

MEDOC-ETL Technical Training 2024

Funded training to equip hospital data and IT staff with OMOP skills

Contact training@digicore-cancer.eu
to register interest

Outcomes research has never been more important in cancer care. European Cancer Mission priorities (and funding) now reflect the key role that real-world evidence (RWE; efficient and scalable evidence generation from routine electronic medical records) has in highlighting and driving changes in clinical practice. Standardisation of source data, through translation to an accessible common data model, is central to that efficiency.

The Digital Institute for Cancer Outcomes Research (DIGICORE; www.digicore-cancer.eu) is committed to driving this standardisation across Europe. Supported by a substantial Interregional Innovation Investment (I3) grant from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF), DIGICORE is building a research network of 20 centres (80,000 new cancer diagnoses per year), deploying technology that includes translation of medical records to Observational Health Data Sciences and Informatics (OHDSI) Observational Medical Outcomes Partnership ([OMOP](#)) standards for cancer.

Building this network will require new skills, and data and IT staff fluent in the capabilities and requirements of OMOP. Specifically, skills to support the Extract, Transform and Load (ETL) processes required to configure DIGICORE's Minimal Essential Description of Cancer (MEDOC) data into the OMOP standard. The MEDOC-ETL Technical Training course will help data professionals develop these skills through a mix of online and face-to-face training, as they work at their own site to make their data OMOP-ready.

The MEDOC-ETL training programme combines:

- An overview of the opportunities, challenges and practice of RWE in cancer
- An overview of OHDSI cancer OMOP, including opportunities and limitations
- Technical skills to extract, transform and load data into an OMOP database
- Access to an international network of peers, for sharing good practice
- Access to OMOP experts from IQVIA and beyond to support creation of a local OMOP instance

Aim: to equip European IT and data professionals with the skills to build an OMOP configured instance of cancer data at their own organisation.

Outcome: understanding of the OHDSI cancer OMOP standards, structures and rationale; a network of 30+ peers at centres across Europe; practical advice and support on creating a local OMOP instance.

Delivery: 9 months part-time training (from April 2024). Training will be a mix of online seminars, peer learning, online documentation and self-serve resources, and a face-to-face training session from 17-19 July 2024. The time commitment is likely to be 1-2 hours/ week, plus 3 days for the face-to-face training.

Benefits: building new skills to support local cancer research capabilities; enabling participation in international research programmes

Requirements: applicants will be data or IT professionals, or clinicians with a strong data interest. Applicants should be employed by an oncology healthcare provider or not-for profit. SQL skills will be needed, but no prior knowledge of OMOP is expected. Participants from I3 sites will have travel and accommodation funded; other participants may attend but will not have access to this funding.



