Academic Medical Center Improves Data Curation for Cancer Drug Research

Data for 3,100 cancer patients treated with immunotherapy drugs was securely curated to understand survival status, outcomes, and disease progression.

The Client

This internationally recognized mid-Atlantic academic medical center is a National Cancer Institute (NCI) Designated Cancer Center which includes a main campus and four community hospitals. Physicians, scientists, clinical professionals, and researchers collaborate to take the most promising discoveries from the laboratory to the clinic to improve cancer treatment.

Challenges

The cancer center needed to improve clinical trial data management, and they determined their initial challenge was capturing data in an immunotherapy drug study for 3,100 cancer patients. Physicians, scientists, and clinicians would often make notes on side effects or treatment but there needed to be clear and easy access to those notes by other researchers. The center wanted all the data to be captured securely in their database for correlation and analysis.

- Skilled resources were needed to help capture and curate real-world data for research. Using in-house resources to curate data would have increased costs—more staff on the payroll wasn't the best solution. They needed a scalable option to gain access to more resources.

- The cancer center wanted to understand the outcomes and survival status from certain immunotherapy drugs. To do this, they had to ensure the eligibility criteria for each patient by confirming that they had received at least one of the ten immunotherapy drugs on the list as some had received multiple drugs.

- The cancer center required the capability to capture and curate patient data to understand a patient's performance after receiving at least one of the immunotherapy drugs. The research study covered multiple cancer types and up to 243 data points curated for each patient. Data points include adverse events, comorbidity, and outcomes in relation to immunotherapy and chemotherapy.

> *"Omega Healthcare helped us to capture and curate critical information from 3,100 patients to analyze the effects of multiple immunotherapy drugs. Creating a process to add and audit data in our REDCap database helped us with treatment by correlating symptoms and drug interactions."*
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> – Clinical research administrator, mid-Atlantic academic cancer center

Solution

Omega Healthcare partnered with the cancer center to provide experienced resources and a range of real-world data services. This collaboration was critical to curate structured, high-quality data from medical records thus providing insights into patient outcomes in relation to immunotherapy drug treatment. The team was provided access to the client's Epic EHR system, and they captured the data points and outcomes for each patient during a six-month period.

- The patient data was captured and submitted in a secure and structured manner within the client's Research Electronic Data Capture (REDCap) database.

- Omega Healthcare's auditor resources leveraged manual and automated checks to audit 10% of all the curated cases and demonstrated cohort quality above 95%.

Results

Using real-world data to find links between drug therapies can help accelerate the time to diagnosis and treatment. After completing the research, the cancer center's researchers could access data from the 3,100 patients involved in the project to analyze the outcomes, which assisted in improving cancer treatment.

Omega Healthcare was able to bring in qualified Clinical Data Services resources for the period needed to complete the project and ensure the quality of the data.

- ✓ Collected and curated data for 3,100 patients in the client's database

- ✓ Applied automation to audit and improve data quality

- ✓ Achieved 96.5% overall data accuracy

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