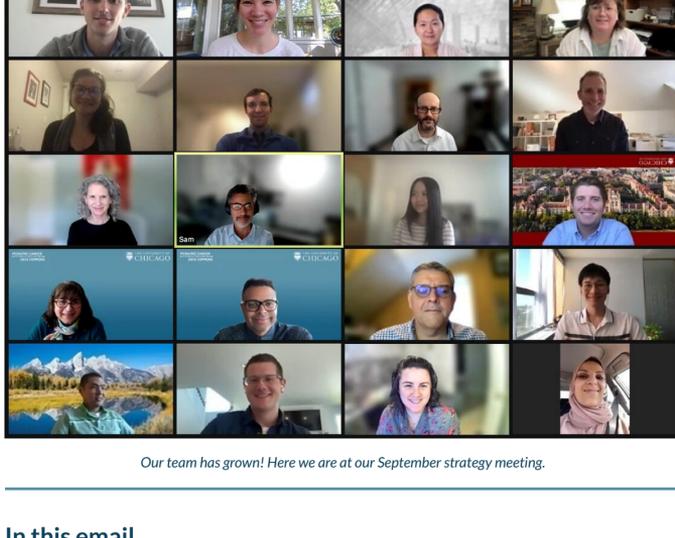


PEDIATRIC CANCER DATA COMMONS

It's been a busy summer for the [Pediatric Cancer Data Commons](#)! If you're new to the PCDC, welcome to our quarterly newsletter. Its 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](#).



Our team has grown! Here we are at our September strategy meeting.

In this email...

- **The Common Good:** upcoming webinar on the future of clinical trials
- **Call for Nominations:** help us build a new advisory board
- **Announcements:** news from PCDC HQ
- **Disease Group Milestones:** updates from researchers around the world

Keep in touch with us!



You're Invited

Please join us **Wednesday, October 27** at 11am CT for the first event in [The Common Good](#), a new quarterly series of thought leadership talks hosted by the PCDC.



2020 Vision: The Future of Clinical Trials Is Here. Are We?

Greg Simon, former President of the Biden Cancer Initiative, will describe the recent progress made in patient-friendly clinical trials and the need to retain these changes to increase diversity and equity and to lessen the burden on patients wherever possible. Having leapt ten years ahead due to Covid, let's not go back to 2019.

[Register](#)

Call for Nominations

The latest step in the PCDC's growth is the establishment of two advisory groups. A Scientific Advisory Committee composed of consortium representatives and domain experts will provide strategic and operational guidance for the PCDC, while each consortium will maintain autonomy in its own operations and scientific direction. In parallel, an External Advisory Board made up of an outside group of clinical, data science, and digital health experts will share their experiences and offer strategic advice on PCDC initiatives. We are grateful to all the collaborators who have helped us develop this new advisory structure.

We are seeking nominations for members to serve on the External Advisory Board. The PCDC will benefit from the insights of a multidisciplinary, international group of advisors. We are seeking individuals who are willing to share their expertise through annual meetings, for example:

- scientists, both in cancer research and in other areas of health research
- industry representatives, including those in pharmaceutical, health technology, informatics, and standards organizations
- international health leadership
- regulatory experts
- government agencies
- patient and family advocates

We are looking for members to broaden our thinking and challenge our norms, so please feel invited to think outside the box in your suggestions. To nominate someone, [email their name and contact information to Suzi Birz](#) along with any information you would like to share by November 19, 2021.

Announcements

Pilot launch of PCDC Data Portal

During Childhood Cancer Awareness Month, we were proud to release the first version of the new PCDC Data Portal for pilot users. This first release includes cohort discovery over rhabdomyosarcoma data. This is an important step for analyzing data across many tumor types and enabling research that is not possible in the current data landscape. We look forward to incorporating user feedback and adding data from additional disease groups in preparation for a wider launch.

Pilot launch of clinical trials matching tool

As part of The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) PedAL Initiative, the PCDC team has developed a tool to rapidly and accurately match children with relapsed acute myeloid leukemia to targeted treatments in North America. GEARBOX (Genomic Eligibility Algorithm at Relapse for Better Outcomes) is a web-based tool that uses a matching algorithm to identify potentially appropriate clinical trials based on COG eligibility criteria and the patient's clinical data, immunophenotype, and genomic profile. On September 15, we deployed GEARBOX in a pilot program to gather feedback from initial users. A full launch is planned for later this year.

PCDC growth: new disease group consortium and new funding

Another PCDC consortium was formally established this quarter with the signing of the MOU for INSPiRE, a consortium focused on central nervous system tumors. Funding from [Bridge to a Cure Foundation](#) will support INSPiRE and the development of a data commons for CNS tumors in 2022. In addition, a new grant from [the Fund for Innovation in Cancer Informatics](#) will help support the PCDC's continued expansion of GEARBOX as we work to extend it to more types of pediatric cancer.

PCDC interview and blog post

Our director Sam Volchenboum discussed his vision for the future of pediatric oncology in [a new interview with Pharma Boardroom](#), while our former undergraduate intern Ebru Ermis shared her experience working with us to learn more about the perspectives of pediatric cancer patients and families [on the Rally Foundation for Childhood Cancer Research blog](#).

New paper linking genomic data with PCDC clinical data

A new publication in the *Journal for ImmunoTherapy of Cancer* demonstrates the value of interoperative data by using genomic data from the [Gabriella Miller Kids First Data Resource Center](#) linked with clinical data from the INRG Data Commons to study the prognostic strength of T cell-inflamed gene expression and neoantigen load in high-risk neuroblastoma. Read the paper: [Immunogenomic determinants of tumor microenvironment correlate with superior survival in high-risk neuroblastoma](#)

PCDC team updates

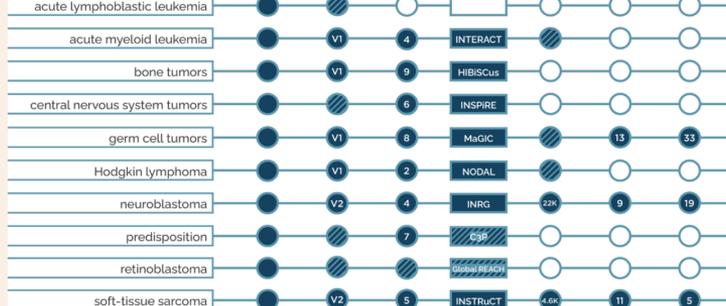
This quarter was one of rapid growth for the PCDC team! We are delighted to welcome our new team members: Clinical Data Specialist **Brad Carlson**, Senior Project Manager **Enal Hindi**, Full Stack Developer **Steve Krasinsky**, Semantical Engineer **Jooho Lee**, Technical Project Manager **Rolando Palacios**, and Postdoctoral Researcher **Michael Watkins**.

We're hiring!

We're currently looking to hire an additional PCDC Project Manager. Please share the [job posting](#) with your network!

Disease Group Milestones

The PCDC Consortium is currently composed of ten 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 October 2021. Learn more about these milestones [here](#).

ALL

- The ALL consortium continues to meet with potential collaborators and discuss international expansion.

AML (INTERACT)

- JCCG and EuPAL have signed master data contributor agreements, with COG and SJCRH, nearly ready for signature.
- JCCG, EuPAL, and COG continue data harmonization work on initial data sets.
- The INTERACT Executive Committee has finalized its publication policy.

Bone Tumors (HIBISCUS)

- The first full HIBISCUS Executive Committee meeting was held in September, with representatives from all data contributors, statisticians, and disease specialists such as surgeons, radiologists and radiation oncologists.
- The osteosarcoma data dictionary was edited to align with NCI standards.

CNS Tumors (INSPIRE)

- The INSPiRE Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed on September 16 by representatives from CBTN, COG, IDIPGR, PNOC, and RBTC.

Germ Cell Tumors (MaGIC)

- MaGIC is very close to having all Data Contributor Agreements signed and fully executed.
- The addition of a Survivorship, Pathology and Radiology Committee within MaGIC is underway, which will hopefully lead to increased access to new datasets and cohorts.

Hodgkin Lymphoma (NODAL)

- The HL data dictionary is fully harmonized to PCDC standards and data harmonization by the data contributors is underway.
- NODAL has identified its first work groups: radiation oncology, nLPHL, and toxicity.

Neuroblastoma (INRG)

- With thanks to all the INRG data contributors, COG and GPOH data have been added and updated in the INRG commons.
 - COG: 15,941 (includes 241 new patients)
 - Germany: 2,575 (includes 421 new patients)
 - Japan: 442
 - SIOOPEN: 3,742
- Those interested in getting involved with INRG are invited to visit the [Get Involved page](#) or [email the INRG Strategy Development Committee](#).

Predisposition (C3P)

- There are seven committed data contributing groups for the predisposition commons.
- The C3P MOU is in the process of being reviewed and signed.

Retinoblastoma (Global REACH)

- The Global REACH Expert Committee is finalizing executive committee structure and representation, and the MOU is being drafted for review.
- Work on the data dictionary continues to progress.

Soft Tissue Sarcoma (INSTRuCT)

- Work continues in the clinical discipline work groups, focusing on consensus papers and clinical topics of interest that cross specialties.

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

We are grateful to our [sponsors and donors](#) for making our work possible.