

CALL FOR PAPERS



Data, Privacy, and Health

Value in Health

Today nearly 30% of the world's data is generated by the healthcare industry. These data are typically collected for administrative purposes and are often proprietary. While big healthcare data has the potential to improve patient outcomes and ultimately reduce healthcare costs, much of this data is siloed in disparate systems and platforms, making it difficult to access by researchers in both the HEOR and health services research fields.

In order to leverage these health data for research purposes, interoperability—that is, the ability to access, integrate, and cooperatively use data in a coordinated way both within and across different information systems, devices, and countries—is essential. Nevertheless, regulating the acceptable and appropriate uses of data while protecting patient privacy is a huge challenge.

In this special anniversary issue of *Value in Health*, the Editors are seeking papers that address the complexities of finding the right balance between data privacy and access to data for health services

research. This special issue is tentatively scheduled to appear in the May 2023 issue of *Value in Health*. Submissions received before **September 15, 2022** have the best chance of inclusion in this special anniversary issue.

Potential topics for this special issue might include:

- Patients' views on data protection (eg, am I happy to forgo future treatments to preserve privacy?)
- Papers that examine the trade-offs between data access and loss of privacy examples where greater level of access greatly improved the quality of the research
- Examples where lack of access seriously limited the value of research
- Examples of good practices in data access and privacy issues
- Minimizing privacy problems when linking datasets for HEOR
- Data privacy and related ethical issues when collecting patient-level data to support market entry agreements

Final decisions regarding ultimate acceptance rest solely with the Editors. Authors should submit manuscripts through the journal's online submission system at <https://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/valueinhealth> and be sure to mention in the cover letter that the submission is intended for *Value in Health's* 25th Anniversary Issue.

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