Northwestern Medicine Enterprise Data Warehouse (NMEDW) Research Analytics Team
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is the NMEDW?
The Northwestern Medicine Enterprise Data Warehouse (NMEDW) is a single, comprehensive, and integrated repository of all clinical and research data sources on the campus to facilitate research, clinical quality, healthcare operations and medical education. The NMEDW currently stores observations on more than 6.6 million distinct patients receiving care through Northwestern Memorial Healthcare Corporation (NMHC) (not including the Shirley Ryan AbilityLab and Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital). The NMEDW Research Analytics Teams uses the data in the EDW to deliver reports to investigators for research and some operations purposes.

How do I use the NMEDW for Research?
The primary ways to use the NMEDW for research are:

- i2b2 Feasibility Query Tool: A self-service tool for investigators to explore cohort availability.

- Research Analytics: Use the research data request form to contact the analyst team. The fee to work with an NMEDW analyst is $75/hour, and the average charge for a research request is $900 (12 hours).

- NMEDW Pilot Data Program: A grant that allows young investigators to obtain feasibility or early pilot data to seek sustained funding.

   o Submit your application for the NMEDW Pilot Data Program through **NITRO Competitions**. The template, to be included with your submission, can be **downloaded here**.

- Powerusers: Individuals who have skills using advanced database languages can apply via email to become a Poweruser and be granted direct access to the NMEDW.

What can I do in the NMEDW?
The Northwestern Medicine Enterprise Data Warehouse aims to make reporting and analytics of data easier. The NMEDW can be queried either for data from a single source system or integrating data across source systems. For example, you could ask the following:
"Which patients have been seen in General Internal Medicine in the last year who have been diagnosed with type 2 diabetes and hypertension who's most recent body mass index is above 32 and is not presently on a specific clinical trial?"

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What should be completed before I submit a NMEDW research data request?
1. Be familiar with the [Research Use of EDW Data Policy](#)
2. You should have an approved [Data Security Plan for your research study in the eIRB under RSS.](#)
3. If NMEDW will be used for data collection, analysis, or recruitment, all workflows should be described in the study protocol.

Helpful Reminders/Tips
- Your active participation is required to develop your report.
- Defining the data points and validating your report is an iterative process.
- Depending on your level of involvement and analyst availability, reports can take a few days to a few weeks to develop.
- Institutional data stewards must approve your data release before reports are made available to you and your study team.

If you have any questions, please contact the EDW at: nmedw@northwestern.edu

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