

# PRGLAC Taskforce

## Experience from FDA CDER's Sentinel System:

Using electronic health record data  
to link mother and infant records

Nov 17, 2023

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Sentinel Core Team | Regulatory Science Staff

Office of Surveillance & Epidemiology

Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)

U.S. Food and Drug Administration

# Recommendation 12

12A	Design health record systems to link mother and infant records.
12B	Leverage large studies and databases including health systems, health plans, surveillance systems, electronic medical records, registries.
12C	<p>Use novel data resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Support large post-marketing observational studies to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of medication classes during pregnancy and lactation</li> <li>b. Support studies across multiple drugs using the same infrastructure to conserve resources</li> </ul>
12D	Use innovative methods of data analytics.
12E	Require common data elements (CDEs) to facilitate collaboration and use.



# Key Elements of Sentinel's Active Risk Identification and Analysis (ARIA) System

1. Electronic healthcare data (typically insurance claims)
2. Common data model
3. Distributed network of Data Partners
4. Pre-defined, parameterized, reusable routine querying tools
5. Sophisticated quality assurance process

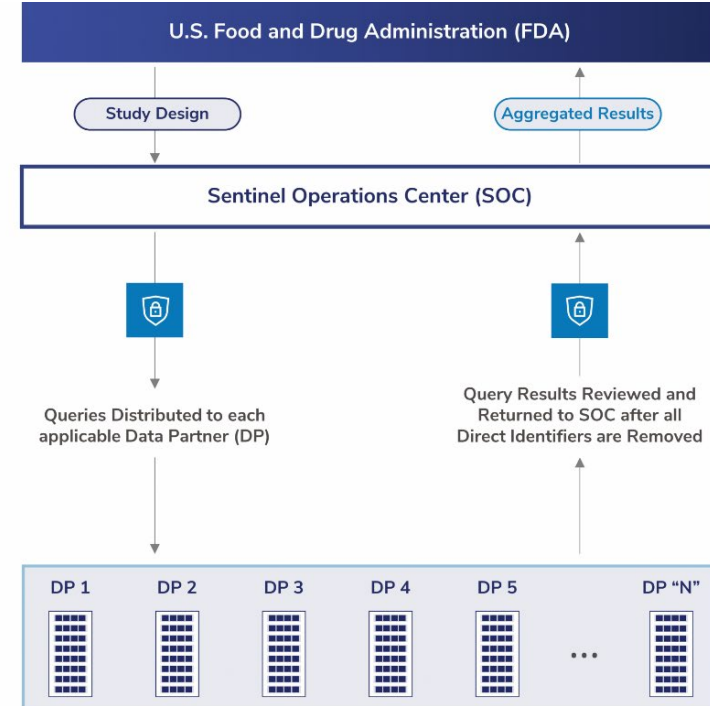
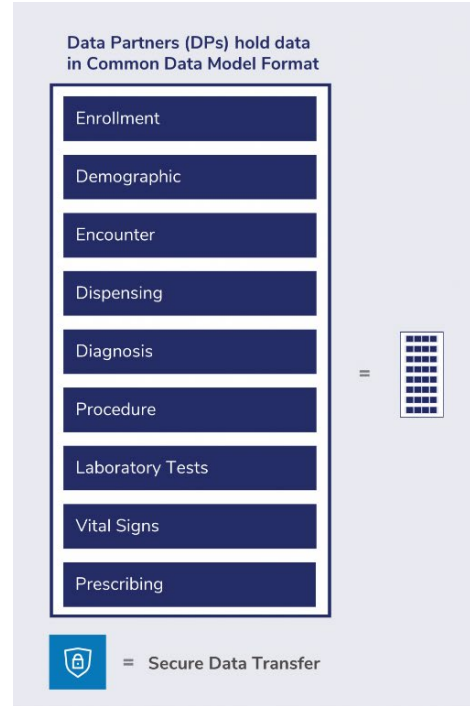
# Sentinel's Distributed Database



- Data Partners maintain physical and operational control over their data

- Data partners execute standardized queries against their own data that is formatted into Sentinel's common data model and they return results to the Sentinel Operations Center

- Preserves patient privacy and institutional proprietary interests





## Mother-Infant Linkage Table

### Details

### Additional Information

**Date Posted:** Thursday, January 31, 2019

**Status:** COMPLETE

#### Description:

The Mother-Infant Linkage (MIL) Table was added to the Sentinel Common Data Model (SCDM) in October 2018.

This enhancement was added to enable routine evaluation of medical product exposures during pregnancy on outcomes in infants.

The table contains one record per MPatID, CPatID, and ADate. This table is created following identification of mothers (via evidence of live delivery by women aged 10-54 inclusive) and infants (via date of birth) in the Sentinel Distributed Database (SDD). The file may include:

1. Live birth deliveries (with MPatID and ADate) that were linked to a child (CPatID);
2. Live birth deliveries (with MPatID and ADate) that were not linked to a child (CPatID, CBirth\_Date, Sex, and CEnr\_Start will have missing values); and
3. Children (with CPatID) who were not linked to a mother (MPatID, MBirth\_Date, Age, EncounterID, EncType, ADate, DDate, Birth\_Type, and Birth\_Type\_Primes will have missing values).

To facilitate linkage, Sentinel Operations Center has developed a reusable program package to identify mothers and infants in the SDD. The Quality Assurance program evaluates whether the data in the table conforms to SCDM specifications, and identifies anomalies that require further investigation or explanation (e.g., relatively high multiple-birth rate compared to national average).

<https://www.sentinelinitiative.org/methods-data-tools/sentinel-common-data-model/mother-infant-linkage-table>

#### Deliverable(s) (6)



Sentinel Common Data Model 7.0.0



Mother-Infant Linkage Quality Assurance SAS Package



Mother-Infant Linkage Quality Assurance Technical Specifications



Mother-Infant Identification SAS Package



Mother-Infant Identification Technical Programming Specifications



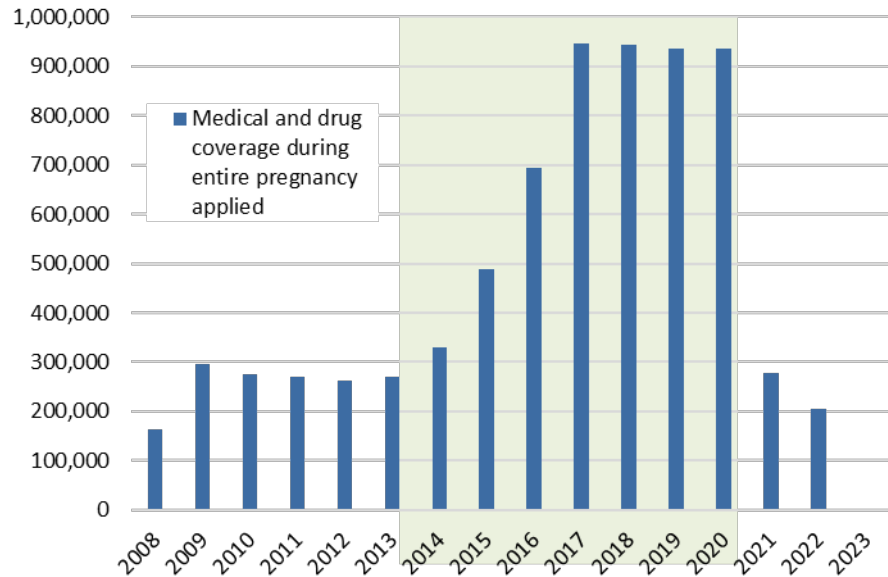
Mother-Infant Linkage Frequently Asked Questions and Appendices

# Live Birth Deliveries Available in Sentinel



Number of Pregnancies Ending in Live Birth  
Deliveries Identified in the Sentinel  
Distributed Database,  
*January 1, 2008 to January 31, 2023*

There are currently 10.8 million linked deliveries, Jan 2008 –Jan 2023



This slide is an updated version of a slide previously shown here: <https://www.sentinelinitiative.org/news-events/meetings-workshops-trainings/2023-sentinel-public-training-innovation-day-april-11-12>. It is from a query executed in August 2023 to include Medicaid data from years 2014-2020

# Public Training on Signal Identification Studies in Pregnancy



2023 Sentinel Public Training Day I 11th April, 2023

 **Sentinel Initiative**  
221 subscribers

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 4 

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<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A35DMjF4wms>

12C

Use novel data resources.

- a. Support large post-marketing observational studies to evaluate the safety ~~and effectiveness~~ of medication classes during pregnancy ~~and lactation~~
- b. Support studies across multiple drugs using the same infrastructure to conserve resources



# Assessment of Heart Failure in Pregnancy to Support Pre-Market Review of Vericiguat



## Background

**FDA U.S. FOOD & DRUG ADMINISTRATION**

**Vericiguat—Under Review**

Indicated for heart failure (HF)

Embryo-fetal malformations in animal studies

Should a Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategy (REMS) program be required for vericiguat?

## Analysis and Findings

Sentinel Distributed Database

• Estimated prevalence of HF among reproductive age women

Jan. 2010–Feb. 2020

Jan. 2010–Mar. 2021

HF rare (0.5%) among women of reproductive age

Potential embryo-toxic HF medication use during pregnancy was rare

Medication Class	Any use before pregnancy	Any use in 1st trimester	Any use in 2nd trimester	Any use in 3rd trimester	Any use after pregnancy
ACE inhibitors	22%	8%	1%	1%	1%
ARBs	9%	3%	1%	1%	1%
ARNI	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Aldosterone antagonists	7%	2%	1%	1%	1%
Beta blockers	42%	33%	29%	30%	34%
Digoxin	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%
Diuretics	31%	14%	6%	7%	19%
Hydralazine and nitrates	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Ivabradine	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%

**Regulatory Recommendation:** This information contributed to the FDA’s determination that labeling would provide sufficient information to ensure the benefits of vericiguat outweigh its risks.

# Publicly-Available Resources

**Provigil (Modafinil) and Nuvigil (Armodafinil) & Congenital Cardiac Malformations**

**Details**

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**Status:** Ongoing

**Last Updated:** Tuesday, November 17, 2020


**Original Posting Date:** Thursday, July 30, 2020

**Health Outcome(s):**  
congenital cardiac malformations



**Purpose:** Drug and Outcome Analysis

**Meets requirements of FD&C Act Sec 505(o) prior to requiring a PMR:** No

**Analytic Code Link(s) (1)**

-  Risk of Congenital Cardiac Malformations Following Armodafinil or Modafinil Use: A Propensity Score Matched Analysis

**Result(s) (2)**


-  Risk of Congenital Cardiac Malformations Following Armodafinil or Modafinil Use: A Descriptive Analysis
-  Risk of Congenital Cardiac Malformations Following Armodafinil or Modafinil Use: A Propensity Score Matched Analysis

cdcr\_mpl2p\_wp023 ... Sentinel Analytic Packages / Browse Filter

77 commits    39 branches    0 releases    10 contributors

Source	Description	Size	Last Modified
docs			
dplocal			
inputfiles			
msoc			
resources			
sasprograms			
readme.md	Sentinel Query: cdcr_mpl2p_wp023_public_v01	1.41 KB	30 Jul 2020

readme.md



## Risk of Congenital Cardiac Malformations Following Armodafinil or Modafinil Use: A Propensity Score Matched Analysis

This analysis (cdcr\_mpl2p\_wp023) executed the Cohort Identification and Descriptive Analysis (CIDA) Pregnancy Episodes tool to assess risk of congenital cardiac malformations following armodafinil or modafinil use during the first trimester of pregnancy in the Sentinel Distributed Database (SDD).

# Six Years of the US Food and Drug Administration's Postmarket Active Risk Identification and Analysis System in the Sentinel Initiative: Implications for Real World Evidence Generation



Judith C. Maro, Michael D. Nguyen, Joy Kolonoski, Ryan Schoeplein, Ting-Ying Huang, Sarah K. Dutcher, Gerald J. Dal Pan, and Robert Ball. Clin Pharmacol Ther, 2023 Oct;114(4):815-824. doi: 10.1002/cpt.2979. Epub 2023 Jul 18

**Table 3 Distribution of safety concerns insufficient for assessment in ARIA attributed to capture of health outcome, by regulatory approval stage (N =132 safety concerns)**

Health outcome (MedDRA system organ class)	Safety concerns identified pre-approval	Safety concerns identified post-approval	Total
Pregnancy, puerperium and perinatal conditions	42	3	45
Neoplasms benign, malignant and unspecified (including cysts)	9	1	10
General disorders and administration site conditions	9	0	9
Cardiac disorders	6	0	6
Infections and infestations	4	2	6
Injury, poisoning and procedural complications	1	4	5
Nervous system disorders	4	1	5
Psychiatric disorders	4	1	5

# Background: PDUFA VII Commitment Letter

2) Incorporating feedback from (1), conduct 5 demonstration projects to address gaps in knowledge about performance characteristics of different study designs. FDA will initiate the following demonstration projects which may be modified as needed, before September 30, 2024:

2) Incorporating feedback from (1), conduct 5 demonstration projects to address gaps in knowledge about performance characteristics of different study designs. FDA will initiate the following demonstration projects which may be modified as needed, before September 30, 2024:

- a) Assess the performance of pregnancy registries versus electronic healthcare database studies to detect a signal when the exposure to medication in pregnancy is relatively common.
- b) Assess the performance of single arm safety studies versus signal identification methods using electronic healthcare data to detect a signal when the exposure to medication in pregnancy is anticipated to be low.
- c) Assess the performance of pregnancy registries versus electronic healthcare database studies to evaluate a signal when the exposure to medication in pregnancy is relatively common.
- d) Assess the performance of major congenital malformations (MCM) as a composite outcome in signal detection and evaluation when there is true risk for some but not all specific malformations.
- e) Assess the performance of an algorithm using electronic health record (EHR) and claims-linked healthcare data for a pregnancy-related outcome, or composite of outcomes (e.g., spontaneous abortion, stillbirth, congenital malformations), after use of vaccines in pregnant women. The parameters of the pregnancy-outcome algorithm will be developed to have general usability with therapeutic products.

3) By September 30, 2027, based on the results of demonstration projects in (2) update the proposed framework and develop a guidance...

3) By September 30, 2027, based on the results of demonstration projects in (2) update the proposed framework and develop a guidance or MAPP/SOPP as appropriate to implement a standardized process for determining necessity and type of pregnancy postmarketing studies including PMRs.

# Pregnancy Safety Demonstration Projects



	<b>Study Designs Being Compared</b>	<b>Approach</b>	<b>Exposure</b>
Project "a"	Pregnancy registries versus electronic healthcare database studies	Signal Detection	Common
Project "b"	Single arm safety study versus electronic healthcare database study	Signal Detection	Rare
Project "c"	Pregnancy registries versus electronic healthcare database studies	Signal Evaluation	Common

# Optimizing the Use of Postapproval Pregnancy Safety Studies



🕒 September 18, 2023 10:00AM - September 19, 2023 2:30PM

## Contact Information

Luke Durocher

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[Washington, DC 20045](#)  
[United States](#)



## Materials

↓ [Pregnancy Safety Study Workshop Agenda 9.15.23.pdf](#)

↓ [Postapproval Preg Safety Studies Attendee Know Before You Go.pdf](#)

↓ [Pregnancy Safety Study Workshop - Speaker Biosheet.pdf](#)

↓ [Preg Safety Study Master slide deck FINAL.pdf](#)

<https://healthpolicy.duke.edu/events/optimizing-use-postapproval-pregnancy-safety-studies>

12C

Use novel data resources.

- b. Support studies across multiple drugs using the same infrastructure to conserve resources

The logo for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), consisting of the letters "FDA" in white on a blue square background.

## Using common data model to study class effects

### **Eliquis (Apixaban), Pradaxa (Dabigatran), and Xarelto (Rivaroxaban) & Cutaneous Small-Vessel Vasculitis**

- FDA also conducted a study on patients treated with direct oral anticoagulants versus warfarin and risk of cutaneous small vessel vasculitis (CSVV). The study did not find a statistically significant increase in CSVV risk among users of DOACs versus warfarin, or between different DOACs. The FDA determined that no regulatory action was needed.



## *Recent work with Medicaid data*





- Within the U.S. FDA's Sentinel System, linkage of mother and infant data is **critical for the assessment of medication safety** during pregnancy.
- U.S. Medicaid/CHIP data in the new Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System (T-MSIS) format were recently converted to the Sentinel Common Data Model and an initial mother-infant linkage was performed.

# Rules for linking delivery records to infant records

**Objective:** Most accurate linkage

- Both delivery record and infant record must be associated with the ***same jurisdiction***
- Both delivery record and infant record must have the ***same case number identifier***
  - Case number is a state-assigned number that is often a proxy for a family identifier
- Infant's ***date of birth must be close to the admission/discharge dates*** on the delivery record. Specifically:
  - Infant's DOB must be within 3 days ( $\pm$ ) of a delivery record's admission date, if discharge date is unknown, or
  - Infant's DOB must be between 3 days prior to the delivery record's admission date and the delivery record's discharge date

# Linkage results

## Overall

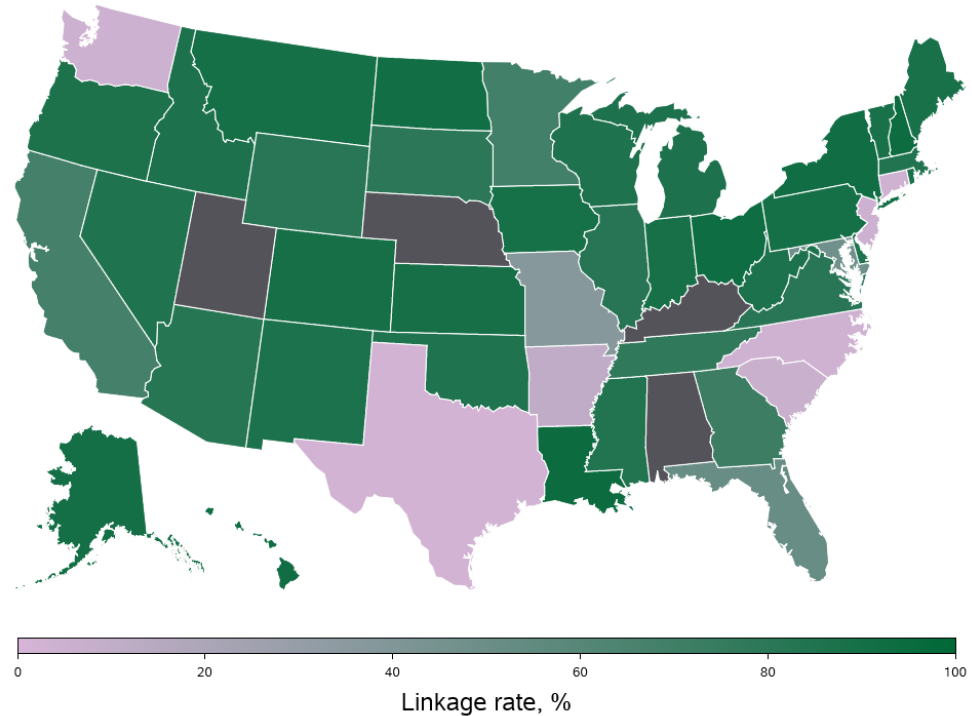
61% of mother's delivery records—**4.1 million of 6.7 million eligible** were linked to child records in the Medicaid/CHIP data

This statistic hides substantial variability

## By jurisdiction

Among 49 jurisdictions (46 states, DC, PR, VI):

- 34 had linkage rates **over 75%**
- 7 had linkage rates **under 15%**



*Not shown: Puerto Rico, 74% linkage; U.S. Virgin Islands, 79% linkage.*

# Continuity and Completeness of Data

## Example Table of Years of Medicaid Data Contributed by State



### FFS Plan

### CMC Plan

Jurisdiction	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Years Included
AK**	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7
AL***	a†	a†	a†	a†	a†	a†	a†	0
AR****	–	–	a†	✓	✓	✓	✓	4
AZ*****	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
CA*	–	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
CO*	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7
CT*	–	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
DC*	✓	c†	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6

Jurisdiction	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	Years Included
AK	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	7
AL	a†	a†	a†	a†	a†	a†	a†	0
AR	–	–	a†	✓	✓	b: IP, LT, OT, RX†	✓	3
AZ	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6
CA	–	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
CO	b: LT, OT†	b: OT†	b: IP, OT†	✓	✓	✓	✓	4
CT	–	–	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5
DC	✓	c†	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	6

### ACA Status

- \*Adopted 2014
- \*\*Adopted 9/2015
- \*\*\*Not adopted
- \*\*\*\*Adopted 2014 with work reqs that were removed 2022
- \*\*\*\*\*Adopted 2014 with work reqs

✓ data were included for a jurisdiction/year/plan.

Red† indicates data were excluded for a jurisdiction/year/plan.

### Reasons data was deemed unusable, i.e., excluded:

- Unavailable
- a Dual Eligibility Code
- b Comprehensive Managed Care Plan Encounters
- c Number of Enrollment Spans

CMC = Comprehensive Managed Care,

FFS = Fee for Service

LT = Long-Term Care TAF File

OT = Other Services TAF File

IP = Inpatient TAF File

RX = Pharmacy File

# Continuity and Completeness of Data 2

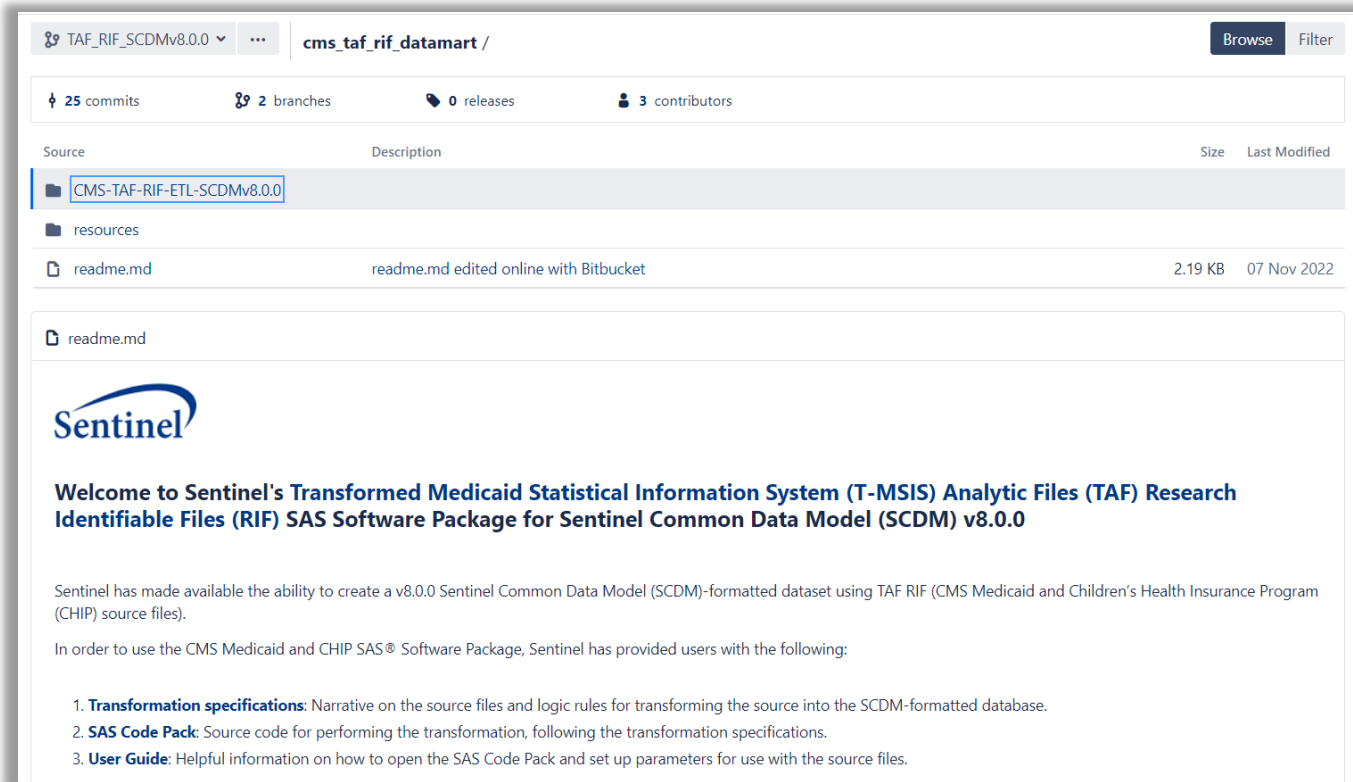


Descriptions	Jurisdictions	Total
Jurisdictions with $\geq 5$ Years of Inclusion*	AK, AZ, CA, CT, DC, DE, HI, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, ME, MN, MO, MT, NC, NJ, NH, NM, NV, NY, OH, OR, PA, SD, TX, VA, VT, WA, WI, WV, WY	33
Jurisdictions with $\leq 4$ Years of Inclusion	AR, CO, FL, GA, ID, MA, MD, MI, MS, ND, OK, PR, RI, SC, TN, VI	16
Jurisdictions without Any Inclusion	AL, KY, NE, UT	4

\*An Included Year is counted only when both FFS and CMC are included.

# Publicly-Available Resources

## T-MSIS-to-SCDM Transformation Materials:



The screenshot shows a GitHub repository interface for the 'cms\_taf\_rif\_datamart' project. At the top, it indicates 25 commits, 2 branches, 0 releases, and 3 contributors. A table lists the repository's contents:

Source	Description	Size	Last Modified
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CMS-TAF-RIF-ETL-SCDMv8.0.0</li> <li>resources</li> </ul>			
readme.md	readme.md edited online with Bitbucket	2.19 KB	07 Nov 2022

The 'readme.md' file content is displayed below, featuring the Sentinel logo and the following text:

**Welcome to Sentinel's Transformed Medicaid Statistical Information System (T-MSIS) Analytic Files (TAF) Research Identifiable Files (RIF) SAS Software Package for Sentinel Common Data Model (SCDM) v8.0.0**

Sentinel has made available the ability to create a v8.0.0 Sentinel Common Data Model (SCDM)-formatted dataset using TAF RIF (CMS Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) source files).

In order to use the CMS Medicaid and CHIP SAS® Software Package, Sentinel has provided users with the following:

- Transformation specifications:** Narrative on the source files and logic rules for transforming the source into the SCDM-formatted database.
- SAS Code Pack:** Source code for performing the transformation, following the transformation specifications.
- User Guide:** Helpful information on how to open the SAS Code Pack and set up parameters for use with the source files.

# Conclusions



From FDA's Center for Drug Evaluation and Research (CDER)'s experience:

- What has been done in FDA's Sentinel System that might align with recommendation 12?
  - The Sentinel System currently has 10.8 million mother and infant linked deliveries.
- What barriers were encountered?
  - Lactation not addressed through the database studies
  - Still sorting through best practices for using complementary data sources for postmarket safety assessment and the programming tools are still being developed
  - Medicaid is a rich data source, but quality and capture differs by state
- What additional resources, policy change, regulations, etc., are needed to move forward?
  - See following link for current considerations:  
<https://healthpolicy.duke.edu/events/optimizing-use-postapproval-pregnancy-safety-studies>



*Thank you for listening*  
*Any questions?*



# MOTHER-INFANT LINKAGE

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS & APPENDICES

Prepared by the Sentinel Operations Center  
 February 2019  
 Version: 1.0.0

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# Mother Infant Linkage Approaches



	Linkage Rates	Use of PHI?	Third Parties Required?	Logistic and Regulatory Burden	Sample Size
Birth Certificates	90-95%	Yes	Yes, State Vital Statistics Departments	High, (done state by state), Requires multiple data use agreements	Low because must be done state by state.
PHI Linkage within Data Source	70-85%	Yes	No	Low	Variable based on data source size.
Linkage within Data Source using Family/Subscriber ID without PHI	60-70%	No	No	Low	Variable based on data source size
Linkage with Privacy-Preserving Techniques	<50%	No	Yes	High	Very low because requires overlap with 2 sources.

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Assessing medical product safety during pregnancy using parameterizable tools in the sentinel distributed database

Jennifer G. Lyons , Elizabeth A. Suarez, Elnara Fazio-Eynullayeva, Judith C. Maro, Catherine Corey, Jie Li, Sengwee Toh, Mayura U. Shinde

First published: 09 November 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/pds.5568>

Disclaimer: The views expressed in this paper reflect those of the authors and should not be construed to represent U.S. Food and Drug Administration's views or policies.

**Funding information:** US Food and Drug Administration, Grant/Award Number: HHSF223201400030I

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Validation of the  
Signal Tools

Mother-Infant Linked  
(MIL) data sources:

- Large insurance companies
- Data aggregator
- Academic center
- Medicaid


# Validation of Signal Identification in Pregnancy Using Empirical and Simulated Data

PDS Pharmacoepidemiology  
& Drug Safety

ispe Official Journal of the  
International Society for  
Pharmacoepidemiology

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Novel methods for pregnancy drug safety surveillance in the FDA Sentinel System

Elizabeth A. Suarez , Michael Nguyen, Di Zhang, Yueqin Zhao, Danijela Stojanovic, Monica Munoz, Jane Liedtka, Abby Anderson, Wei Liu, Inna Dashevsky, David Cole, Sandra DeLuccia ... [See all authors](#) ▾

First published: 24 July 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.1002/pds.5512>

This work was presented at the International Conference of Pharmacoepidemiology in August 2021 (virtual event).

**Funding information:** US Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Grant/Award Numbers: HHSF223201400030I, HHSF22301012T

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PERINATAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

## Monitoring Drug Safety in Pregnancy with Scan Statistics: A Comparison of Two Study Designs

 Suarez, Elizabeth A.<sup>a</sup>;  Nguyen, Michael<sup>b</sup>;  Zhang, Di<sup>c</sup>;  Zhao, Yueqin<sup>c</sup>;  Stojanovic, Danijela<sup>b</sup>;  Munoz, Monica<sup>b</sup>;  Liedtka, Jane<sup>d</sup>;  Anderson, Abby<sup>e</sup>;  Liu, Wei<sup>b</sup>;  Dashevsky, Inna<sup>a</sup>;  DeLuccia, Sandra<sup>a</sup>;  Menzin, Talia<sup>a</sup>;  Noble, Jennifer<sup>a</sup>;  Maro, Judith C.<sup>a</sup>

[Author Information](#) ⓘ

*Epidemiology* 34(1):p 90-98, January 2023. | DOI: 10.1097/EDE.0000000000001561

BUY

SDC

 Metrics

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35871766/>

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/36252086/>



# Number of Contributing Jurisdictions

Plan	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
FFS	16	25	41	44	43	44	46
CMC	12	21	38	41	40	41	45

Transition years

FFS = Fee-for-Service, CMC = Comprehensive Managed Care

# Medicaid Data and the Sentinel System



- The CMS T-MSIS dataset is a valuable data source capturing key populations of public health interest, especially pregnant women and infants
- Sentinel's existing data infrastructure enables us to integrate Medicaid data with commercial claims data
  - Very large distributed database of linked mother-infant pairs
  - Necessary for studying rare drug-related adverse events to support FDA's mission to promote drug safety
- Commitment to transparency
  - All analytic tools and study materials are made publicly available
  - External researchers can leverage analytic code, transform their data into the SCDM, and replicate analyses or conduct new analyses



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