

# Sentinel Initiative Public Workshop

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The Brookings Institution  
Marriott at Metro Center • Washington, DC  
Tuesday, January 14, 2014

# **FDA's Mini-Sentinel Program to Evaluate the Safety of Marketed Medical Products**

## **A Look Back, a Look Ahead**

**Richard Platt**

Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute

Harvard Medical School

**for the Mini-Sentinel Investigators**

January 14, 2014

# Sentinel Prototype

2010

- **Develop a coordinating center for a distributed system**
  - Access three or more health data environments with varied attributes to conduct analyses
  - Convene a Planning Board to develop governing documents and establish a Safety Science Committee charged with the day-to-day operations
  - Develop a means for secure communication with contracted data holders
- **Evaluate emerging methods in safety science**
  - Develop epidemiological and statistical methodologies for signal detection, signal strengthening, and signal validation
  - Test such methodologies in the evaluation of FDA-identified medical product-adverse event pairs of concern

## Initial needs

- ❑ A workplan!
- ❑ Policies
  - Privacy
  - Governance
- ❑ Data model and method for querying the data
- ❑ Procedures at FDA, at Coordinating Center, at Partner sites
  - White papers
  - Standard operating procedures
- ❑ Infrastructure at FDA, at Coordinating Center, at Partner sites
  - Personnel
  - Hardware
  - Software

**Everything!**

2010

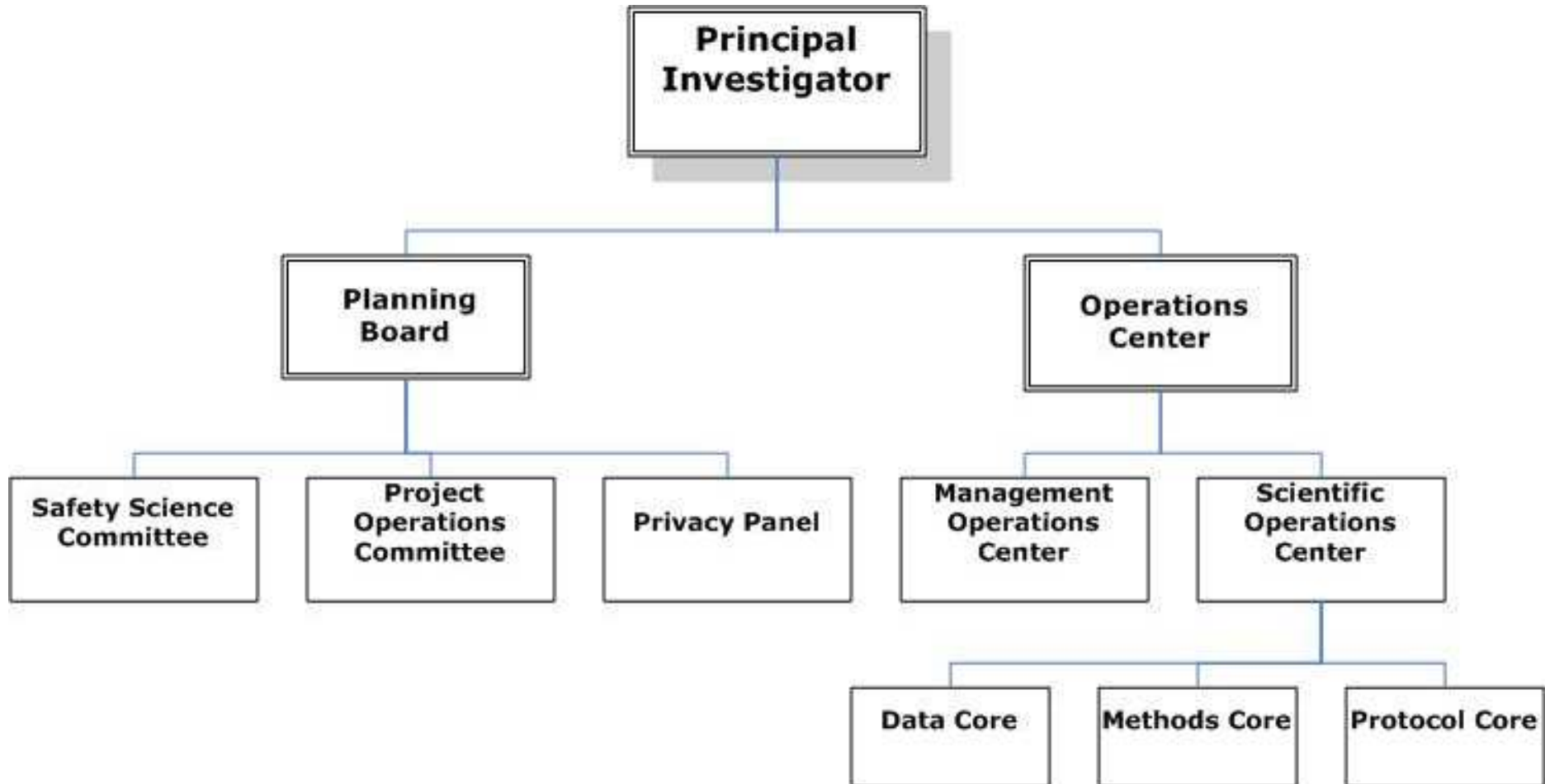
Coming soon

[www.mini-sentinel.org](http://www.mini-sentinel.org)

2011

# Coordinating Center

2011



# Governance Principles/Policies

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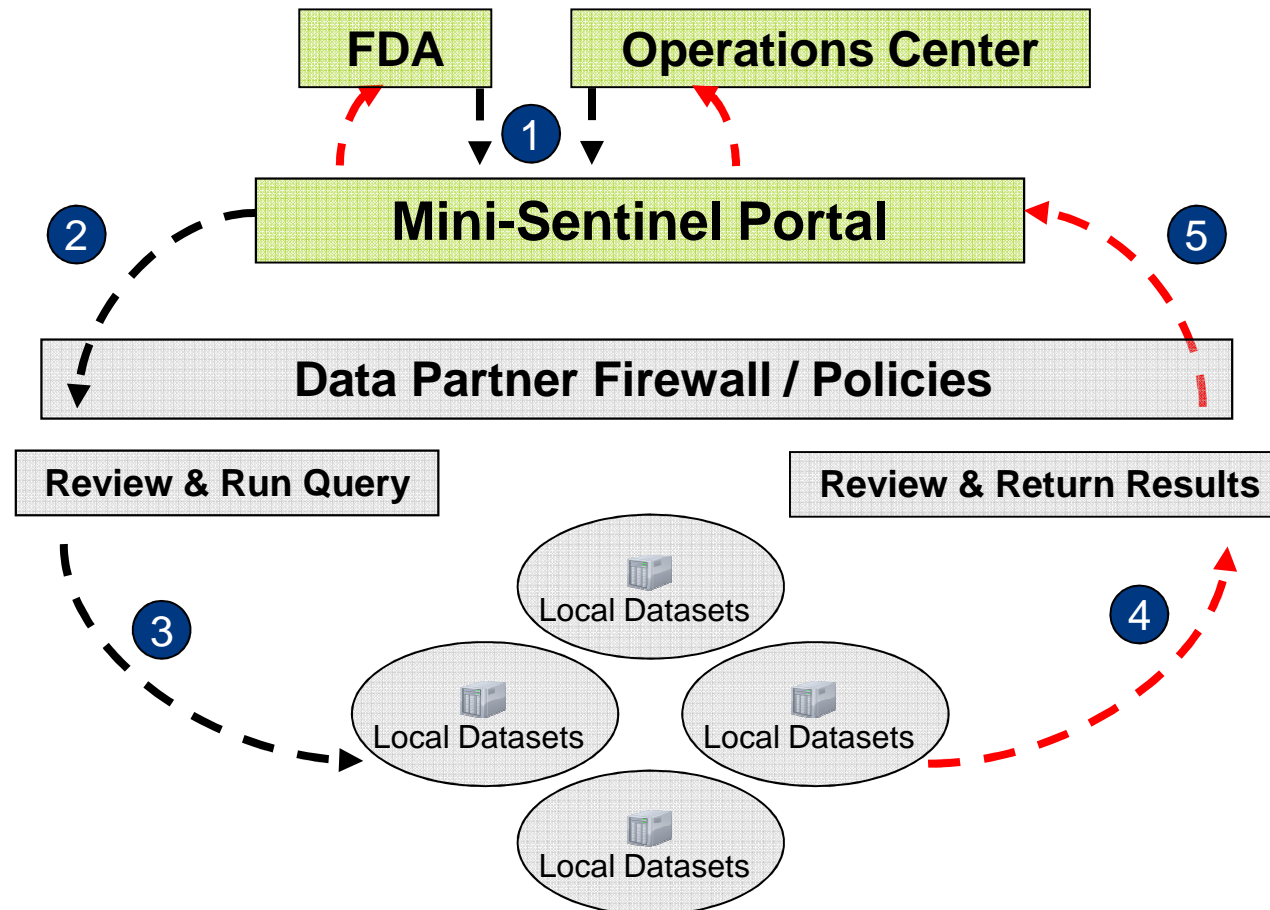
2011

- Public health practice, not research
- Minimize transfer of protected health information and proprietary data
- Data partners participate voluntarily
- Public availability of “work product”
  - Tools, methods, protocols, computer programs
  - Findings
- Maximize transparency



# Mini-Sentinel Distributed Analysis

2011



- 1- Query (an executable program) is submitted by FDA or Coordinating Center to the Portal
- 2- Data Partners retrieve the query
- 3- Data partners review query and perform analysis locally by executing the distributed program
- 4- Data partners review results
- 5- Data partners return results to the Portal



2011

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## Welcome to Mini-Sentinel

Mini-Sentinel is a pilot project sponsored by the [U.S. Food and Drug Administration \(FDA\)](#) to inform and facilitate development of a fully operational active surveillance system, the Sentinel System, for monitoring the safety of FDA-regulated medical products.

Mini-Sentinel is one piece of the [Sentinel Initiative](#), a multi-faceted effort by the FDA to develop a national electronic system that will complement existing methods of safety surveillance.

Mini-Sentinel Collaborators include Data and Academic Partners that provide access to health care data and ongoing scientific, technical, methodological, and organizational expertise.

www.minisentinel.org

### New Postings

December 16, 2010

- [Common Data Model v1.1](#)

#### Additional Information

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2012

# Mini-Sentinel Partner Organizations



# The Mini-Sentinel Distributed Database

- ❑ Populations with well-defined person-time for which medically-attended events are known
- ❑ 126 million individuals\*
  - 345 million person-years of observation time (2000-2011)
  - 44 million individuals currently enrolled, accumulating new data
  - 27 million individuals have over 3 years of data

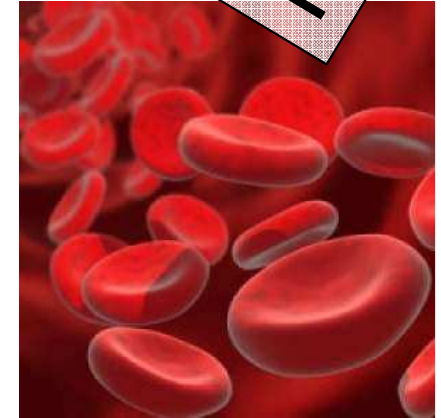
\*As of 12 December 2011. The potential for double-counting exists if individuals moved between data partner health plans.



# Mini-Sentinel Modular Programs

1. Drug exposure for a specific period
2. Drug exposure with a specific condition
3. Outcomes following first drug exposure
4. Concomitant exposure to multiple drugs

# Blood Safety Continuous Active-Surveillance Network (Blood-SCAN)



<http://www.newsrx.com/images/sized/uploads/topics/blood1-300x300.jpg>

- ❑ Strengthen FDA's hemovigilance capabilities
  - Initial focus on recipient safety
  - Emphasis on non-infectious complications
- ❑ Create and characterize a Blood-SCAN distributed database
  - Develop an active surveillance system for regulated blood and blood-derived product use
  - Harmonize Blood-SCAN with existing US biovigilance efforts

2012

# Taxonomy

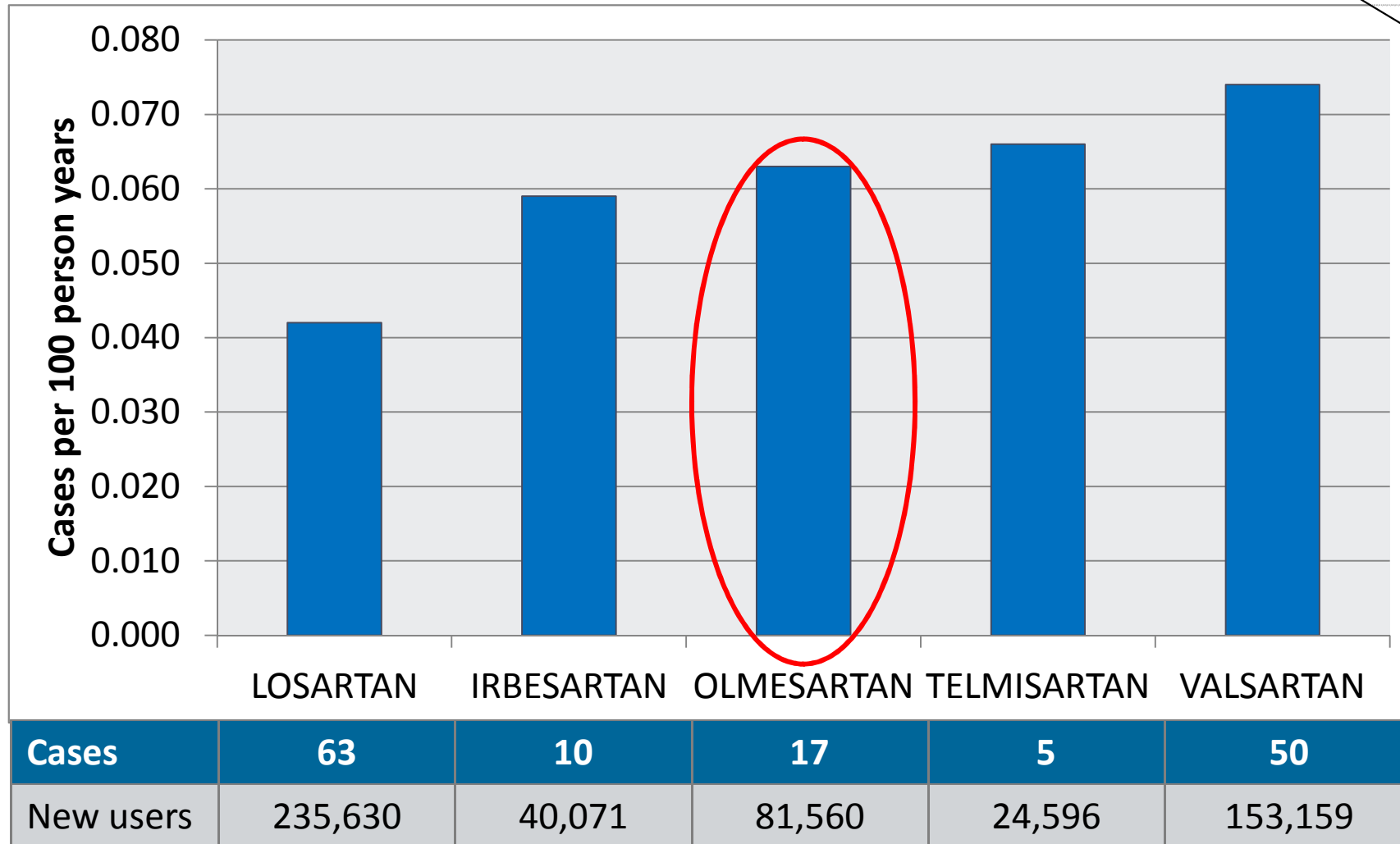
**Structured decision table to facilitate methods selection for particular active medical product monitoring scenarios**

Monitoring scenario characteristics with implication for design choice <sup>a</sup>										
Exposure persistence ( <i>transient, sustained</i> )	Characteristics of the (potential) exposure-HOI link				HOI onset ( <i>abrupt, insidious</i> )	Design choice <sup>b</sup> ( <i>self-controlled, cohort</i> )	Monitoring scenario characteristics with implication for analytic choice <sup>a</sup>		Analytic choice	
	Onset of exposure risk window ( <i>Immediate, delayed</i> )	Duration of exposure risk window ( <i>short, long</i> )	Strength of confounding				Background frequency of exposure ( <i>infrequent, rare</i> )	Background frequency of HOI ( <i>infrequent, rare</i> )		
			Within-person ( <i>negligible, needs to be addressed</i> )	Between-person ( <i>negligible, needs to be addressed</i> )						
Transient (e.g. vaccine, initiation of a drug; including episodic drug use [e.g. triptans] to the extent that the question pertains to its transient nature)	Immediate	Short	Negligible	Needs to be addressed	Abrupt	3 self-controlled (or cohort)	Infrequent	Infrequent	1	
								Rare	2	
							Rare	Infrequent	3	
								Rare	4	
			Needs to be addressed	Negligible	Abrupt	Insidious	4 self-controlled or cohort	Infrequent	Infrequent	5
									Rare	6
								Rare	Infrequent	7
									Rare	8
	Needs to be addressed	Negligible	Abrupt	Insidious	5	Infrequent	Infrequent	9		
							Rare	10		
							Infrequent	11		
							Rare	12		
							Infrequent	13		

**Exposure-outcome scenarios linked to design strategies**

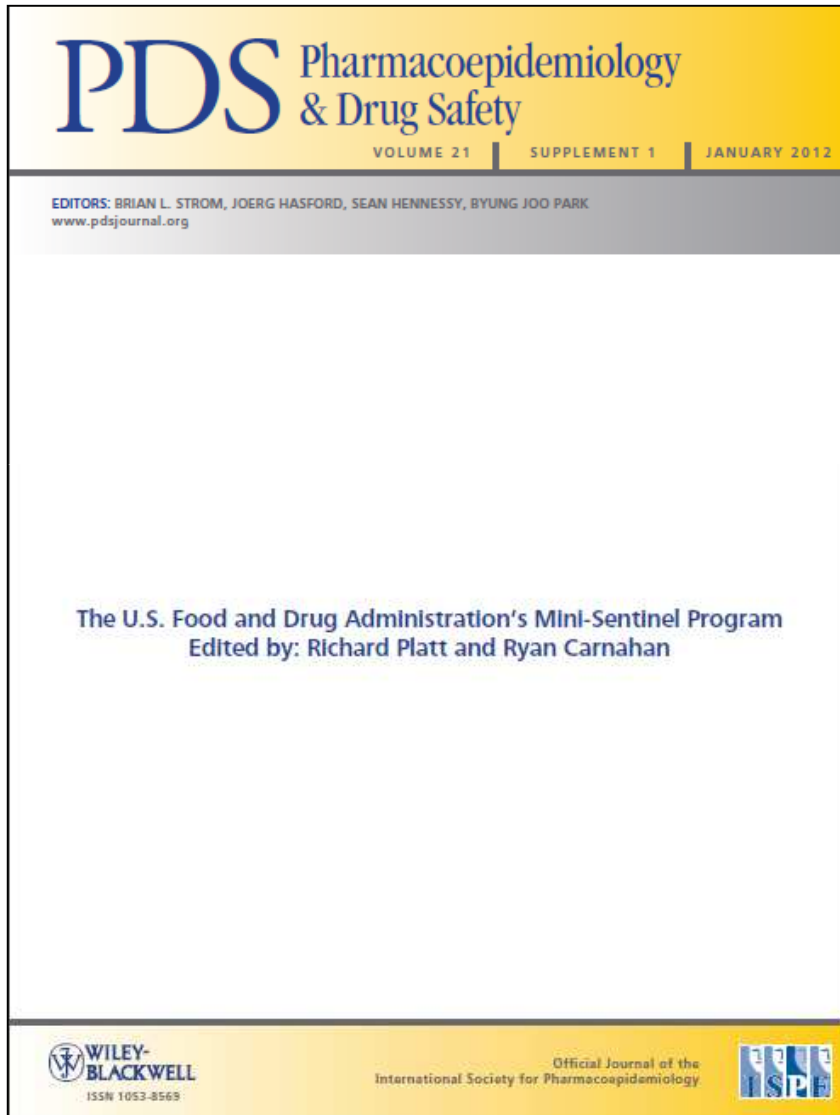


# ARBs and celiac disease



\_ARBs: New users after  $\geq 365$  day washout; Celiac Disease: 1st dx code after  $> 365$  day without diagnosis.

# Mini-Sentinel Journal Supplement



- Supplement to Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety
- 34 peer reviewed articles
- Goals, organization, privacy policy, data systems, systematic reviews, stats/epi methods, record retrieval and review, protocols for drug/vaccine studies...
- Open access!
- <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/pds.v21.S1/issuetoc>



## The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

February 10, 2011. Volume 364: 498-9

# Perspective

## Developing the Sentinel System — A National Resource for Evidence Development

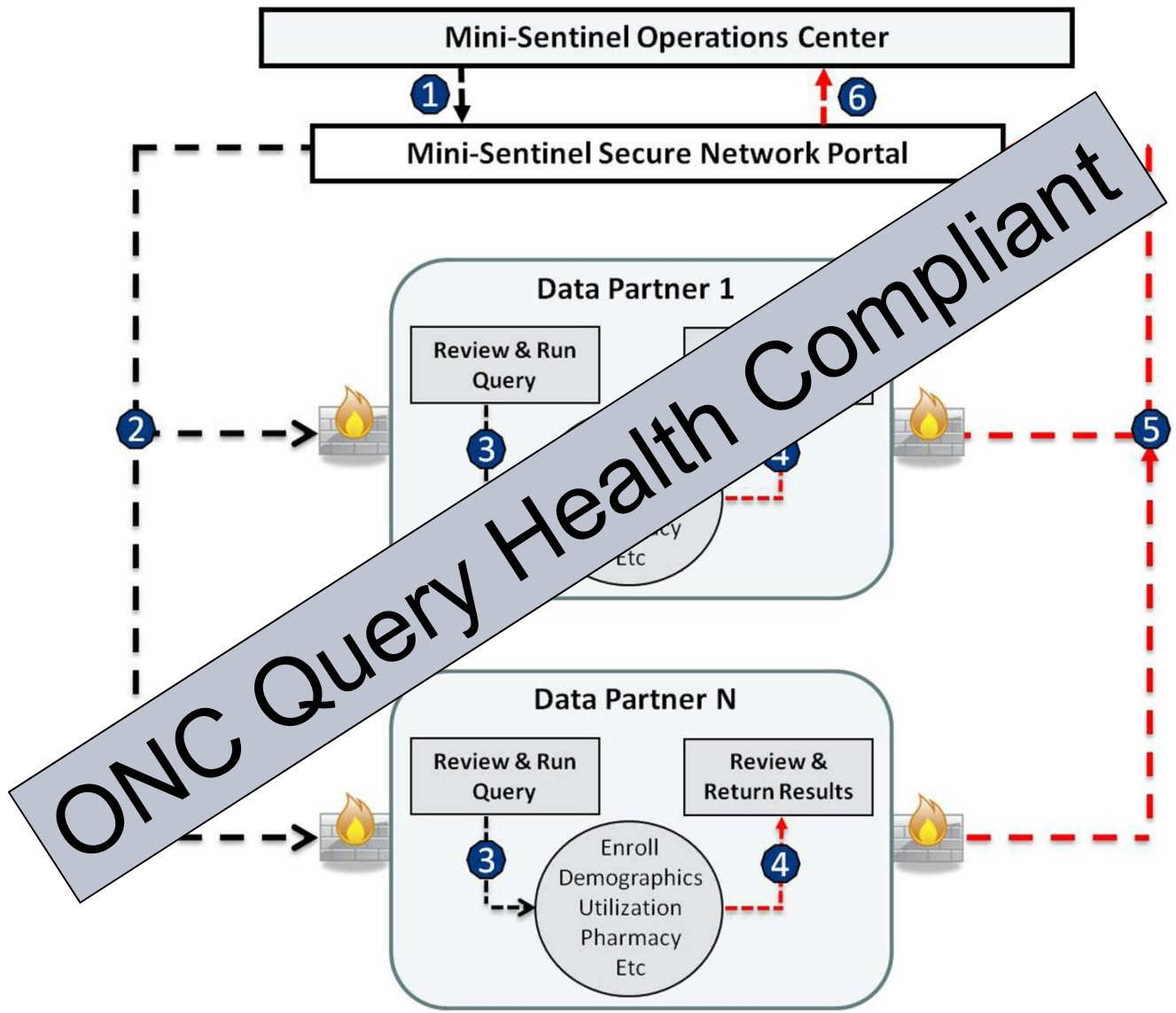
Rachel E. Behrman, M.D., M.P.H., Joshua S. Benner, Pharm.D., Sc.D., Jeffrey S. Brown, Ph.D., Mark McClellan, M.D., Ph.D., Janet Woodcock, M.D., and Richard Platt, M.D.

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) now has the capacity to “query” the electronic health information of more than 60 million people, posing specific questions in order to monitor the safety of approved medical products. This information to answer additional

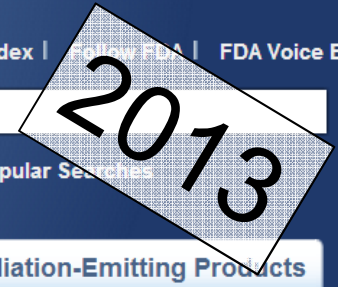
convening an ongoing series of discussions among stakeholders to address the near- and long-term challenges inherent in implementing the Sentinel System.<sup>3</sup> In 2009, the FDA gave the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute the lead role

2013

# Mini-Sentinel Distributed Analysis



- 1- User creates and submits query (a computer program)
- 2- Data partners retrieve query
- 3- Data partners review and run query against their local data
- 4- Data partners review results
- 5- Data partners return results via secure network
- 6 Results are aggregated



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- Radiation-Emitting Products

## Drugs

Home > Drugs > Drug Safety and Availability

### Drug Safety and Availability

- Drug Alerts and Statements
- Importing Prescription Drugs
- Medication Guides
- Drug Safety Communications
- Drug Shortages
- Postmarket Drug Safety Information for Patients and Providers

## FDA Drug Safety Communication: Update on the risk for serious bleeding events with the anticoagulant Pradaxa

This update is a follow-up to the [FDA Drug Safety Communication of 12/7/2011](#): Safety review of post-market reports of serious bleeding events with the anticoagulant Pradaxa (dabigatran etexilate mesylate)

- [Safety Announcement](#)
- [Additional Information for Patients](#)
- [Additional Information for Healthcare Professionals](#)
- [Data Summary](#)
- [References](#)

### Safety Announcement

**[11-02-2012]** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has evaluated new information about the risk of

**“This assessment [...used...] FDA’s Mini-Sentinel pilot...”**

gastrointestinal bleeding (occurring in the stomach and intestines) and intracranial hemorrhage (a type of bleeding in the brain) for new users of Pradaxa compared to new users of warfarin. This assessment was done using insurance claims and administrative data from FDA’s [Mini-Sentinel pilot of the Sentinel Initiative](#). The results of this Mini-Sentinel assessment indicate that bleeding rates associated with new use of Pradaxa do not appear to be higher than bleeding rates associated with new use of warfarin, which is consistent with observations from the large clinical trial used to approve Pradaxa (the RE-LY trial).<sup>1</sup> (see [Data Summary](#)). FDA is continuing to evaluate multiple sources of data in the ongoing safety review of this issue.

- FDA Drug Safety Newsletter
- Drug Safety Podcasts
- Safe Use Initiative
- Drug Recalls



2014

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

Perspective

## **Dabigatran and Postmarketing Reports of Bleeding**

Mary Ross Southworth, Pharm.D., Marsha E. Reichman, Ph.D., and Ellis F. Unger, M.D.

*“In the months following the approval of the oral anticoagulant dabigatran ... in October, 2010, the FDA received through the FDA Adverse Event Reporting System many reports of serious and fatal bleeding events associated with use of the drug.”*

ORIGINAL INVESTIGATION

ONLINE FIRST

# Comparative Risk for Angioedema Associated With the Use of Drugs That Target the Renin-Angiotensin-Aldosterone System

*Sengwee Toh, ScD; Marsha E. Reichman, PhD; Monika Houstoun, PharmD; Mary Ross Southworth, PharmD;  
Xiao Ding, PhD; Adrian F. Hernandez, MD; Mark Levenson, PhD; Lingling Li, PhD; Carolyn McCloskey, MD, MPH;  
Azadeh Shoaibi, MS, MHS; Eileen Wu, PharmD; Gwen Zornberg, MD, MS, ScD; Sean Hennessy, PharmD, PhD*

Toh Arch Intern Med.2012;172:1582-1589.



## MINI-SENTINEL METHODS

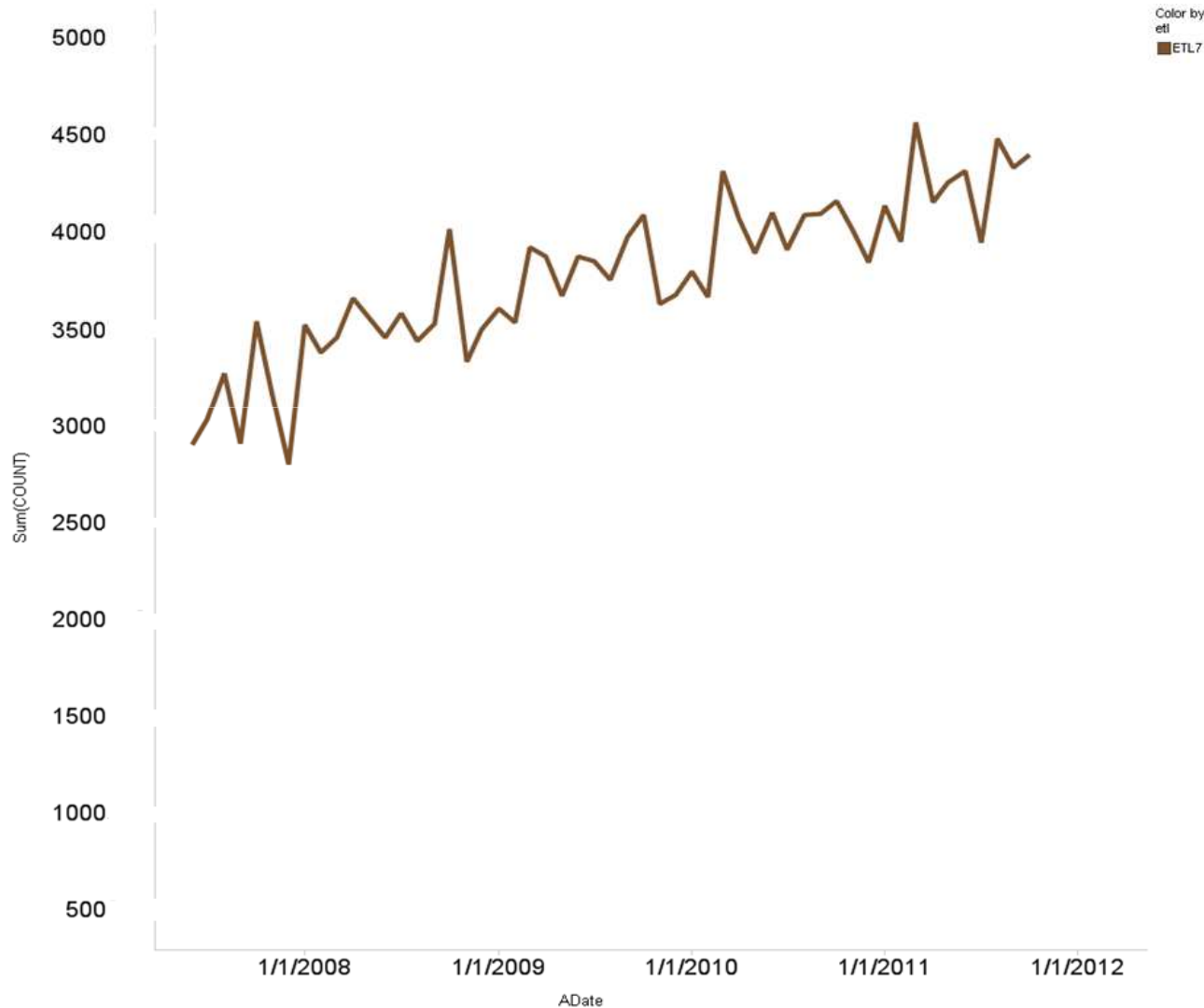
### FRAMEWORK FOR ASSESSMENT OF SIGNAL REFINEMENT POSITIVE RESULTS

**Prepared by:** David L McClure, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Marsha A Raebel, PharmD, BCPS, FCCP<sup>2,3</sup>, W Katherine Yih, PhD, MPH<sup>4</sup>, Azadeh Shoaibi, MS, MHS<sup>5</sup>, Jerry Mullersman, MD, PhD, MPH<sup>6</sup>, Colin Anderson-Smits, MPH<sup>7</sup>, Rita Ouellet-Hellstrom, PhD<sup>5</sup>, Aloka Chakravarty, PhD<sup>5</sup>, Clara Kim, PhD<sup>5</sup>, Jason M Glanz, PhD<sup>2</sup>

[www.mini-sentinel.org/work\\_products/Statistical\\_Methods/Mini-Sentinel\\_Methods\\_Framework-for-Assessment-of-Signal-Refinement-Positive-Results.pdf](http://www.mini-sentinel.org/work_products/Statistical_Methods/Mini-Sentinel_Methods_Framework-for-Assessment-of-Signal-Refinement-Positive-Results.pdf)

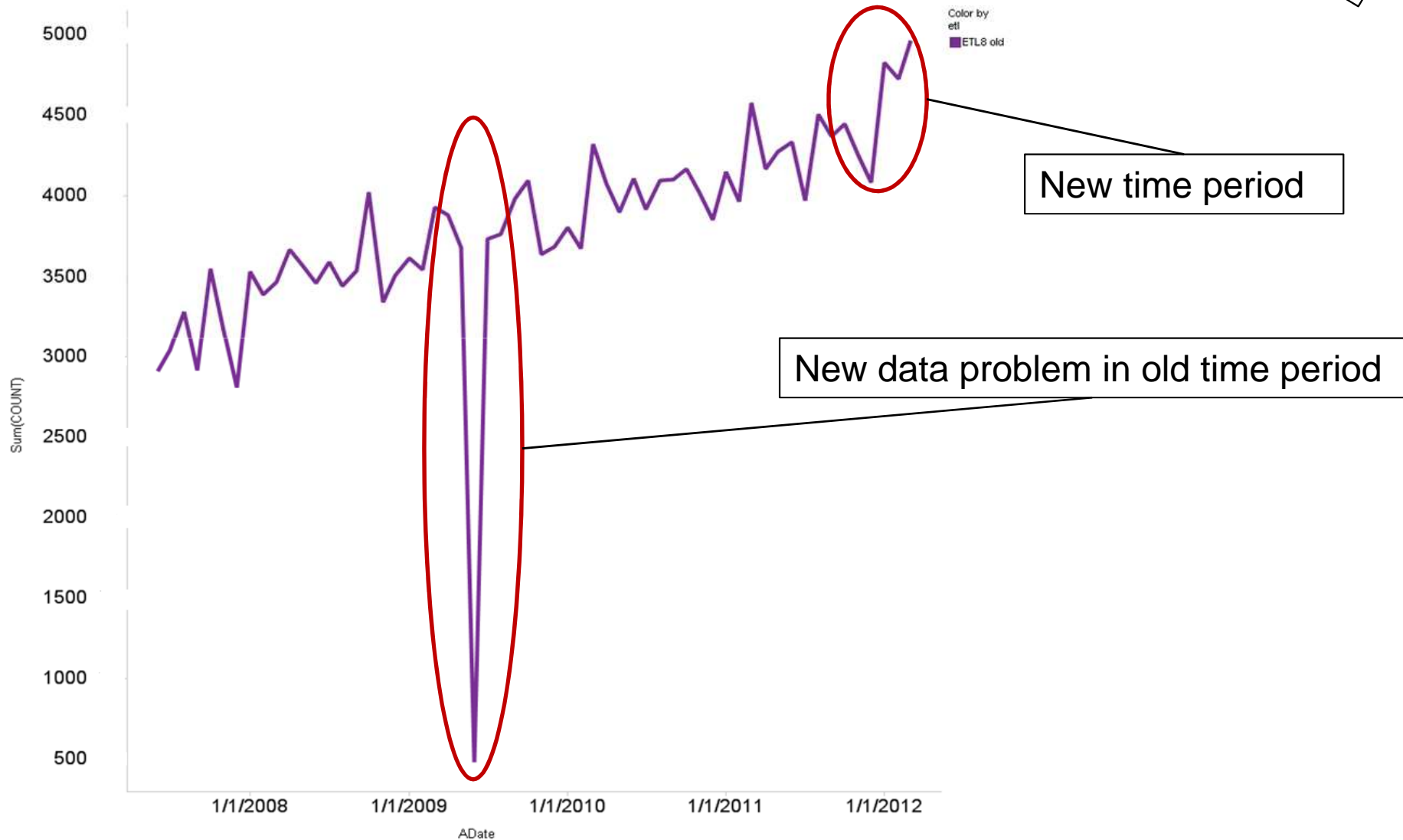
2013

# Data Visualization: After 7<sup>th</sup> refresh, partner

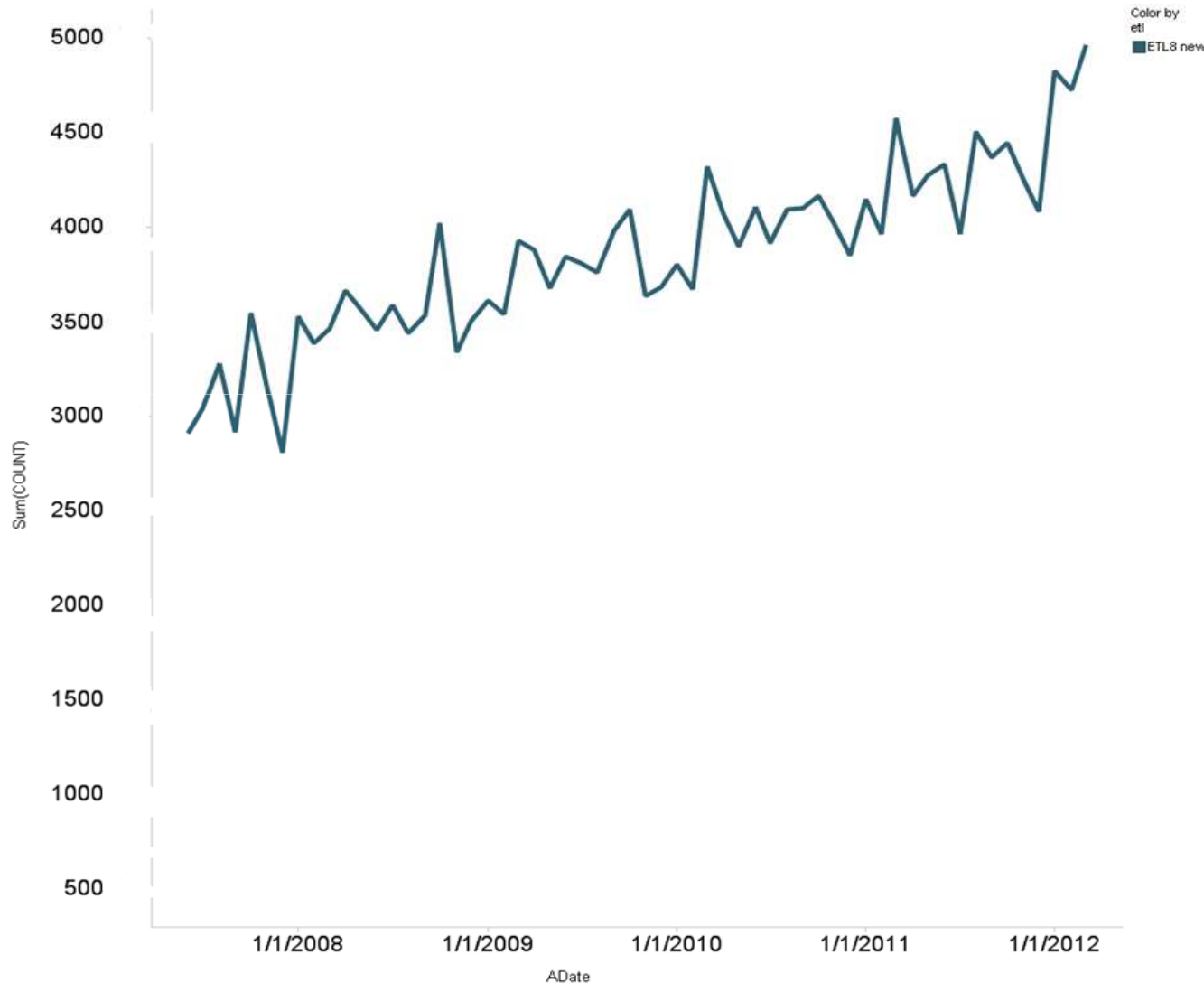


2013

# Data Visualization: After 8<sup>th</sup> refresh, partner

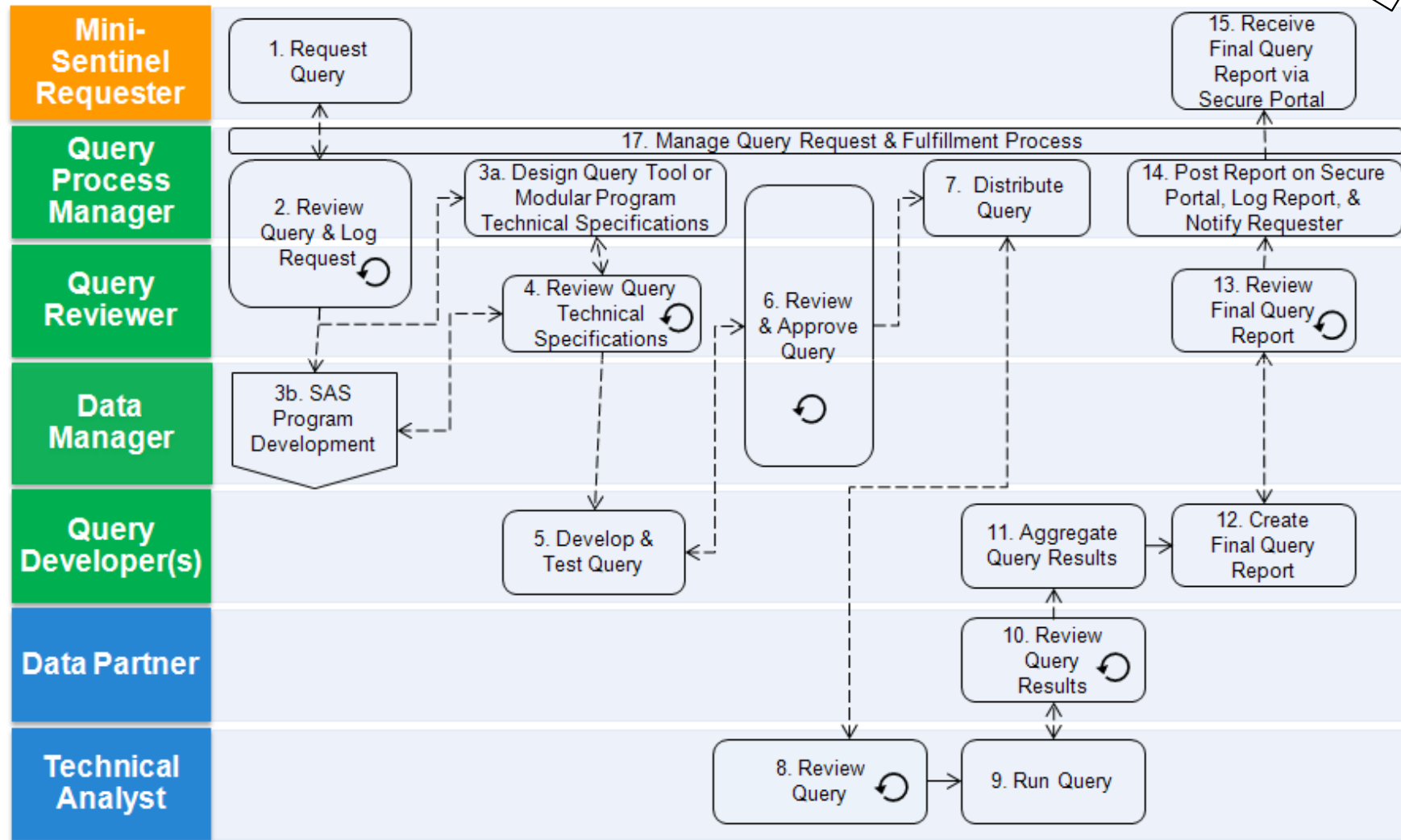


# Data Visualization: After 8<sup>th</sup> refresh fixed



2013

# Mini-Sentinel Query Fulfillment Process



MSOC Data Partner MS Collaborator

# Methods

- ❑ Improving confounder adjustment
- ❑ Validation of health outcomes of interest
- ❑ Data mining for vaccine adverse events
- ❑ **Implementing *Prospective Routine Observational Monitoring Program Tools (PROMPT)***

## External engagements

- ❑ OMOP (now IMEDS)
- ❑ Clinical Trials Transformation Initiative
- ❑ ONC Standards & Interoperability Framework (Query Health)
- ❑ NIH Health Care System Collaboratory
- ❑ IOM Roundtable on Value and Science-Driven Health Care
- ❑ Academy Health EDM Forum
- ❑ Other new partners as opportunities present

# Key contributors to Mini-Sentinel's progress

- ❑ **Close, frequent, coordinated interactions between FDA, data partners, content experts, epidemiologists, and statisticians**
- ❑ Distributed data network
- ❑ Public health practice
- ❑ Focus on defined populations with sufficiently complete data
  - First: Claims and administrative data, plus access to full text records
  - Then: electronic medical records, registries, ...
- ❑ Rapid cycle development of capabilities
- ❑ Ability to respond quickly to predefined needs



## Costs and benefits

- ❑ Up to date distributed database + hundreds of rapid response queries
- ❑ Protocol based study
- ❑ Being prepared for pandemic or other crisis

~\$14 million per year

\$225,000 – \$2 million

Priceless!

2014

# Mini-Sentinel PRISM Journal Supplement



- 2013 supplement to Vaccine
- 13 peer reviewed systematic reviews of algorithms for identifying health outcomes of interest for vaccine safety
- Open access!
- [www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/0264410X/31/supp/S10](http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/0264410X/31/supp/S10)



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- Postmarket Drug Safety Information for Patients and Providers
- Information by Drug Class
- Medication Errors
- FDA Drug Safety Newsletter
- Drug Safety Podcasts
- Safe Use Initiative
- Drug Recalls
- Drug Integrity and Supply Chain Security
- Multistate outbreak of fungal meningitis and other infections

### FDA Drug Safety Communication: FDA approves label changes to include intestinal problems (sprue-like enteropathy) linked to blood pressure medicine olmesartan medoxomil

[View and print full Drug Safety Communication \(PDF - 54KB\)](#)  
[en Español](#)

- Safety Announcement**
- Facts about Olmesartan
- Additional Information for Patients
- Additional Information for Health Care Professionals
- Data Summary
- References

#### Safety Announcement

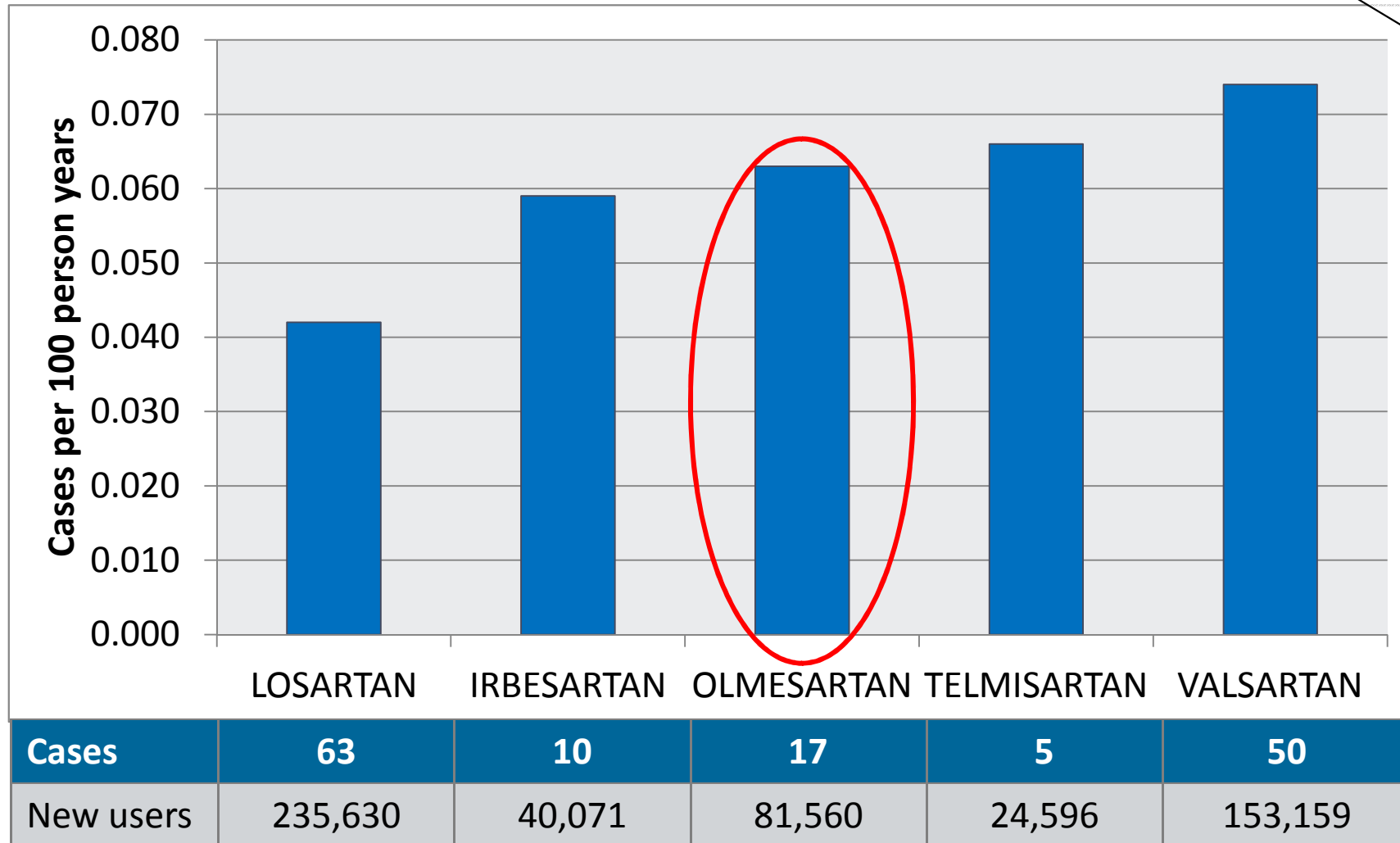
**[7-3-2013]** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is warning that the blood pressure drug olmesartan medoxomil (marketed as Benicar, Benicar HCT, Azor, Tribenzor, and generics) can cause intestinal problems (sprue-like enteropathy) linked to blood pressure medicine olmesartan medoxomil. The FDA is requiring changes to the labels of these drugs to include information about this risk. The FDA is also requiring changes to the labels of these drugs to include information about this risk. The FDA is also requiring changes to the labels of these drugs to include information about this risk.

Olmesartan medoxomil is an angiotensin II receptor blocker (ARB) approved for the treatment of high blood pressure, alone or with other antihypertensive agents, and is one of eight marketed ARB drugs. Sprue-like enteropathy has not been detected with ARB drugs other than olmesartan.

FDA will continue to evaluate the safety of olmesartan-containing products and will communicate again if additional information becomes available.

# Olmesartan label change: sprue-like enteropathy

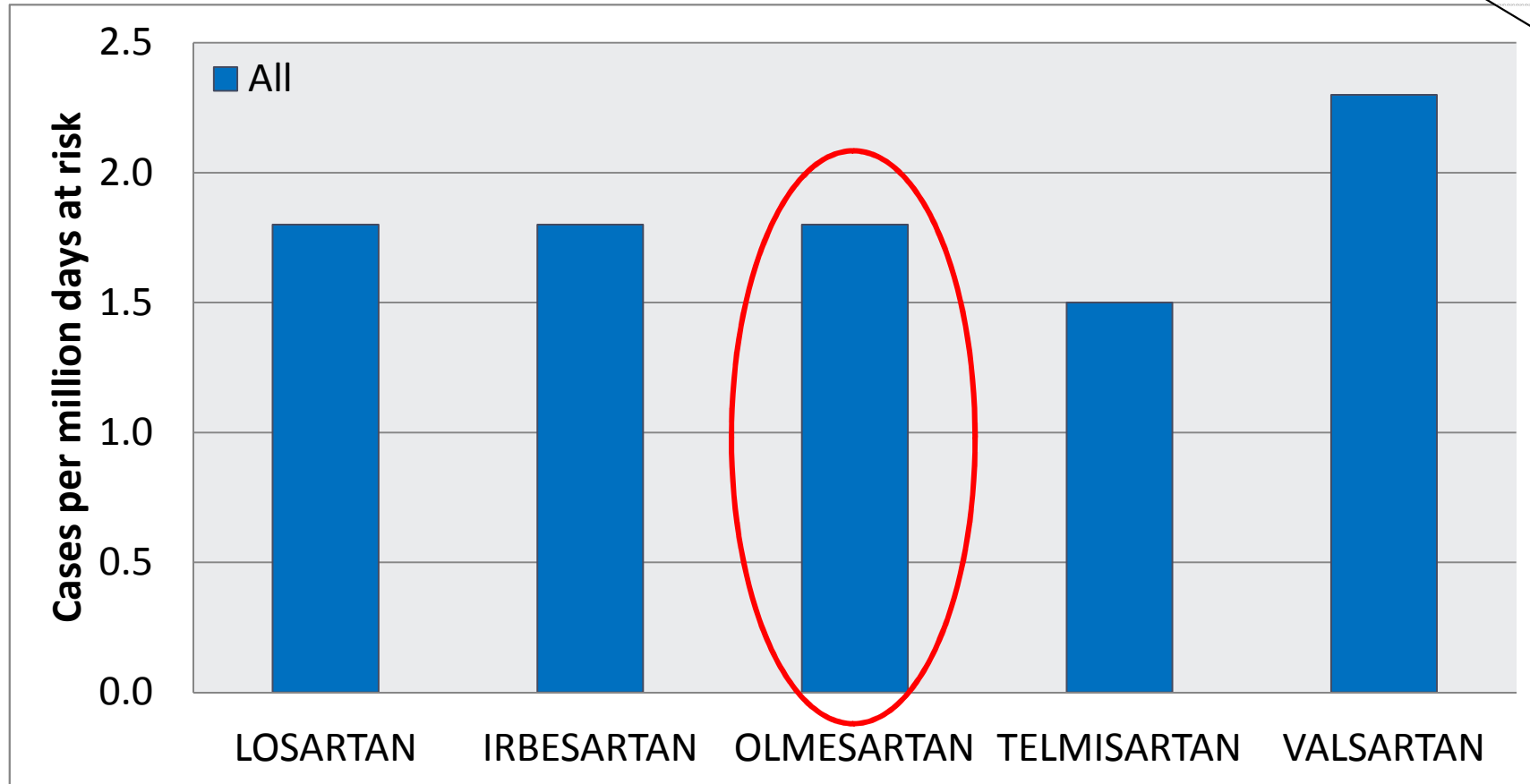
# ARBs and celiac disease



\_ARBs: New users after  $\geq 365$  day washout; Celiac Disease: 1st dx code after  $> 365$  day without diagnosis.

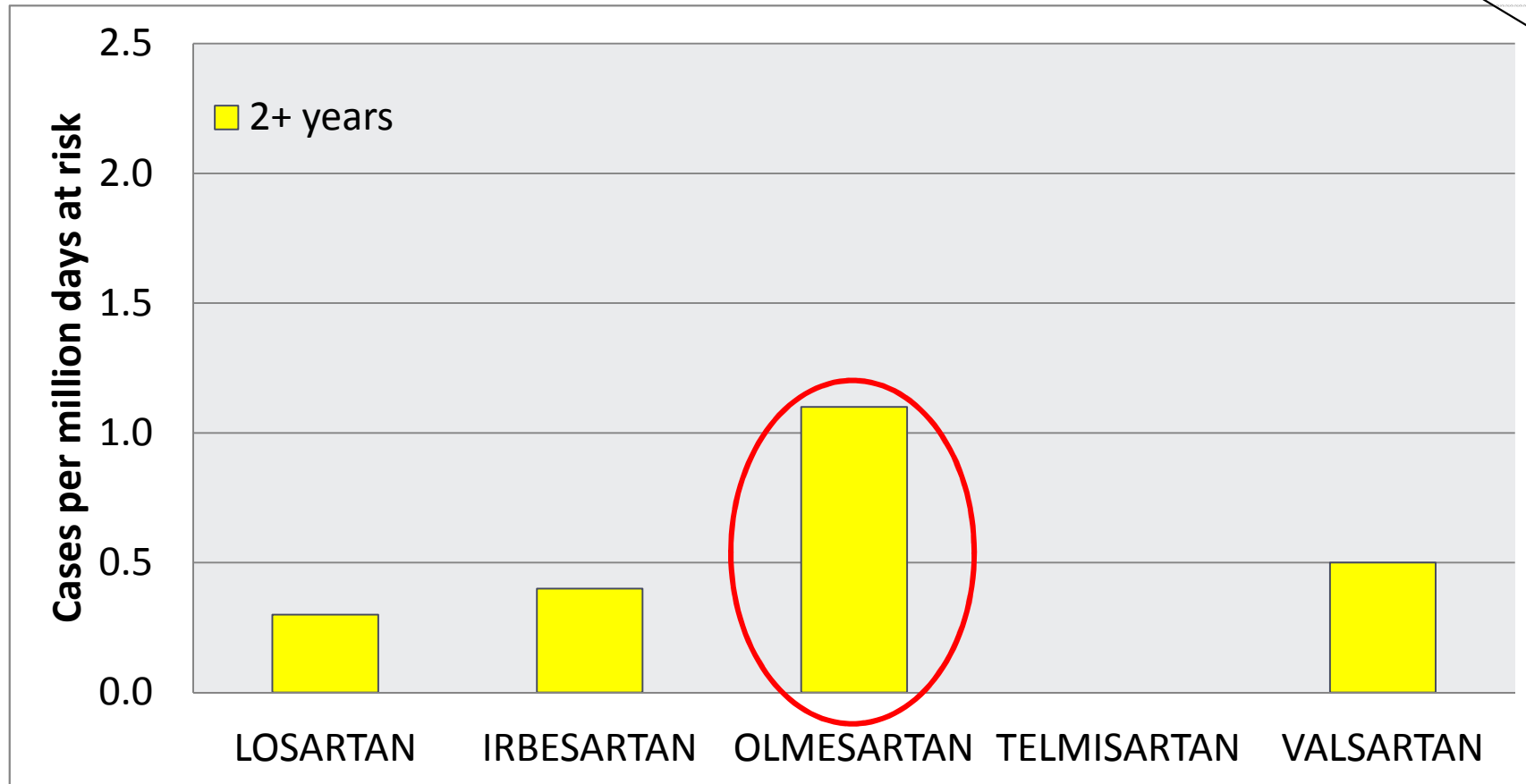
2014

# ARBs and celiac disease: all users



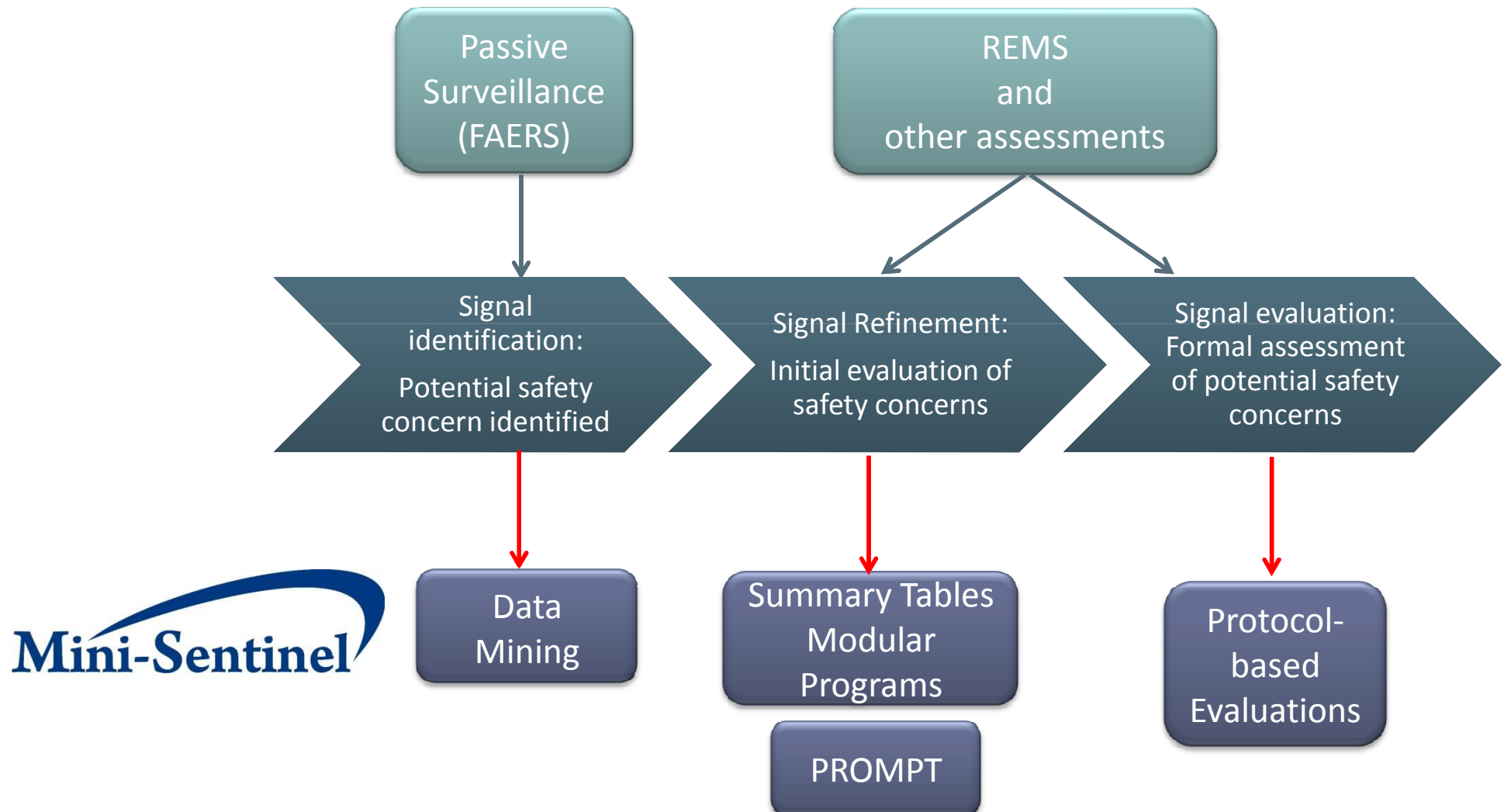
Cases	213	28	55	10	150
New users	535,045	69,868	171,630	44,770	346,618

# ARBs and celiac disease: 2+ years



Cases	9	1	5	0	7
New users	25,045	2,721	4,419	1,124	13,925

# Post-Market Safety Surveillance





## Protocols under way or planned

- Anti-diabetic drugs and myocardial infarction
- Dabigatran and stroke / bleeding
- Influenza vaccine safety (same season)
- Metabolic effects of atypical antipsychotics in children and adolescents
- Influenza vaccine and febrile seizures
- IV iron products and anaphylactoid reactions
- Human papillomavirus vaccine and thromboembolic events.
- Influenza vaccine and birth defects, spontaneous abortion
- IV immune globulins and thromboembolic events
- Pneumococcal vaccine and Kawasaki disease



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## Vaccines, Blood & Biologics



- Home
- Vaccines, Blood & Biologics
- Safety & Availability (Biologics)

### Safety & Availability (Biologics)

Biologics Product Shortages Q&A

Recalls (Biologics)

Biologic Product Shortages

Report a Problem to the Center for Biologics Evaluation & Research

Biologic Product Security

Pandemics

Blood Safety & Availability

Tissue Safety & Availability

Vaccine Safety & Availability

HIV Home Test Kits

### Resources for You

- 2013 Safety and Availability Communications

## FDA Releases Final Study Results of a Mini-Sentinel Postlicensure Observational Study of Rotavirus Vaccines and Intussusception

FDA Safety Communication — June 13, 2013

### FDA Releases Final Study Results of a Mini-Sentinel Postlicensure Observational Study of Rotavirus Vaccines and Intussusception

#### FDA Approves Required Revised Labeling for RotaTeq Based on the Study Results

**Purpose:** To inform the public and healthcare providers that FDA is releasing [final study results](#) from a Mini-Sentinel postlicensure observational study of intussusception (a form of bowel obstruction) after vaccination with RotaTeq (Merck and Co., Inc.) and Rotarix (GlaxoSmithKline Biologicals).

RotaTeq and Rotarix are vaccines for the prevention of rotavirus gastroenteritis in infants 6 weeks to 32 weeks of age (RotaTeq) and infants 6 weeks to 24 weeks of age (Rotarix). The study was conducted in Mini-Sentinel's Postlicensure Rapid Immunization Safety Monitoring (PRISM) program, the largest vaccine safety surveillance program in the United States.

FDA has approved required revisions to the Prescribing Information and Patient Information for RotaTeq as a result of the new safety data from this Mini-Sentinel PRISM study. New information was added to the Highlights, the existing intussusception section of the Full Prescribing Information, the Contraindications section, and the Post-Marketing Experience section of the Full Prescribing Information. The Mini-Sentinel PRISM study is the largest study of its kind to date and identified an increased risk of intussusception in the 21 day time period after the first dose of RotaTeq, with most cases occurring in the first 7 days after vaccination. No increased risk was found after the second or third doses. These findings translate into 1 to 1.5 additional cases of intussusception per 100,000 first doses of RotaTeq.

The data from the Mini-Sentinel PRISM study regarding the risk of intussusception following the use of Rotarix were inconclusive. Based on this study, no changes were made to the Prescribing Information or to the Patient Information for Rotarix. However, based on data from an observational study previously conducted in Mexico, it is estimated that 1 to 3 additional cases of intussusception would occur per 100,000 vaccinated infants in the United States within 7 days following the first dose of Rotarix. In September 2012, FDA announced that it had approved revisions to the Prescribing Information and to the Patient Information for Rotarix to include these results from the study in Mexico.

Label change

The NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL of MEDICINE

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Intussusception Risk after Rotavirus Vaccination in U.S. Infants

W. Katherine Yih, Ph.D., M.P.H., Tracy A. Lieu, M.D., M.P.H., Martin Kulldorff, Ph.D.,  
David Martin, M.D., M.P.H., Cheryl N. McMahill-Walraven, M.S.W., Ph.D.,  
Richard Platt, M.D., Nandini Selvam, Ph.D., M.P.H., Mano Selvan, Ph.D.,  
Grace M. Lee, M.D., M.P.H., and Michael Nguyen, M.D.

## Major expansion activities in this year

- ❑ Operationalize prospective monitoring (PROMPT)
- ❑ Explore use of inpatient data
- ❑ Enhance querying capabilities and responsiveness to FDA's needs
- ❑ Develop the national resource for multiple users

# Sentinel Prototype

2010

- **Develop a coordinating center for a distributed system**
  - Access three or more health data environments with varied attributes to conduct analyses
  - Convene a Planning Board to develop governing documents and establish a Safety Science Committee charged with the day-to-day operations
  - Develop a means for secure communication with contracted data holders
- **Evaluate emerging methods in safety science**
  - Develop epidemiological and statistical methodologies for signal detection, signal strengthening, and signal validation
  - Test such methodologies in the evaluation of FDA-identified medical product-adverse event pairs of concern

## Mini-Sentinel met those goals

- ❑ Established access to 18 data environments
- ❑ Established the Planning Board and Safety Science Committee
- ❑ Developed a distributed data network with secure querying
  - PopMedNet has become national reference standard.
- ❑ Modified epidemiology and statistics methods for the distributed data network
  - Most assessments require no exchange of patient level data

## And also

- ❑ Contributed to FDA's operations
  - Evaluated hundreds of medical product questions
  - 3 Drug Safety Communications
  - FDAAA Safety Label Change (rotavirus vaccine and intussusception)
  - FDA personnel have cited Mini-Sentinel in 26 presentations and publications
- Established a high level of transparency –
  - Protocols are posted for public comment before they are finalized

## And also

- ❑ Demonstrated credibility through publication in the peer reviewed literature
  - Over 50 peer reviewed publications
- ❑ Established close, collegial collaboration between scientists and Mini-Sentinel scientists





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Perspective

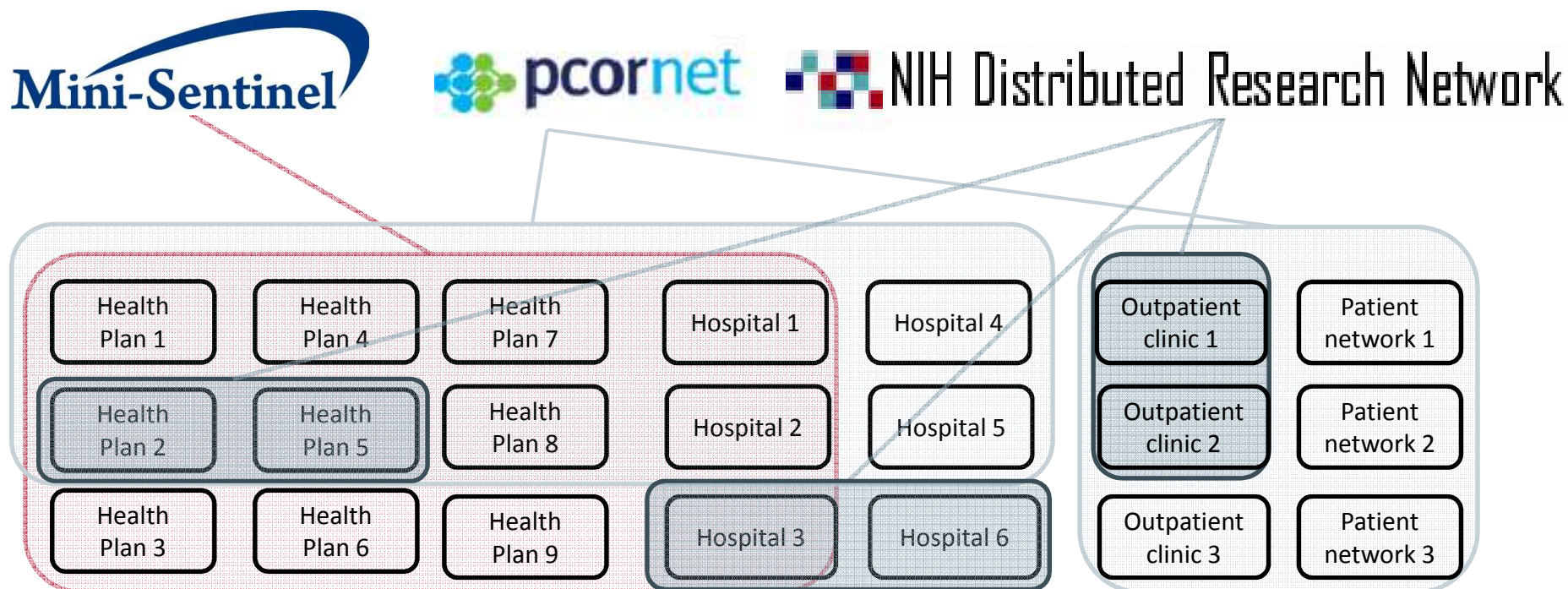
**Developing the Sentinel System — A National Resource for Evidence Development**

Rachel E. Behrman, M.D., M.P.H., Joshua S. Benner, Pharm.D., Sc.D., Jeffrey S. Brown, Ph.D., Mark McClellan, M.D., Ph.D., Janet Woodcock, M.D., and Richard Platt, M.D.

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convening an ongoing series of discussions among stakeholders to address the near- and long-term challenges inherent in implementing the Sentinel System.<sup>3</sup> In 2009, the FDA gave the Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Institute the lead role

# Multiple Networks Sharing Infrastructure



- ❑ Each organization can participate in multiple networks
- ❑ Each network controls its governance and coordination
- ❑ Networks share infrastructure, data curation, analytics, security, software development

Thank you!