



Aims and challenges of clinical trial data sharing

**Facilitating data access to non-industry funded research
UCL and Yale meeting: 9 October 2015 London**

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Competing interests

I'm editor in chief of BMJ Open and Head of Research at The BMJ, a wholly owned subsidiary of the BMA

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I receive a bonus based partly on the financial performance of The BMJ. Both The BMJ and BMJ Open publish all research with open access, supported by article publication fees

The BMJ was a co-founder of the AllTrials campaign

The BMJ is campaigning for reproducible research



IoM 2015 recommendation 1: principles



Stakeholders in clinical trials should foster a culture in which **data sharing is the expected norm**, and should commit to responsible strategies aimed at maximizing the benefits, minimizing the risks, and overcoming the challenges of sharing clinical trial data for all parties.

IoM 2015 recommendation 2: what to share when

- **data sharing plan**: before first participant enrolled, at trial registration
- **results** (summary level data and lay summary): no later than 12 months after study completion
- **full data package** (incl full analyzable data set, full protocol, full statistical analysis plan, and analytic code): no later than 18 months after completion
- **post-publication data package** (including the subset of the analyzable data set supporting the findings, tables, and figures in the publication and the full protocol, full statistical analysis plan, and analytic code that supports the published results): no later than 6 months after publication
- **post-regulatory data package** (including full analyzable data set and redacted CSR, with full protocol, full statistical analysis plan, and analytic code) : 30 days after regulatory approval or 18 months after study completion, whichever occurs later.

IoM 2015 recommendation 3: safeguards

- **data use agreements** aimed at protecting clinical trial participants, advancing goal of producing scientifically valid secondary analyses, giving credit to investigators who collected the clinical trial data, protecting intellectual property interests of sponsors, and improving patient care
- **other privacy protections:** in addition to de-identification and data security
- **independent review panel** (incl lay members) if requests for access to clinical trial data will be reviewed for approval; with public reporting of panel's members, structure, policies, procedures
- **public reporting of** summary of decisions on requests for data access, including number of requests and approvals and reasons for disapprovals
- **data on outcomes** of data sharing policies, procedures, and technical approaches (including benefits, risks, costs); share information and lessons

Clinical trial registration: ethical rationale

- respects the investigator-participant covenant to contribute to biomedical knowledge by making trial methods and results public
- provides global open access to information
- reduces unnecessary duplication of invested research resources through awareness of existing trials
- assures accountability with regard to global standards for ethical research
- enables monitoring of adherence to ethical principles and process

International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE): principles of data sharing

- data can be understood and reanalyzed by others
- authors should share data on reasonable request
- all data that underpin the published results, incl. recent/current data on harms, should be shared
- de-identified individual patient data, data dictionary statistical plan & code used to analyze the data
- IRBs should ensure patient informed consent covers all this
- journals may investigate breaches, express concern, retract
- data users must commit to making results of their analyses public, report methods, credit source

Data sharing policies at The BMJ

- for all research papers: data sharing statements *
- for all clinical trials: mandatory commitment to share de-identified patient level data on reasonable request (also mandatory prospective trial registration, protocol submission, and CONSORT checklist *)
- data deposition option: Dryad data repository *

Essential medicines and health products

Developing Global Norms for Sharing Data and Results during Public Health Emergencies

WHO Consultation 1-2 September 2015: Summary and Key Conclusions

In line with open access policies, the timely sharing of information on clinical, epidemiologic and genetic features of emerging infectious diseases as well as information on experimental diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines, is critical for actions during a rapid public health response.

WHO held a consultation in Geneva, Switzerland, on 1-2 September 2015 to advance the development of global norms on data and results sharing in public health emergencies. Government representatives, public health agencies, scientists, research funders, ethicists and industry representatives attended the consultation. Acknowledging the years of work that many groups have engaged in to support data sharing in health research, the following consensus emerged from the meeting specific to the emergency perspective.

It was recognized that epidemiologic data belong to the countries where they are generated, but there was consensus that the default option is that data should be shared (i.e. opt-out policy) to ensure that the knowledge generated becomes a global public good.

It was also recognized that pathogen genetic sequence and associated clinical and epidemiologic data are of greatest value if made openly available, in as close to real-time as possible, during a public health emergency.

It was unequivocally agreed by representatives from leading biomedical journals that public disclosure of important information of potential relevance to public health emergencies should not be delayed by publication timelines, and that pre-publication

“The whole debate on sharing clinical study data has focused on transparency, reproducibility, and completing the evidence base for treatments.

Yet public health emergencies such as the Ebola and MERS outbreaks provide a vitally important reason for sharing study data, usually before publication or even before submission to a journal, and ideally in a public repository.

Not just from randomised controlled trials, but from case series and samples, lab testing studies, surveillance studies, viral sequencing, genomic work, and other epidemiological observational studies too.”