotechnology company Illumina, and **sent blood samples to the Illumina team for long-read whole genome sequencing, short-read whole genome sequencing, and methylation testing.**

This partnership has led to a **rich repository of genetic data that is being mapped to phenotypic data that has been collected on the RARE-X platform.**

Many participants were also given clinical assessments at family conferences by partnering clinicians, or had clinical data collected at a Collaborative Clinic that enabled data sharing.

This effort has ultimately **allowed for large and robust data collection in a consortium of three ultra-rare disorders. The data collected is available to researchers upon request, encouraging research** into these rare and under-researched diseases.

# Contribute to Natural History Studies

To get real world data on disease progression Patient-Reported Outcomes (PROs) are utilized to collect data based on signs/symptoms observed by the participant or a caregiver.

PROs are often given in a clinician office for the patient to take home and return at the next appointment. **RARE-X can partner with an IRB approved natural history study to administer and transfer the PRO data to the data collection site.** This partnership will **allow participants who are participating in both RARE-X, and a natural history study to complete the relevant PRO data a single time for both studies.**

Participants can go in an **update their symptoms on both a scheduled and as needed basis.** The ability to update their symptoms will help **capture the common symptoms/patterns but also patterns that were previously not visible.**

# Conclusion



# PAST: Accomplishments

## **Stakeholder Partnership for PRO Data Collection**

Established diverse partnerships for bi-directional input

## **Symptom-Based Data Collection**

Enhanced understanding of disease manifestations by collecting patient-reported symptom data

## **Cross-Disease Database**

Facilitated studying commonalities and differences across diseases

## **Genetic Data Curation**

Developed workflow for curating genetic data from reports

## **Patient-Preferred Data Sharing**

Implemented patient-preferred data sharing

## **Aggregate Data Reports**

Developed templates for aggregate data reports

## **Individual-Level Data Access**

Enabled secure access to individual-level data

## **Longitudinal Data Collection**

Collected data from multiple timepoints

## **Research Interest Growth**

Garnered increased researcher interest despite limited dissemination

# PRESENT: Promises

## **PRO Surveys**

Piloted implementation of select PRO surveys, facilitating prioritization for large-scale natural history studies.

## **Open Science Data Challenge (OSDC)**

Initiated an OSDC to promote broader access to our registry and encourage innovative analysis in rare disease.

## **Data Mapping**

Piloted data mapping to external clinical datasets, expanding the scope and utility of our database.

## **Natural History Studies**

Facilitated linkage with natural history study datasets, enhancing the richness and depth of available data.

## **Translation**

Initiated a translation workflow to broaden the accessibility and reach of our platform, promoting inclusivity and diversity.

# FUTURE: Challenges & Opportunities

## Protocol Standardization

Help to facilitate **coordinated** efforts to address the lack of standard protocols for PRO data collection efforts.

## Evaluation Frameworks

Identify standardized **metrics** for evaluating the impact of PRO data collection efforts.

## Analytical Feature Expansion

Identification and expansion of **analytical features** to streamline dynamic and real-time data mapping, enhancing usability and effectiveness of PRO data.

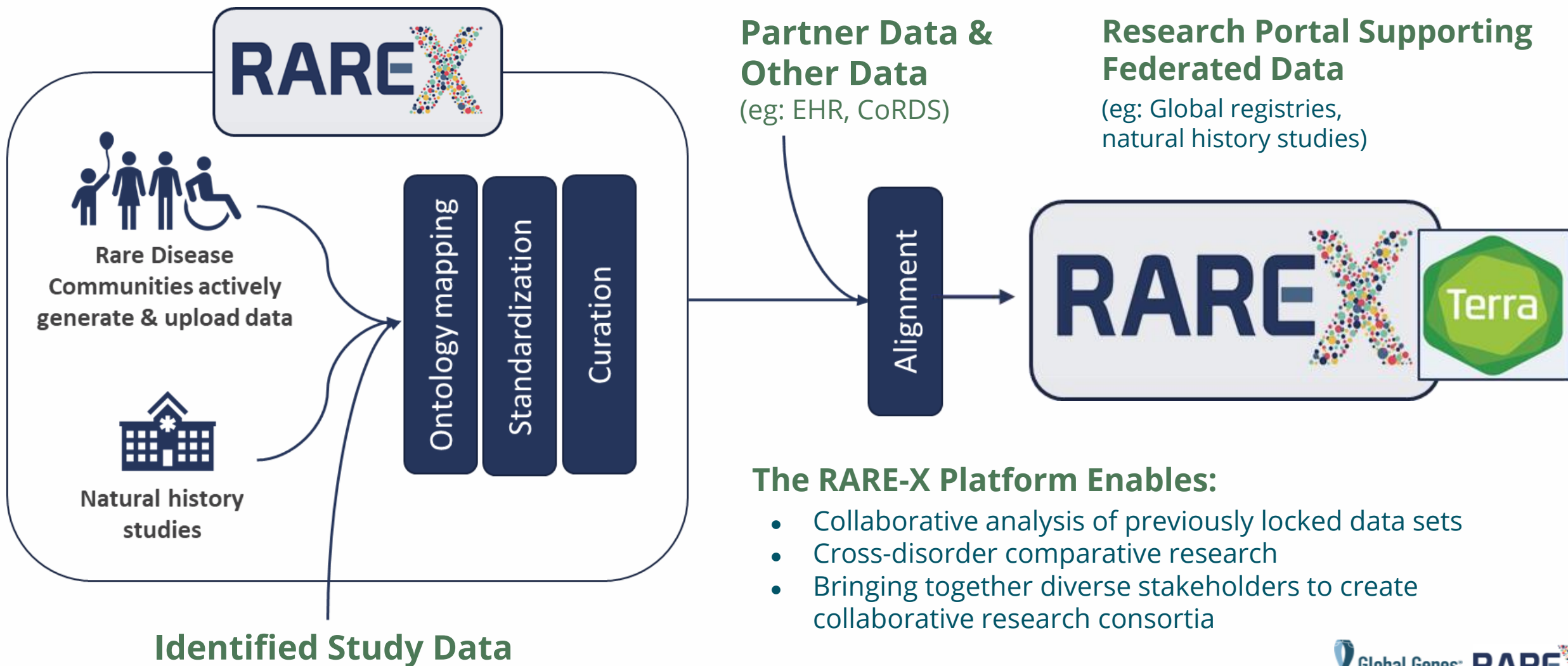
## Longitudinal Data Workflow

Create a standard analytical **workflow** to leverage longitudinal data points while taking into consideration their inherent variation, to enhance the utility and accuracy of analyses derived from longitudinal PRO data.

## National Taskforce Establishment

Landscape/Scope/Advocate the need for new dedicated funding pipelines to support the future direction of PRO data collection harmonization efforts and **sustainability** of these unique resources.

# Visual Summary: Data Generation, Alignment, Federation







**Charlene Son Rigby**  
CEO



**Zohreh Talebizadeh**  
Senior Director,  
RARE-X Research Program



**Karmen Trzupek**  
Senior Director,  
Scientific Programs



**Vanessa Vogel-Farley**  
Senior Director,  
Research and Data Analytics



**Katelyn Peters**  
Senior Manager, RARE-X  
Community Engagement



**Bridget Michaels**  
Community Engagement  
Associate



**Kelly Wentworth**  
Associate Manager,  
RARE-X Research Program



**Mackenzie Abramson**  
Senior Manager,  
Research Program Communications



**Tina Dang**  
Research Associate



**T Schad**  
Clinical Research  
Network Assistant



**Jade Gosar**  
Data Analyst



**Ugo Ugwuowo**  
Data Analyst

# Funding Opportunities

**Philip J. Brooks, PhD**

National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences, NIH

**Katherine Needleman, PhD, RAC**

Office of Orphan Products Development, FDA



# RARE DISEASES

## CLINICAL RESEARCH NETWORK

Established by Rare Diseases Act of 2002  
(Public Law 107-280)

*“planning, establishing, or strengthening, and providing basic operating support for **regional centers of excellence** for clinical research into, training in, and demonstration of diagnostic, prevention, control, and treatment methods for rare diseases”*

Established 2003  
Recompeted every 5 years

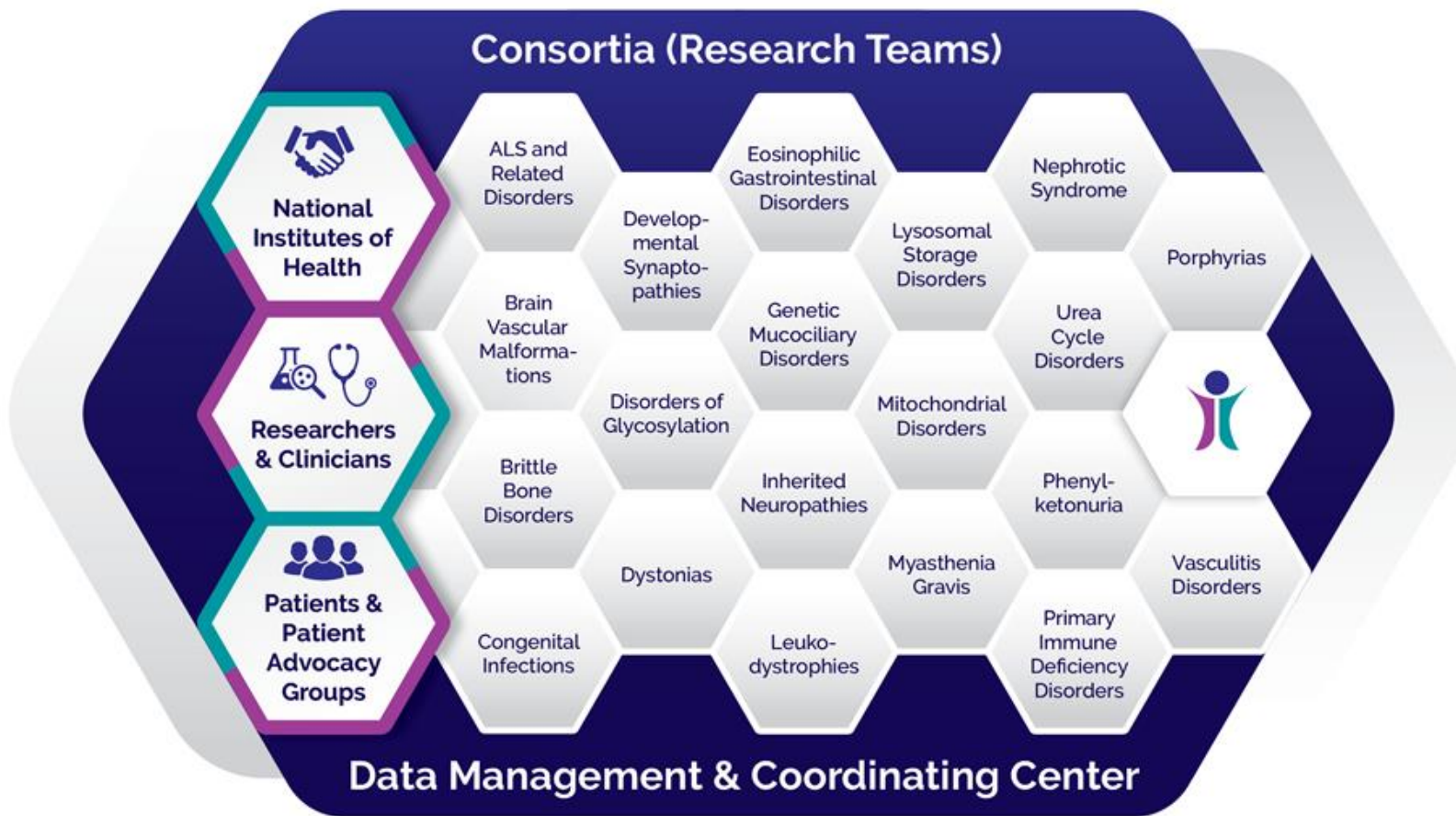
**Division of Rare Diseases Research Innovation**

**Tiina Urv, Ph.D.**  
Program Director  
[urvtiin@mail.nih.gov](mailto:urvtiin@mail.nih.gov)

**Joanne Lumsden, Ph.D.**  
Scientific Program Manager  
[joanne.lumsden@mail.nih.gov](mailto:joanne.lumsden@mail.nih.gov)



A network of 20 research teams collaborating to achieve faster diagnosis and better treatments for patients with rare diseases



Current 2024

**NIH** National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

**NIH** National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research

**NIH** National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases

**NIH** National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases

**NIH** National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases

**NIH** National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke

**NIH** Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development

**NIH** National Institute of Mental Health

**NIH** National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute

**NIH** National Institutes of Health Office of Dietary Supplements



# Every RDCRN consortium:



**Studies at least 3 related rare diseases**



**Career Enhancement Core**  
Works to develop the next generation of rare disease researchers



**Admin Core**  
Is a partnership of researchers and clinicians, patients and patient advocates, and the NIH



**Pilot/Feasibility Governance Core**  
Supports innovative pilot projects



**Clinical Research Projects**  
Conducts 2-4 clinical research projects, including a natural history study



**DMCC**  
Is supported by a central Data Management and Coordinating Center

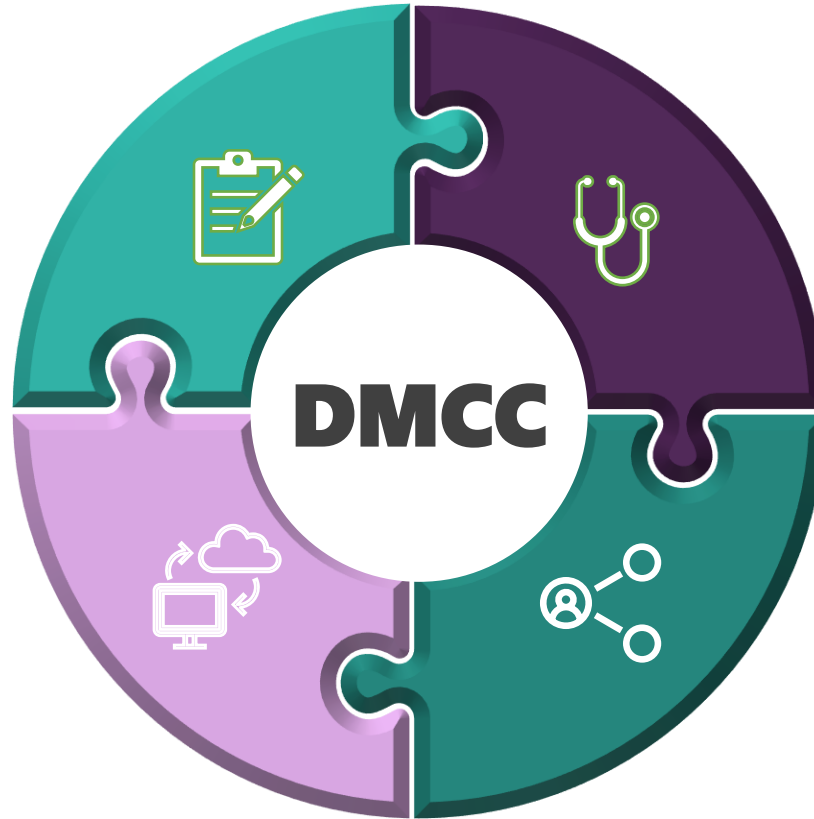
# RDCRN Data Management and Coordinating Center

## Administrative Support

Facilitates network operations, governance and communication

## Data Management

Builds and maintains a robust, secure data infrastructure for the RDCRN working closely with NCATS



## Clinical Research Support

Supports best practices in clinical research, protocol development and good data practices (FAIR)

## Engagement and Dissemination

Promotes patient engagement and broad research dissemination



National Center  
for Advancing  
Translational Sciences

# RDCRN Translational Impact

## Clinical Trials directly funded by U54 grant

- Predominantly small **Phase 1/Phase 2**
- Currently 18 trials funded in RDCRN4
- Primarily repurposed drugs, diets, supplements, procedures, devices, some novel drugs

## RDCRN-associated Clinical Trials

- Predominantly **Phase 2/Phase 3**
- Funded by industry, IC-specific grants, FDA, PAGs
- Leveraging disease phenotype, patient population, clinical sites, endpoints, biomarkers, early phase safety and efficacy data
- *No NCATS \$\$ involved*

## 12 FDA-approved treatments for 11 rare diseases

| Consortium | Drug      | Other Name                                    | Indication   | Company                 | Approval Date                    |
|------------|-----------|---|--|-------------------------|----------------------------------|
| UCDC       | CARBAGLU® | carglumic acid                                | N-acetylglutamate synthetase ( <b>NAGS</b> ) deficiency                            | Orphan Europe           | March 2010                       |
| VCRC       | RITUXAN®  | rituximab in combination with corticosteroids | Wegener's granulomatosis ( <b>WG</b> ) and microscopic polyangiitis ( <b>MPA</b> ) | Genentech and Biogen    | April 2011                       |
| UCDC       | RAVICTI®  | glycerol phenylbutyrate                       | urea cycle disorders ( <b>UCD</b> )  | Hyperion Therapeutics   | February 2013                    |
| RLDC       | RAPAMUNE® | sirolimus                                     | lymphangiomyomatosis ( <b>LAM</b> )  | Pfizer                  | May 2015                         |
| PC         | SCENESSE® | afamelanotide                                 | erythropoietic protoporphyria ( <b>EPP</b> )                                       | Clinuvel                | October 2019                     |
| PC         | GIVLAARI® | givosiran                                     | acute hepatic porphyria ( <b>AHP</b> )   | Alnylam Pharmaceuticals | November 2019                    |
| RKSC       | OXLUMO®   | lumasiran                                     | primary hyperoxaluria type 1 ( <b>PH1</b> )  | Alnylam Pharmaceuticals | November 2020                    |
| CEGIR      | DUPIXENT® | dupilumab                                     | eosinophilic esophagitis ( <b>EoE</b> )  | Regeneron               | May 2022<br>Jan 2024 (pediatric) |
| RTT        | DAYBUE™   | trofinetide                                   | <b>Rett</b> syndrome   | Acadia Pharmaceuticals  | March 2023                       |
| MGNet      | RYSTIGGO® | rozanolixizumab-noli                          | generalized myasthenia gravis ( <b>gMG</b> )                                       | UCB                     | June 2023                        |
| RKSC       | RIVFLOZA™ | nedosiran                                     | primary hyperoxaluria type 1 ( <b>PH1</b> )  | Novo Nordisk            | October 2023                     |
| CEGIR      | EOHILIA   | budesonide oral suspension                    | eosinophilic esophagitis ( <b>EoE</b> )  | Takeda                  | February 2024                    |



PAR-24-206

## Rare Diseases Clinical Research Consortia (RDCRC) for the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (RDCRN) (U54 Clinical Trial Optional)

**The following types of studies are not responsive to this NOFO.**

**Applications proposing such studies will be considered non-responsive, will be withdrawn from review, and not considered for funding.**

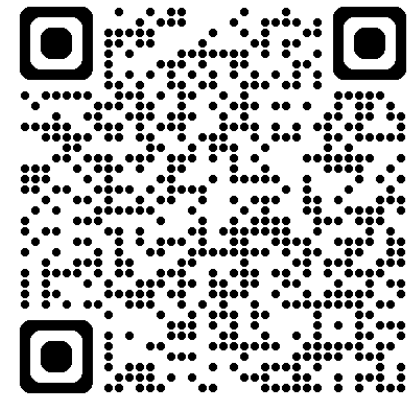
- Single site clinical studies
- Phase III Clinical Trials as part of Clinical Research Projects
- There are fewer than three rare diseases included
- There is not at least one longitudinal natural history study
- There are either less than two or more than four research projects submitted
- There is no patient advocacy group involved
- Basic sciences studies
- Applications that propose any type of animal studies within the RDCRC. The use of in vitro models must be relevant to clinical endpoints (i.e., testing drugs, validating biomarkers versus more basic research)



National Center  
for Advancing  
Translational Sciences



# Rare Diseases Clinical Research Consortia (RDCRC) for the Rare Diseases Clinical Research Network (RDCRN) (U54 Clinical Trial Optional)



## Key Dates

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Posted Date                          | April 02, 2024                            |
| Open Date (Earliest Submission Date) | July 12, 2024                             |
| Letter of Intent Due Date(s)         | 30 days prior to the application due date |

| Application Due Dates |  |  | Review and Award Cycles |                         |                     |
|-----------------------|--|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| New                   | Renewal / Resubmission / Revision (as allowed) | AIDS - New/Renewal/Resubmission/Revision, as allowed | Scientific Merit Review | Advisory Council Review | Earliest Start Date |
| August 13, 2024       | August 13, 2024                                | Not Applicable                                       | February 2025           | May 2025                | July 2025           |

All applications are due by 5:00 PM local time of applicant organization.

Applicants are encouraged to apply early to allow adequate time to make any corrections to errors found in the application during the submission process by the due date.

<https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PAR-24-206.html>



# NCATS

**COLLABORATE. INNOVATE. ACCELERATE.**

 [ncats.nih.gov](https://ncats.nih.gov)

 [@ncats\\_nih\\_gov](https://twitter.com/ncats_nih_gov)

 [@ncats.nih.gov](https://www.facebook.com/ncats.nih.gov)

 [NIH-NCATS](https://www.linkedin.com/company/NIH-NCATS)

Tiina Urv, Ph.D.  
Program Director  
[urvtiin@mail.nih.gov](mailto:urvtiin@mail.nih.gov)

Joanne Lumsden, Ph.D.  
Scientific Program Manager  
[joanne.lumsden@mail.nih.gov](mailto:joanne.lumsden@mail.nih.gov)



**NIH** National Center  
for Advancing  
Translational Sciences

# **OOPD's Funding Opportunities for Rare Diseases**

Katherine Needleman, MS, PhD, RAC  
Director, Orphan Products Grants Program  
FDA/OOPD  
May 13, 2024

FDA/NIH/NCATS/Reagan Udall Foundation Public Workshop:  
Natural History Studies and Patient Registries In the Development of Rare Disease Treatments

# Office of Orphan Products Development

- The Office of Orphan Products Development (OOPD) provides incentives for sponsors to develop products for rare diseases.
- **Mission**: To promote the development of drugs, devices, biologics, and medical foods for patients with rare diseases and special populations.

| DESIGNATION PROGRAMS |   | GRANT PROGRAMS |   |
|----------------------|---|----------------|---|
| 1                    | Orphan Drug Designation & Exclusivity     | 1              | Orphan Products Clinical Trials Grant Program |
| 2                    | Rare Pediatric Disease (RPD) Designation  | 2              | Orphan Products Natural History Grant Program |
| 3                    | Humanitarian Use Device Designation (HUD) | 3              | Pediatric Device Consortia Grant Program      |
|                      |   | 4              | Rare Neurodegenerative Disease Grant Program  |

Learn more about OOPD Grants programs:

[Office of Orphan Products Development | FDA](https://www.fda.gov/office-of-orphan-products)

# Orphan Products Grants Program



- **Established:** 1983
- **Overall Budget:** ~\$19M
- **Goal:** To advance the development of orphan products (drugs, biologics, devices, or medical foods) that demonstrate promise for the diagnosis or treatment of rare diseases or conditions
- **Clinical Trial Grants**
  - Funding ~ 75 ongoing studies
  - Focus on efficiency and innovative trial designs
  - Grants have led to over 85 product approvals
  - Publications, impact on field
- **Natural History (NH) Grants**
  - Launched Program in 2016
  - Currently funding 14 grants
  - Potential impact for clinical trial development and supporting regulatory decisions
  - Collaborations with industry and patient groups and publications

# Rare Neurodegenerative Disease Grant Program



- **Established:** upon enactment of the [ACT for ALS in December 2021](#).
- **FY2024 Budget:** \$5M
- **Purpose:** Grants and contracts to public and private entities to cover costs of research on, and development of interventions intended to prevent, diagnose, mitigate, treat, or cure ALS and other rare neurodegenerative diseases in adults and children, including costs incurred with respect to the development and **critical evaluation of tools, methods, and processes**
- To learn more about this program, see:  
[Rare Neurodegenerative Disease Grant Program | FDA](#)

# Funding Opportunities Details



- **Eligibility:**
  - Foreign or domestic, public or private, for-profit or nonprofit entities (state and local units of government) are eligible; Federal agencies may not apply
  - The disease proposed to be studied meet the definition of a rare disease (prevalence of fewer than 200,000 persons in the US)
- **Budget:**
  - Yearly budget depends on the RFA. See RFA for limits.
- **How to Apply:**
  - Grants.gov
  - Instructions in the [SF424 \(R&R\) Application Guide](#), except where noted otherwise
  - Helpful Hint documents for all FOA on [OOPD's website](#)
  - Registrations required to submit (e.g., SAM, eRA Commons, grants.gov)
  - Start Early!
- **Review and Awards:**
  - Reviewed by experts in the field
  - Number of awards is contingent upon FDA appropriations and submission of a sufficient number of meritorious applications
  - Funding dependent on **quality of application** and **availability of Federal funds**



# OOPD Funding Opportunities



- [Clinical Studies of Orphan Products Addressing Unmet Needs of Rare Diseases \(R01\)](#)
  - Receipt Dates: October 22, 2024
  - Resubmission Only Receipt Dates: June 4, 2024; June 3, 2025
  - FOA Number: **RFA-FD-23-001**
- [Efficient and Innovative Natural History Studies Addressing Unmet Needs in Rare Diseases \(R01\)](#)
  - Receipt Dates: **February 13, 2024**
  - FOA Number: **RFA-FD-22-001**
- [Natural History and Biomarker Studies of Rare Neurodegenerative Diseases \(U01\)](#)
  - Receipt Dates: **May 6, 2024**
  - FOA Number: **RFA-FD-24-024**

Apply through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) – links in the RFA

[Funding opportunities for rare disease research | FDA](#)





# OOPD Contact Information

For more information on OOPD programs go to:

[www.fda.gov/orphan](http://www.fda.gov/orphan)

Still have questions?

Email us at [orphan@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:orphan@fda.hhs.gov)

Email: [katherine.needleman@fda.hhs.gov](mailto:katherine.needleman@fda.hhs.gov)

Call us at 301-796-8660



**U.S. FOOD & DRUG**  
ADMINISTRATION

# Lunch



The meeting will resume at 1:35 pm ET





# Natural History Studies and Registries in the Development of Rare Disease Treatments

**Hybrid Public Workshop**  
May 13, 2024 | 10am-4pm (eastern)



A workshop prepared in collaboration with the Food and Drug Administration and the NIH National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences

