

Reusing electronic health data for clinical research appears cost-saving for pharmaceutical industry

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND, August 9, 2016 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The European research project Electronic Health Records for Clinical Research (EHR4CR) was co-funded by the European Commission and the European Federation of Pharmaceutical Industries and Associations (EFPIA) under the Innovative Medicines Initiative. This important research initiative has developed a new technological platform that can enable the trustworthy reuse of health data contained in hospital-based electronic health records (EHR) for enhancing and speeding up clinical research practices. In particular, protocol feasibility assessments, patient identification for recruitment, and clinical data exchange for efficient study conduct can be optimised by this innovation.

A new budgetary impact assessment published in the *Journal of Health & Medical Informatics** reveals that compared to current practices, the EHR4CR platform appears cost-saving for pharmaceutical industry, the primary sponsor of clinical trials. Considering the target markets for Phase II, III and IV clinical trials to be commercially sponsored in Europe over 5 years, the study findings suggest that more savings would be realized with a broader deployment of EHR4CR solutions in Europe, as well as globally.

Dr Danielle Dupont, Chief Scientific Officer at Data Mining International, the Swiss independent research agency which performed this study in collaboration with clinical research experts, stated: "From the perspective of pharmaceutical industry, the results of this study confirm that reusing hospital-based EHR data for clinical research could generate substantial savings compared to current practices. As this study was conducted using advanced simulation modelling, further research is warranted in real world settings."

* Dupont D, Beresniak A, Schmidt A, Proeve J, Bolanos E, Ammour N, Sundgren M, Ericson M, Kalra D, De Moor G. (2016) Assessing the Financial Impact of Reusing Electronic Health Records Data for Clinical Research: Results from the EHR4CR European Project. *J Health Med Informat*; 7 (3): 235. doi:10.4172/2157-7420.1000235.

Alina Juusti-Hawkes
Data Mining International SA
+358504627830
[email us here](#)

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