



Welcome to the [Data for the Common Good](#) (D4CG) quarterly newsletter! Read on for announcements from D4CG headquarters, Pediatric Cancer Data Commons updates, highlights from recent meetings, and more. Past quarterly newsletters are [archived on our website](#). Please don't hesitate to [reach out with suggestions and requests](#).

Upcoming Conferences

We're looking forward to these meetings in the next several months. If you're attending, we hope to see you there! If you'd like to schedule a meeting with D4CG at any of these conferences, please reach out to [Kat Bouzein](#).

- [ASPHO](#), April 3-6 in Seattle, WA - visit us at booth #218!
- [XULA 17th Health Disparities Conference](#), April 7-9 in New Orleans, LA
- [SIOP Europe](#), May 13-17 in Milan, Italy - visit us at booth #11!
- [ASCO Annual Meeting](#), May 31-June 4 in Chicago, IL
- [FACTOR Osteosarcoma Conference](#), June 20-22 in Cleveland, OH

D4CG Announcements

PCDC named Champion of Open Science by White House

We are honored to share that the Pediatric Cancer Data Commons has been named a Champion of Open Science by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy! These awards highlight efforts that tackle problems by broadening access to research so that everyone can benefit from science and technology. The PCDC and the other four winners "exemplify what's possible with an open, equitable, and secure research enterprise."

An open and collaborative approach is the foundation of the PCDC and all of our work at D4CG. This award is a testament to the value of this approach, the hard work of our collaborators and supporters, and the patients and families who have contributed data to the PCDC. [Read more from the White House here](#).

PCDC Data Portal now includes AML data

The [PCDC Data Portal](#) now includes data for six types of cancer, as we welcomed our first data for acute myeloid leukemia (AML) to the portal at the end of January. This update included data for 3,413 participants, collected and harmonized by [INTERACT](#) with support from the [Leukemia & Lymphoma Society](#). The portal now includes data for a total of 43,285 participants. Everyone is welcome to [create an account](#) and explore the data available for research.

Watch our National Cancer Institute CCDI webinar

In February, D4CG's Sam Volchenboum, Brian Furner, and Michael Watkins discussed their work developing pediatric data standards for cancer research for the National Cancer Institute's CCDI webinar series. [Watch a recording of their talk here](#).

Spotlight on PREDICT

PREDICT, our partnership with [Kovler Diabetes Center](#) to develop a consortium and data commons for monogenic diabetes, was profiled in a recent UChicago Medicine "Donor Stories" article highlighting our support from [Gray Foundation](#). [Read the article here](#).

Engaging and innovating with others

We're grateful for these recent and upcoming opportunities for our team to innovate with, learn from, and share our experiences with the larger scientific and programming communities.

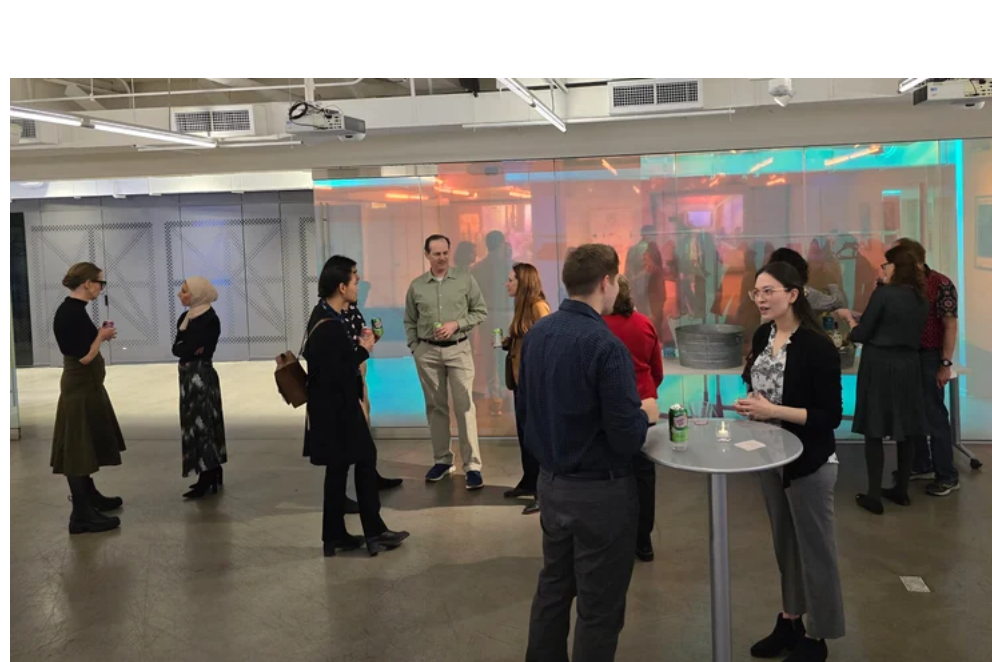
- D4CG is excited to participate as a mentoring organization in [Google Summer of Code \(GSoC\)](#), a global, online program that pairs students and beginners in open source software development with organizations to work on specific project ideas. Luca Graglia and the rest of our technology team will work with and mentor GSoC contributors on several programming projects this summer.
- In March, our Semantic Engineer Jooho Lee participated in a National Center for Biotechnology Information [codeathon](#) to design and build innovative solutions that promote fairness, transparency, and accountability in AI/ML algorithms and models. [The final presentations from this codeathon can be viewed here](#).
- Jooho will also be participating in the [2024 Biomedical Data Science Innovation Lab \(BDSIL\)](#). The goal of BDSIL is "to foster the formation of new interdisciplinary collaborations which will generate creative strategies on the use of data science approaches for creating new strategic partnerships between AI developers, biomedical researchers, and educators."

D4CG team updates

This quarter we welcomed our new Senior Data Strategist and Data Operations Lead, **Hubert Hickman**, to the D4CG team.

Recent meeting highlights

- We were honored to have our director Sam Volchenboum attend the [White House Rare Disease Forum](#). This event, hosted by the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, elevated the experiences and expertise of people and families facing rare diseases in order to share developments, accelerate progress, and identify opportunities to improve research and treatment.
- Thank you to those who joined us at the [D4CG Spring Social](#) here in Chicago! We enjoyed connecting with our colleagues and friends!



★ Science Spotlight ★

Welcome to the Science Spotlight, where we highlight the scientific advancements made possible by our consortia and data commons. In each feature we'll hear from a consortium about some recent or ongoing research and what makes it exciting and meaningful.

This quarter, [MaGIC](#) highlights three Department of Defense grants they have recently received in their core areas of research: clinical research, clinical trial development, and biologic research. Each grant is an example of the collaborative innovation and team science made possible by participation in MaGIC.

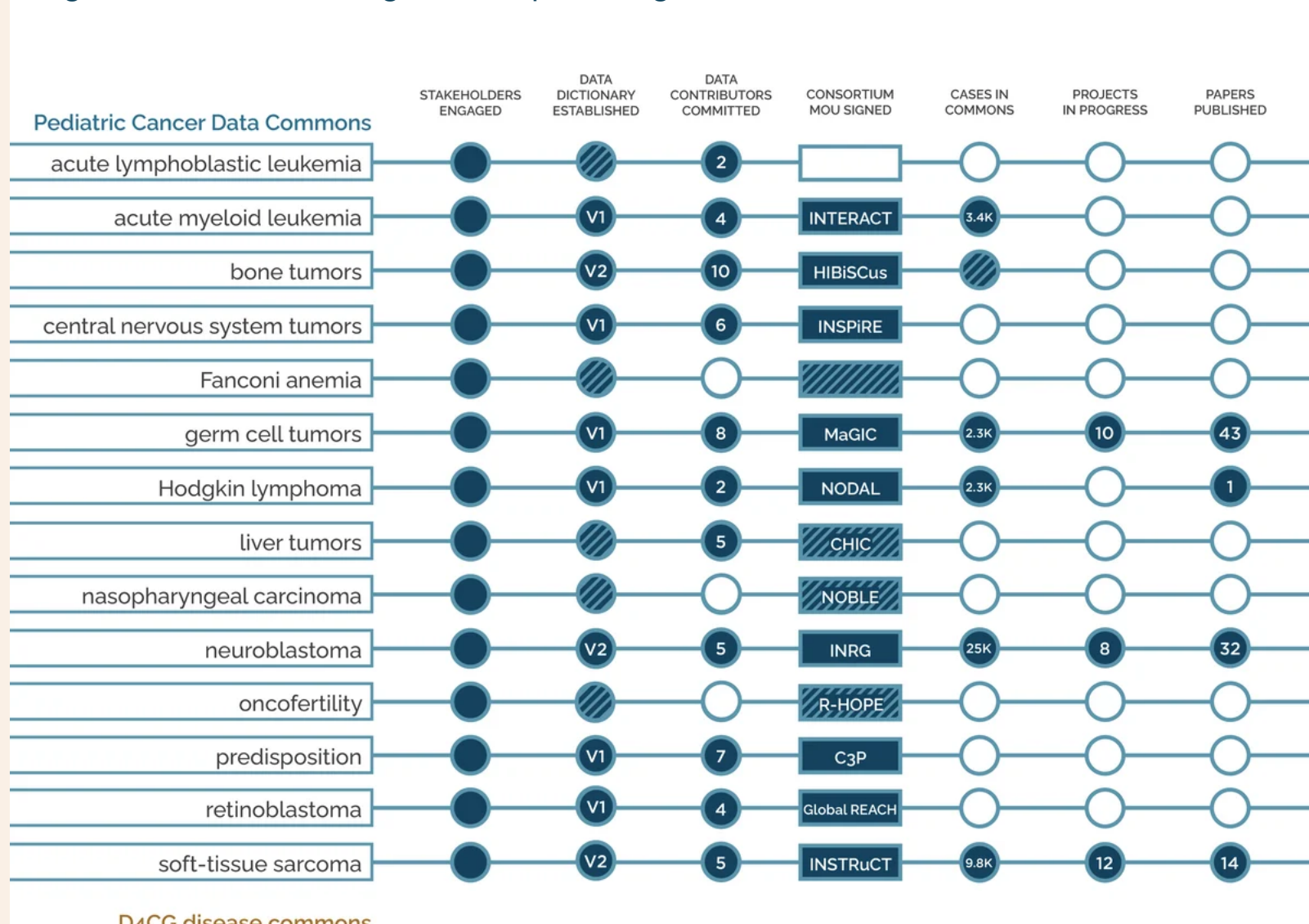
[Read the Science Spotlight!](#)

Recent Publications

- Targeted Enrollment in Pediatric Oncology Trials: A Vision for Just-in-Time Matching** was published in [JCO Oncology Practice](#).
- Using A Standardized Nomenclature to Semantically Map Oncology-Related Concepts from Common Data Models to a Pediatric Cancer Data Model** was published in [AMIA Annual Symposium Proceedings](#).
- Accelerating pediatric hodgkin lymphoma research: the hodgkin lymphoma data collaboration (NODAL)** was published in the [Journal of the National Cancer Institute](#).

Data Commons Progress

Bringing data together for the Pediatric Cancer Data Commons and our other D4CG data commons is the work of many dedicated groups of researchers, clinicians, statisticians, and other experts. This tracker shows each group's progress on the journey of establishing governance, harmonizing data, and publishing research.



Data commons progress as of April 1, 2024. [Learn more about these milestones here](#).

PCDC Data Portal Update

- As described above, initial data were added from INTERACT. Updated and/or new data were also added for INSTRUCT, INRG, and NODAL.
- Software updates included improvements to the admin functions on the Data Requests page, an updated Explore In function for GDC 2.0, changes to the Data Request filters, and an improved look for the Survival Analysis tab.
- The details of all [data release updates](#) and [software updates](#) for the portal are available on our documentation website.

PCDC Advisory Group Update

- The **Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC)** met in March. Discussion centered around our proposed change management process for PCDC data dictionaries.