



Data Management Considerations for Clinical Trials

CLINICAL AND TRANSLATIONAL SCIENCE CENTER

Brad Pollock, M.P.H., Ph.D.

Department of Public Health Sciences

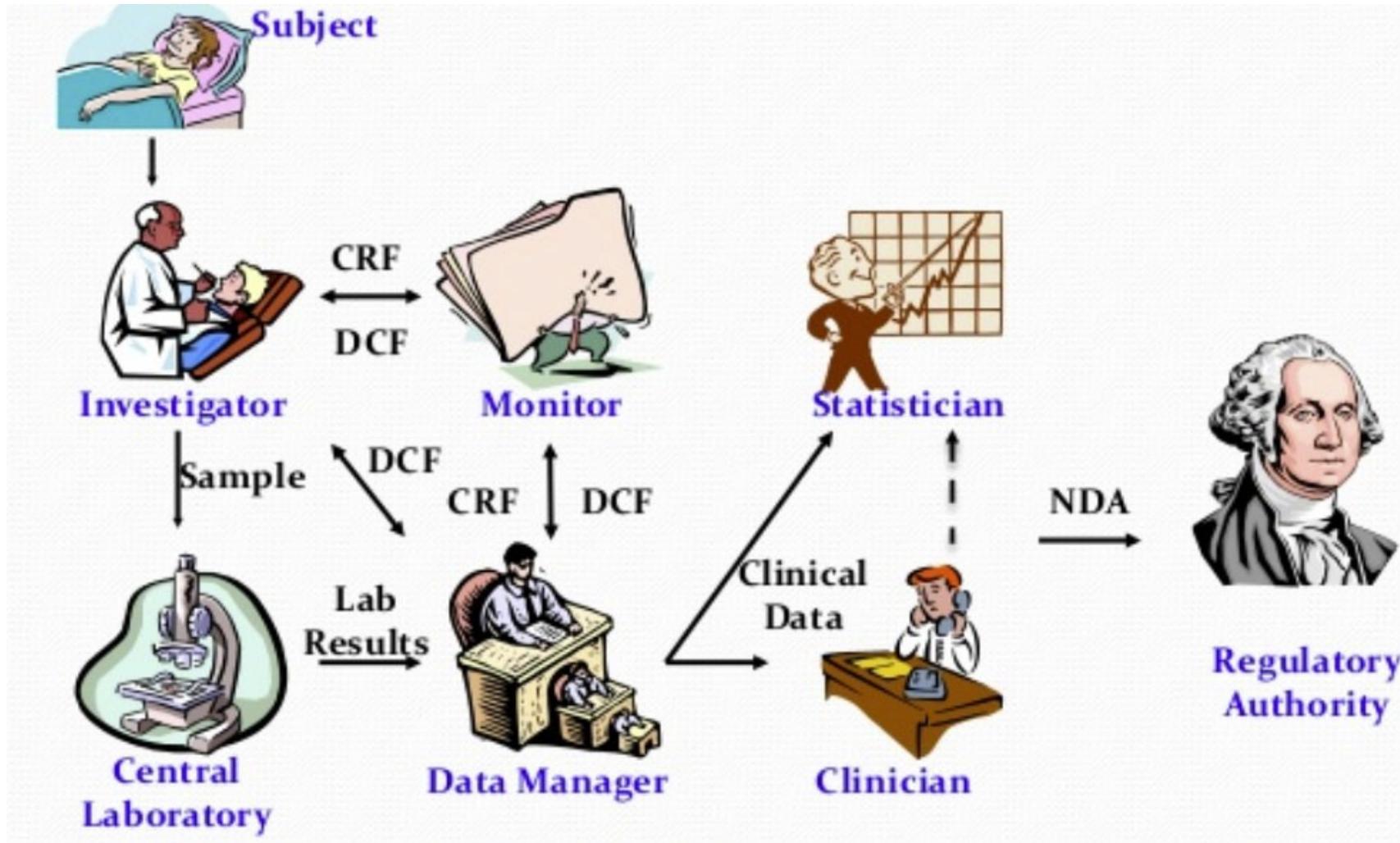
Topics

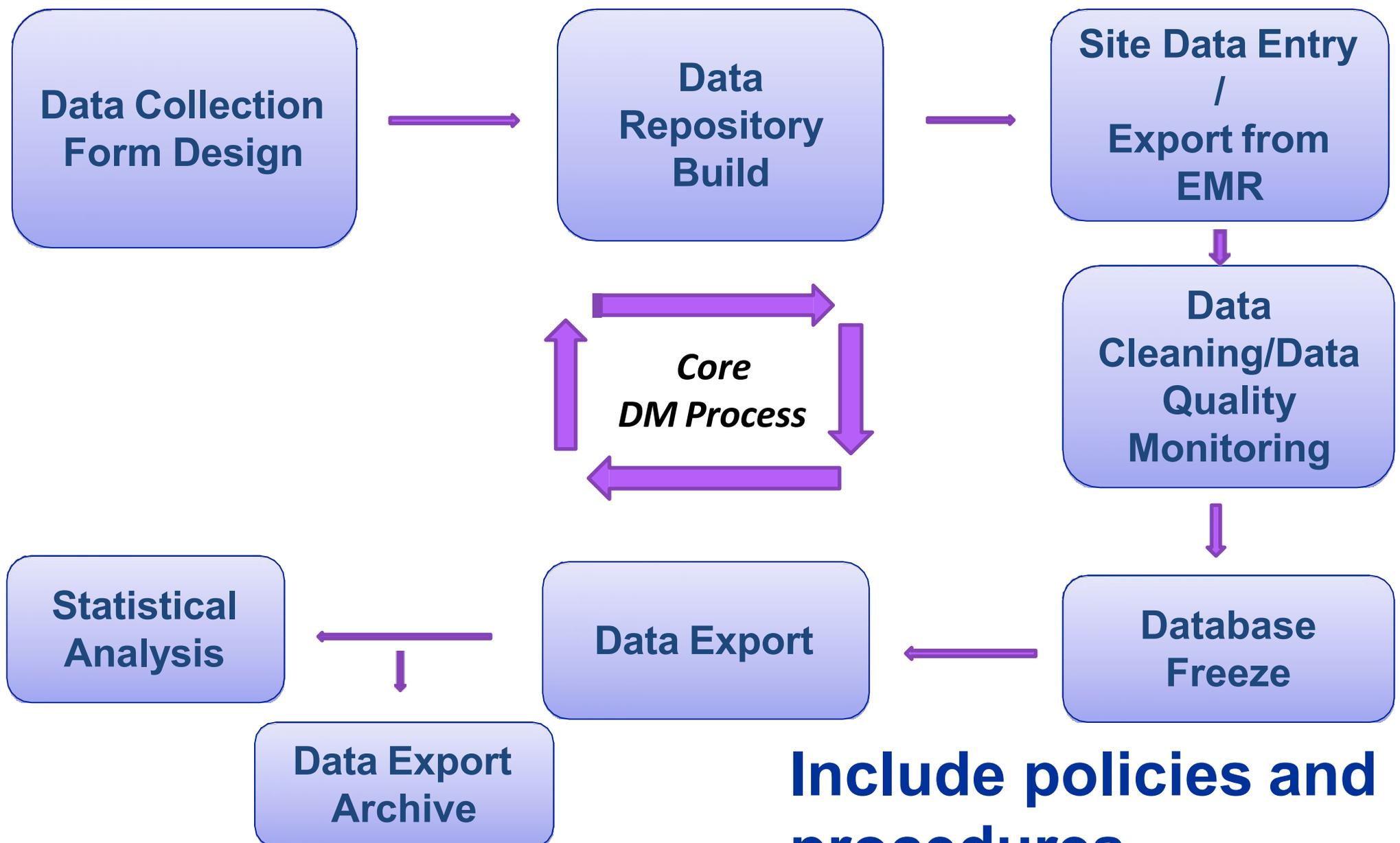
- Data operations
- Databases
- Software
 - Spreadsheets
 - Database management systems
 - Clinical trials management systems
- Other considerations

Common Terms

Abbreviation	Definition
CRF	Case Report Form
DB	Database
QC	Quality Control
DMP	Data Management Plan
CSR	Clinical Study Report
DCF	Data Clarification Form

Data Management Overview for Clinical Research





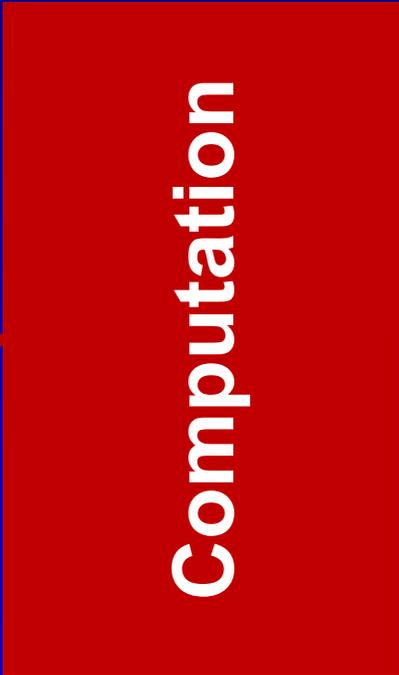
Include policies and procedures

My Background

- Biostatistics and epidemiology: oncology, HIV, clinical & translational research
- Biostatistics core director:
 - Cancer Center BSR
 - CTSA BERD
 - CTSA Informatics Cores
- National CTSA activities:
 - Chair of the BERD Key Function Committee
 - Co-Chair, Methods & Processes Domain Task Force
- PI, intervention trials and etiology studies

Biostatistics Core Functions

- Design studies
 - Clarify hypotheses and objectives
 - Define endpoints
 - Select study/experimental design
 - Sample size/power calculations
 - Develop analytic plans
- Monitor studies
 - Efficacy/futility
 - Safety
- Analyze studies
 - Statistical analysis
 - Writing reports/manuscripts



Computation

Why Talk About Data Management in a Biostatistics Seminar Series?

- You have learned a lot about biostatistics, but for most statisticians, the drudgery and hard work is getting and preparing study data for statistical analysis.
- 90/10 Rule

Clinical and Translational Research

- Purpose of clinical and translational research is to discovery new ways to improve the health of individuals and populations
- We do this by conducting research studies:
 - Hypothesis-generating studies
 - Hypothesis-testing studies*

*includes clinical trials, intervention trials, etc.

Clinical and Translational Research

(continued)

- Regardless of type of study, the most eloquently designed study is only as good as its data.
- Strength of evidence depends on *complete and valid* data:

Data → Information → Knowledge

Clinical and Translational Research

(continued)

- Data completeness and quality are critical for scientific discovery:
 - Good data with a bad design are worthless
 - Bad data with a good design is even worse
- Many investigators armed with an electronic spreadsheet think they have they need to conduct reproducible clinical/translational research

Wrong!

Clinical and Translational Research

(continued)

- What's sexier?
 - Statistical methods
 - Data management (DM)
- Data management is easily one of the most overlooked, underappreciated aspects of clinical and translational research

Note: For our discussion, a clinical trial is a specific study design within a range of clinical/translational research study types

EDUCATION
SPECIAL COMMUNICATION

Statistical competencies for medical research learners: What is fundamental?

Felicity T. Enders^{1*}, Christopher J. Lindsell², Leah J. Welty³, Emma K. T. Benn⁴, Susan M. Perkins⁵, Matthew S. Mayo⁶, Mohammad H. Rahbar⁷, Kelley M. Kidwell⁸, Sally W. Thurston⁹, Heidi Spratt¹⁰, Steven C. Grambow¹¹, Joseph Larson¹, Rickey E. Carter¹, Brad H. Pollock¹² and Robert A. Oster¹³

¹ Division of Biomedical Statistics & Informatics, Department of Health Sciences Research, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN, USA

² Department of Emergency Medicine and Center for Clinical and Translational Science and Training, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH, USA

³ Department of Preventive Medicine, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA

⁴ Department of Population Health Science and Policy, Center for Biostatistics, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York, NY, USA

⁵ Department of Biostatistics, School of Medicine, Indiana University, Indianapolis, IN, USA

⁶ Department of Biostatistics, School of Medicine, University of Kansas Medical Center, Kansas City, KS, USA

⁷ Department of Internal Medicine, McGovern Medical School, Division of Clinical and Translational Sciences, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, Houston, TX, USA

⁸ Department of Biostatistics, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA

⁹ Department of Biostatistics and Computational Biology, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY, USA

¹⁰ Department of Preventive Medicine and Community Health, The University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX, USA

¹¹ Department of Biostatistics and Bioinformatics, Duke University School of Medicine, Durham, NC, USA

¹² Department of Public Health Sciences, University of California, Davis, Davis, CA, USA

¹³ Department of Medicine, Division of Preventive Medicine, University of Alabama at Birmingham, Birmingham, AL, USA

Statistical Competencies

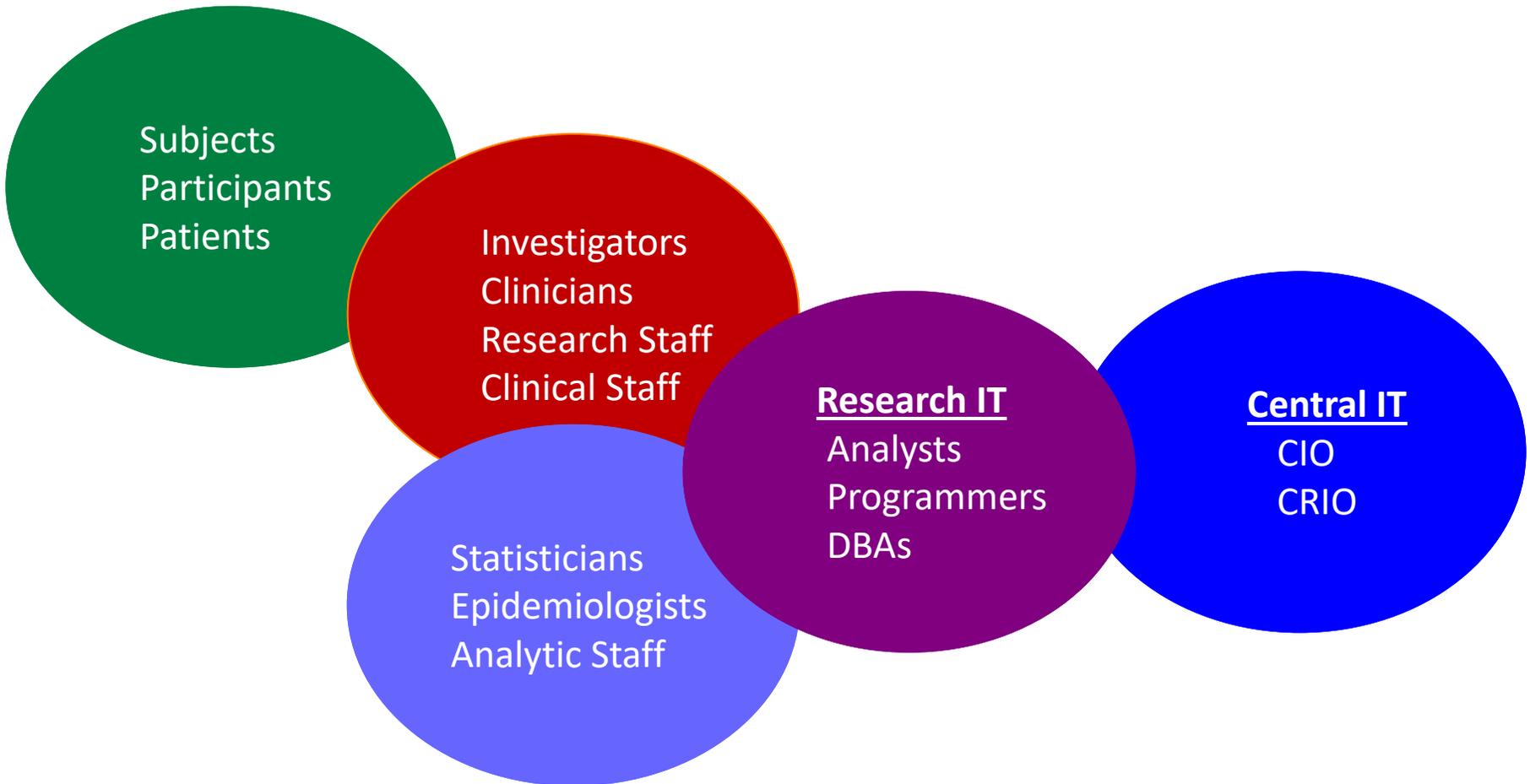
6. Understand the value of **data quality and data management**.
7. Understand the reasons for performing **research that is reproducible from data collection** through publication of results.
9. Distinguish between **variable types** (e.g. continuous, binary, categorical) and understand the implications for selection of appropriate statistical methods. Extensively covered by required coursework.
12. Understand issues relating to generalizability of a study, including sampling methods and the amount and type of **missing data**.
16. Understand the need to address **loss to follow-up**.
21. Understand the purpose of **data and safety monitoring plans**.

DATA MANAGEMENT

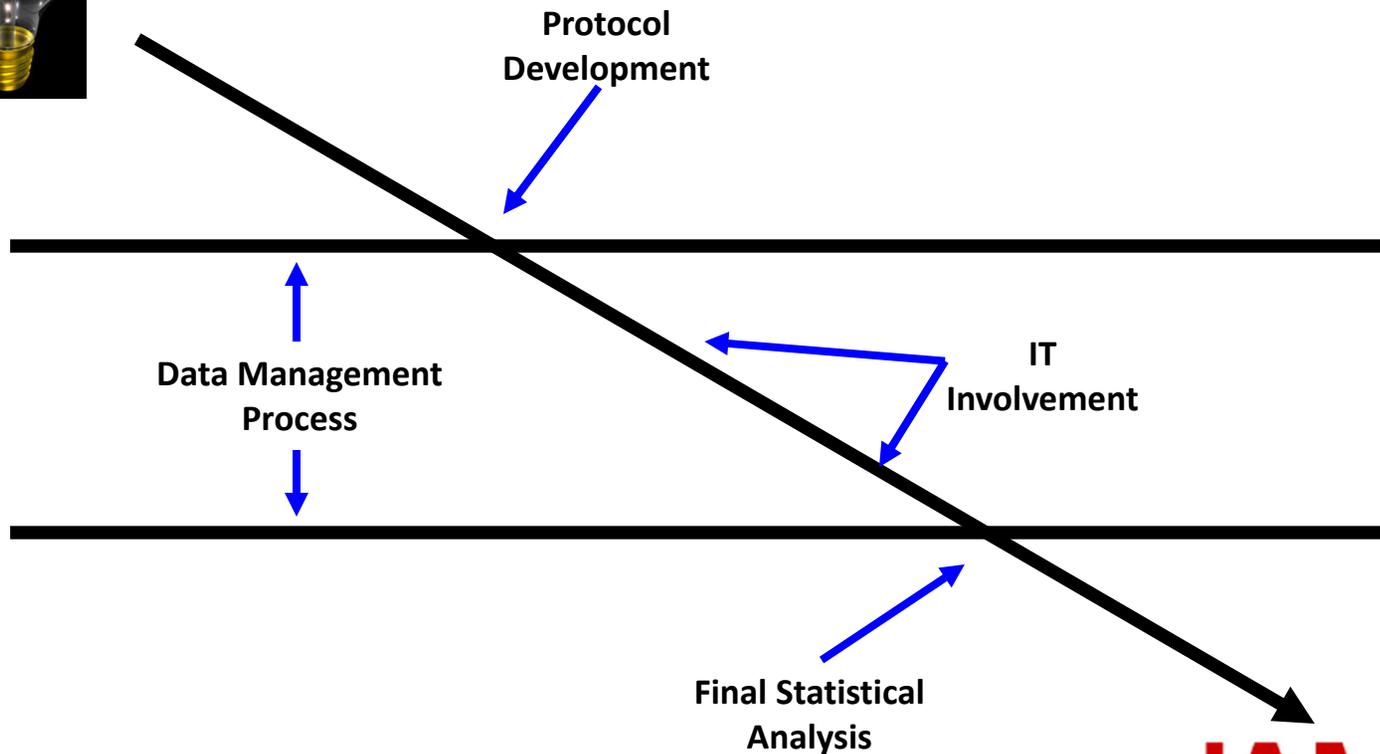
What is Data Management?

- The development, execution and supervision of plans, policies, programs and practices that control, protect, deliver, and enhance the value of data and information assets*

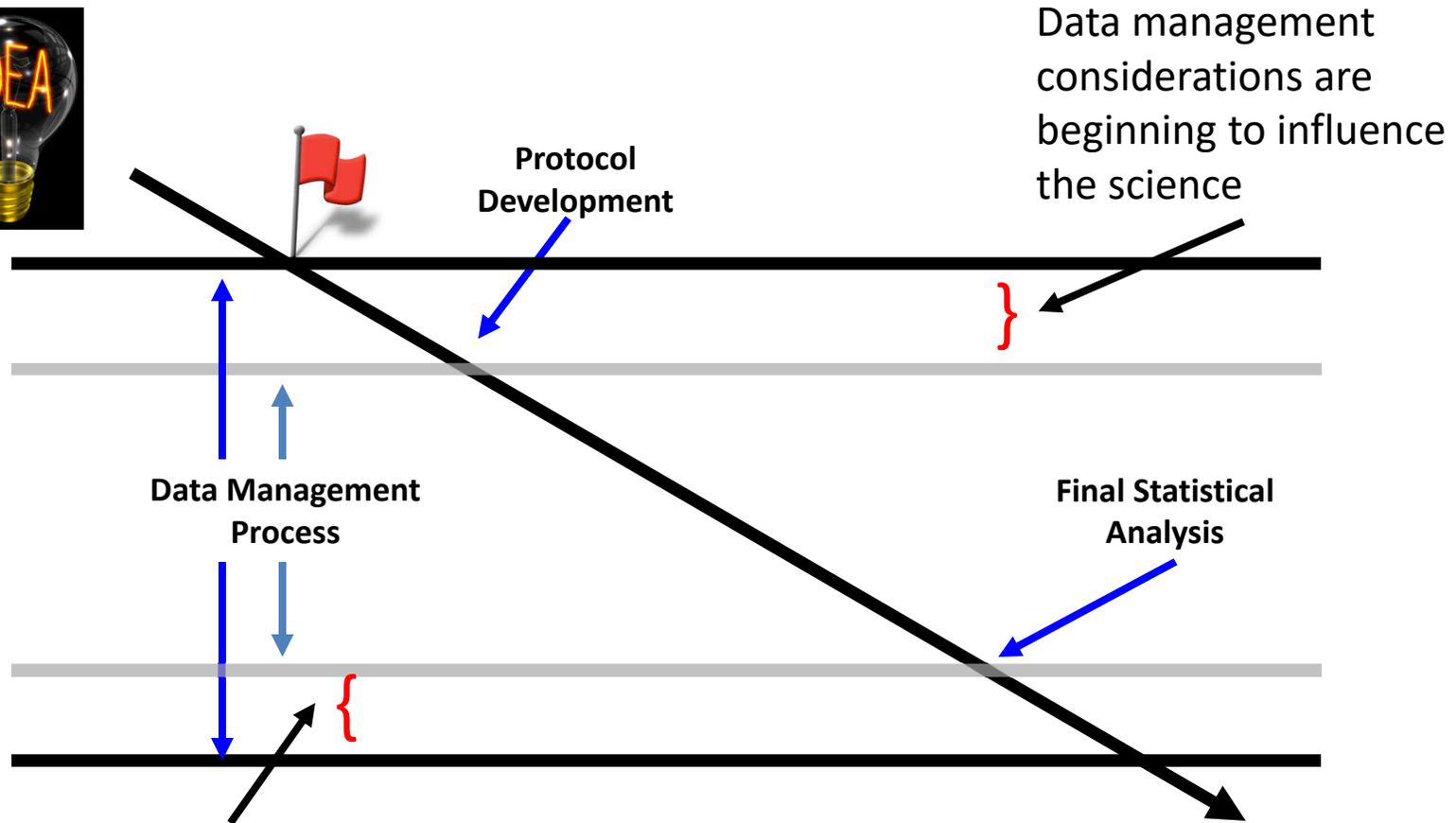
Who is Involved in Data Management?



Data Management within the Research Process



Data Management Changing Within the Research Process



Storage and long-term utilization affect the data long after the protocol's final analysis

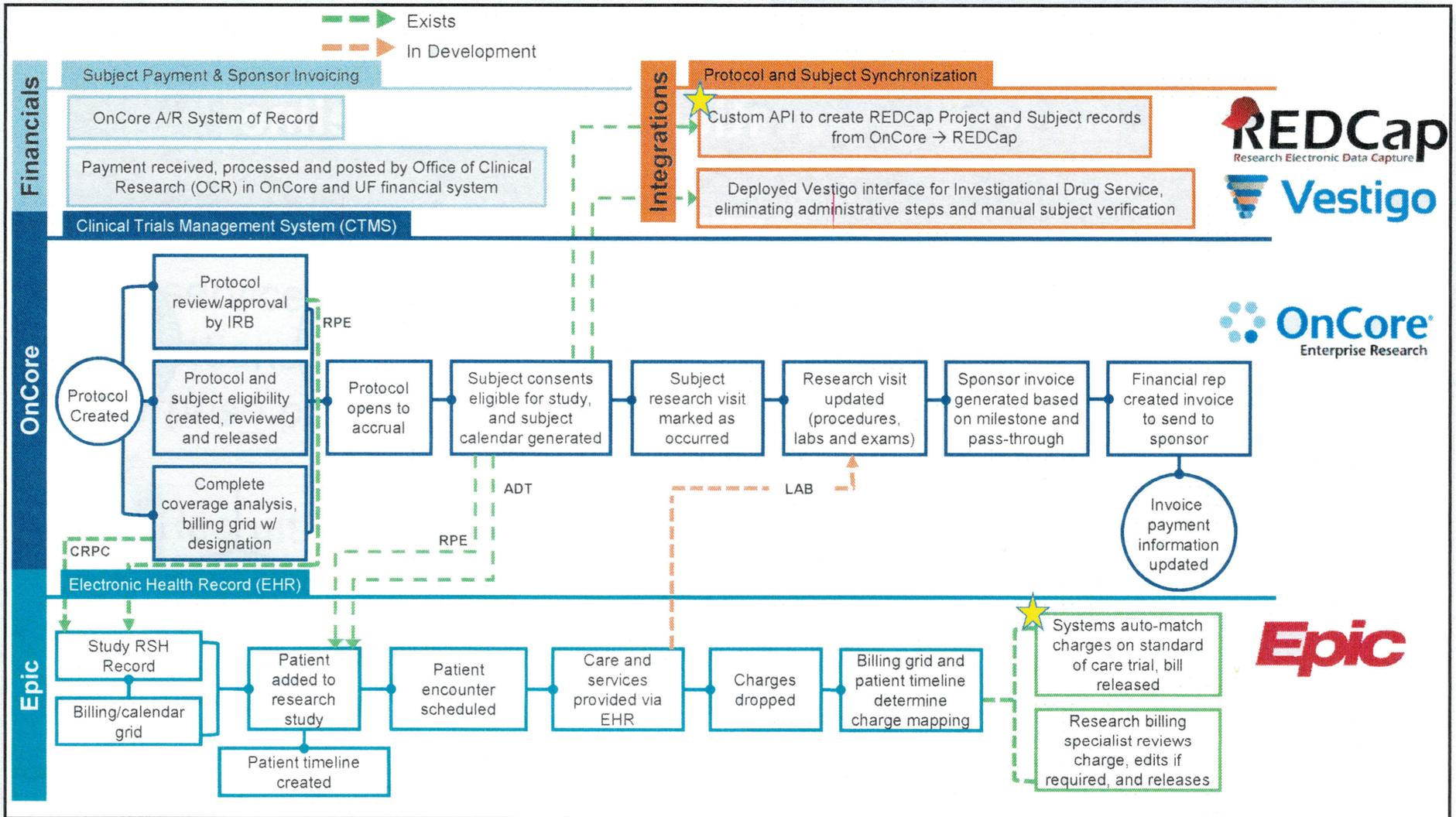
Data Management Elements

- Need to maintain functional, flexible, scalable, cost-efficient set of resources to handle a variety of data:

- Demographic
- Clinical/laboratory and -omics
- Environmental

Exposome

- Data quality and compliance with regulatory requirements
 - HIPAA, 21 CFR Part 11, FISMA
- Prospective planning for:
 - Long time horizons
 - Environmental Influences on Child Health Outcomes (ECHO)
 - Interoperability and federation
 - OnCore CTMS Enterprise Research with EPIC and REDCap

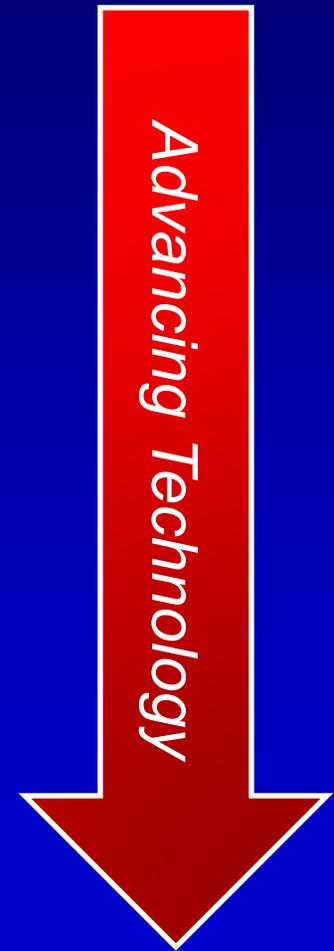


Database Management Functions

- Database design
 - Data elements
 - Relationships (data model)
 - Access control/security/integrity
- Application development
 - Data capture
 - Data curation
 - Querying
 - Reporting
 - Audit
- Database operations

How Data Are Handled?

- Paper forms (CRFs) and keypunch
- Client-server DBMS and networked DBMS
- Web-front end DBMS
 - Pediatric Oncology Group replaced paper in 1998
 - Web front-end
 - Oracle back-end
- Clinical Trials Management System (CTMS)



Databases

- Data elements

Data Elements

- Common Data Elements (CDE)
 - Try to use standards with ontologies
 - Common Terminology Criteria for Adverse Events (CTCAE)
 - Patient-Reported Outcomes Measurement Information System (PROMIS)
 - International Classification of Diseases for Oncology (ICD-O)
 - Data dictionaries
 - Case Report Forms (eCRFs)
 - Map/link to other information systems (biorepository, EHR)
- Specialized (study-specific data elements)

Building and Adolescent and Young Adult Oncology Research Database

- [Demo](#)

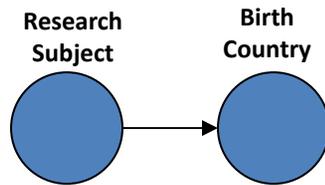
Databases

- Data elements
- Database models

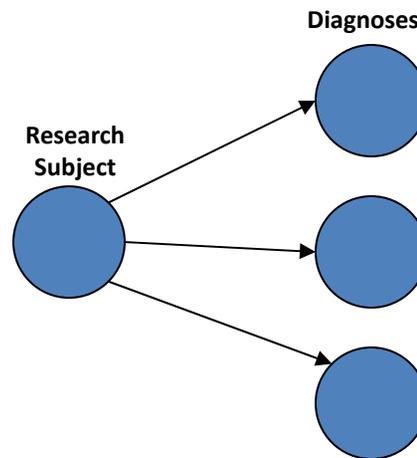
Database Model: Data Relationships

- Three types of relationships:

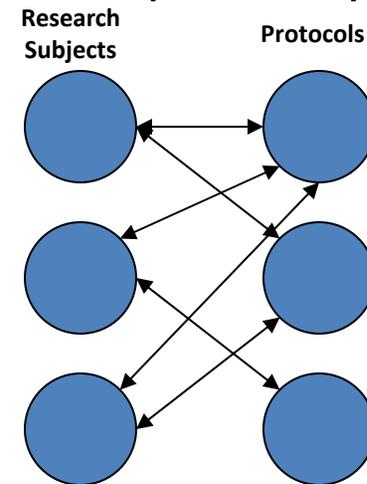
- One to One



- One to Many



- Many to Many



- The relationships of the data reflect the rules of the system (your protocol) and not all potential possibilities
 - **NOTE: One of the most expensive things to change once underway**

Databases

- Data elements
- Database models
- Validation
 - Part of the data plan, multiple methods
- Curation
 - Goal is to maintain the value of the data over time
 - Organization, annotation, revisions/audit log
 - Reuse, future proofing

Software

“Database Management” Software



Microsoft Excel



Excel Characteristics

- Advantages

- Easy to work with → Quick start up, low costs
- Potentially you can force data types

- Disadvantages

- Easy to work with →
 - No requirement to clearly define needs
- Will “interpret” data entries for you
 - Will not allow you to automatically override

Examples of Good and Bad Variable Names

good name	good alternative	avoid
Max_temp_C	MaxTemp	Maximum Temp (°C)
Precipitation_mm	Precipitation	precmm
Mean_year_growth	MeanYearGrowth	Mean growth/year
sex	sex	M/F
weight	weight	w.
cell_type	CellType	Cell type
Observation_01	first_observation	1st Obs.

A spreadsheet with inconsistent date formats

	A	B	C
1	Date	Assay date	Weight
2		12/9/05	54.9
3		12/9/05	45.3
4	12/6/2005	e	47
5		e	45.7
6		e	52.9
7		1/11/2006	46.1
8		1/11/2006	38.6

Examples of spreadsheets that violate the “no empty cells” recommendation

A

	A	B	C
1	id	date	glucose
2	101	2015-06-14	149.3
3	102		95.3
4	103	2015-06-18	97.5
5	104		117.0
6	105		108.0
7	106	2015-06-20	149.0
8	107		169.4

B

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
1		1 min				5 min			
2	strain	normal		mutant		normal		mutant	
3	A	147	139	166	179	334	354	451	474
4	B	246	240	178	172	514	611	412	447

A tidy version of the above data

	A	B	C	D	E
1	strain	genotype	min	replicate	response
2	A	normal	1	1	147
3	A	normal	1	2	139
4	B	normal	1	1	246
5	B	normal	1	2	240
6	A	mutant	1	1	166
7	A	mutant	1	2	179
8	B	mutant	1	1	178
9	B	mutant	1	2	172
10	A	normal	5	1	334
11	A	normal	5	2	354
12	B	normal	5	1	514
13	B	normal	5	2	611
14	A	mutant	5	1	451
15	A	mutant	5	2	474
16	B	mutant	5	1	412
17	B	mutant	5	2	447

Spreadsheets with nonrectangular layouts

A

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1						
2		101	102	103	104	105
3	sex	Male	Female	Male	Male	Male
4						
5		101	102	103	104	105
6	glucose	134.1	120.0	124.8	83.1	105.2
7						
8		101	102	103	104	105
9	insulin	0.60	1.18	1.23	1.16	0.73

B

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	1MIN						
2			Normal			Mutant	
3	B6	146.6	138.6	155.6	166	179.3	186.9
4	BTBR	245.7	240	243.1	177.8	171.6	188.1
5							
6	5MIN						
7			Normal			Mutant	
8	B6	333.6	353.6	408.8	450.6	474.4	423.8
9	BTBR	514.4	610.6	597.9	412.1	447.4	446.5

C

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1							
2	Date	11/3/14					
3	Days on diet	126					
4	Mouse #	43					
5	sex	f					
6	experiment		values			mean	SD
7	control		0.186	0.191	1.081	0.49	0.52
8	treatment A		7.414	1.468	2.254	3.71	3.23
9	treatment B		9.811	9.259	11.296	10.12	1.05
10							
11	fold change		values			mean	SD
12	treatment A		15.26	3.02	4.64	7.64	6.65
13	treatment B		20.19	19.05	23.24	20.83	2.17

D

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1		GTT date	GTT weight	time	glucose mg/dl	insulin ng/ml
2	321	2/9/15	24.5	0	99.2	lo off curve
3				5	349.3	0.205
4				15	286.1	0.129
5				30	312	0.175
6				60	99.9	0.122
7				120	217.9	lo off curve
8	322	2/9/15	18.9	0	185.8	0.251
9				5	297.4	2.228
10				15	439	2.078
11				30	362.3	0.775
12				60	232.7	0.5
13				120	260.7	0.523
14	323	2/9/15	24.7	0	198.5	0.151
15				5	530.6	off curve lo

Slide 37

BHP1

Brad H. Pollock, 3/9/2020

spreadsheet with a rectangular layout

	A	B	C	D	E
1	id	sex	glucose	insulin	triglyc
2	101	Male	134.1	0.60	273.4
3	102	Female	120.0	1.18	243.6
4	103	Male	124.8	1.23	297.6
5	104	Male	83.1	1.16	142.4
6	105	Male	105.2	0.73	215.7

		before treatment		before treatment				
Group		left flank Cellline X/luc alone Total Flux (x10 ⁵) day1 11/4/2010	right flank Cellline X/luc alone Total Flux (x10 ⁵) day1 11/4/2010	left flank Cellline X/luc alone Total Flux (x10 ⁵) day 8 11/11/2010	right flank Cellline X/luc alone Total Flux (x10 ⁵) day8 11/11/2010	left flank Cellline X/luc alone Total Flux (x10 ⁵) day15 11/18/10		Ce T d.
group 1	1	0.7	2.1	0.0	0.0	0.00		
left:		1.7	2.1	4.8	6.3	78.44		
right:		3.3	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.0		
		0.9	1.2	2.2	5.5	54.99		
		2.4	1.4			11.25		
group 2	8	0.9	2.6			147.2		
left:		3.6	3.1			134		
right:		2.5	2.3	17.5	5.7	37.29		
	9	11.6	14.8	5.7	29.7	13.6		
	10	6.5	4.4	7.5	6.1	12.63		
group 3	11	4.6	1.9	13.0	5.6	45.96		
left: Celline X/luc and PBMC	12	10.2	2.2	3.4	1.4	23.23		
right: Celline X/luc and PBMC	13	2.8	3.2	1.0	1.3	25.70		
	14	2.5	2.1			26.02		
Drug	15	0.2	0.7			54.32		
Group 4	16	0.6	4.9			1.80		
left: Celline X/luc and PBMC	17	1.8	1.7			3.25		
right: Celline X/luc and PBMC	18	3.9	3.9			0.00		
	19	0.0	0.5			7.82		
Antibody I.V.	20	2.0	2.1			32.87		
Group 5	21	2.3	0.5	0.0	0.0	0.00		
left: Celline X/luc and PBMC	22	1.6	1.8	0.0	0.1	0.00		
right: Celline X/luc and PBMC	23	2.8	3.2	0.2	0.1	0.00		
	24	1.9	0.9	4.1	1.0	31.30		
Antibody I.V. +Drug	25	1.4	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.00		
Group 6	26	1.2	1.3	1.2	2.2	4.80		
left: Celline X/luc and PBMC(NK depleted)	27	3.8	1.5	4.5	5.1	6.51		
right: Celline X/luc and PBMC(NK depleted)	28	1.6	2.3	3.2	10.9	4.59		
	29	1.7	2.0	6.7	6.6	61.23		
	30	1.8	2.0	1.0	5.7	0.00		

No Single Header Row

Complicated structure because of mix of one-time and serial data

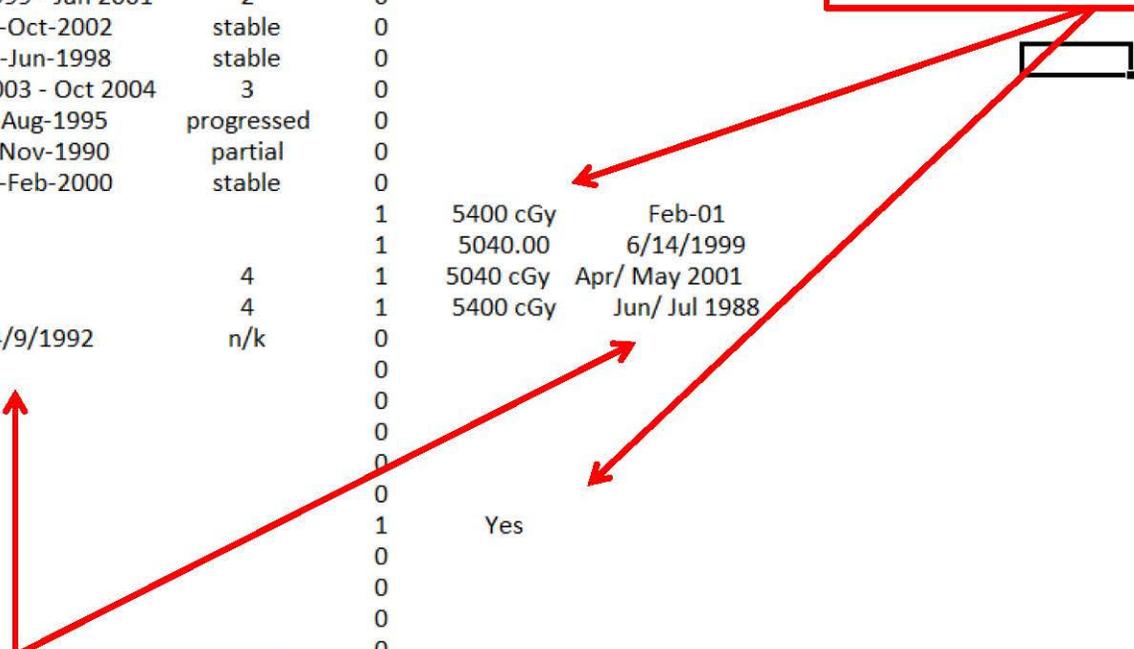
Data mixed with headers

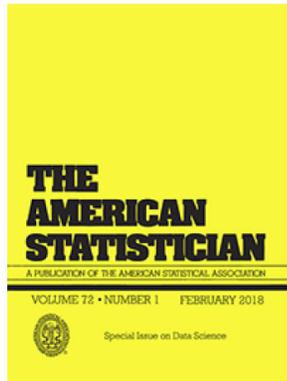
Cannot determine qualifiers for every data point

	A	B	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	DD	DE	DF	DG	DH	DI	DJ
1	<u>salvage</u>	<u>code</u>	<u>datechem1</u>	<u>response1</u>	<u>rad1yes</u>	<u>Rad1</u>	<u>daterads1</u>							
2		LGG234			0									
3		1 LGG603	11-Sep-1997	stable	0									
4		1 LGG345	11-Jan-2002	stable	0									
5		1 LGG445	Apr 2000 - April 2001	3	0									
6		1 LGG189	15-Dec-2003	partial	0									
7		1 LGG235	Apr 1999 - Jan 2001	2	0									
8		1 LGG26	24-Oct-2002	stable	0									
9		1 LGG415	25-Jun-1998	stable	0									
10		1 LGG424	Aug 2003 - Oct 2004	3	0									
11		1 LGG454	1-Aug-1995	progressed	0									
12		1 LGG523	7-Nov-1990	partial	0									
13		1 LGG79	15-Feb-2000	stable	0									
14		2 LGG374			1	5400 cGy	Feb-01							
15		2 LGG166			1	5040.00	6/14/1999							
16		2 LGG505		4	1	5040 cGy	Apr/ May 2001							
17		2 LGG639		4	1	5400 cGy	Jun/ Jul 1988							
18		3 LGG220	4/9/1992	n/k	0									
19		3 LGG225			0									
20		3 LGG7			0									
21	1, 2	LGG640			0									
22	1, 2, 3	LGG213			0									
23		LGG245			0									
24		LGG288			1	Yes								
25		LGG108			0									
26		LGG11			0									
27		LGG111			0									
28		LGG115			0									
29					0									
30					0									
31					0									
32					0									
33		LGG127			0									
34		LGG128			0									
35		LGG136			0									
36		LGG138			0									
37		LGG142			0									
38		LGG147			0									
39		LGG151			0									
40		LGG155			0									
41		LGG157			0									

Mixed type and purpose

Valid and invalid dates mixed





The American Statistician



ISSN: 0003-1305 (Print) 1537-2731 (Online) Journal homepage: <https://www.tandfonline.com/loi/utas20>

Data Organization in Spreadsheets

Karl W. Broman & Kara H. Woo

To cite this article: Karl W. Broman & Kara H. Woo (2018) Data Organization in Spreadsheets, The American Statistician, 72:1, 2-10, DOI: [10.1080/00031305.2017.1375989](https://doi.org/10.1080/00031305.2017.1375989)

Dangers of Spreadsheets

- The dangers are real
 - European Spreadsheet Risks Interest Group keeps a public archive of spreadsheet “horror stories” (<http://www.eusprig.org/horror-stories.htm>).
- Many researchers have examined error rates in spreadsheets
 - Panko* (2008) reported that in 13 audits of real-world spreadsheets, an average of 88% contained errors.
- Popular spreadsheet programs also make certain types of errors easy to commit and difficult to rectify.
 - Excel converts some gene names to dates and stores dates differently between operating systems, causing problems in downstream analyses (Zeeberg et al. 2004; Woo 2014).

*<http://panko.shidler.hawaii.edu/SSR/My papers/whatknow.htm>

Dangers of Spreadsheets (continued)

- Researchers who use spreadsheets should be aware of these common errors and design spreadsheets that are tidy, consistent, and as resistant to mistakes as possible

“Database Management” Software



1	Variable / Field Name	Form Name	Section Header	Field Type	Field Label	Choices, Calculations, OR Slider Labels	Field Note	Text Validation Type OR Show Slider Number	Text Validation Min	Text Validation Max	Identifier ?
2	record_id	header		text	Record ID						
3	siteid	header		text	Site ID		CTEP Code				
4	pid	header		text	Participant ID						
5	first_initial	header		text	First Initial						1
6	middle_initial	header		text	Middle Initial						1
7	last_initial	header		text	Last Initial						1
8	stratum	eligibility	Eligibility	radio	IMPACT Stratum	0, Helen DeVos Children's Hospital at Spectrum Health 1, BI-LO Charities Children's Cancer Center 2, Blank Children's Hospital					
9	dx_primary	eligibility		text	Primary cancer diagnosis ICD-O code		ICD-O Morphology			3	y
10	dx_date	eligibility		date	Date of diagnosis		Data entry check: Patient must be 0-25.99 years at enrollment	DATE_MDY			y
11	dx_age_calc	eligibility		calc	Age (years) at diagnosis	round(datediff([dob],[dx_date],'y'),0)					
12	dx_age_confirm	eligibility		radio	Was the patient in the indicated age range at time of diagnosis?	0, Yes 1, No	To be eligible, Patient must have a new diagnosis of cancer or relapsed cancer with an intent to administer chemotherapy and must be within 30 days of starting chemotherapy. (The first day that chemotherapy was administered will be day one. Patients will be eligible for enrollment during the 30 calendar days following day zero).				
							To be eligible, The patient or a parent/guardian must have receptive and expressive language skills in English or Spanish since the assessment instruments are available in these languages only.				



Logged in as | Log out

- My Projects
- Project Home
- Project Setup

Data Collection

- Demographics

Applications

- Calendar
- Data Export Tool
- Data Import Tool
- Data Comparison Tool
- Logging
- File Repository
- Report Builder

Help & Information

- General Help
- Video Tutorials

If you are experiencing problems, please contact your [project administrator](#).

[VIDEO: How to use this page](#)

This page allows you to build and customize your data collection instruments one field at a time. You may add new fields or edit existing ones. New fields may be added by clicking the **Add Field Here** buttons. You can begin editing an existing field by clicking on the **Edit** icon. If you decide that you do not want to keep a field, you can simply delete it by clicking on the **Delete** icon. To reorder the fields, simply **drag and drop** a field to a different position within the form below. **NOTE: While in development status, all field changes will take effect immediately in real time.**

[RETURN TO PREVIOUS PAGE](#)

Current instrument: **Demographics**

[Preview instrument](#)

[Add Field Here](#)

Study ID

[Add Field Here](#)

First Name

[Add Field Here](#)

Last Name

[Add Field Here](#)

Date of Birth

[Add Field Here](#)

Gender

[Add Field Here](#)

Address

REDCap Features

- Good Points
 - Easy to set up, not resource intensive
 - Requires a real data dictionary
 - Central server engine (security & data integrity)
 - Easy access through web front-end
- Not so Great Points
 - Display interface not very customizable
 - Layout, limited skip patterns, etc.
 - Each application is a separate instance
 - Adverse events monitoring difficult
 - Not truly relational
 - No data curation, electronic data collection only

REDCap

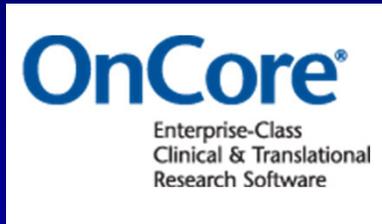
(Research Electronic Data Capture)

- Online or offline use
- Regulatory compliance
 - HIPAA, 21 CFR Part 11, FISMA
- Features:
 - Customizable
 - Automated export procedures, built-in project calendar, scheduling module
 - Audit trails
 - Ad hoc reporting tools
 - Branching logic, file uploading, and calculated fields

“Database Management” Software



Clinical Trials Management Systems (CTMS)



IMPACT® CTMS



Uses:

- Planning, preparation, monitoring and reporting of clinical trials
- Administrative/financial/portfolio management capabilities
- Electronic case report forms (eCRFs)
- ± Interoperate with other systems

Other Considerations for Data Operations

- Standard Operations Procedures (SOPs)
- Disaster recovery
- Version control (Surround SCM)
- Audit
- Separation of duties
 - DBAs, analysts, statisticians
- Electronic Sign-offs (Editor → Monitor → PI)
- Honest broker role (PHI-related)

How important are research
IT/informatics solutions for novel
clinical trial designs?



The I-SPY 2 Trial

The Clinical Trial, Re-Imagined

The ground-breaking I-SPY 2 trial of neoadjuvant treatment for locally advanced breast cancer established a new benchmark for efficiency of phase II clinical trials. Widely regarded as a pioneer of the 'platform' trial, I-SPY 2's success continues to be a major influence on the development of next-generation trial designs in oncology and beyond.

I-SPY 2 TRIAL

(Investigation of Serial Studies to Predict
Your Therapeutic Response with Imaging
And moLecular Analysis 2)

I-SPY 2 is a clinical trial for women with newly diagnosed locally advanced breast cancer (neoadjuvant)

A New Rx for Med

Fed up with slow drug trials, ca
treatments.

By RON WINSLOW

New trial design
Uses genetic profiles to highlight 'biomarker' differences among patients and to match drugs to patients with biomarkers that predict a benefit.

back to personalized

PERSONALIZED MEDICINE | How

1 cube = 10 patients

Traditional clinical trial

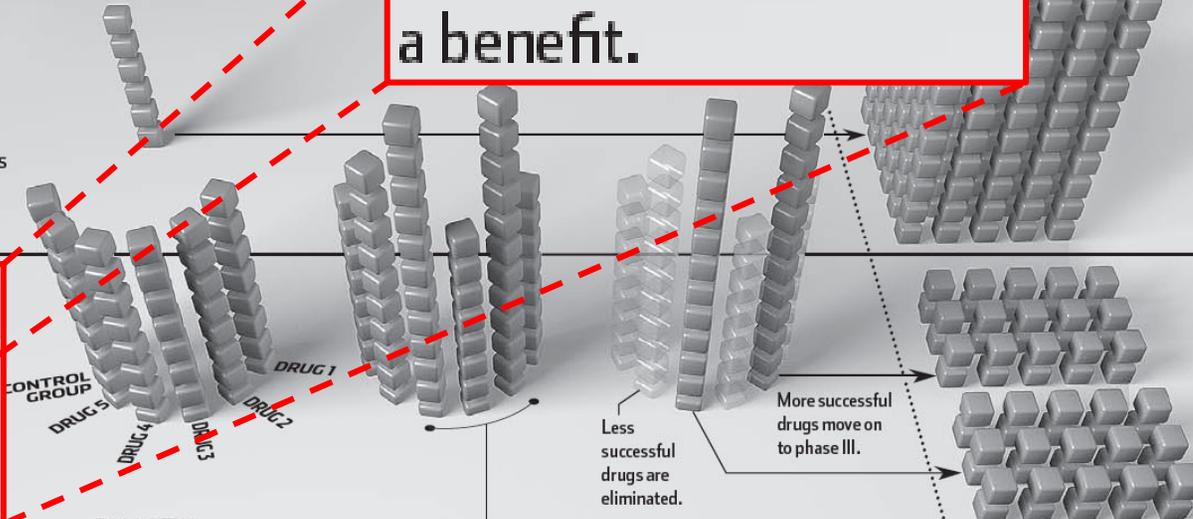
Takes essentially all patients with a disease being studied and is typically intended to eliminate differences in patient characteristics that could bias measures of drug effectiveness.

PHASE II

Randomized or non-randomized trial: about 60 patients are put in two groups: One drug and the other serves as a control group. About 40 patients receive the experimental

New trial design

Uses genetic profiles to highlight 'biomarker' differences among patients and to match drugs to patients with biomarkers that predict a benefit.



PHASE II

Patients are placed in groups based on genetic profiles and are randomly assigned to either standard therapy or one of five different drugs plus standard care.

Early results increase chances that patients entering the trial later will be assigned to a drug showing benefit against tumors with their genetic profile.

It will take up to 120 patients for each drug to determine which ones graduate to phase III studies.

Drug development

PHASE III

If a drug graduates to phase III, it typically takes 3,000 patients and about three years to determine if it is safe and effective enough for approval.



HISTORIC SUCCESS RATE
30 TO 40%

PHASE III

Researchers expect that drugs graduating from I-Spy 2 to phase III can be tested with 300 patients selected according to genetic profiles found to respond to the drug in phase II. It is hoped that this will shorten the time to approval.



PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS
85%

Note: In all clinical trials, phase I consists of testing on human subjects to determine toxicity levels.

Graphic by Maryanne Murray/WSJ

Source: Donald Berry, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

THE SATURDAY ESSAY | OCTOBER 2, 2010

A New Rx for Medicine

Fed up with slow drug trials, cancer patients and doctors are testing a fast track to personalized treatments.

By RON WINSLOW

PERSONALIZED MEDICINE | How redesigning a clinical trial can speed drug development

1 cube = 10 patients

Traditional clinical trial

Takes essentially all patients with a disease being studied and is typically intended to eliminate differences in patient characteristics that could bias measures of drug effectiveness.

PHASE II

Randomized or non-randomized trial: In a randomized trial, about 60 patients are put in two groups: One receives the experimental drug and the other serves as a control group. In a non-randomized trial, about 40 patients receive the experimental drug.



PHASE III

If a drug graduates to phase III, it typically takes **3,000 patients** and about three years to determine if it is safe and effective enough for approval.



HISTORIC SUCCESS RATE
30 TO 40%

New trial design

Uses genetic profiles to highlight 'biomarker' differences among patients and to match drugs to patients with biomarkers that predict a benefit.



PHASE II

Patients are placed in groups based on genetic profiles and are **randomly assigned to either standard therapy or one of five different drugs** plus standard care.

Early results increase chances that **patients entering the trial later will be assigned to a drug showing benefit** against tumors with their genetic profile.

It will take up to 120 patients for each drug to determine which ones graduate to phase III studies.

Less successful drugs are eliminated.

More successful drugs move on to phase III.

PHASE III

Researchers expect that drugs graduating from I-Spy 2 to phase III can be tested with **300 patients** selected according to genetic profiles found to respond to the drug in phase II. It is hoped that this will shorten the time to approval.



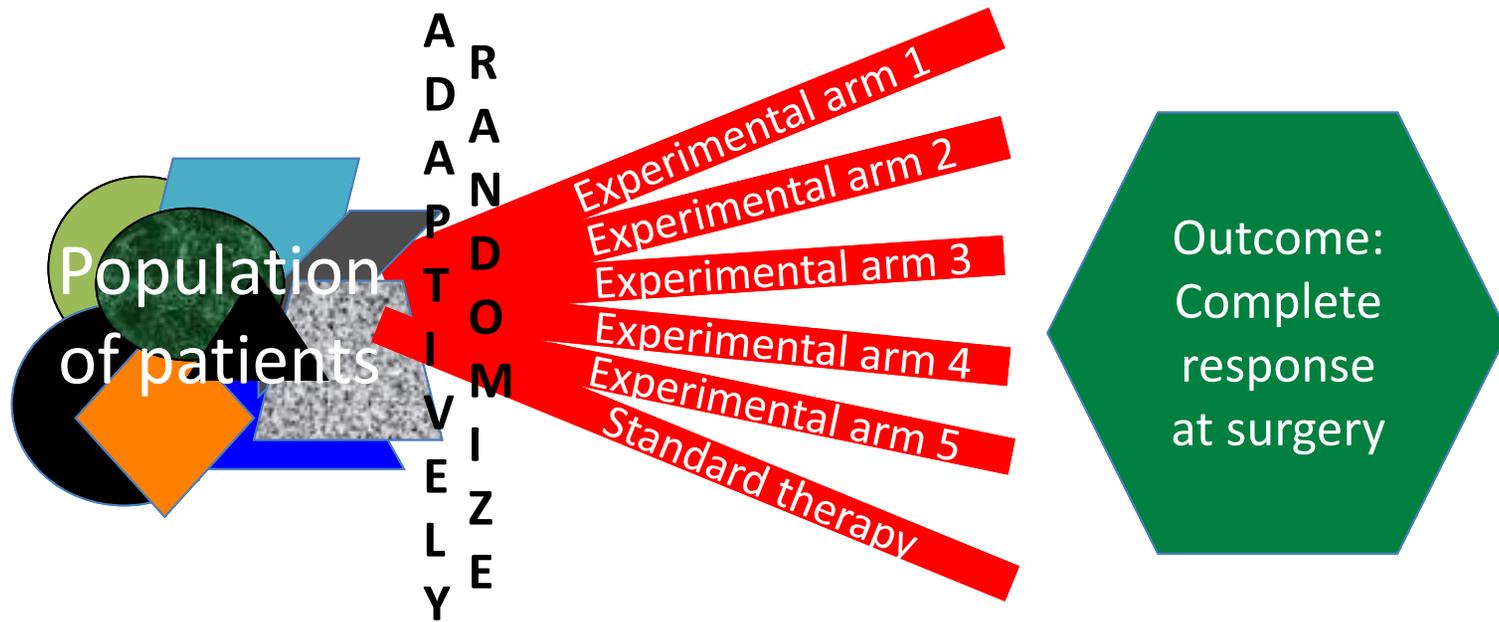
PROBABILITY OF SUCCESS
85%

Note: In all clinical trials, phase I consists of testing on human subjects to determine toxicity levels.

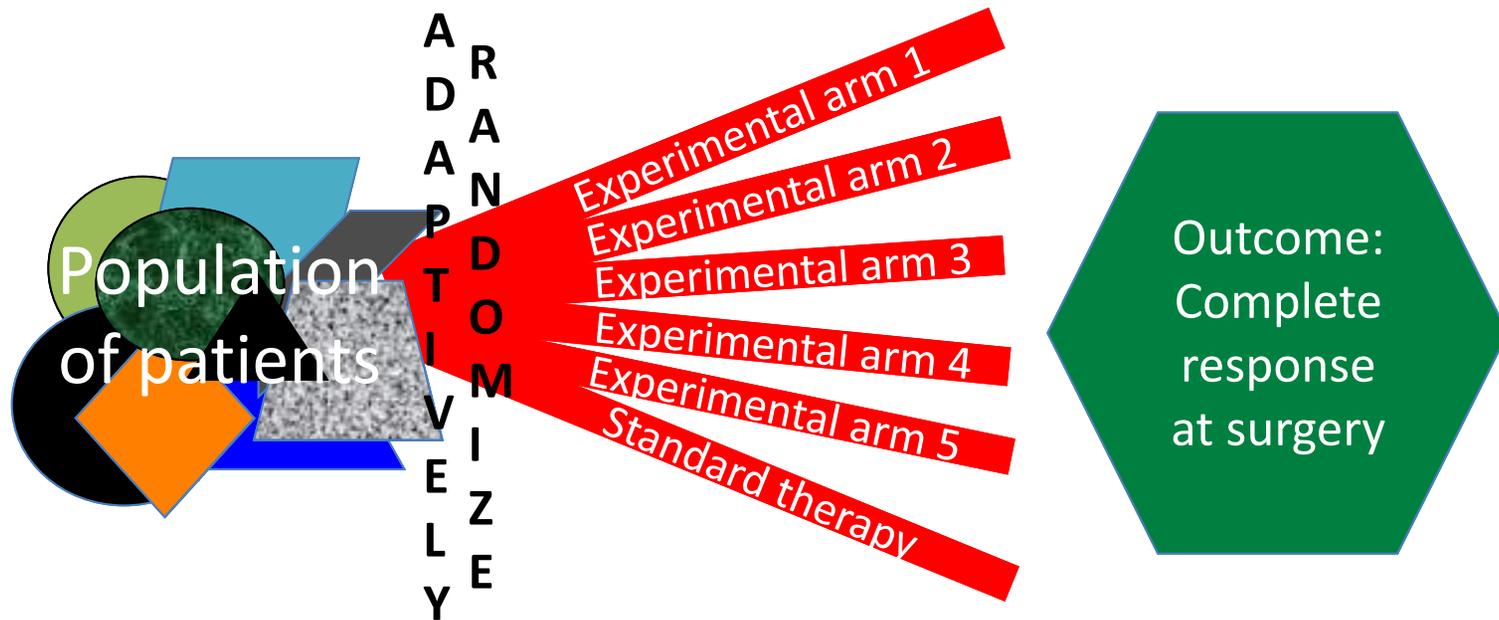
Graphic by Maryanne Murray/WSJ

Source: Donald Berry, M.D. Anderson Cancer Center

I-SPY2 TRIAL

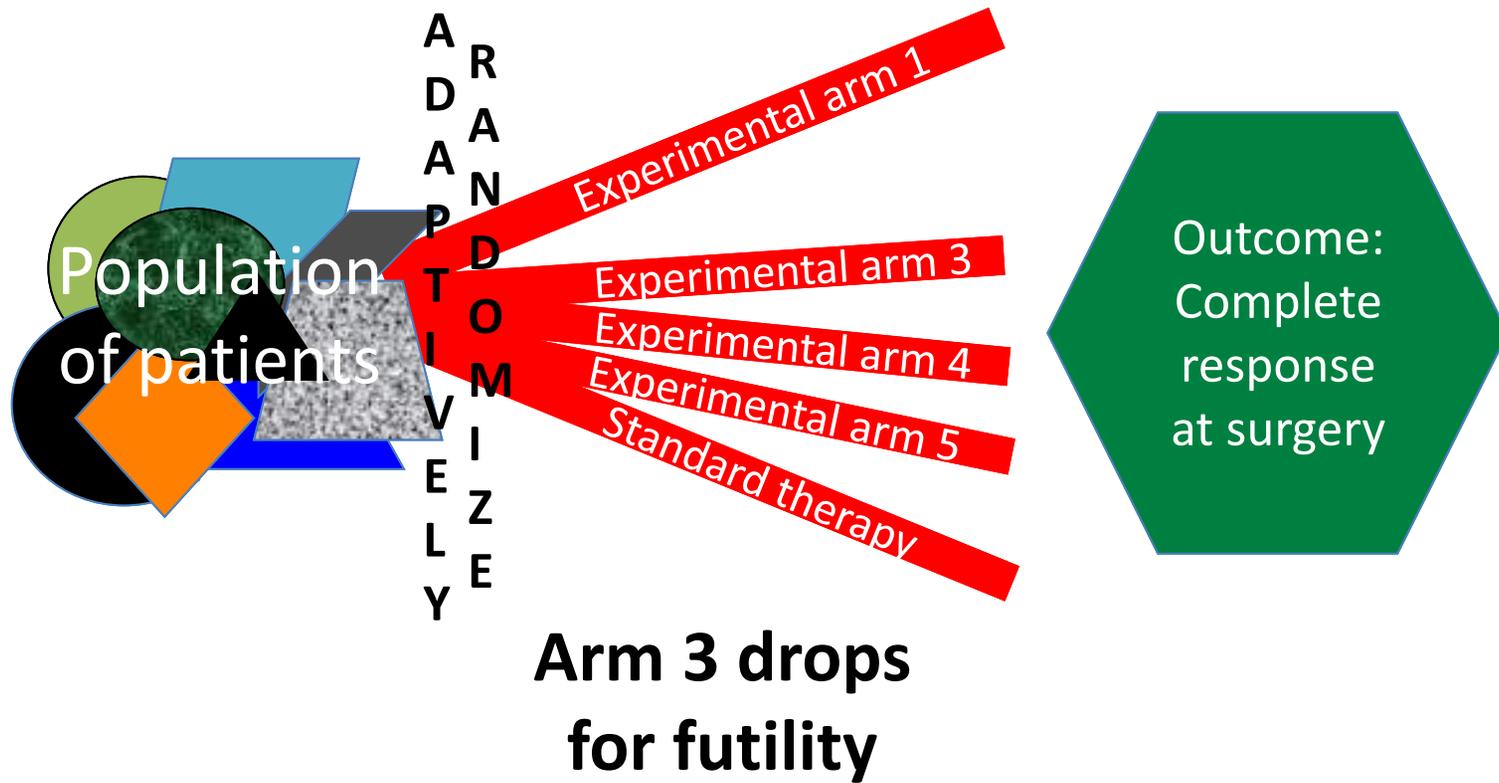


I-SPY2 TRIAL

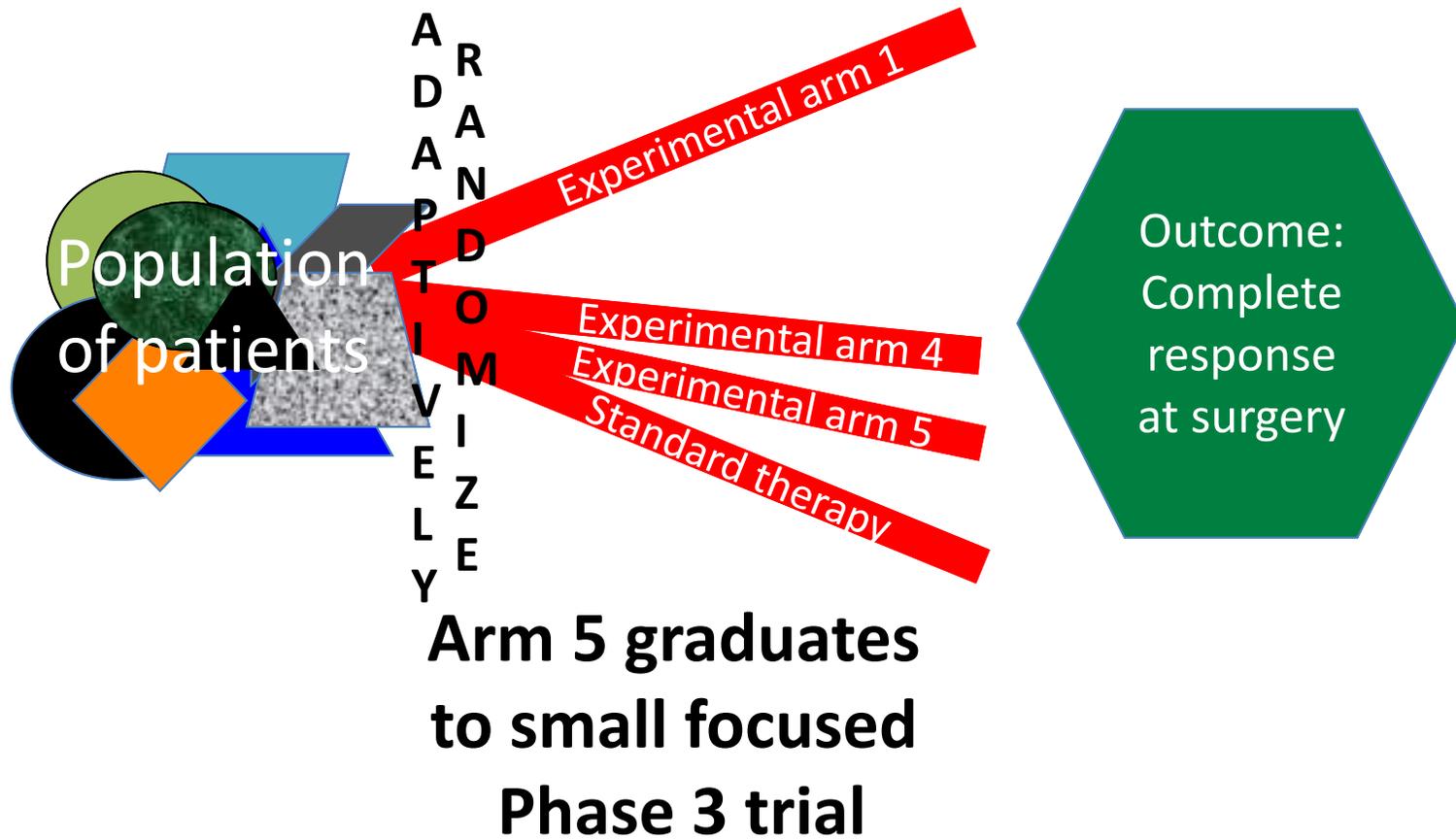


**Arm 2 graduates
to small focused
Phase 3 trial**

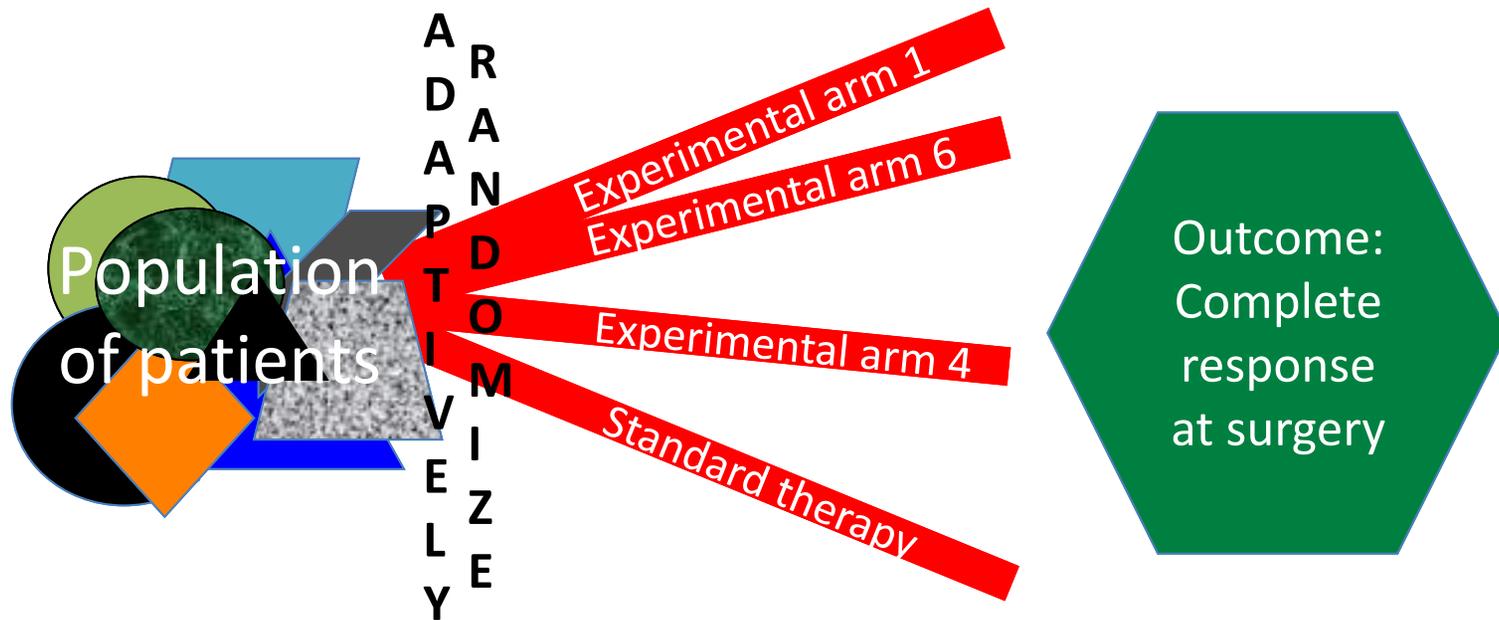
I-SPY2 TRIAL



I-SPY2 TRIAL



I-SPY2 TRIAL



**Arm 6 is
added to
the mix**

Infrastructure Considerations for Biomarker-Based Trials

- Adaptive randomization is highly dependent on near instantaneous synchronized data
- Research IT
 - Significant IT infrastructure is required to support biology-based risk-stratified or adaptive designs
 - Expensive, but there may be some economies of scale by establishing a single center to coordinate
- Repurposing
 - Design facilitates repurposing data and supporting future CER

Summary

- Do not underestimate the 90/10 rule
- You never want to visit a biostatistician for the first time with an already collected set of data
 - Same thing here, plan out your data requirements and plan BEFORE you start your study
 - Multidisciplinary team:
 - Biostatistician/epidemiologist
 - Research IT / informatician
 - Data management personnel
 - Regulatory personnel
- Comprehensive and thoughtful database design is key

Summary

- Comprehensive and thoughtful database design is key:
 - Database content and documentation
 - Software
 - Hardware
- Consider capability as well as sustainability over the long-haul in how you develop your data management plan:
 - Future proof as much as possible
 - Stick to industry standards as much as possible
 - Consider future regulatory issues

Summary (continued)

- I think that informatics/research IT should be core competencies in clinical and translational research.
- Computational technologies for managing data are changing faster than technologies for analysis.
- Good data management → High quality data
- High quality data → Analytic quality