

Big data in health care: the distributed learning solution



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Disclosures

- Research collaborations incl. funding
 - Varian (VATE, chinaCAT, euroCAT), Siemens (euroCAT), SohPhilips (EURECA, TraIT, BIONIC), Xerox (EURECA), ptTheragnostic, OncoRadiomics
- Public research funding
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Why did we start the a Big Data project (CAT*) project?

*Computer Assisted Theragnostic: CAT=euroCAT, duCAT, VATE, chinaCAT etc.

Evidence based medicine

Conventional Clinical Research

High data quality

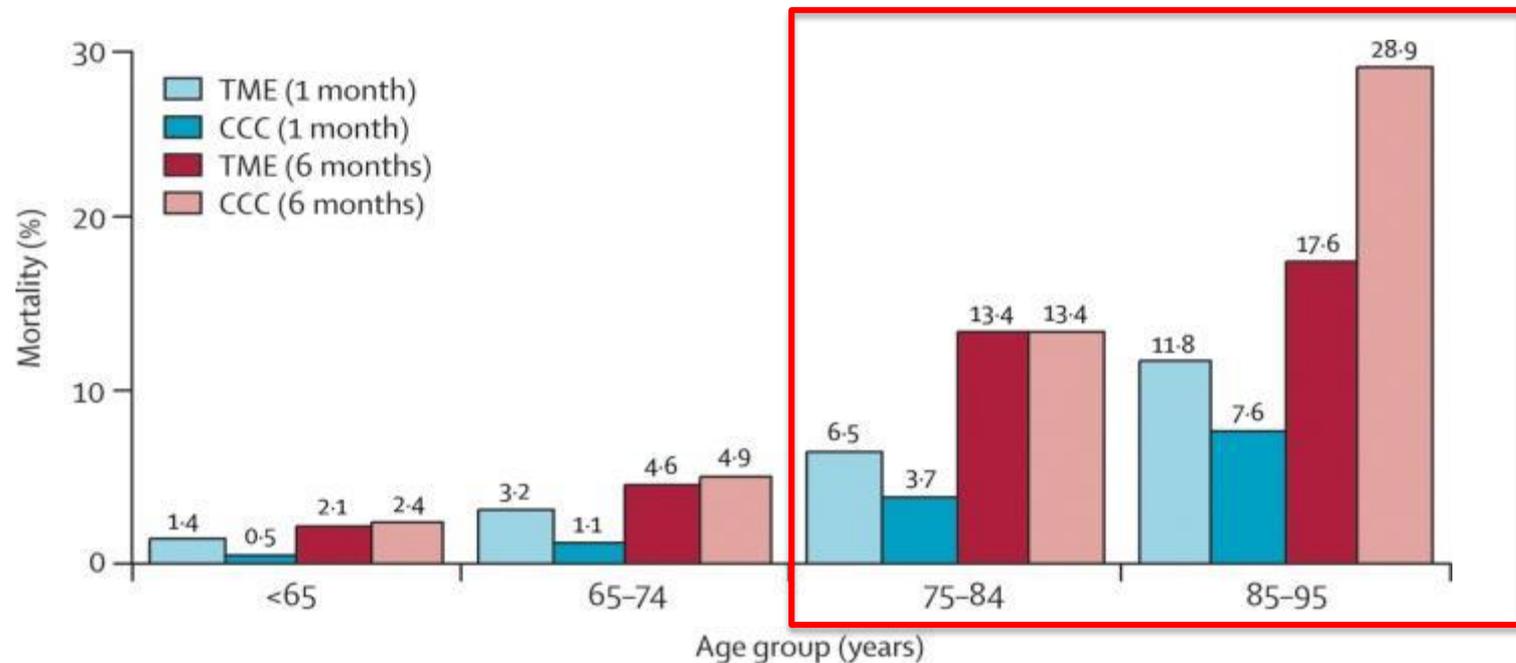
Low data quantity

Controlled

- Assigned patients
- “EORTC-RTOG grade”
QA/Protocol
- Biobanking, translational research

- Less than 3% of the patients
- Highly biased population
- Randomized trials rarely done for new technologies

Example: having *no evidence* can have dramatic consequences



The solution? Use the 97%: Rapid Learning Health Care or “Big data in health care”

•In [...] rapid-learning [...] data routinely generated through **patient care and clinical research** feed into an ever-growing [...] set of **coordinated databases**.

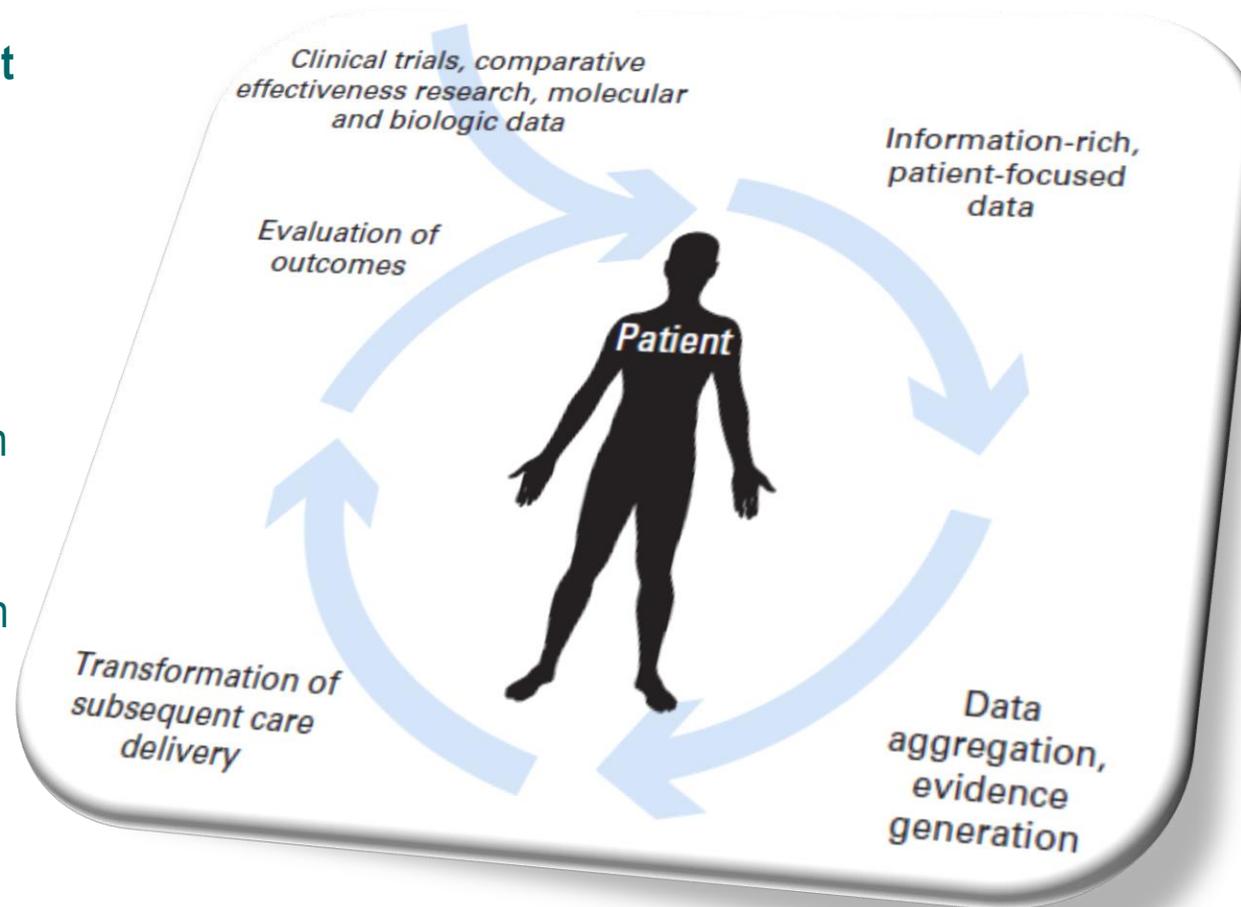
•*J Clin Oncol* 2010;28:4268

•[...] rapid learning [...] where we can **learn from each patient** to guide practice, is [...] crucial to guide rational health policy and to contain costs [...].

•*Lancet Oncol* 2011;12:933

Examples:

1. Radiotherapy CAT (www.eurocat.info)
2. ASCO's CancerLinQ



Conventional Clinical Research

High data quality

Low data quantity

Controlled

- Assigned patients
- “EORTC-RTOG grade”
QA/Protocol
- Biobanking, translational research

Rapid Learning Health Care (“Big Data”)

Low data quality

High data quantity

Reality

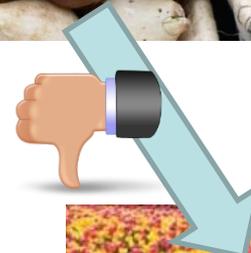
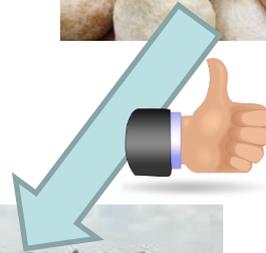
- Unassigned patients
- “Clinical grade” QA/Protocol
- Ad hoc biobanking/translational
research

Example of clinically relevant questions

Treatment of

- 80 years old rectal cancer?
- 70 years old Stage IIIB NSCLC?
- 60 years old prostate cancer with oligometastasis?
- Local relapse of a stage 3 oropharynx?
- Cervix cancer stage 3, HIV+
- ...

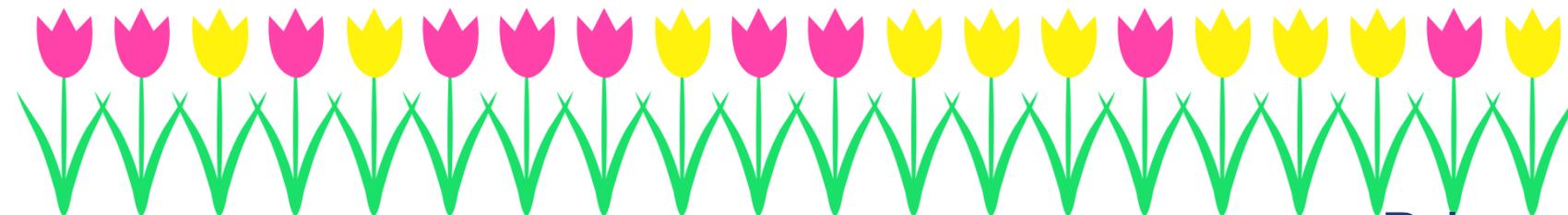
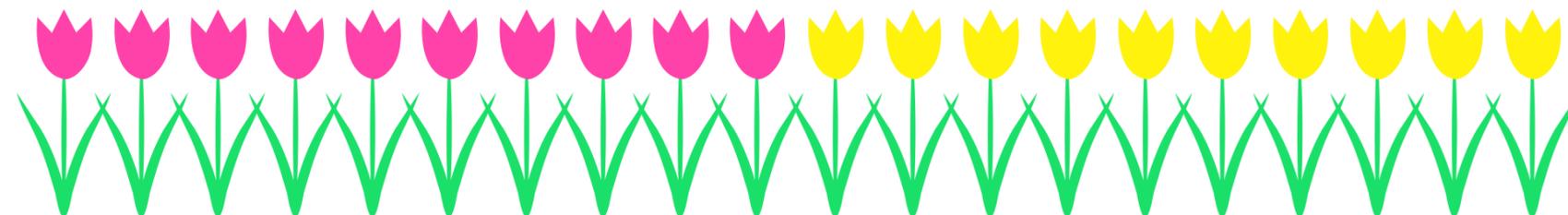
Can we predict a tulip's color by looking at the bulb?



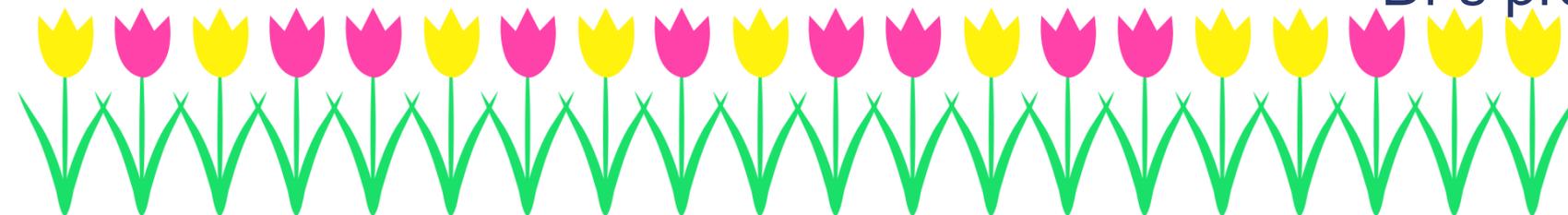
Predicting the tulip color



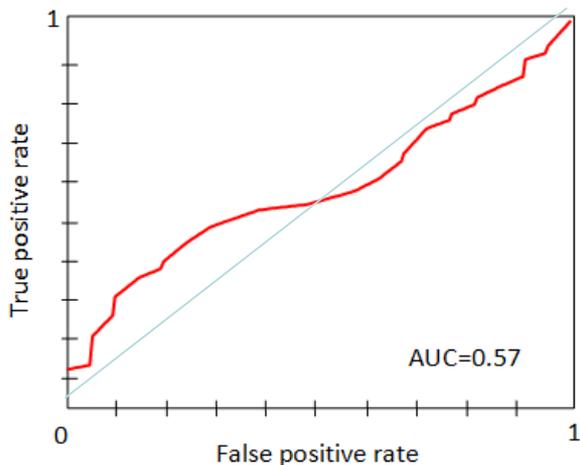
AUC



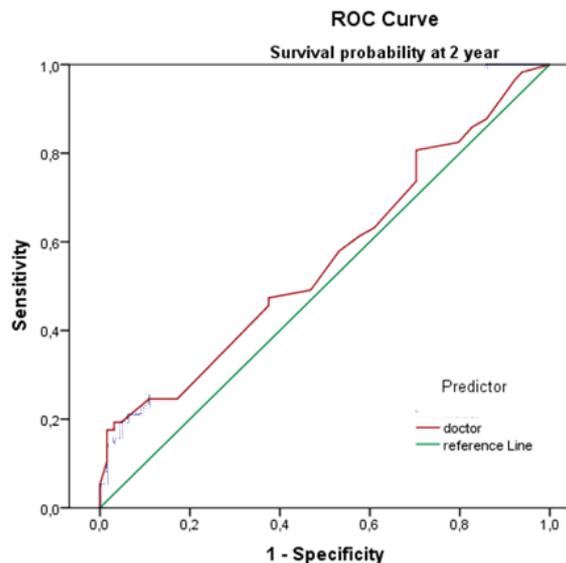
Dr's prediction



Prediction by MDs? *Unskilled* (Prospective trial)

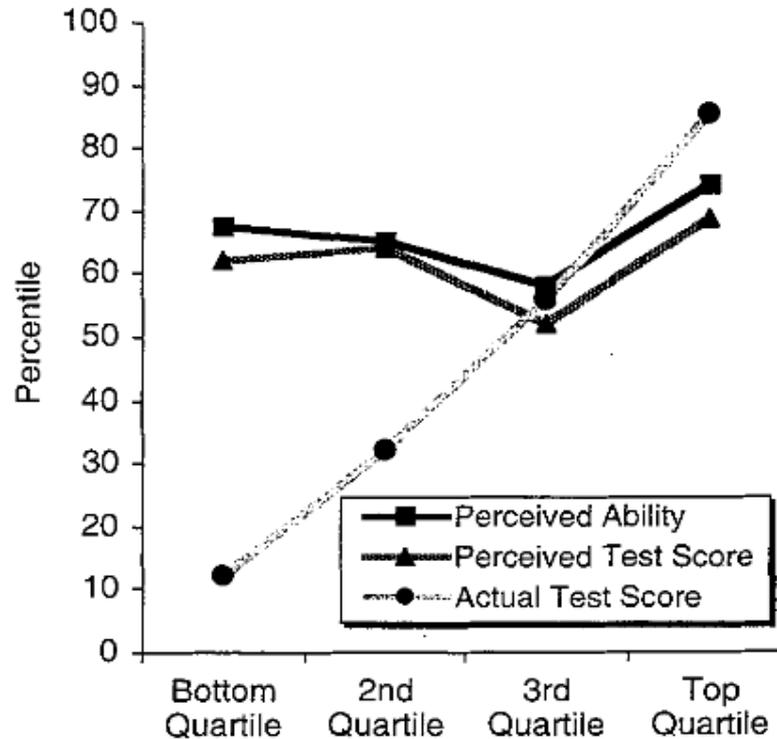


- NSCLC inoperable M0
- 2 year survival
- 30 patients
- 8 MDs
- Retrospective
- **AUC: 0.57**



- NSCLC
- 2 year survival
- 158 patients
- 5 MDs
- Prospective
- AUC: 0.56**

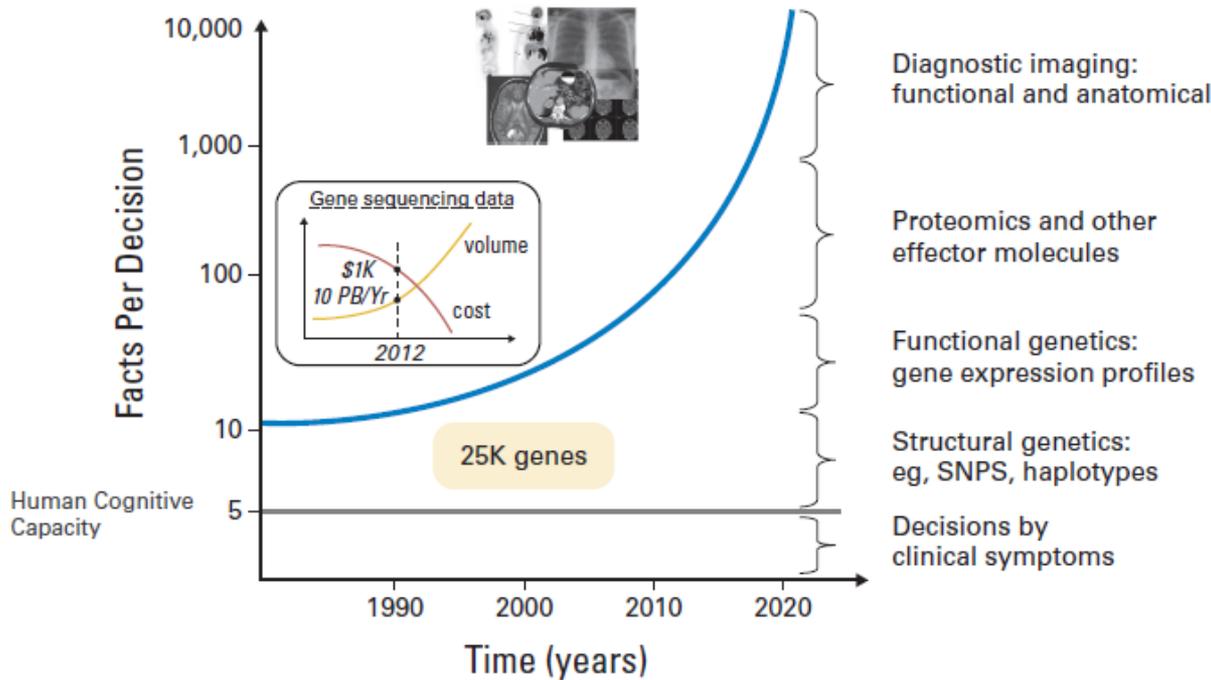
Prediction by MDs? Unskilled *and* unaware of it



Unskilled and unaware of it:
How difficulties in recognizing one's own incompetence leads to inflated self-assessments. J Pers Soc Psych

Figure 2. Perceived logical reasoning ability and test performance as a function of actual test performance (Study 2).

No guiltiness! The doctor is drowning



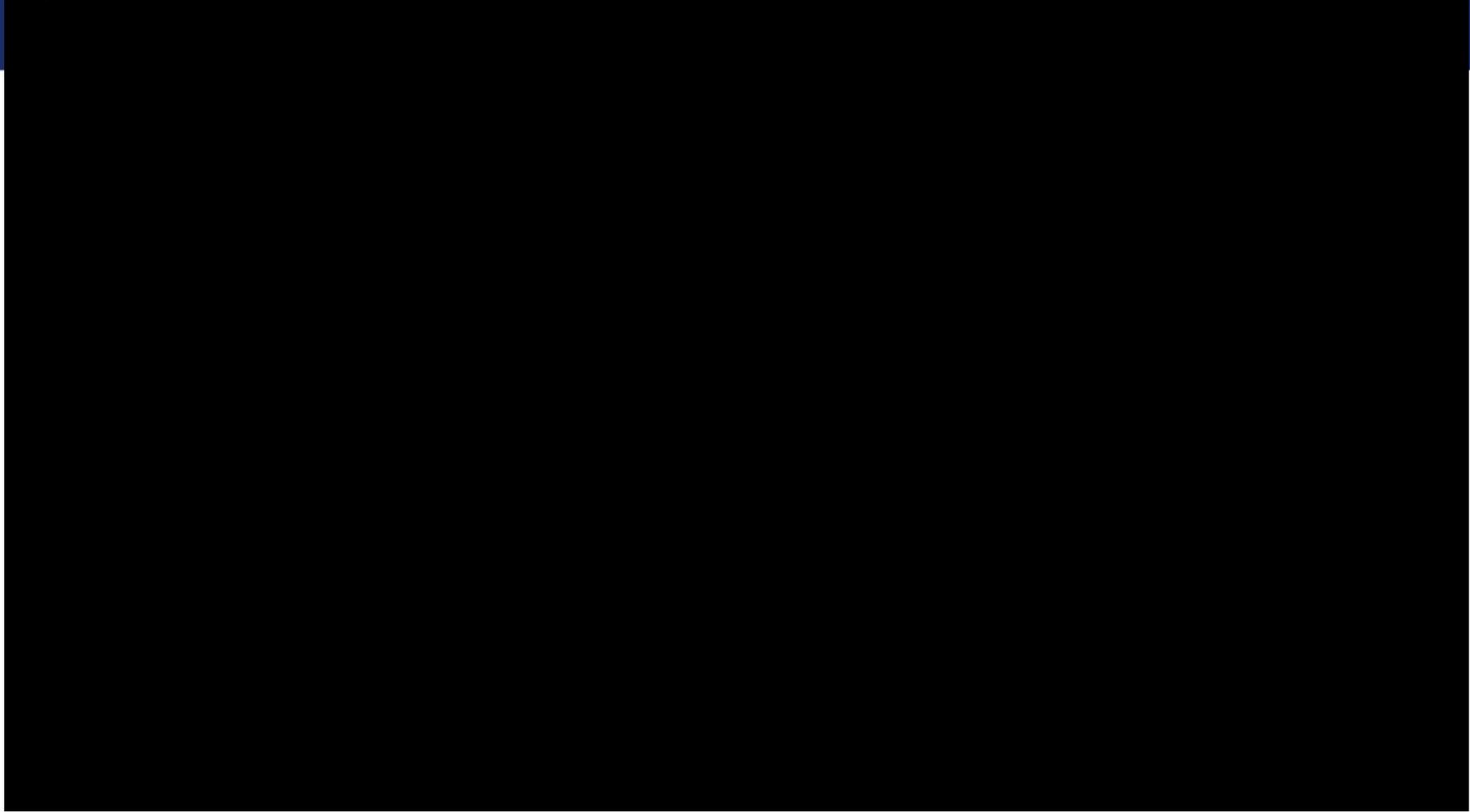
- Explosion of data
- Explosion of decisions
- Explosion of 'evidence'*

**Our vision
in 2 min**

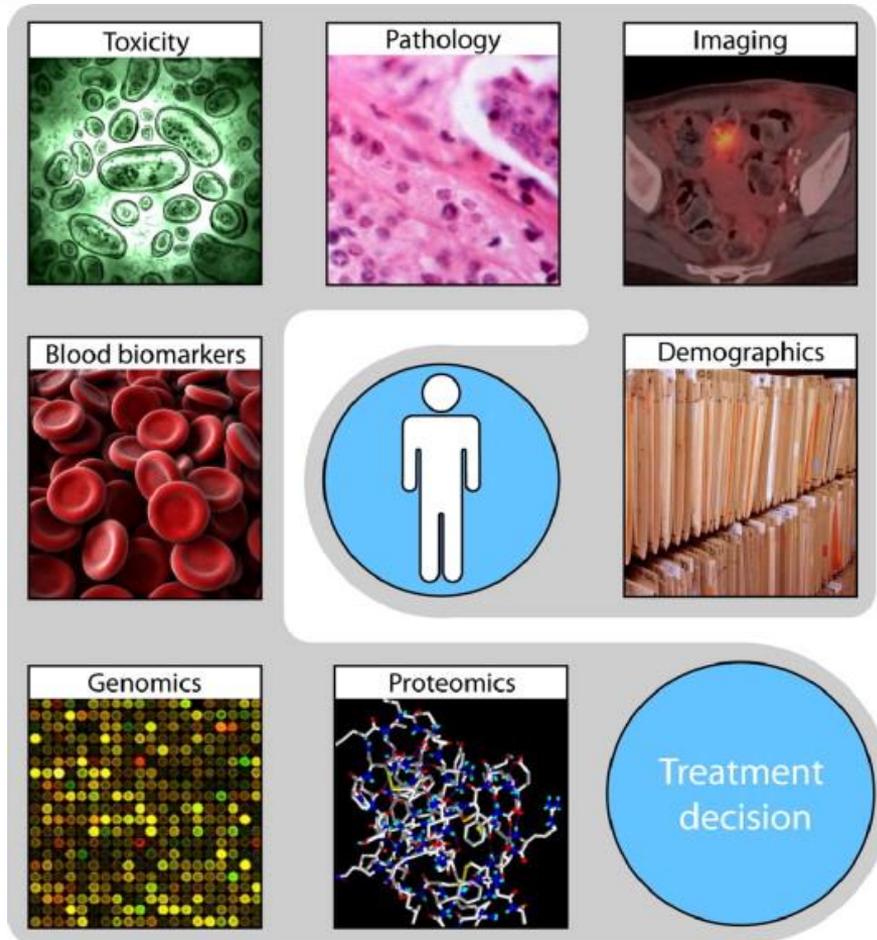
*2010: 1574 & 1354 articles on lung cancer & radiotherapy = 7.5 per day

Half-life of knowledge estimated at 7 years (in young students)

J Clin Oncol 2010;28:4268
JMI 2012 Friedman, Rigby



Multifactorial Decision Support System



**But we need
Data,
preferably *most*
of them**

What are

the barriers

to share the data?

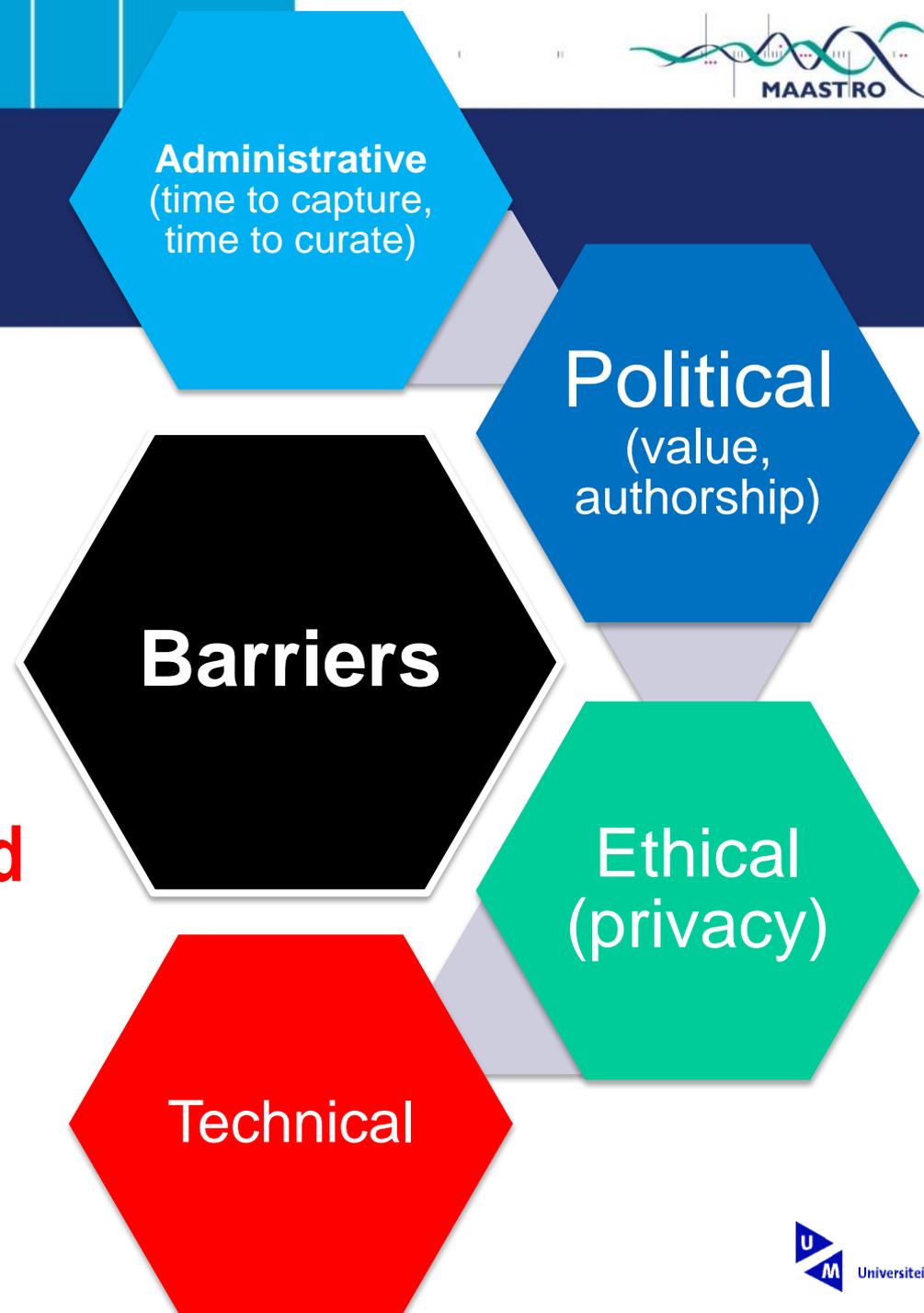
What is the solution?

Sharing data

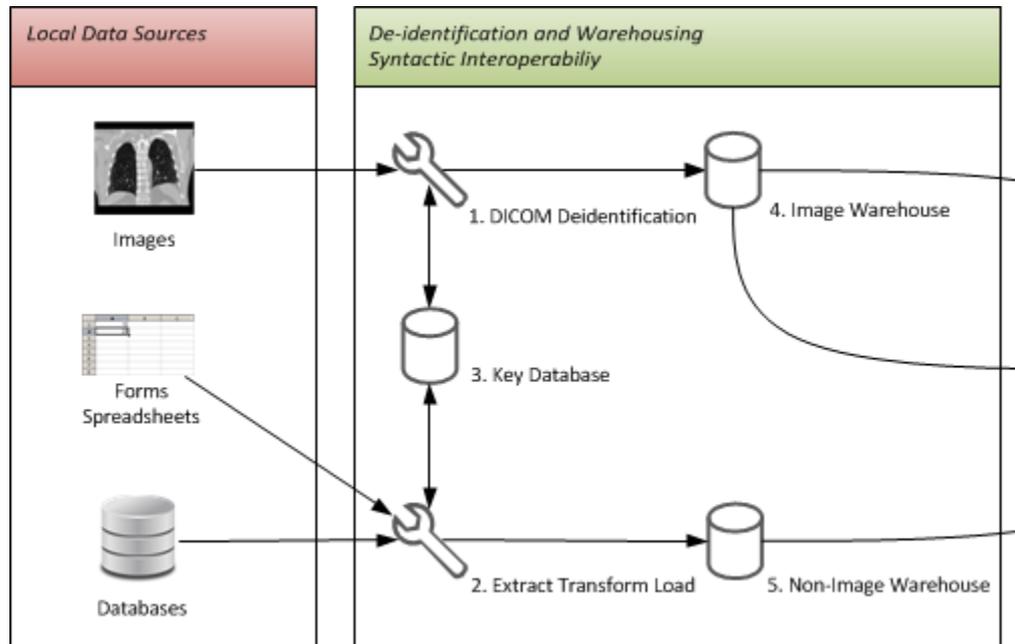
[..] the problem is not really technical [...]. Rather, the problems are **ethical, political, and administrative**.

Lancet Oncol 2011;12:933

Solutions: Distributed learning from federated databases



In-hospital infra & de-identification



*SPARQL = "Simple Protocol And RDF Query Language"
a query language for databases*

Deidentification:

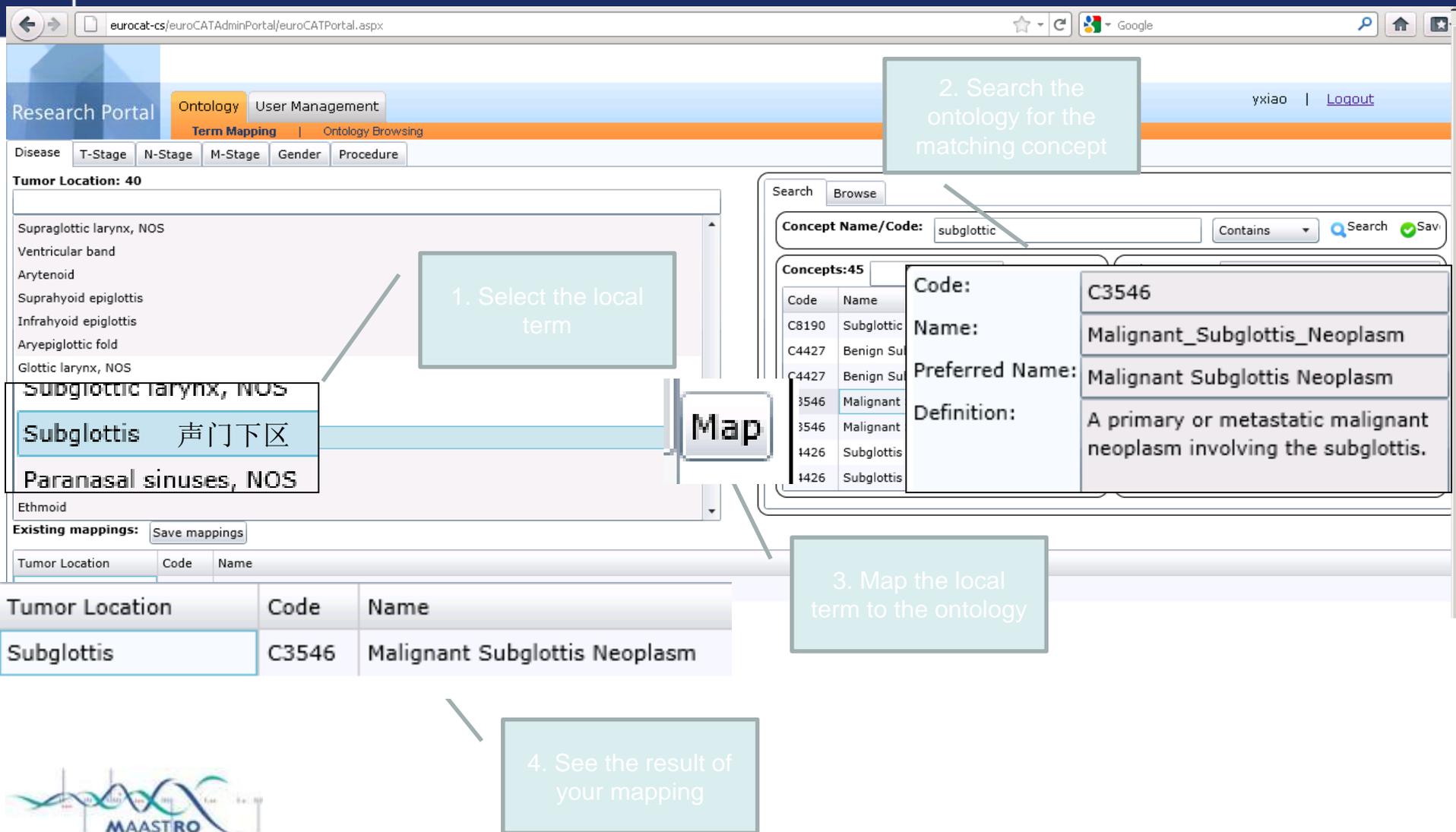
- Removal of obvious patient identifiers (name, MRN, social security number, email etc.)
- Assign a persistent token pseudonym
- Change (data banding) of obvious but required patient identifiers (everyone born and died on the 15th of the month, part of the postal code)
- No individual patient data leaves the hospital

The Semantic Web

- The **Semantic Web** is an extension of the Web through standards by the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C). The standards promote common data formats and exchange protocols on the Web.
- According to the W3C, "The Semantic Web provides a common framework* that allows data to be shared and reused across application, enterprise, and community boundaries". The term was coined by [Tim Berners-Lee](#) for a *web of data that can be processed by machines*.

*SPARQL is a semantic query language for databases

Ontology – International Coding System



The screenshot shows the 'euroCAT Admin Portal' interface. The 'Term Mapping' section is active, displaying a list of local terms under 'Tumor Location: 40'. The term 'Subglottis 声门下区' is selected. A search box on the right is used to find the matching ontology concept, 'subglottic'. The search results show a list of concepts, with 'C3546 Malignant Subglottis Neoplasm' selected. The 'Map' button is clicked, and the resulting mapping is shown in a table at the bottom.

1. Select the local term

2. Search the ontology for the matching concept

3. Map the local term to the ontology

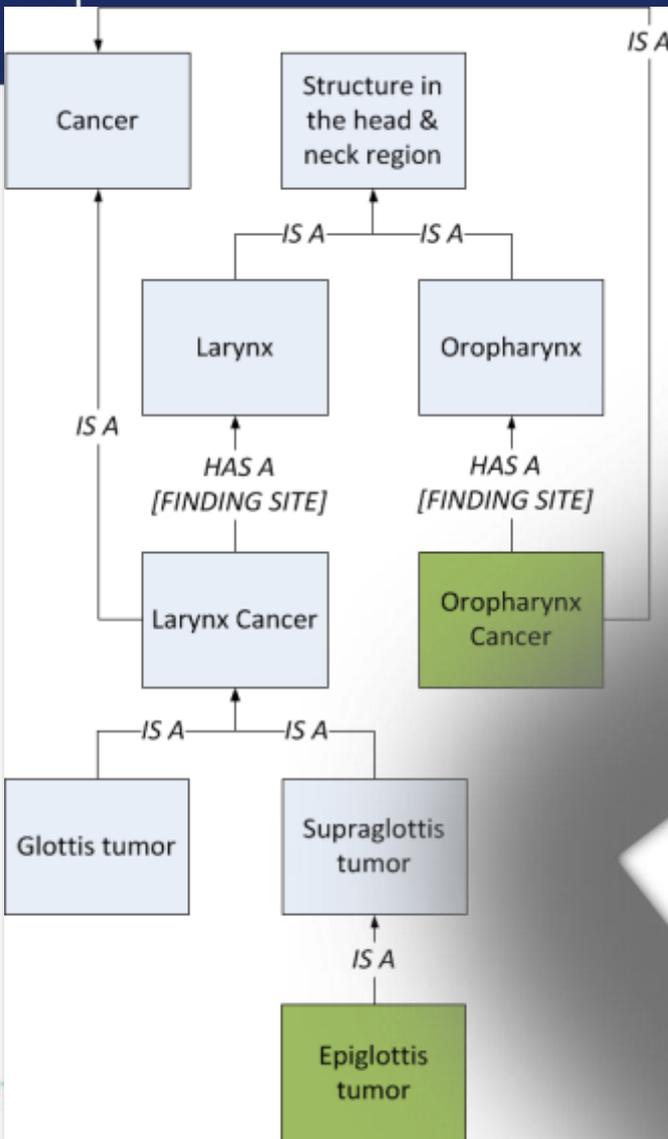
4. See the result of your mapping

Tumor Location	Code	Name
Subglottis	C3546	Malignant Subglottis Neoplasm

An ontology is more than a dictionary

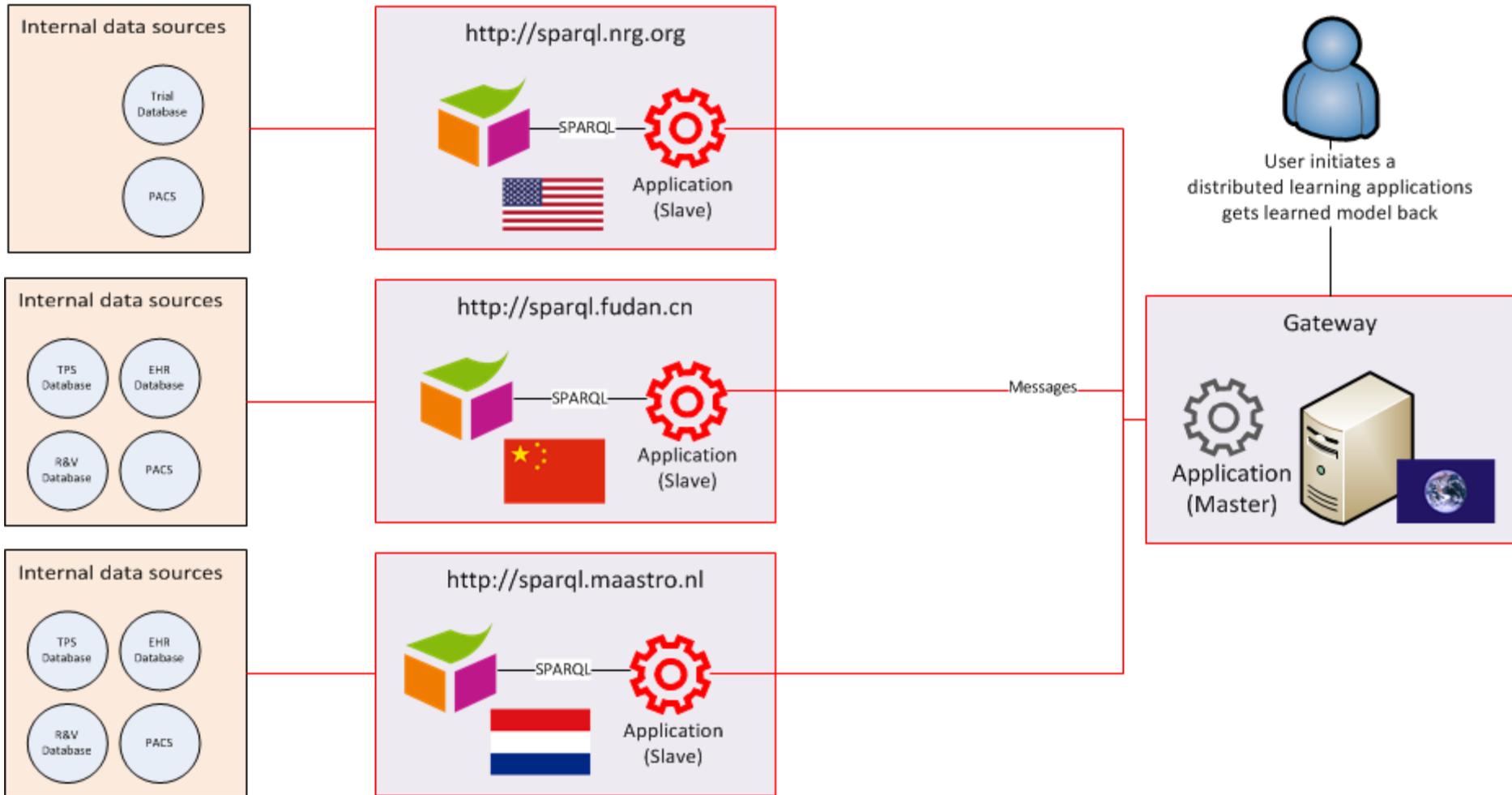
Ontology is a set terms & relationships.

Then we have “machine readable data” accessible to Artificial Intelligence



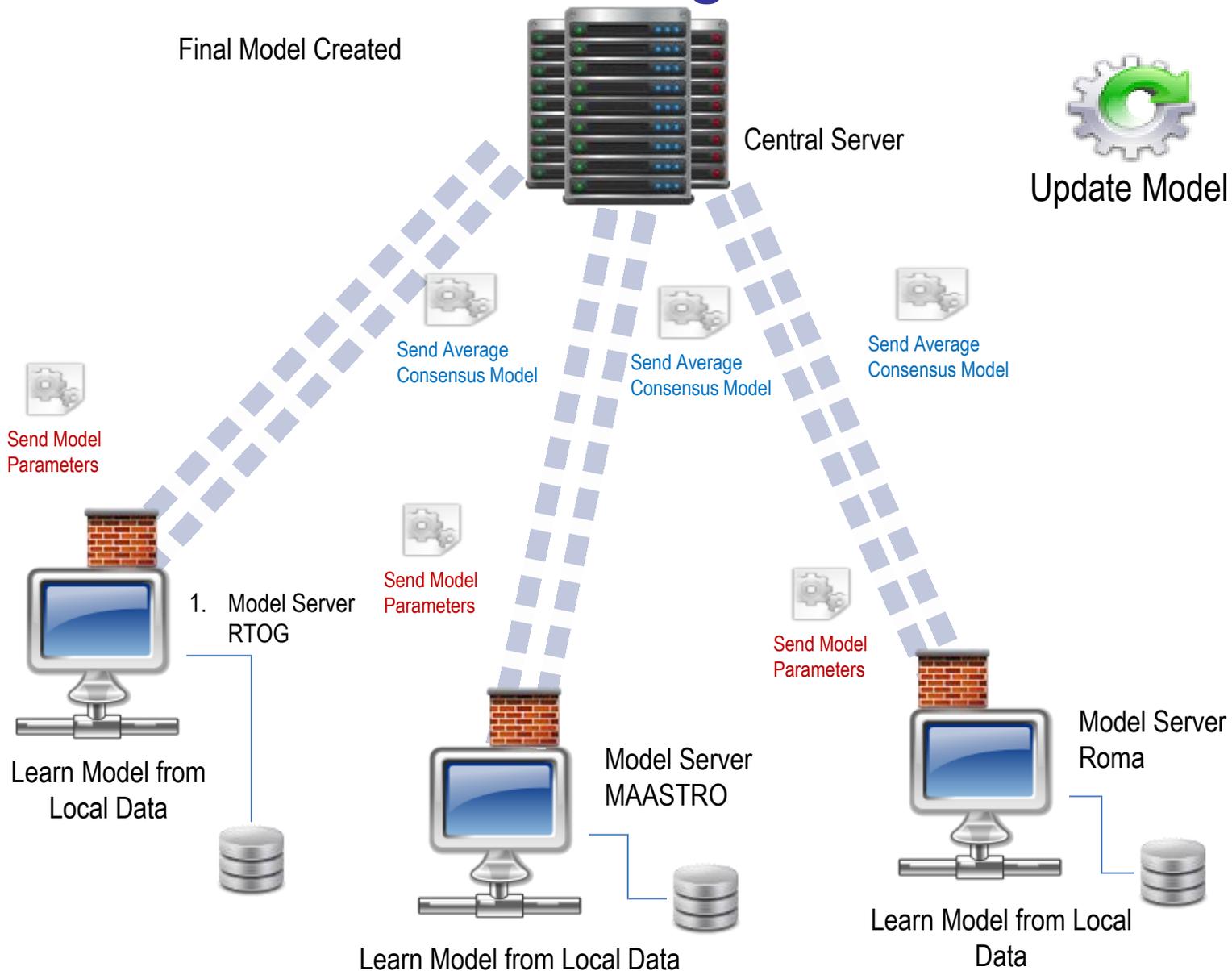
Semantic box (the secondary research database)

Hospitals



SPARQL : Query language for application

Distributed Learning Architecture

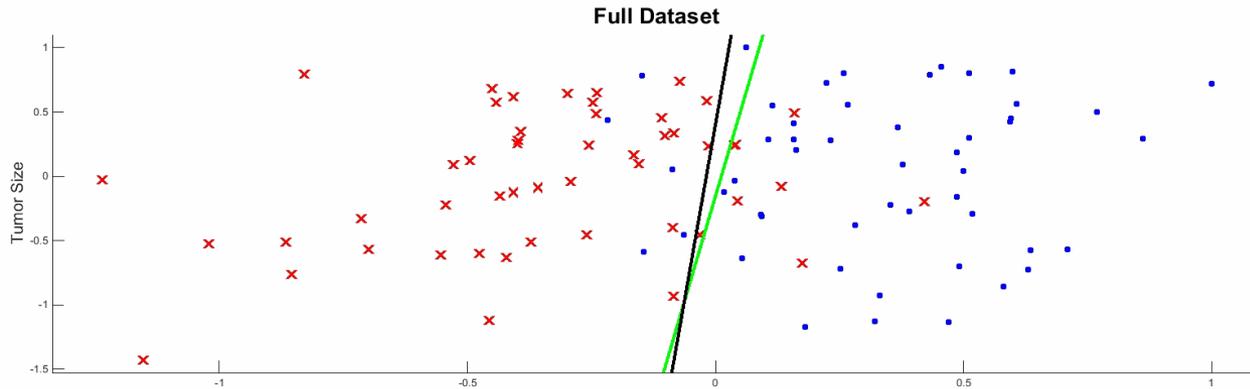


Only aggregate data is exchanged between the Central Server and the local Servers

Distributed learning: more real



Visualization of Distributed Learning: Support Vector Machines



Event Patient



Distributed Learning Solution

Non-Event Patient



Centralized Learning Solution

Simulated Data

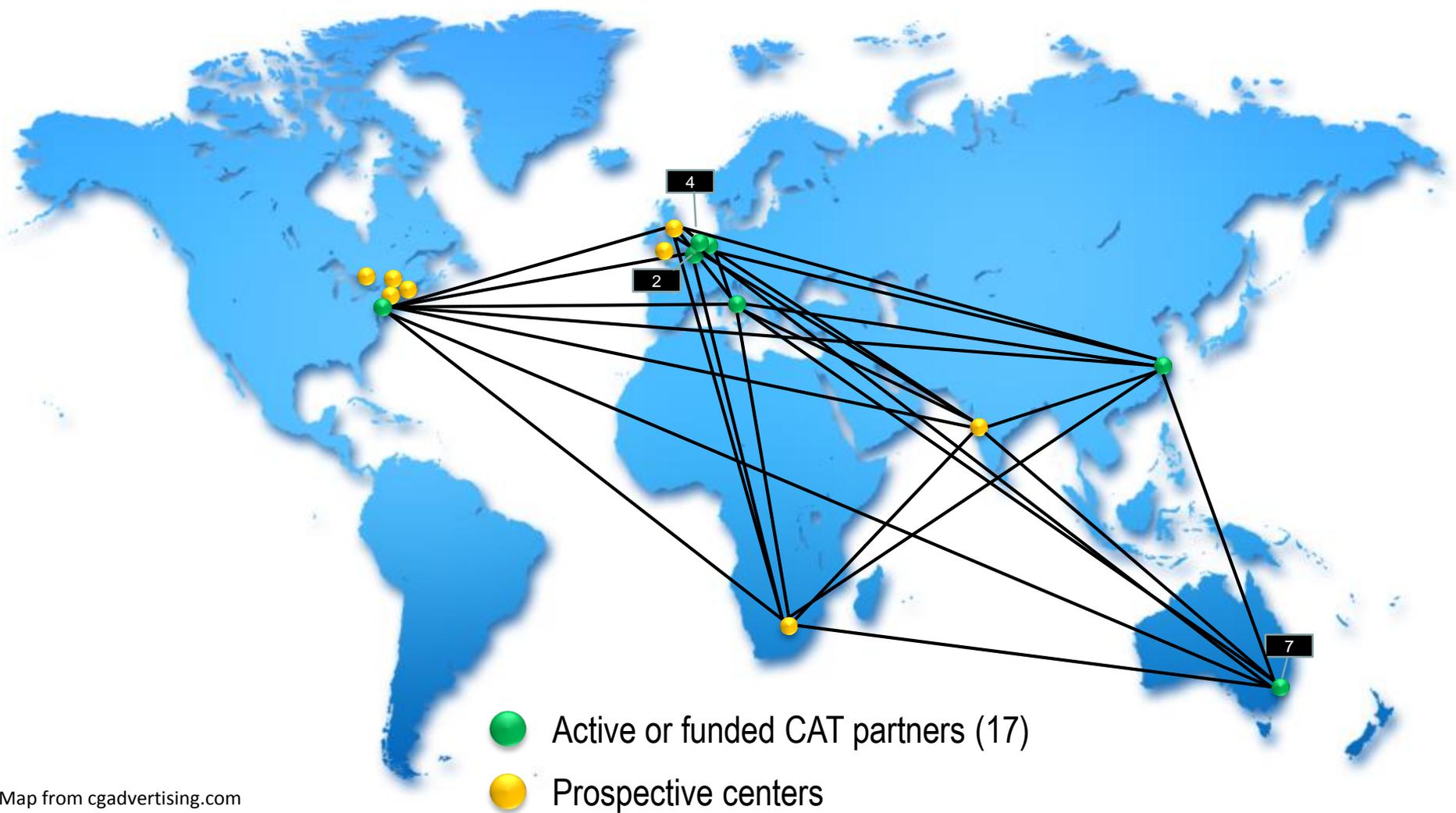
Does all of that work ? euroCAT's example

- Distributed learning = Centralized learning
- Distributed learning better than learning on individual data

Learn in	Validate in	AUC
Aachen (n=7)	Liège (n=186)	0.61
Eindhoven (n=32)	Liège (n=186)	0.72
Hasselt (n=45)	Liège (n=186)	0.68
Maastricht (n=52)	Liège (n=186)	0.75
Alle 4 samen (n=136)	Liège (n=186)	0.77
Alle 5 samen (n=322)	World (n=inf)	?

550 iterations, two hours (centralized < 1 min)

Funded: euroCAT, duCAT, chinaCAT, VATE, ozCAT
New: ukCAT, indiaCAT



- Active or funded CAT partners (17)
- Prospective centers

Map from cgadvertising.com

Can we improve the

quality of

the data?

- Yes 1) with automated check,
2) validated procedure to imputate missing data (« Amazone
type ») and
3) with standardized follow-up protocol*

- COLLECTIONS ▶
- IMAGE ARCHIVE
- SHARED LISTS
- FILES

Home / Protocols

Protocols

By using “Big Data” we can address clinical problems. Analyzing the massive amount of clinical information that is available in digital format will make it possible to create a rapid learning health care system in which we develop, validate and update predictive tools to assist clinicians in personalizing treatment. Yet, some hurdles have to be taken. Besides technological, privacy and security issues, the most important bottleneck is the quality of the available clinical data.

To derive insights from data, it is critical that they are accurate and relatively complete. Thus, relevant variables should be collected and their definition should be clear. Also, machine learning algorithms require structured data while currently the richest source of clinical data, the clinicians’ notes, is unstructured. However, writing research protocols is time-consuming and many clinicians lack time to do so, although they recognize the importance of collecting high quality data. We therefore created this open source research protocol repository. We anticipate that this initiative will stimulate centers to participate in outcomes research and will improve standardization and quality of data.

Title	Last Update▼
Standard Follow Up Program For Head And Neck Cancer Patients	2015-04-19
EuroCAT Umbrella Protocol for NSCLC	2015-04-16

update request

Please add your name

Affiliation *

Please add your affiliation

E-mail *

Please add your e-mail address so we can notify you of updated protocols.

Home / Protocols / EuroCAT Umbrella Protocol for NSCLC

EuroCAT Umbrella Protocol for NSCLC

Tags: NSCLC, EuroCAT, protocol, data collection

For the EuroCAT project, a research protocol that describes a standardized data collection for non-small cell lung cancer was written and has been approved by the Medical Ethical Board of our hospital. A copy of the protocol and the appendices, including scoring of side effects, quality of life questionnaires and optional biobank procedure can be downloaded below. Patient information and the informed consent sheet are available in four languages (English, Spanish, French and Chinese).

It is allowed to adapt the documents, so that they match the requirements of your hospital and country. You can either collect data in your Electronic Medical Record System or use the eCRFs, that have already been created by us, and which are also freely available. It is also possible to publish your own "ready to use" protocol online and let other institutes participate in your research.

Please find all data below. If you leave your email address at the right of the screen, we can contact you if an updated version of the protocol is available.

Attachment	Size
Material Transfer Agreement (doc)	40.5 KB
EuroCAT Umbrella Protocol NSCLC (pdf)	152.62 KB
Appendix A - Data Collection (pdf)	29.24 KB
Appendix B - CTC Toxicity (pdf)	13.69 KB
Appendix E - Timepoints (pdf)	12.1 KB
Appendices - Chinese (zip)	224.9 KB
Appendices - Dutch (zip)	132.47 KB

Protocol update request

Name *

Please add your name

Affiliation *

Please add your affiliation

E-mail *

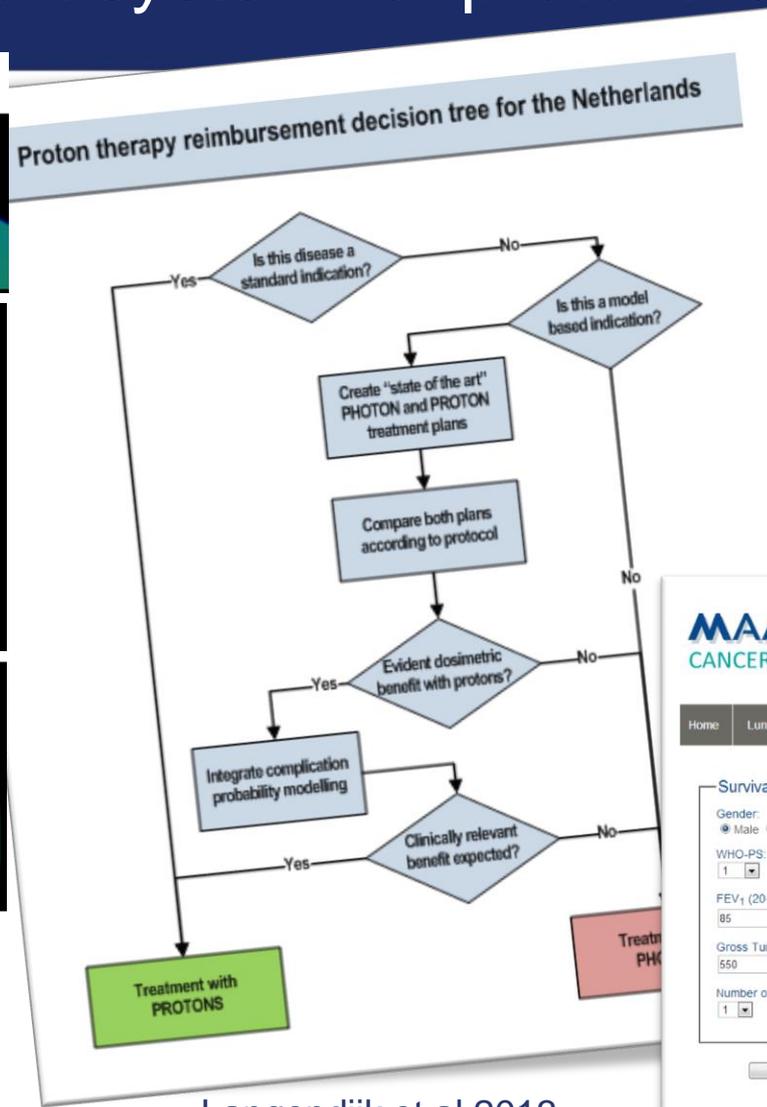
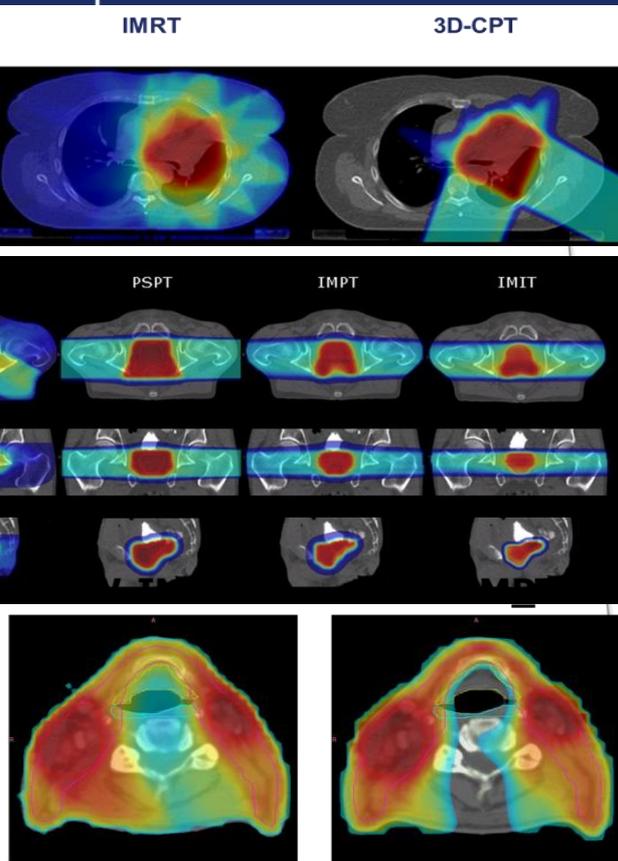
Please add your e-mail address so we can notify you of updated protocols.

What about

the costs of treatments?

e.g. Protontherapy...

Protons *without* dose escalation: model-based decision support system for protontherapy



MAASTRO CLINIC
CANCER PREDICTION MODELS

Home Lung Rectum Head & Neck Links Contact

Survival Model Input

Gender: Male Female

WHO-PS:

FEV₁ (20-140%):

Gross Tumor Volume (1-1000ml):

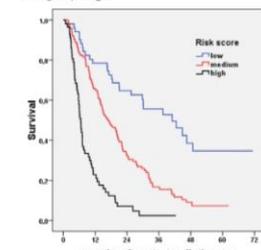
Number of nodal stations:

Calculate Clear all print

Output Survival Model

Probability that the patient will be alive at timepoint months: 6%

Risk group: high



months after start radiotherapy

Can you give me

examples

**of new knowledge coming from
Big Data approaches**



Validated Predictive models

The computers curing cancer: Software is better than doctors at judging which treatments will work



Zimbabwe Star

From Zambezi to Limpopo

Zimbabwe Star <http://www.zimbabwestar.com> Volume 2013/04

Zimbabwe News Breaking International News Breaking Business News South Africa News Zambia News Agriculture News
Musio News Breaking Health News Public Health News Zimbabwe News Travel News Weather News

computer models to help cancer patients predicting how patients doctors ors that affect prognosis timent option

Doctors Out-Maneuvered By Mathematical Models In Predicting Cancer Patients' Responses To Treatment

Latest Zimbabwe Star news

Despite Newly Free Deliveries in Kenya Some Mothers Opt for Traditional Birth

www.scie.../420110651.htm

Print this page

ases/2013/04/



The computer will outperform doctors at predicting cancer patients' responses to treatment



...chosen by a computer rather than formulas that are better than

Mathematical Models Out-Perform Doctors in Predicting Cancer Patients' Responses to Treatment

Steve Connor 22 April 2013

... 20, 2013 — Mathematical prediction models are better than doctors at predicting the outcomes and responses of treatments to treatment, according to new research presented today (Saturday) at the 2nd Forum of the European Society for Medical Oncology (ESTRO).

The Radiomic hypothesis

One can extract *more* quantitative information from standard imaging



Radiology:

- Implicit knowledge
- Interpretability



QUANTIFICATION

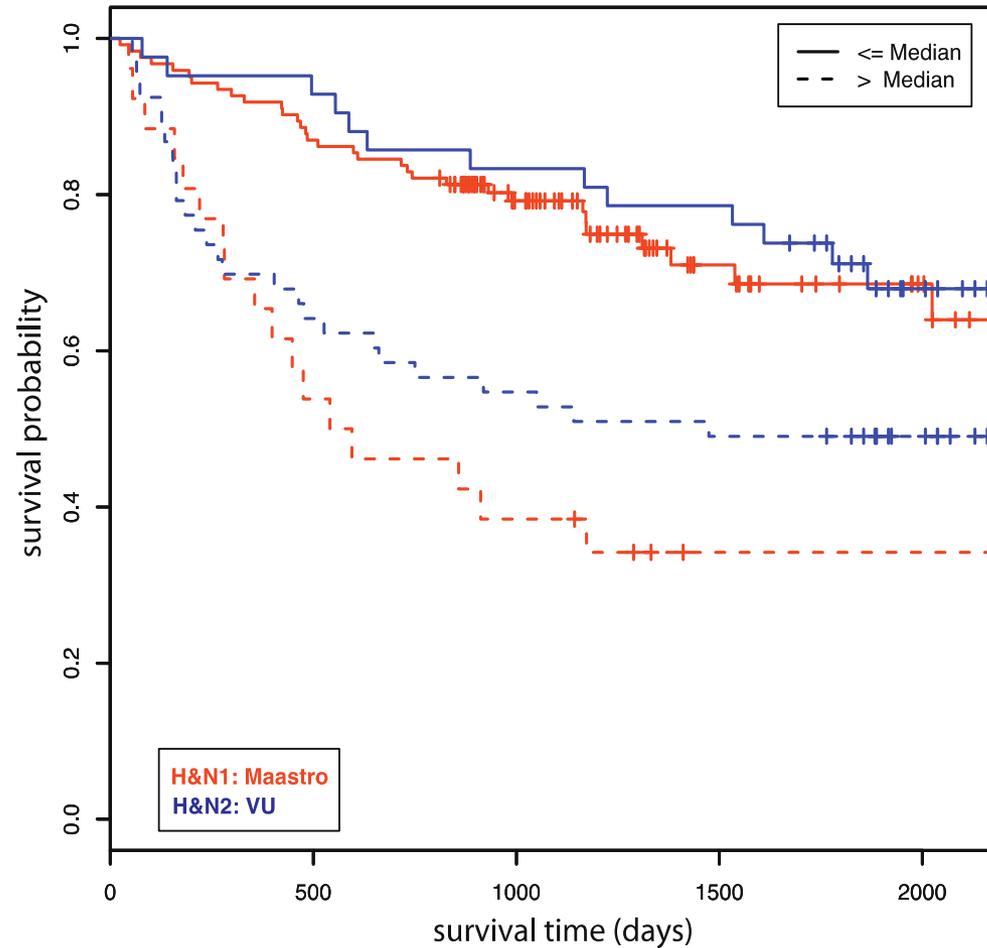


RADIOMICS

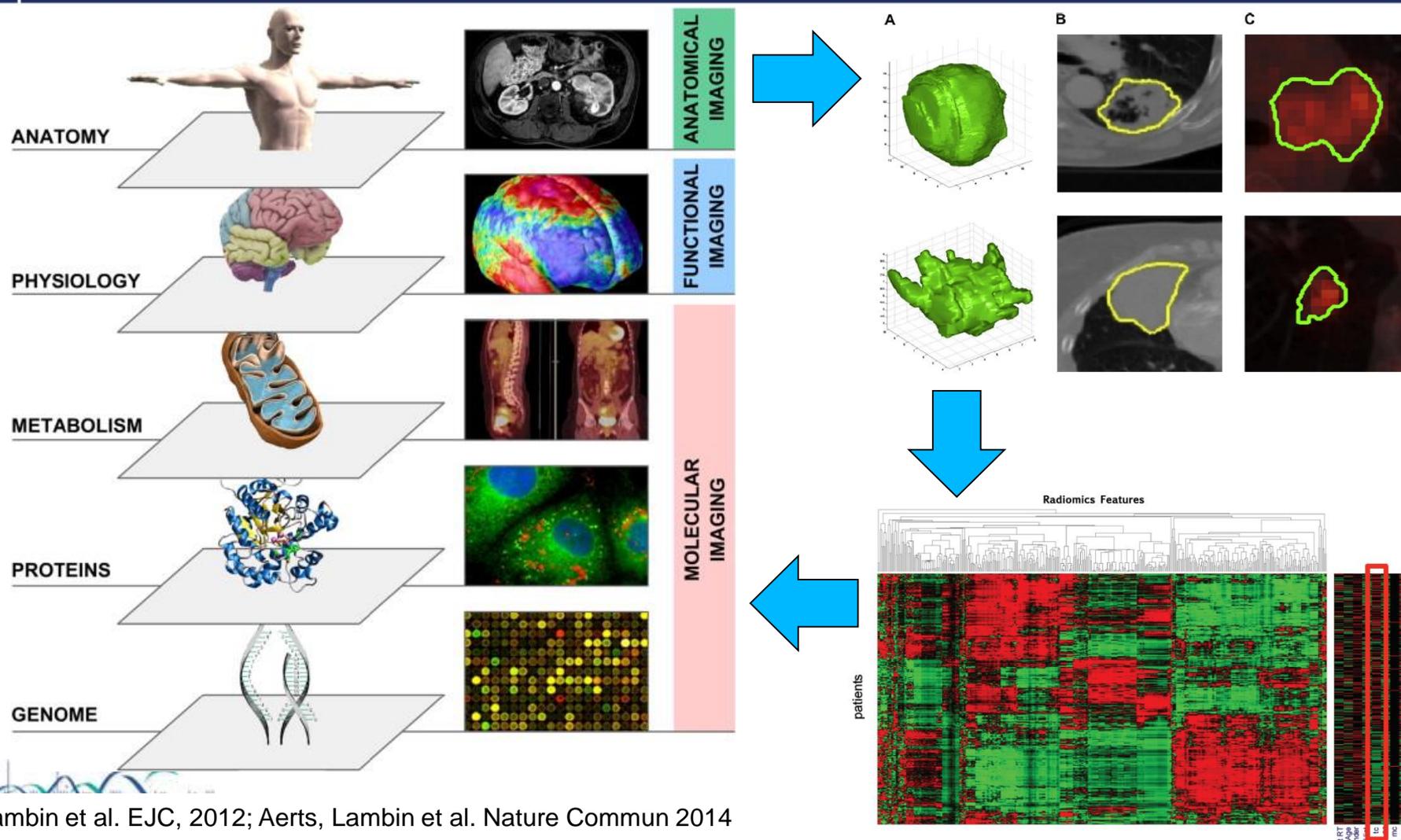
Extract *quantitative* features from images

Predict survival in Lung and Head & neck cancer better than TNM

Kaplan–Meier Radiomics Signature



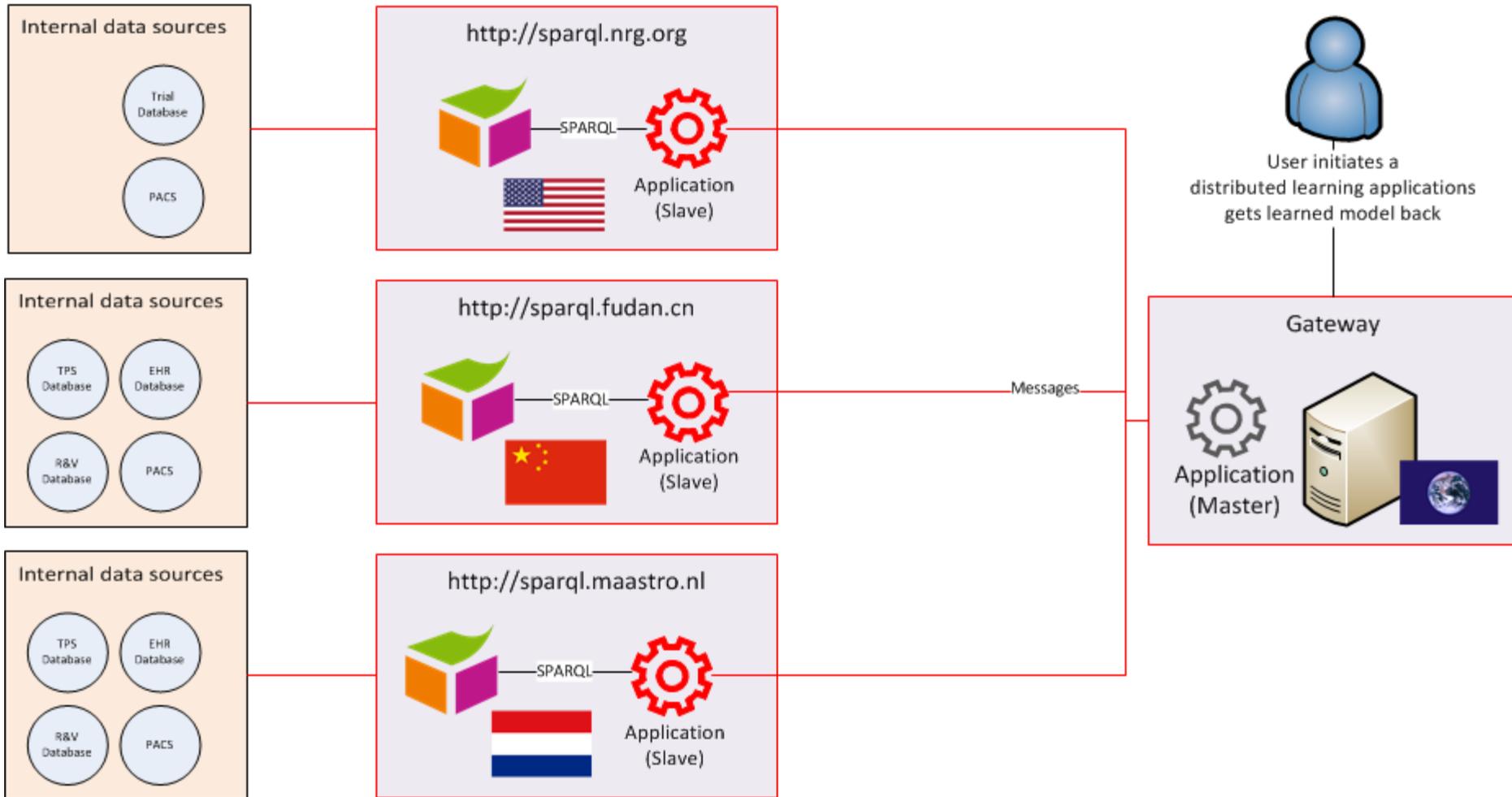
Entering the OMICS era... Radiomics



Distributed learning for Radiomics

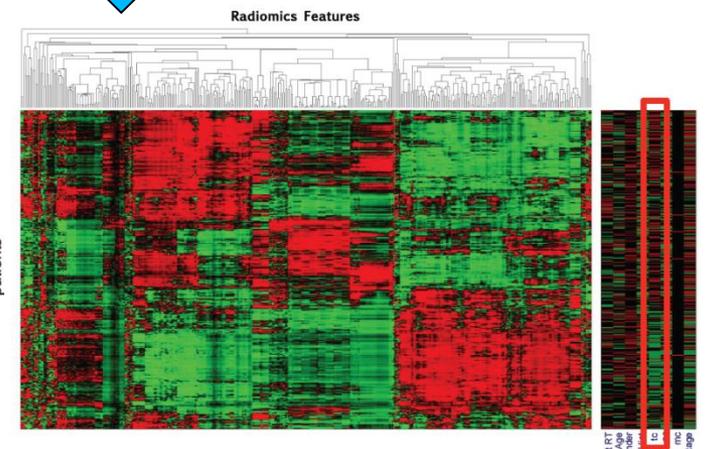
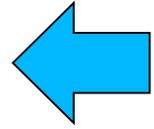
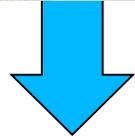
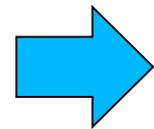
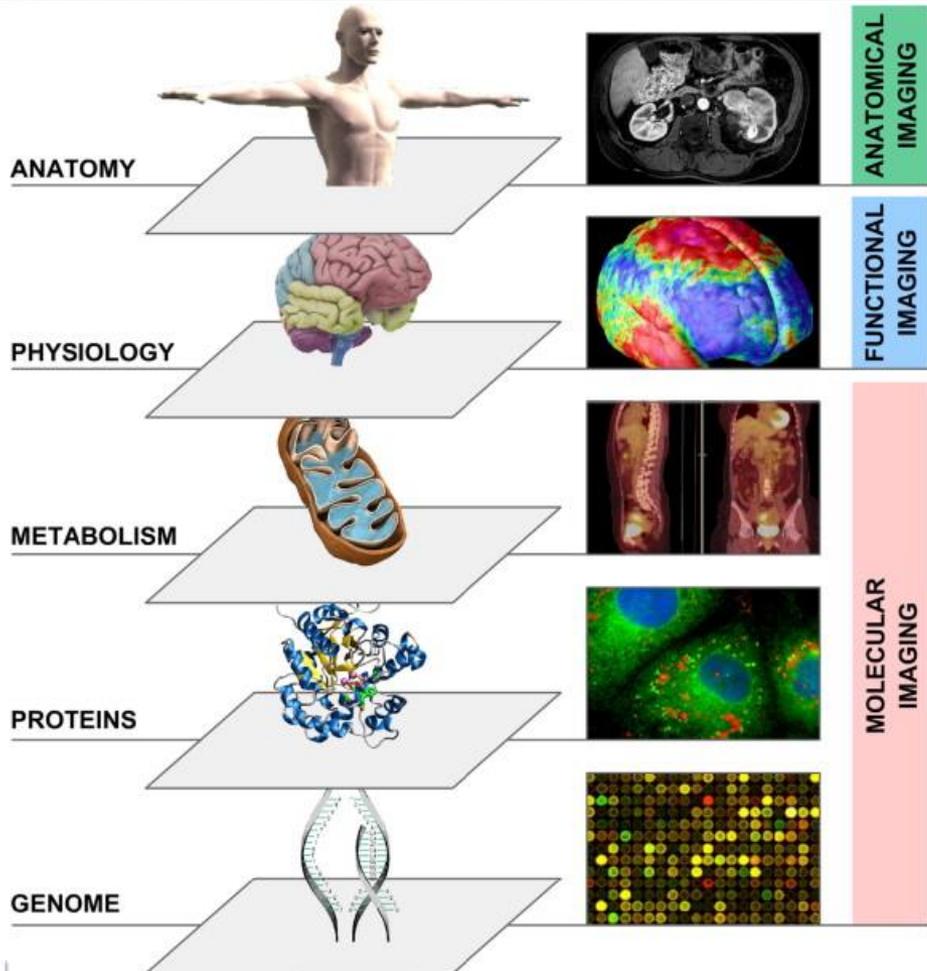
Hospitals

Semantic box



SPARQL : Query language for application initiating an action

What's new in Radiomics? Quantify tumour biology on *Cone Beam CT*



What about the

patient?

The 5 P's of modern medicine

(from Leroy Hood)

« P » for Personalized

« P » for Preventive

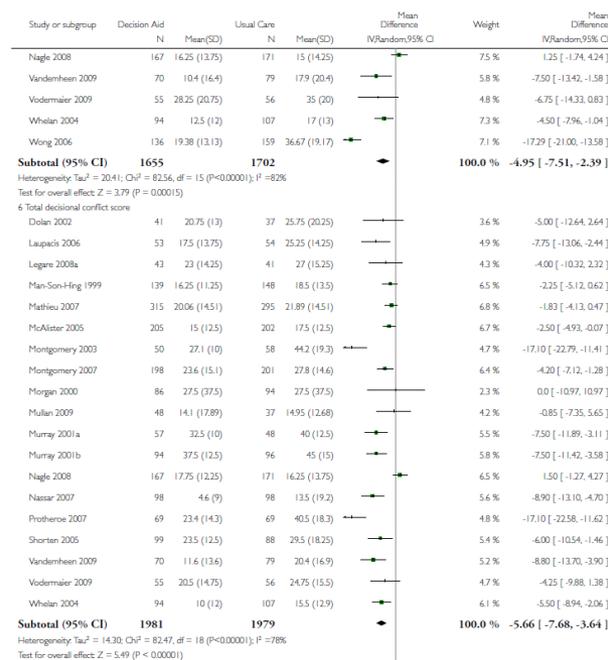
« P » for Predictive

« P » for *Participatory*

Shared Decision Making 1.0 with Decision aids

Decision aids for people facing health treatment or screening decisions (Review)

Stacey D, Bennett CL, Barry MJ, Col NE, Eden KB, Holmes-Rovner M, Llewellyn-Thomas H, Lyddiatt A, Légaré F, Thomson R



This is a reprint of a Cochrane review, prepared and maintained by The Cochrane Collaboration and published in *The Cochrane Library* 2012, Issue 5

<http://www.thecochranelibrary.com>



Shared Decision Making 2.0: model-based virtual patient or *Avatar-based Shared Decision making*

The screenshot shows a web browser window titled "Maastro Desktop - Citrix Presentation Server Client". The browser address bar shows a URL from Amazon S3. The main content area is titled "Decision Aid Tool- Rectum Cancer - MAASTRO Clinic". It features a 3D-rendered male doctor in a white lab coat on the left. A red speech bubble next to him contains the text: "Recently, you have been diagnosed with rectal cancer. You are offered to undergo two different treatment modalities:". To the right of the doctor is a small inset image of a blue-skinned Avatar character. Below the speech bubble is a blackboard with the heading "TREATMENT MODALITIES" and a list: "(1) Organ preservation treatment or (2) Surgery in combination with radiotherapy and chemotherapy, which is called *radiochemotherapy*". At the bottom of the interface, the text "DECISION AID TOOL" is displayed in large white letters, with "Rectal cancer surgery" underneath. Two buttons labeled "BACK" and "NEXT" are positioned at the bottom right. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows several open applications, including "Promoties", "Ruid van Stiphout", "Postvak IN - rian...", "Brief 2 verzoek va...", "Document1 - Mi...", and "Decision Aid Too...". The system clock shows "10:14".

Decision Aid Tool- Rectum Cancer - MAASTRO Clinic

Recently, you have been diagnosed with rectal cancer.
You are offered to undergo two different treatment modalities:

TREATMENT MODALITIES

(1) Organ preservation treatment or
(2) Surgery in combination with radiotherapy and chemotherapy, which is called *radiochemotherapy*

DECISION AID TOOL
Rectal cancer surgery

BACK NEXT

What next?: The patient managing its own data

Data =



**Our vision in 2 min:
*“from hospital to patient”***

Personal Health Train

Take home message

1. We need Decision Support Systems (DSS = a “meta TPS”) to manage the large quantity of data and implement Personalized medicine in radiotherapy in particular for protontherapy due to its costs.
2. Two complementary approaches: conventional clinical trials (+ data reuse) + “Big Data approach” (Rapid Learning Health Care).
3. Building cancer informatics tools to enable analysis, exploration, and rapid evaluation of novel therapies or stratification e.g. Distributed learning based on semantic web technology.
4. DSS facilitate Share Decision Making, participative precision medicine and cost effective Health care (the 4th & 5th “P”). One key example could be protontherapy.

Acknowledgements



- Policlinico Gemelli, Roma, Italy
- UH Ghent, Belgium
- UH Leuven, Belgium
- UH Nijmegen, Netherlands

- CHU Liege, Belgium
- Uniklinikum Aachen, Germany
- LOC Genk/Hasselt, Belgium
- Catherina Zkh Eindhoven, Netherlands

• ...

Main MAASTRO collaborators



- Andre Dekker
- Cary Oberije
- Timo Deist
- Erik Roelofs
- Arthur Jochems
- Sean Walsh
- Ralph Leijenaar
- Janita van Timmeren



Thank you for your attention

More :

www.predictcancer.org

www.eurocat.info

www.cancerdata.org

www.mistir.info

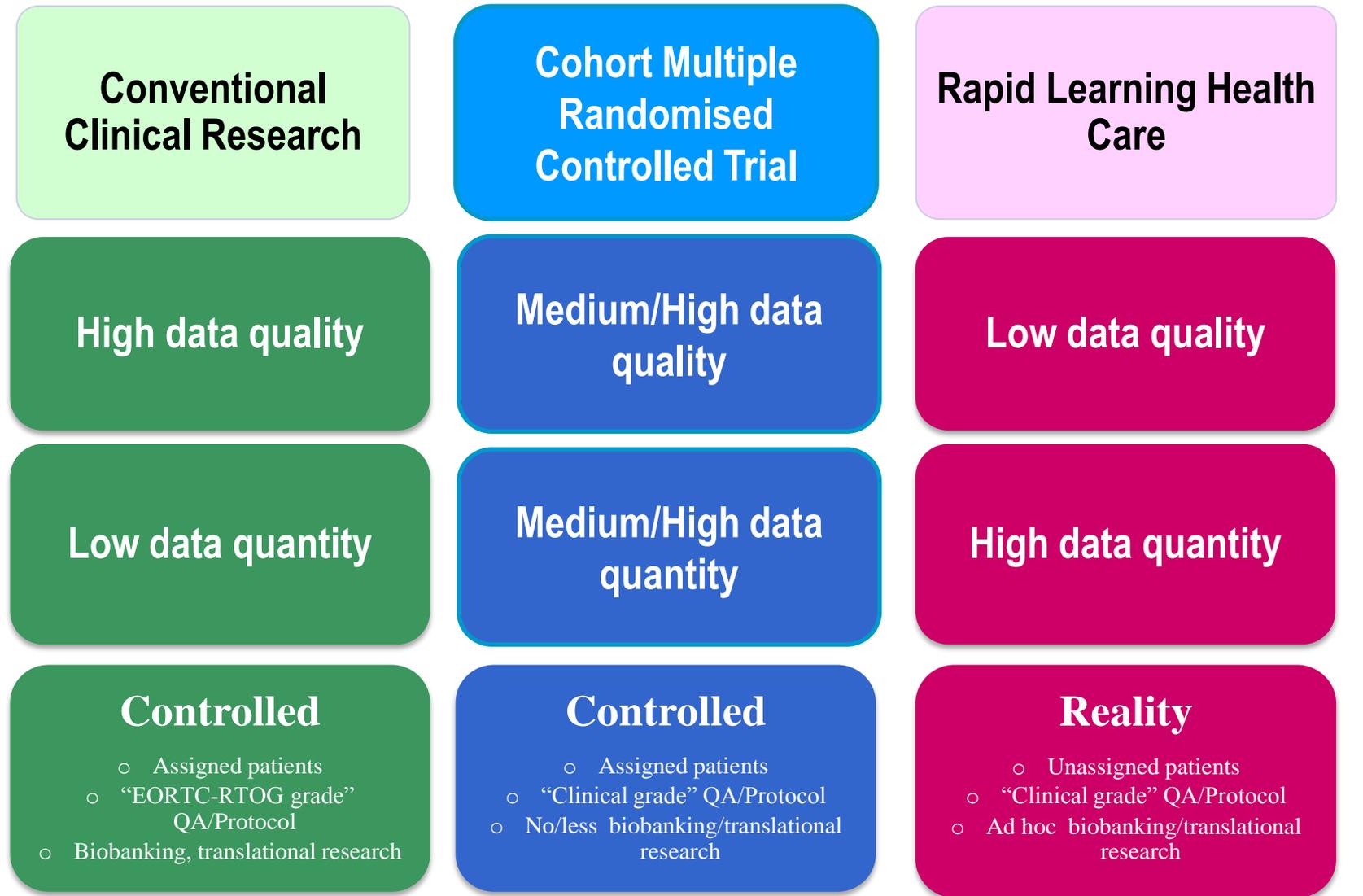
www.predictcancer.org

What about

expensive new treatment?

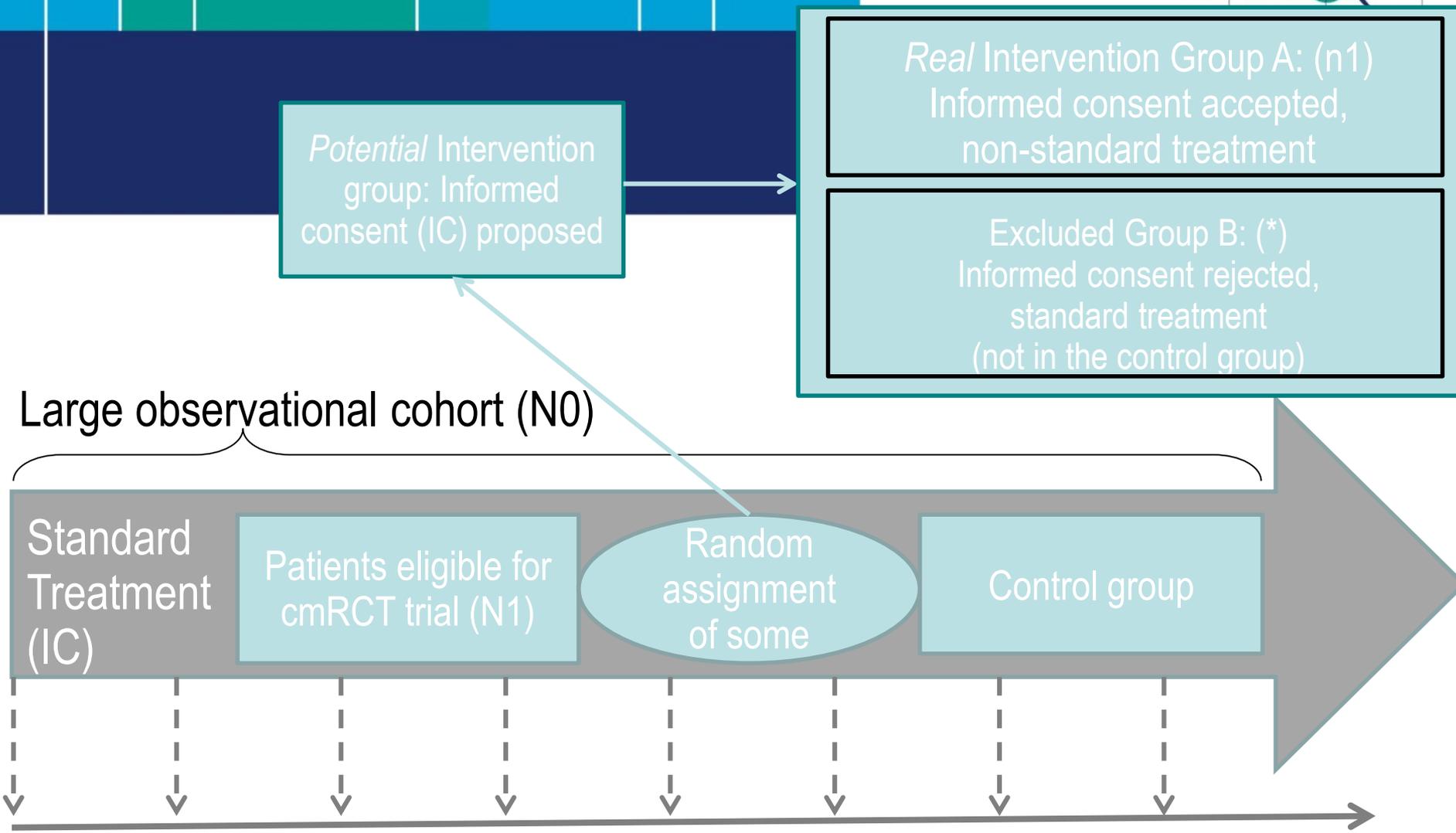
e.g. Protontherapy, Immunotherapy...

We *need* randomized trials to convince the payers and the 2^d line specialists.



Protons *with* dose escalation: *potential* solution = The cohort multiple randomised controlled trial design

The cohort multiple randomised controlled trial design is a *pragmatic method* taking advantage of the standardized follow-up approaches.



Standardized Follow-up Protocol (ideally multicentric): Dr and Patient reported outcomes, imaging...



40 Years After Tuskegee: Reuniting Medical Research and Practice

Ruth Faden (Bioethics) Jan 16 2013, 10:44 AM ET

the Atlantic

Guidelines to protect human research subjects impede efficient generation and exchange of knowledge.

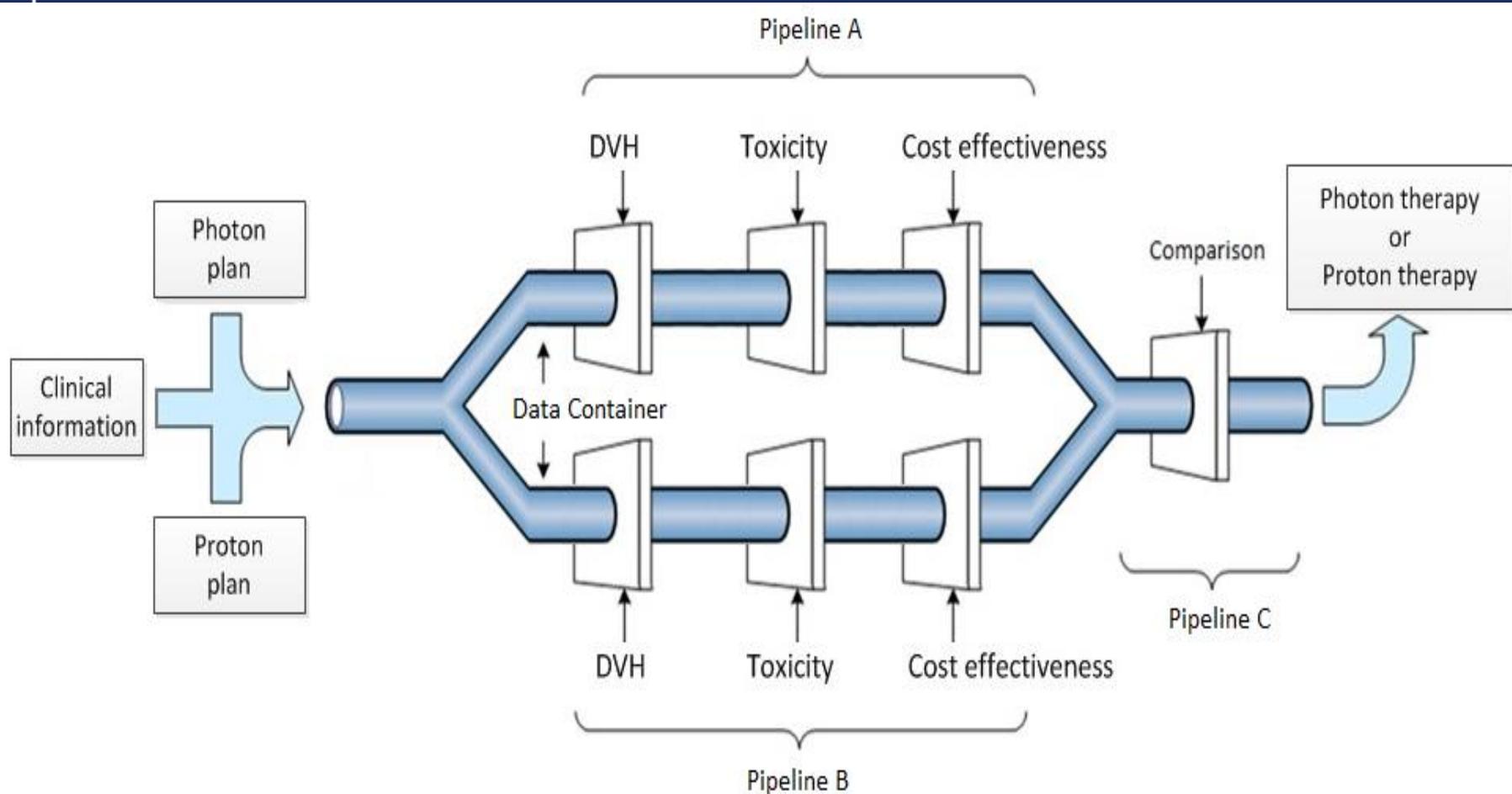
..each episode of care we receive, should generate data and evidence that improve the care of patients who come after us; we then, in turn, benefit from what is systematically learned from the care received by patients who come before us.

care of patients who come after us, we then, in turn, benefit from what is systematically learned from the care received by patients who come before us. Through continuous, real-time learning, we can provide better care to more people, save lives, become smarter, and wring every dollar of value from the system. This is what the Institute of Medicine has dubbed the

"learning healthcare system."



PRODECIS: working for head & neck cancer



Costs of the whole care cycle: Markov Model



Data warehousing for research



Contents lists available at SciVerse ScienceDirect

Radiotherapy and Oncology

journal homepage: www.thegreenjournal.com

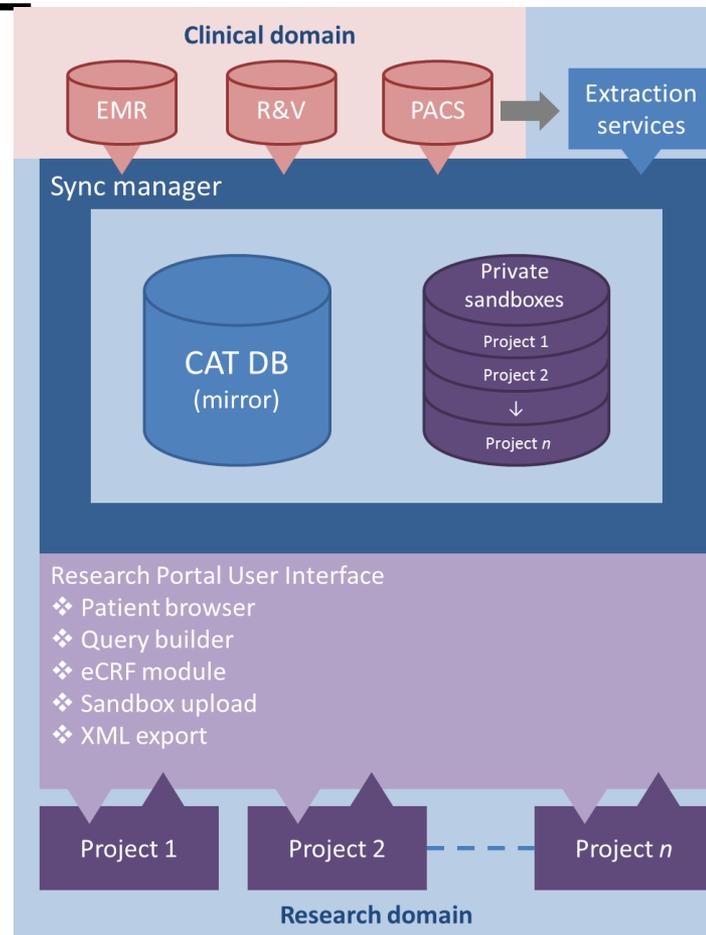
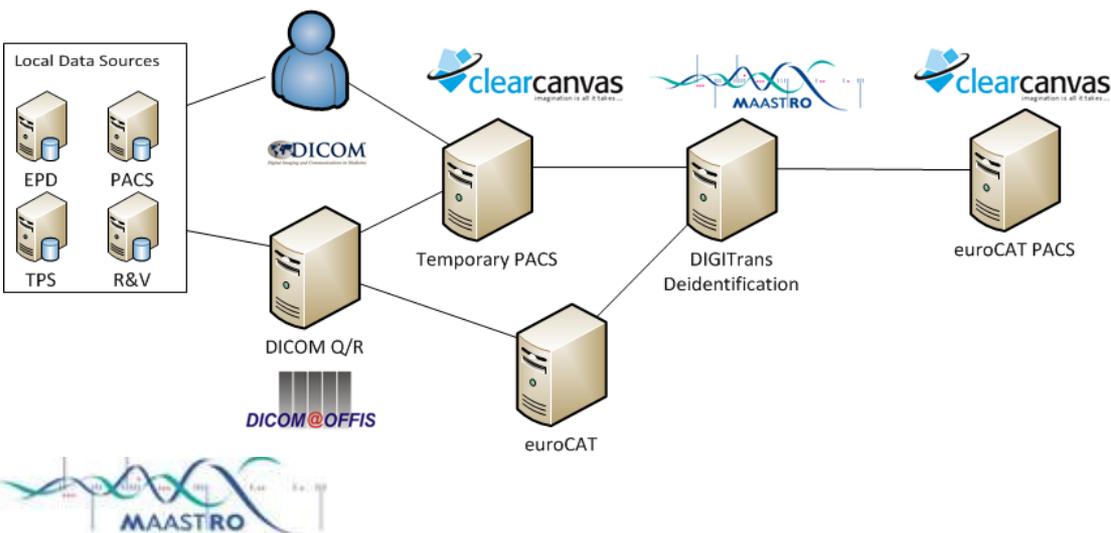


Original article

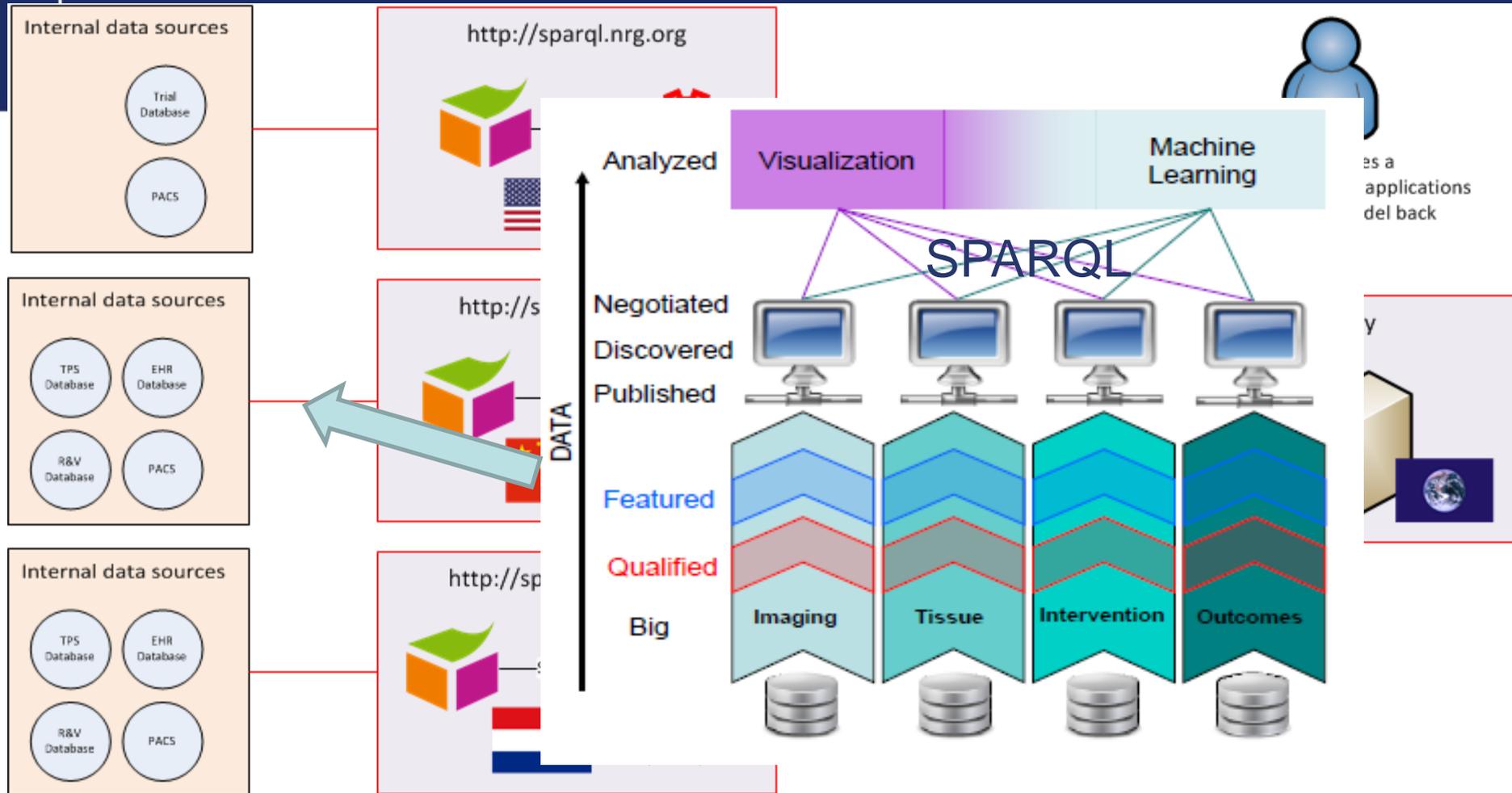
Benefits of a clinical data warehouse with data mining tools to collect data for a radiotherapy trial

Erik Roelofs^{a,*}, Lucas Persoon^{a,1}, Sebastiaan Nijsten^a, Wolfgang Wiessler^b, André Dekker^{a,1}, Philippe Lambin^{a,1}

^a Department of Radiation Oncology (MAASTRO Clinic), Maastricht University Medical Centre (MUMC+), The Netherlands; ^b Siemens Healthcare, Malvern, PA, USA



Under the hood – Publish on Semantic Web



Take home message: Questions?

1. We need Decision Support Systems (DSS = a “meta TPS”) to manage the large quantity of data and implement Personalized medicine
2. Two complementary approaches: conventional clinical trials (+ data reuse) + Rapid Learning Health Care
3. Building cancer informatics tools to enable analysis, exploration, and rapid evaluation of novel therapies or stratification e.g. Distributed learning, Radiomics...

Open source data of publications: www.cancerdata.org

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Sharing medical data for cancer research

About CancerData

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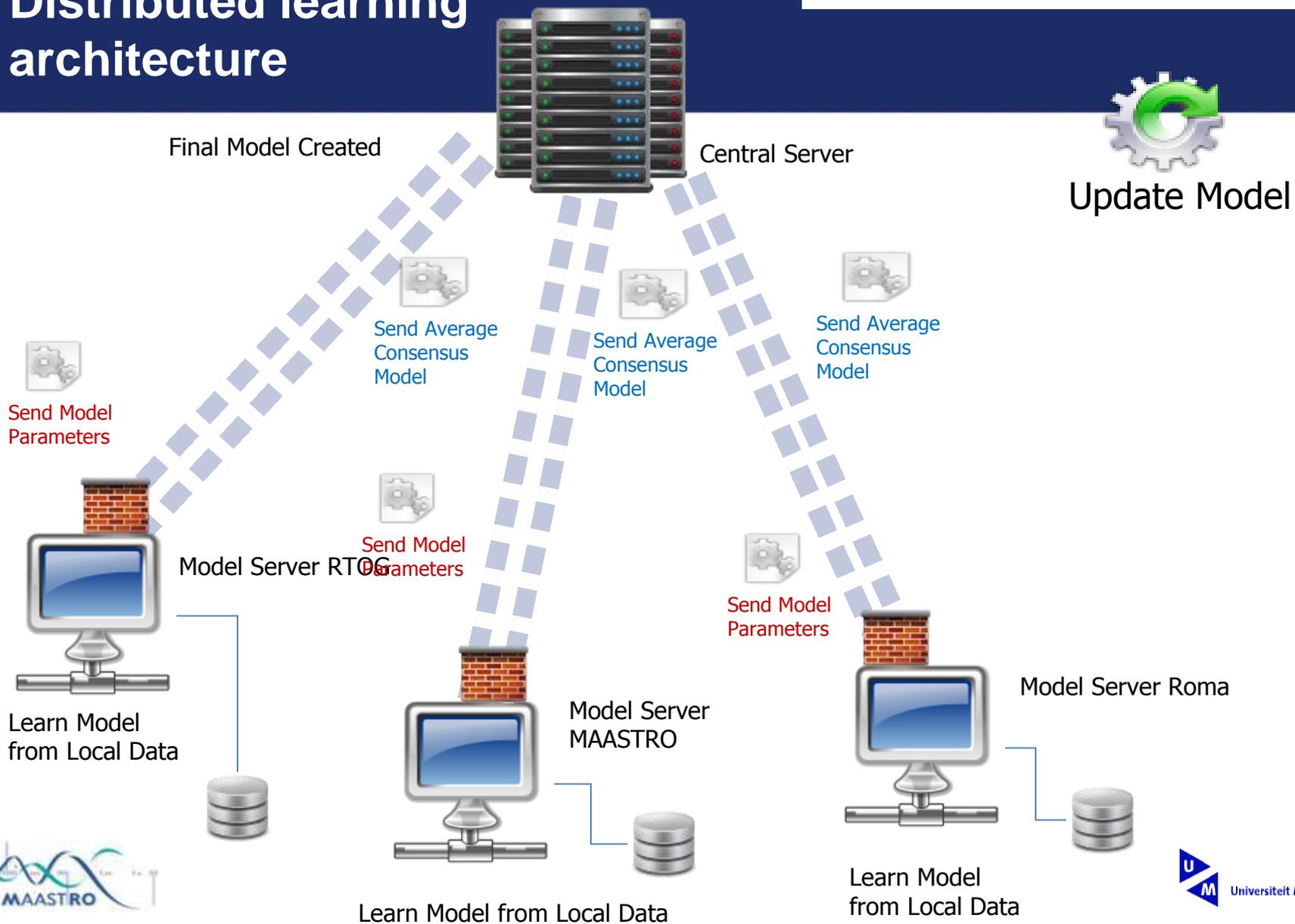
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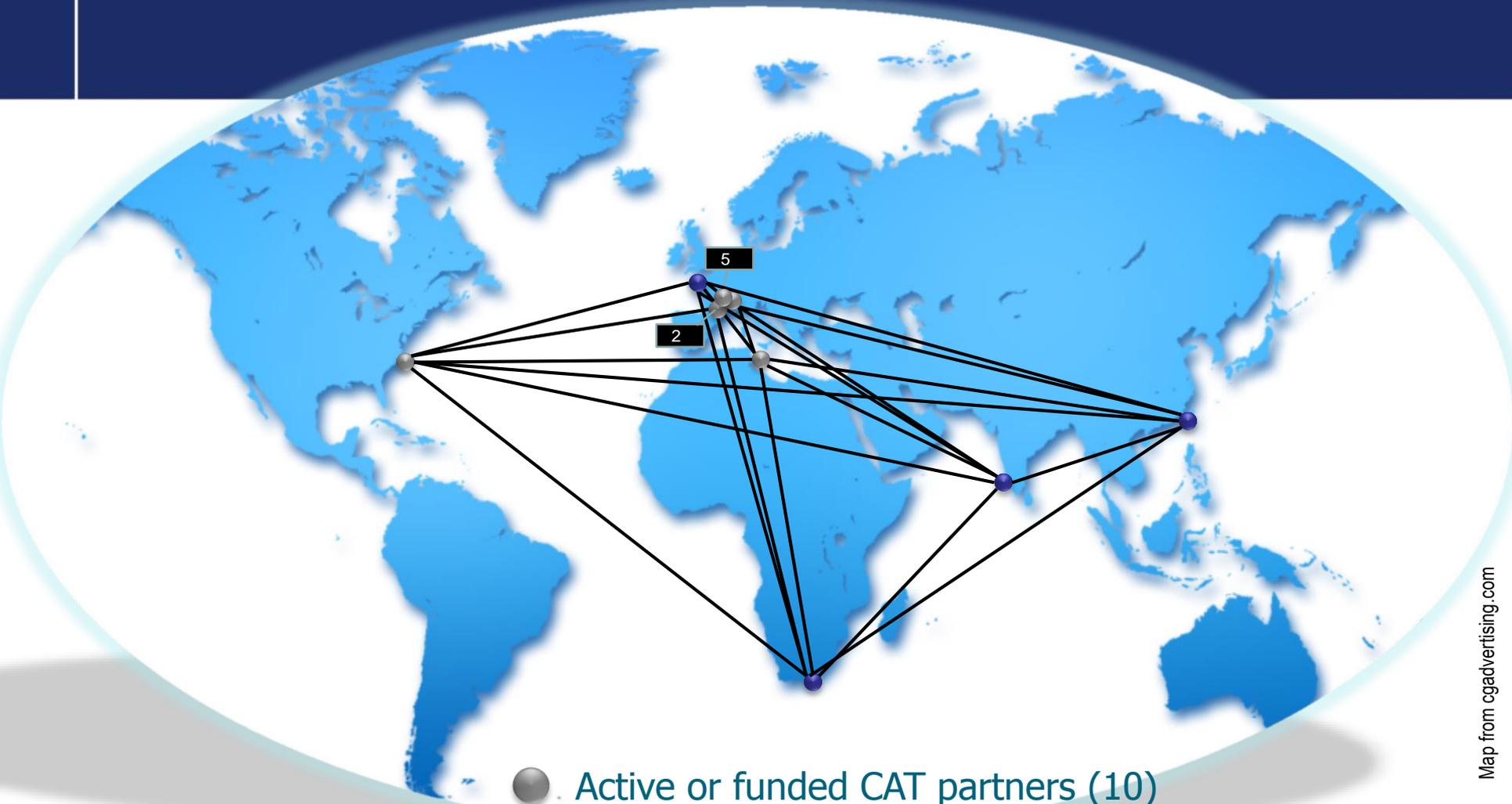


Distributed learning architecture

Only aggregate data is exchanged between the Central Server and the local Servers



Network euroCAT + in 9/2013



- Active or funded CAT partners (10)
- Prospective centers (4)

Herceptin:

△ « Companion biomarker »

Trapazamin:

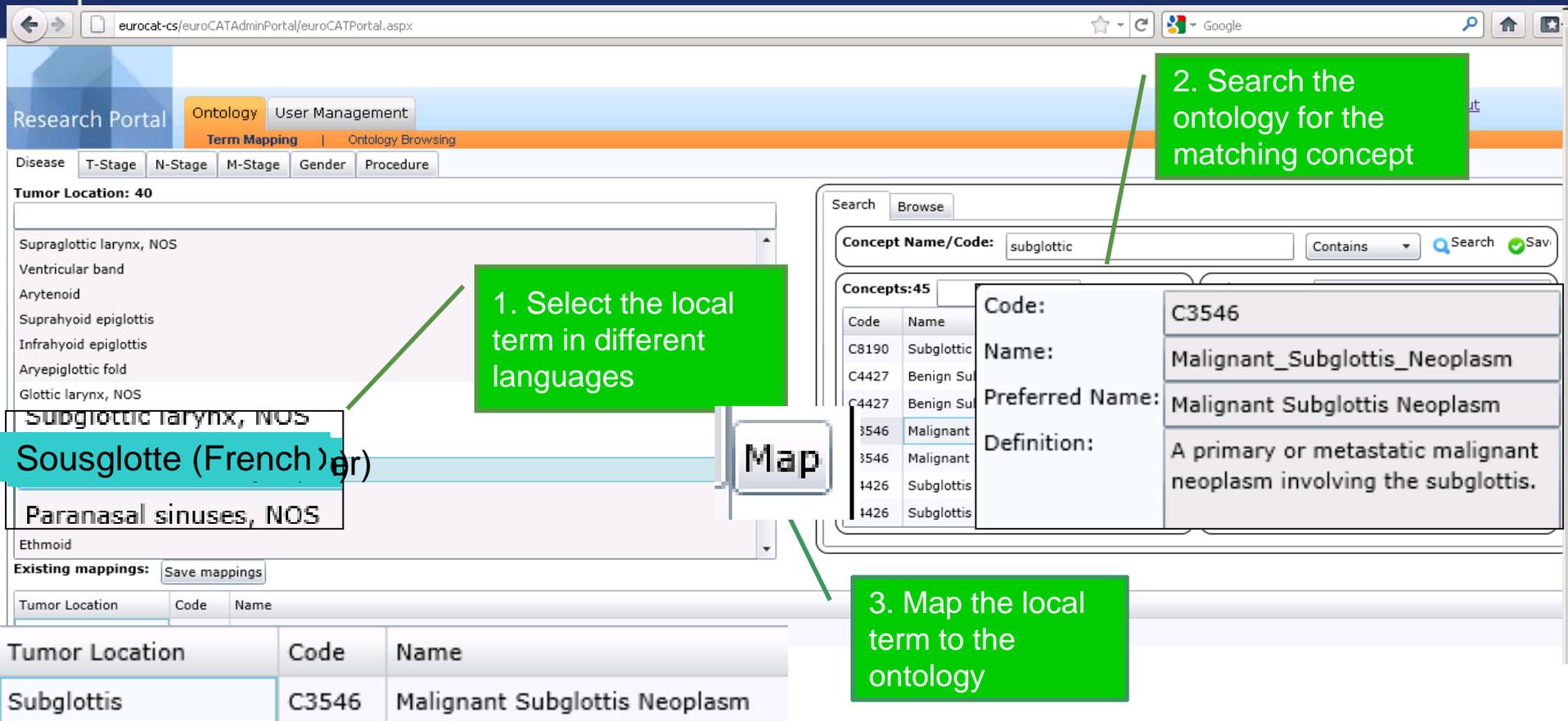
Biomarker +

Protontherapy

Biomarker -

Ontology mapping

(To be done once)



1. Select the local term in different languages

2. Search the ontology for the matching concept

3. Map the local term to the ontology

4. See the result of your mapping

Map

Search **Browse**

Concept Name/Code: **Contains**

Concepts: 45

Code	Name
C8190	Subglottic
C4427	Benign Su
C4427	Benign Su
C3546	Malignant
C3546	Malignant
I426	Subglottis
I426	Subglottis

Code: C3546

Name: Malignant_Subglottis_Neoplasm

Preferred Name: Malignant Subglottis Neoplasm

Definition: A primary or metastatic malignant neoplasm involving the subglottis.

Existing mappings:

Tumor Location	Code	Name
Subglottis	C3546	Malignant Subglottis Neoplasm

Our hypothesis

Protontherapy models are based on the *one size fits all philosophy* under *strict conditions* that do not reflect the *heterogeneity* of the population
has been selected for treatment

... We will show that *factorial Decision*

The "one size fits all philosophy will not work with protons

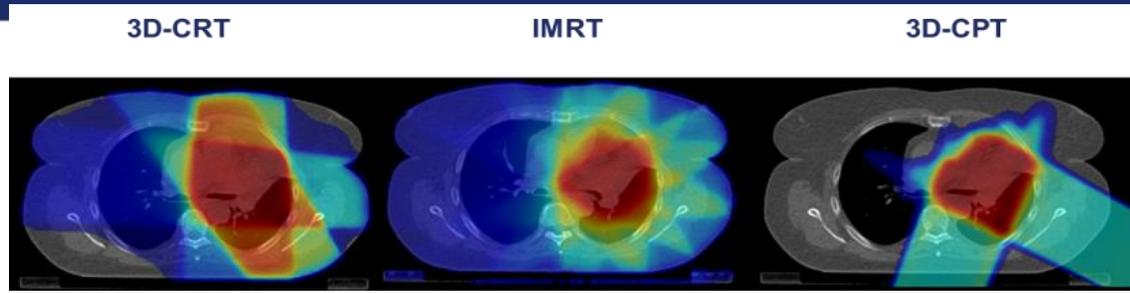
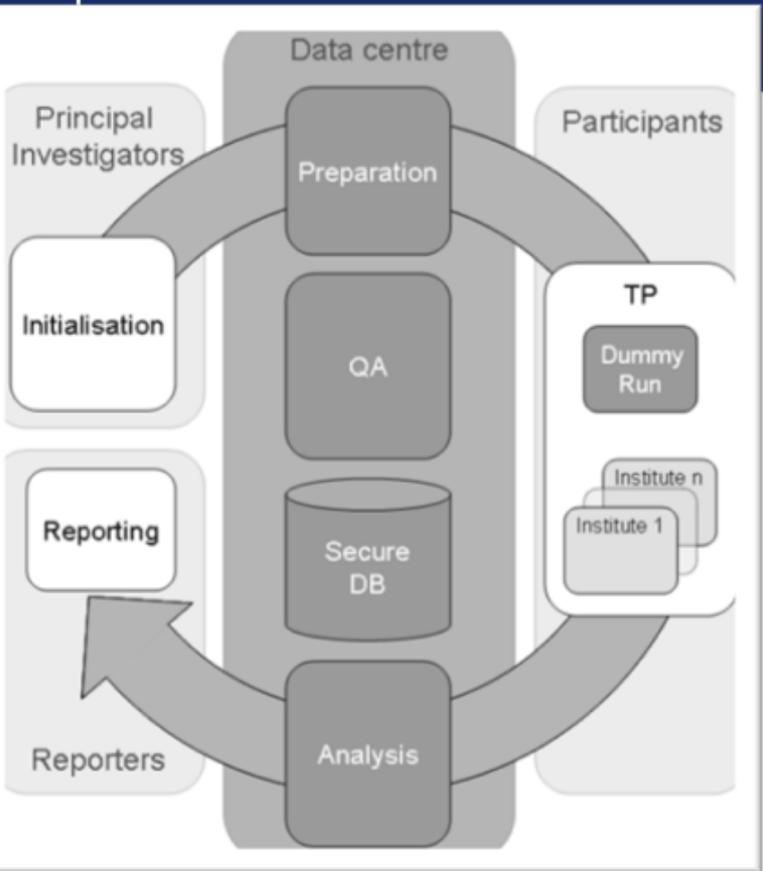
The Dutch approach for protontherapy

1. **The standard indications*** (pediatric, melanoma of the eyes...): fully reimbursed
2. **The trial patients:** externally funded

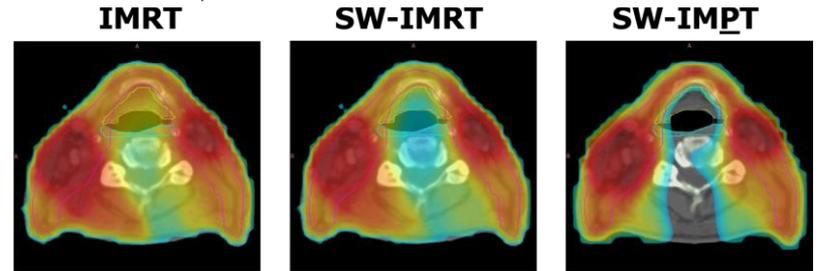
3. **The model based indications*** (head & neck, lung, breast, prostate, *reirradiations*...): need an accredited Decision Support System (DSS)

* Equipoise, ALARA... Only if there is no Dose escalation

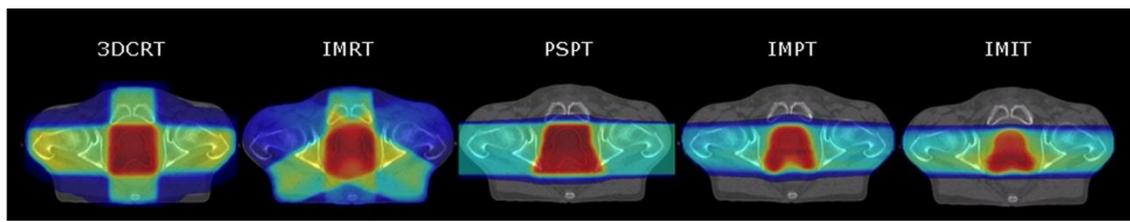
Past: In Silico clinical trials



Roelofs, et al. J. Thorac. Onc., Jan 2012



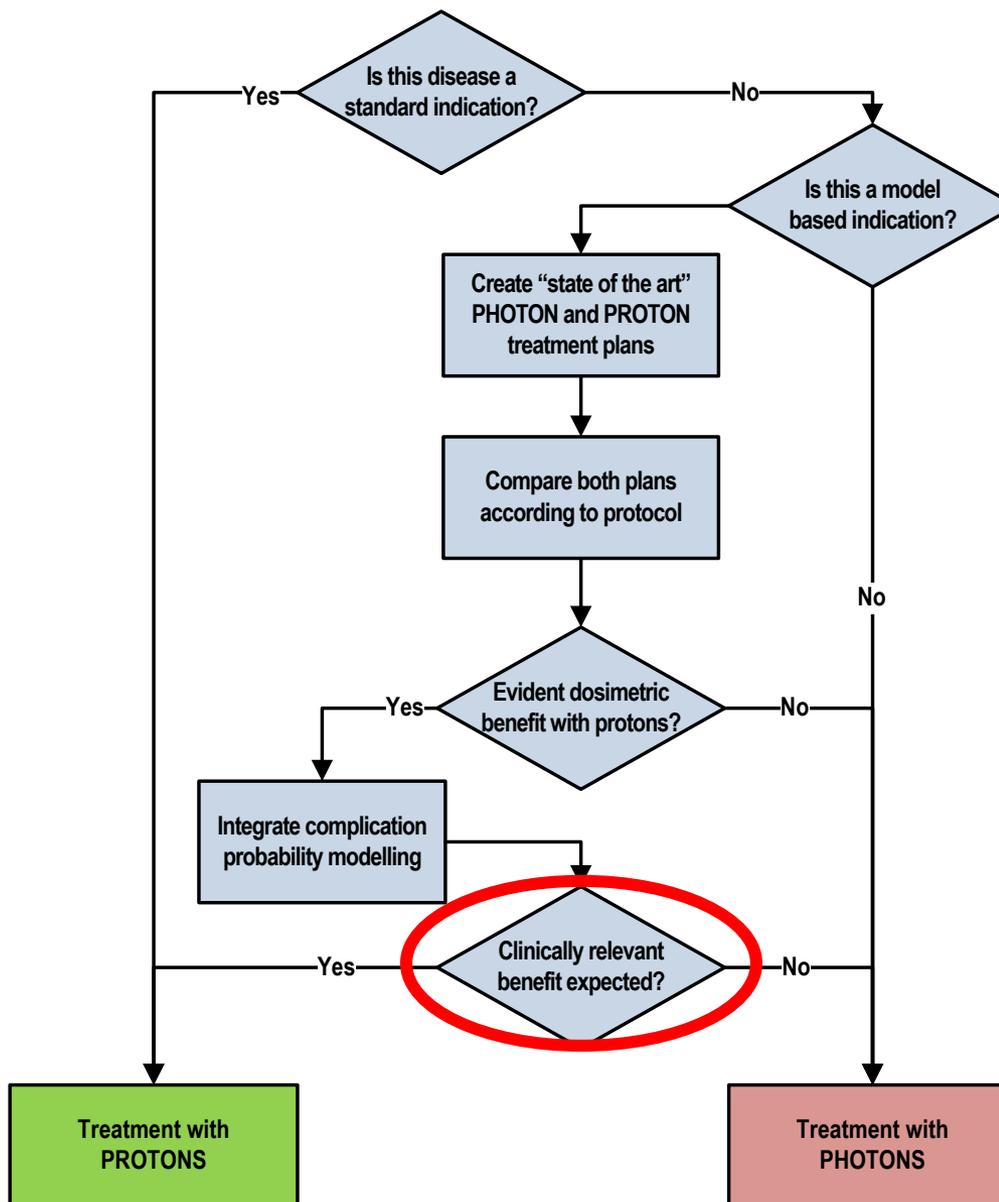
Van der Laan, et al. Acta Oncol. Apr 2013



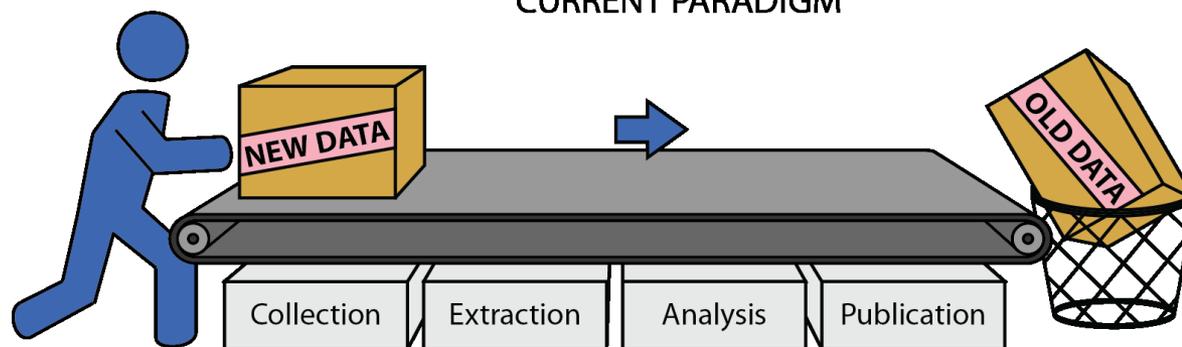
Roelofs et al., 2015



Proton therapy reimbursement decision tree for the Netherlands



CURRENT PARADIGM



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- The **Semantic Web** is an extension of the [Web](#) through standards by the [World Wide Web Consortium](#) (W3C). The standards promote common data formats and exchange protocols on the [Web](#), most fundamentally the [Resource Description Framework](#) (RDF).
- According to the W3C, "The Semantic Web provides a common framework that allows data to be shared and reused across application, enterprise, and community boundaries". The term was coined by [Tim Berners-Lee](#) for a web of data that can be processed by machines.

Will this approach
increase

the cost of care?

No, it could even decrease them if you look
at the cost of the *whole care cycle*.

Cost effectiveness: www.predictcancer.org

Decision Support System 3.0

MAASTRO CLINIC
CANCER PREDICTION MODEL

Home Lung Rectum

Cost-effectiveness analysis for IMRT for head and neck cancer

Expected outcomes based on currently available evidence

	Expected costs	Expected QALYs
IMRT	€ 36,500	6.65
IMPT	€ 47,000	6.76

	Additional costs	Additional QALYs	ICER
IMPT versus IMRT	€ 10,500	0.11	€ 93,000

Made possible by the **ROCOCO** cooperative group and the School for Public Health and Primary Care (**CAPHRI**), Maastricht University, Maastricht, The Netherlands.