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University of California Launches its First Tool for Data Sharing Among Medical Centers with UC Research eXchange

The University of California Biomedical Research Acceleration, Integration and Development (UC BRAID; ucbraid.org) is pleased to announce the launch of the UC Research eXchange (UC ReX) and the UC ReX Data Explorer tool. This system enables exploration of a combined population of over 12 Million patients from medical center databases at UC Los Angeles, UC Irvine, UC Davis, UC San Diego, and UC San Francisco.

UC ReX Data Explorer gives researchers and quality specialists access to cohort counts derived from de-identified clinical data collected at the point of care to improve medical care and advance research.

UC ReX was initiated by UC BRAID in 2011 with a 5-year grant of $5 Million from the UC Office of the President (UCOP) and developed through a collaboration of the medical campuses and their Chief Information Officers and CTSAs.

An important part of UC BRAID’s mission is to improve UC collaborative research opportunities. UC ReX is a great example of how UC BRAID facilitates integration of research programs, clinical informatics, technology, and resources across University of California campuses.

To start exploring UC ReX with Data Explorer, please go to ucrex.org for more information.

Sincerely,

Gary S. Firestein, MD
UC BRAID Chair
Search 12 Million Patient Records

- The UC ReX Data Explorer enables search of 12 million de-identified patient records from the 5 UC medical centers with one query
- Complete NIH targeted Enrollment Tables by providing counts of eligible patients by gender, race and ethnicity
- Increase cohort identification for the study of rare diseases
- Expand your study from a single to a multi-site proposal
- Obtain coordinated data provisioning support through UC ReX

UC ReX: A UC Shared Data Resource

The UC ReX Data Explorer is a secure online system that enables cross-campus queries of clinical aggregate data from 12 million de-identified patient records derived from patient care activities at UC Davis, Irvine, Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco. Search criteria can include demographics, diagnosis and procedure codes (ICD-9), top 150+ lab orders, and a proof of concept for four medications.

The output of each query from the UC ReX Data Explorer is a numeric count of patients by site that match the criteria identified in the query. The numeric count helps investigators assess the feasibility of their study idea by identifying whether there are sufficient numbers of prospective subjects within the UC system.

The sources of information for the Data Explorer are de-identified data-sets that are extracted from each institution’s clinical data warehouse, transformed into a common data representation, and stored in a separate, dedicated data repository at each institution. The patient information from each site is de-identified using recognized best practices.

To explore or learn more about UC ReX, please go to ucrex.org.

To request an account please email ucrex@ctsi.ucla.edu