

CIHR-PHSI RWE NEWSLETTER

Developing a Framework for the Incorporation of Real World Evidence into Cancer Drug Funding Decisions in Canada

Issue 2 – Winter 2018

Recent Research Updates

Objective 1: Environmental Scan

- ✓ Developed search strategy
- ✓ Conducted literature search
- ✓ Completed title & abstract screening

Objective 1: Qualitative Research

- ✓ Submitted documents for Research Ethics Review
- ✓ Drafted Interview Guides
- ✓ Recruited Research Coordinator

Objective 2: Working Groups

- ✓ Appointed chairs for working group
- ✓ Identified candidates for working groups

WELCOME TO 2018

Happy New Year! Welcome to the latest edition of the CIHR-PHSI RWE research project newsletter.

Thank you for attending our first teleconference on December 4th, 2017. This edition of our newsletter will summarize the discussions that took place that day, and keep you updated about current work. Should you have any questions, comments, or feedback, please let us know by emailing WeiFang.Dai@cancercare.on.ca.

Grant Overview

Objective 1: Develop a comprehensive understanding of the current state of real world evidence in cancer drug reimbursement in Canada – Ongoing

Objective 2: Establish formal national working groups dedicated to policy and methodological applications of RWE, and collaboratively/iteratively develop working framework for the generation and use of RWE – Ongoing

Objective 3: Validate the developed framework through the completion of multi-province RWE projects - Upcoming

Objective 4: Employ knowledge translation strategies to establish and integrate the final RWE framework into official practices of participating provinces and on a national level – Upcoming

Grant Objective: To explore the role that Real World Evidence should play in cancer drug funding decisions, and to develop a framework for Canadian provinces to generate and use RWE in a consistent and integrated manner

Proposed Framework & Working Groups:

Goal of Framework: Leverage the existing processes and infrastructure for decision making and adapt it to feedback real world experiences for reassessment and decision making

RWE Planning and Drug Selection Working Group – Scott Gavura (Chair)

- ❖ Mandate: Develop the criteria to identify potential drug candidates for real world evaluation and establish provincial infrastructure for RWE

RWE Methods Working Group – Jeffrey Hoch (Chair)

- ❖ Mandate: To recommend methods to analyze real world evidence feasibility with methodological rigor

RWE Reassessment and Update Working Group – Alexandra Chambers (Chair)

- ❖ Mandate: Develop strategies for implementing RWE and results for HTA reassessment and policy decisions

Teleconference #1: Meeting Discussion Summary

Question: Since the period through which we will be working on is one of the most active period in drug and policy, how can we ensure that the environmental scan will stay current?

- Framework development will be informed by an iterative, qualitative component. During the two iterations, there will be opportunities to gather recent updates to the RWE landscape.
- Working group membership will include members of diverse/relevant organizations, this provides a platform for members to inform/update each other and research team.
- Ongoing surveillance of literature by core research team at CCO.

Question: Should there be representation from PMPRB and Health Canada?

- Consensus from team to involve both – valuable perspectives for both the RWE Planning and Drug Selection Working Group and the RWE Reassessment and Update Working Group.
- Chairs of above groups will engage directly with PMPRB/Health Canada.

Question: Should there be representation from pharmaceutical industry? If yes, when and how should pharmaceutical industry be engaged?

- Drug funding issues affect all stakeholders in this arena, including pharmaceutical industry. At the same time, involvement with pharmaceutical industry may require specific considerations and needs to be carefully planned/initiated.
- Needs/Expertise of working groups are different, and engagement strategy (when and how to engage with industry) may vary between groups.
 - Consider an overall association of pharmaceutical industry reps or other existing collaboration?
- NB: Industry RWE/health outcomes teams often already exist, and have developed methodologies for RWE – thus, early engagement may set us up for a more successful relationship AND bring direct value to framework development.
- Further discussion on this issue is needed. **We invite your thoughts/feedback!**

Next Steps

- ❖ Participation in Working Group – *chairs will be recruiting directly over the next 2 months*
- ❖ Team Name – *send us your ideas for a team name.*
- ❖ In-person team meeting to be held on May 29th, 2018 following the ARCC conference on May 27th - 28th, 2018 – save the dates! Email Rebecca.mercer@cancercare.on.ca for more information about ARCC2018 and how you can be involved

