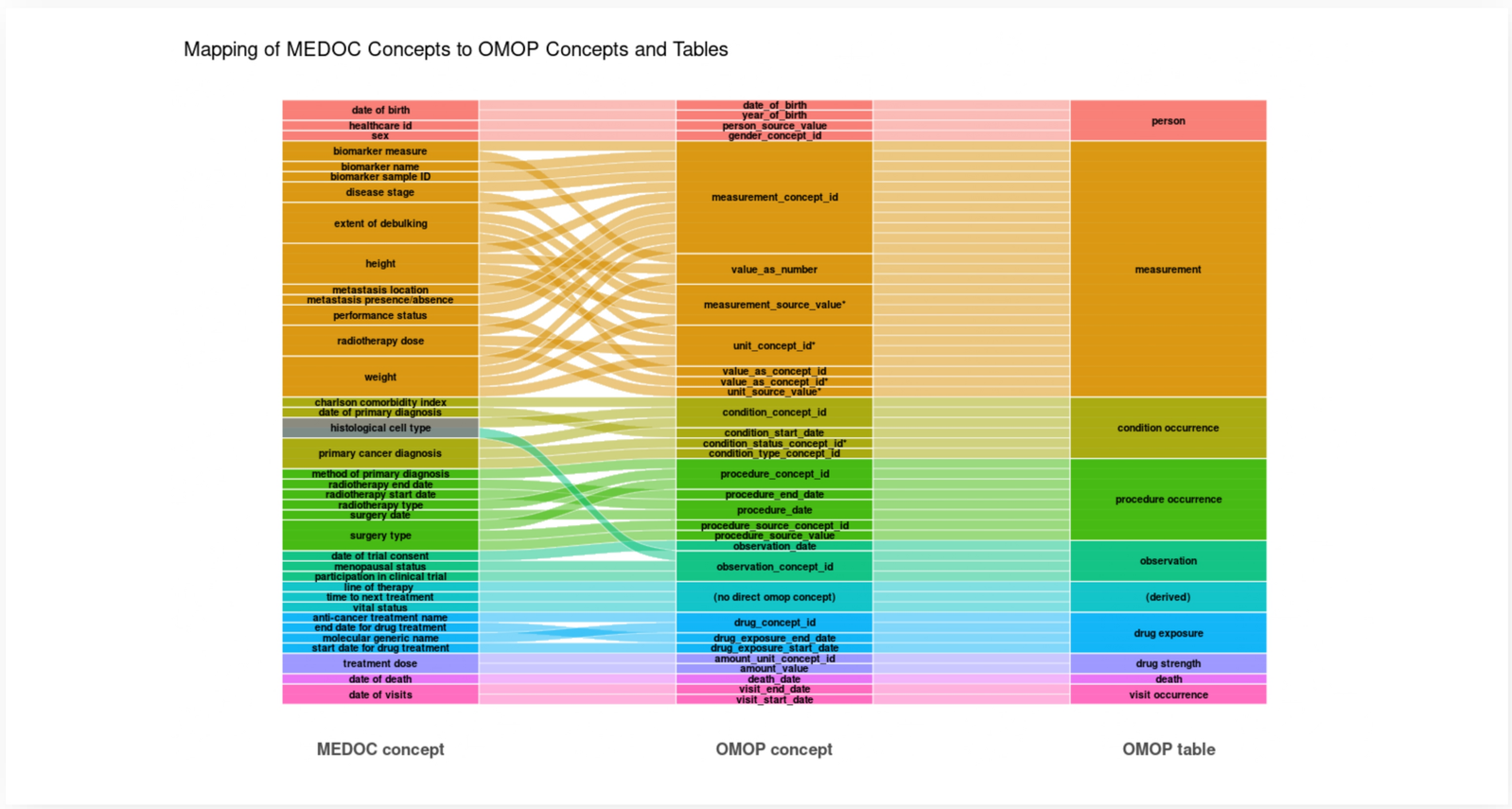
The Minimal Essential Description of Cancer (MEDOC) facilitates high-quality Real-World Evidence across a European cancer network

Implementing a Minimum Essential Definition of Cancer: Establishing standards and harmonising coding principles for a minimal cancer dataset in the OMOP common data model

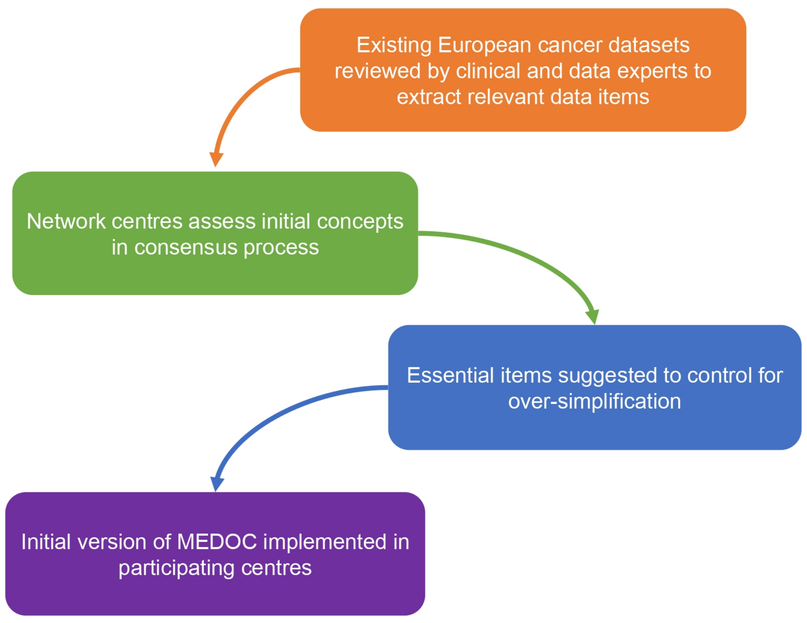
Background: The Digital Institute for Cancer Outcomes Research (DIGICORE) established the Digital Oncology Network for Europe (DigiONE) initiative with the aim of creating a privacy preserving network of centres with a core cancer dataset. The Minimal Essential Description of Cancer (MEDOC) leverages OMOP as a standard base for real world cancer research in the DigiONE network.

Results

The consensus process returned 38 final concepts for the Minimum Essential Definition of Cancer -built from OMOP variables – to allow a standardised data framework for which to conduct network level Real World Evidence studies in oncology.



Methods



- MEDOC concepts which requires a combination of OMOP variables, such as Date of cancer diagnosis, required a decision flow to determine how the concept should be derived based on data availability
- As MEDOC includes several data concepts that require multiple underlying data items, MEDOC training and application resources have been developed with explicit examples of MEDOC to OMOP implementation

Limitation: MEDOC is implementation is subject to the limitations of network level OMOP studies such as time commitment for ETL, but also information governance of the MEDOC implementations. MEDOC is reliant on homogenous OMOP vocabulary versions, and the efficacy of MEDOC as a universal network tool is subject to the coordination of updates to avoid disruptions to ongoing studies.

OHDSI

DigiCore

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