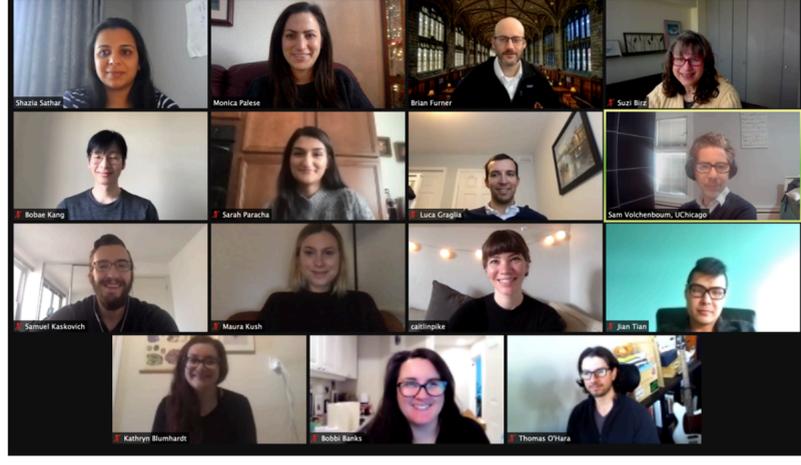


PEDIATRIC CANCER DATA COMMONS

Welcome to the quarterly newsletter for collaborators, colleagues, and supporters of the [Pediatric Cancer Data Commons \(PCDC\)](#). On behalf of our team, we wish you a happy and healthy 2021.

If you're new to the PCDC, welcome! This newsletter's purpose is to highlight opportunities to get more involved, make it easier to learn from each other as we work toward common goals, and facilitate cross-disease research collaborations. Past newsletters are [archived on our website](#). Please don't hesitate to [reach out with your suggestions and requests](#).



The UChicago team at our December strategy meeting

In this email....

- **Announcements:** news from PCDC HQ
- **Disease Group Milestones:** what researchers around the world have been up to
- **CCDH Update:** our progress on a national cancer research effort

Keep in touch with us!



Announcements

Our first annual report

We are thrilled to share the inaugural PCDC Annual Report, which illustrates the progress of the Pediatric Cancer Data Commons and related projects over the period of July 2019-June 2020. [Browse the report online or download a PDF copy here.](#)

Gen3 portal pilot and demo coming soon

Our tech team is currently working to build and deploy a new cohort discovery tool for pediatric cancer data on [Gen3 infrastructure](#). This portal will be piloted initially with the INSTRuCT consortium, with plans to add other disease groups and launch later this year. Our team will be presenting a demo of the new portal at the [AMIA 2020 Virtual Informatics Summit](#) in March.

Consortium for Childhood Cancer Predisposition

The PCDC is providing guidance and input for the new Consortium for Childhood Cancer Predisposition (C3P) as they work to harmonize data elements from the Childhood Cancer Predisposition Study with other research studies and to develop a Gen3-compatible data storage infrastructure that will allow them to interoperate with other cancer data nodes. Our team is contributing expertise to their work regarding data dictionaries, governance, and data sharing agreements.

New talk from Sam Volchenboun on YouTube

Sam Volchenboun presented on our recent work for the University of Chicago Department of Pediatrics Grand Rounds in November. You can [watch and share the talk here](#).

We're hiring!

We're currently looking to fill the following roles at the PCDC. Please share these job postings with your network!

- [Full Stack Developer](#)
- Semantic Engineer (job posting available soon; please [contact Brian Furner](#) for more information)

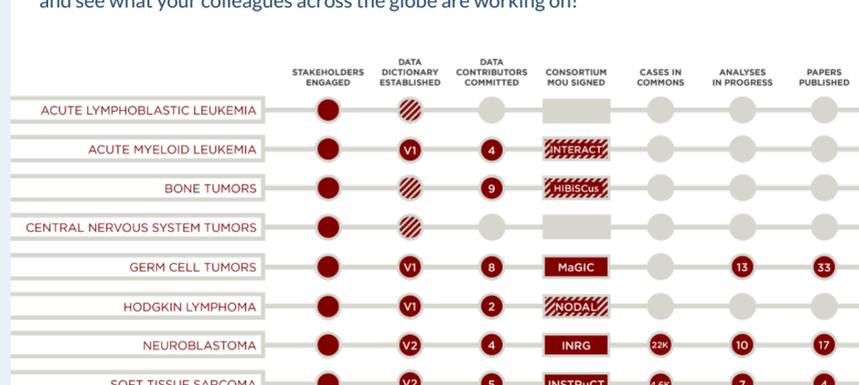
Meeting Highlights

The PCDC participated in several online conferences this quarter. Highlights included:

- We presented a poster at the 52nd annual SIOP conference. [Read the abstract.](#)
- Sam Volchenboun presented a talk about pediatric cancer data harmonization at the Cancer Informatics for Cancer Centers (CI4CC) virtual conference. [View the slides.](#)
- We held a PCDC Consortium cross-disease data analytics workshop in November.

Disease Group Milestones

The PCDC Consortium is currently composed of eight individual disease groups, each in its own stage of development. Stay informed about the accomplishments of each disease group and see what your colleagues across the globe are working on!



Data commons progress as of January 2021. Learn more about these milestones [here](#).

ALL

- Meetings were held with the first two ALL data contributors to begin the MOU process.
- Data dictionary expansion is underway.

AML (INTERACT)

- The INTERACT Executive Committee has been formed with representatives from each of the four data contributing groups.
- An MOU and data contributor agreements are in progress.

Bone Tumors (HIBiSCus)

- A line-by-line review of the international osteosarcoma data dictionary has been completed.

CNS Tumors

- Work has begun on integrating existing groups for central nervous system tumors and determining ongoing infrastructure and organization.
- DIPG data dictionary work is in progress.

Germ Cell Tumors (MaGIC)

- The [paper](#) "Outcomes of adolescent males with extracranial metastatic germ cell tumors: A report from the Malignant Germ Cell Tumor International Consortium" was published in *Cancer*.

Hodgkin Lymphoma (NODAL)

- The first joint meeting of the cooperative groups' statisticians was held.

Neuroblastoma (INRG)

- Plans are underway for an INRG virtual meeting in March.
- INRG leaders presented a talk at the SIOP 2020 Virtual Congress titled "How to Get Involved in International Big Database Research, INRG and Beyond."

Soft Tissue Sarcoma (INSTRuCT)

- An all-consortium meeting was held in December.
- Three new papers from INSTRuCT working groups were published in *Pediatric Blood & Cancer*. ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#))

CCDH Update

This quarter, the [Center for Cancer Data Harmonization \(CCDH\)](#) team focused efforts on relationship building, including determining areas of collaboration and crossover with the newly awarded [Cancer Data Aggregator](#) team. Working with representatives from CCDH nodes and work groups, they are compiling a landscape analysis and identifying requirements for data flows in order to provide recommendations for future [Cancer Research Data Commons](#) architecture. Be on the lookout for additional communication from CCDH team members as they expand this project to include more collaborators.

Thanks for reading!

We'll be back with another newsletter next quarter. In the meantime, [let us know your questions and feedback](#). We look forward to working together to transform pediatric cancer research!

—The UChicago PCDC Team