

BIGDATA is designed to bring innovative health information technology tools and methods to effectively advance the mission of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS) through using a Tri-Core Integrated Research Process to receive, review, and resource project needs. These cores are: The Administrative Core, the Methods and Health Informatics (MHI) Core and the Dissemination, Implementation, and Community Engagement (DICE) Core. These Cores are designed to harness digital health data from devices such as smartphone apps and wearable activity devices, and use it along with informatics, advanced analytics, real-world data, and effective community engagement strategies to improve outcomes for patients diagnosed with rheumatologic, musculoskeletal, and skin diseases.

Overview

The Administrative (Admin) Core is the central hub for managing and coordinating BIGDATA's operations. It oversees the Pilot and Feasibility (P&F) program to support new clinical research and manages the Scientific Enrichment and Education program, which fosters training and collaboration.

The Admin Core is responsible for project management, facilitating cross-core communication, and ensuring that resources from the DICE and MHI Cores are accessed efficiently. It also facilitates the integration of patient input through the Patient Advisory Committee and supports researchers via a Concierge Research Navigator to streamline project processes across all cores.

Key Services

- Investigator Support & Coordination**
Serves as the primary point of contact for investigators, coordinates consultations, oversees pilot projects, and facilitates cross-core collaborations.
- Data Access & Resource Navigation**
Assists investigators in identifying appropriate data sources as well as navigating access pathways through the BIGDATA infrastructure.
- Communication & Dissemination**
Supports communication, outreach, and engagement to promote awareness of BIGDATA resources and successes

Data Access

- Medicare random 5% sample
- Medicare 100% sample of targeted disease populations
- Medicare Advantage data
- Linked REGARDS–Medicare data
- MarketScan Commercial Claims data
- American College of Rheumatology's RISE EHR Registry
- National EHR data (currently rheumatology-focused; expandable to other settings)
- PatientSpot patient registry data collected via mobile application

Leadership

- Jeffrey Curtis, MD, MS, MPH** – Director, Admin Core
- Maria I. “Maio” Danila, MD, MSc, MSPH** – Associate Director, Admin Core
- Lesley Jackson, MD** – Associate Director, Admin Core
- Stephanie Ford, MS** – Program Administrator, Admin Core
- Cassie Clinton, MSHA** – Assistant Program Administrator, Admin Core

