The value of collaboration extends beyond incremental savings and increased efficiency: It is a proven path to accelerate the development of safe, effective treatments for patients.

Our Mission

The Data Collaboration Center (DCC) of the Critical Path Institute (C-Path) was founded to provide large-scale data sharing solutions, including:

- The creation and ongoing administration of data storage and collaboration platforms
- The planning and execution of multi-source data aggregation and standardization
- Integration and interpretation by collaborative teams
- Collection of data analysis and interpretation by collaborative teams

...and more, all in a neutral, pre-competitive environment, utilizing Clinical Data Interchange Standards Consortium (CDISC) standards for greater clarity and insight.

Drawing on C-Path’s ten years of experience in furthering consensus science by facilitating unique, cross-disciplinary partnerships, the DCC possesses the technical, scientific subject matter and project management expertise necessary to support advanced research efforts.

The Need

The impetus for the DCC stems from the growing number and scope of inquiries from multiple organizations who recognize C-Path’s competencies and experience and request our assistance to help advance their specific medical research and development objectives. From these queries arose the opportunity to create new partnerships with the aim of pooling multiple data resources for scientific exploration as well as improving the efficiency and cost-effectiveness of future research.

The Potential

Once their combined data is standardized and integrated in a scientifically valid manner, contributing organizations have access to a body of knowledge that allows them to accomplish what a single organization could not do—without prohibitive expense.

C-Path: A Legacy of Productive Collaboration

C-Path, as a trusted and independent entity in regulatory science, is already a go-to provider of data-sharing solutions for stakeholders from industry, private foundations, government, and academia. With this foundation in place, the C-Path DCC has demonstrated its ability to manage data according to the various requirements set by the governance in place for each of its current projects, and to meet the desired end-goals (e.g., clinical trial simulation tool, biomarker qualification, or outcome assessment instrument development).

C-Path’s Commitment to Contributor Data Security

With the large amounts of data available from clinical trials, observational studies, and patient registries being shared by members of its eleven consortia, the C-Path DCC has developed the infrastructure and expertise in areas such as standards implementation, database development, privacy preservation, security, and controlled access methods. The C-Path DCC also has in place robust policies around individual patient-level data that meet or exceed data privacy and human subject research protection requirements. DCC data can be accessed only by approved parties, and all changes and operations conducted upon these data are trackable.

An Example of the Value of Data Sharing, Standards, and Pooling

Starting Point

- A group of member organizations agreed to share data from 25 different disease trials
- The data were not in a common, standardized format
- The data were remapped to CDISC standards and then pooled

End Result

- A new clinical trial simulation tool was developed, and has subsequently been endorsed by the FDA and EMA
- Researchers are currently using this new model and the database that made it possible to advance research

C-Path Data Mapping and Integration Process

Application of CDISC data standards

Consistent Data Structure

Anonymization

Integrated Database

Actionable Drug Development Tool

Data as Contributed

Master Standardized Datasets

Analysis Datasets