IDEAL4OMOP Research Leadership Training 2024

A funded training course to equip the real-world evidence research leaders of the future

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**; https://ohdsi.org/data-standardization) standards for cancer.

But there is a critical skills gap - few clinical researchers have the skills to scale digital methods into care systems, skills that will enable the international transformation of care quality. The IQVIA-DIGICORE Early-career Leadership Programme for OMOP (IDEAL4OMOP) is designed to address this gap, equipping young research leaders with the skills they will need to drive future international RWE, including accessing appropriate funding to sustain the effort

IDEAL4OMOP 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 plan and implement OMOP studies, including novel study designs and technologies, protocol development and delivery of a proof-of-concept study
- Research leadership skills, including self-awareness, forming teams across diverse functions and geographies, influencing systems and managing projects and budgets

IDEAL4OMOP is rooted in years of academic and commercial outcomes research and builds from pilot schemes run internally at DIGICORE. The Programme introduces the technical skills required to develop a cancer OMOP study and includes building a new multi-national collaboration in Europe, developing an RWE research proposal, submitting a competitive application for up to €300k funds (DIGICORE membership required) and delivering a cancer OMOP study protocol, guided by a Leadership Advisory Board of experienced RWE research leaders.

Aim: to equip European researchers with the necessary skills and experience in real-world outcomes research to lead academic and commercial multi-centre funding bids

Outcome: comprehensive RWE skills that can be applied to existing cancer data in your institution; a new peer network across European cancer institutions; an EMR-driven academic research protocol using cancer OMOP; completed RWE analysis and clinical conference poster

Delivery: 20 months part-time training (to December 2025) in technical RWE and research leadership skills, including the facilitation of multi-country pilot project collaborations and competitive funding for simple protocol delivery

Benefits: building new skills in OMOP and research leadership; developing an international network of like-minded cancer researchers; access to funding to develop and deliver an international research protocol (subject to funding award)

Requirements: applicants will be already involved in research, employed by an oncology healthcare provider or not-for-profit, and <45 years old. Eligible backgrounds include: clinical, pathology, data science, research management. All course costs are covered but applicants **will need senior support**, in terms of agreed study time and backfill (where required).

Apr 2024	Nov 2024	Dec 2025
4-5 days total	~1 day/week over 12 months	
Online seminars, team formation, study application process	Leadership intensive training, online seminars and workshops, protocol development, study delivery and preparation for dissemination	

(Estimated Time Commitment)

DigiCore