

# Phollow, the community pharmacies cohort

**First published:** 01/02/2024

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Data source

Human

Pharmacy dispensing records

## Administrative details

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#### Data source ID

1111225

#### Data source acronym

Phollow

#### Data holder

[National Association of Pharmacies Portugal \(ANF\)](#)

#### Data source type

Pharmacy dispensing records

#### Main financial support

Funding by own institution

## Care setting

Primary care – GP, community pharmacist level

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## Data source qualification

If the data source has successfully undergone a formal qualification process (e.g., from the EMA, ISO or other certifications), this should be described.

No

## Contact details

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## Data source regions and languages

### Data source countries

Portugal

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### Data source languages

English

Portuguese

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### Data source regions

Aveiro

Beja

Braga

Bragança

Castelo Branco

Coimbra

Évora  
Faro  
Guarda  
Leiria  
Lisboa  
Portalegre  
Porto  
Região Autónoma da Madeira  
Região Autónoma dos Açores  
Santarém  
Setúbal  
Viana do Castelo  
Vila Real  
Viseu

## Data source establishment

### Data source established

01/01/2017

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### Data source time span

**First collection:** 01/01/2017

The date when data started to be collected or extracted.

## Data elements collected

The data source contains the following information

## **Disease information**

Does the data source collect information with a focus on a specific disease? This might be a patient registry or other similar initiatives.

No

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## **Rare diseases**

Are rare diseases captured? In the European Union a rare disease is one that affects no more than 5 people in 10,000.

No

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## **Pregnancy and/or neonates**

Does the data source collect information on pregnant women and/or neonatal subpopulation (under 28 days of age)?

No

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## **Hospital admission and/or discharge**

No

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## **ICU admission**

Is information on intensive care unit admission available?

No

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## **Cause of death**

Not Captured

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## **Prescriptions of medicines**

Captured

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## **Dispensing of medicines**

Captured

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## **Advanced therapy medicinal products (ATMP)**

Is information on advanced therapy medicinal products included? A medicinal product for human use that is either a gene therapy medicinal product, a somatic cell therapy product or a tissue engineered products as defined in Regulation (EC) No 1394/2007 [Reg (EC) No 1394/2007 Art 1(1)].

No

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## **Contraception**

Is information on the use of any type of contraception (oral, injectable, devices etc.) available?

No

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## **Indication for use**

Does the data source capture information on the therapeutic indication for the use of medicinal products?

Captured

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## **Indication vocabulary**

Not coded (Free text)

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## **Medical devices**

Is information on medicinal devices (e.g., pens, syringes, inhalers) available?

No

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## **Administration of vaccines**

No

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## **Procedures**

Does the data source capture information on procedures (e.g., diagnostic tests, therapeutic, surgical interventions)?

Not Captured

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## **Healthcare provider**

Is information on the person providing healthcare (e.g., physician, pharmacist, specialist) available?  
The healthcare provider refers to individual health professionals or a health facility organisation licensed to provide health care diagnosis and treatment services including medication, surgery and medical devices.

No

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### **Clinical measurements**

Is information on clinical measurements (e.g., BMI, blood pressure, height) available?

No

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### **Genetic data**

Are data related to genotyping, genome sequencing available?

Not Captured

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### **Biomarker data**

Does the data source capture biomarker information? The term “biomarker” refers to a broad subcategory of medical signs ( objective indications of medical state observed from outside the patient), which can be measured accurately and reproducibly. For example, haematological assays, infectious disease markers or metabolomic biomarkers.

Not Captured

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### **Patient-reported outcomes**

Is information on patient-reported outcomes (e.g., quality of life) available?

No

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### **Patient-generated data**

Is patient-generated information (e.g., from wearable devices) available?

No

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### **Units of healthcare utilisation**

Are units of healthcare utilisation (e.g., number of visits to GP per year, number of hospital days) available or can they be derived? Units of healthcare utilisation refer to the quantification of the use of services for the purpose of preventing or curing health problems.

No

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### **Unique identifier for persons**

Are patients uniquely identified in the data source?

No

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### **Diagnostic codes**

Not Captured

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### **Medicinal product information**

Captured

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### **Medicinal product information collected**

Active ingredient(s)

Brand name

Dose

Formulation

Package size

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### **Medicinal product vocabulary**

AIC

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### **Quality of life measurements**

Not Captured

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### **Lifestyle factors**

Not Captured

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## **Sociodemographic information**

Captured

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### **Sociodemographic information collected**

Age

Gender

Pharmaceutical copayment

## Quantitative descriptors

### Population Qualitative Data

#### **Population age groups**

Paediatric Population (< 18 years)

Preterm newborn infants (0 – 27 days)

Term newborn infants (0 – 27 days)

Infants and toddlers (28 days – 23 months)

Children (2 to < 12 years)

Adolescents (12 to < 18 years)

Adults (18 to < 46 years)

Adults (46 to < 65 years)

Elderly ( $\geq$  65 years)

Adults (65 to < 75 years)

Adults (75 to < 85 years)

Adults (85 years and over)

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## **Estimated percentage of the population covered by the data source in the catchment area**

Approximately 82% of the Portuguese population that acquires products in community pharmacies

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## **Description of the population covered by the data source in the catchment area whose data are not collected (e.g., people who are registered only for private care)**

Clients of pharmacies that do not send dispensing information

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# **Data flows and management**

## **Access and validation**

### **Biospecimen access**

Are biospecimens available in the data source (e.g., tissue samples)?

No

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### **Access to subject details**

Can individual patients/practitioners/practices included in the data source be contacted?

No

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### **Description of data collection**

The Phollow database is a research cohort that contains individual level data on all prescription-only medicines dispensed at community pharmacies associated with ANF (Associação Nacional das Farmácias) in Portugal. This database includes information from 2,411 pharmacies, which represents about 83% of the total universe of Portuguese pharmacies. Each patient has a unique identified number that allows tracking of all prescription medication dispensed

within the participating pharmacies.

## Event triggering registration

### **Event triggering registration of a person in the data source**

Other

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### **Event triggering registration of a person in the data source, other**

whenever a patient buys a medicine presenting a prescription

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### **Event triggering de-registration of a person in the data source**

Death

End of treatment

Loss to follow up

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### **Event triggering creation of a record in the data source**

product dispensing

## Data source linkage

### **Linkage**

Is the data source described created by the linkage of other data sources (prelinked data source) and/or can the data source be linked to other data source on an ad-hoc basis?

No

## Data management specifications that apply for the data source

**Data source refresh**

Every 6 months

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**Informed consent for use of data for research**

Required for general use

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**Possibility of data validation**

Can validity of the data in the data source be verified (e.g., access to original medical charts)?

Yes

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**Data source preservation**

Are records preserved in the data source indefinitely?

No

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**Data source preservation length (years)**

5 years

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**Approval for publication**

Is an approval needed for publishing the results of a study using the data source?

Yes

## Common Data Model (CDM) mapping

**CDM mapping**

Has the data source been converted (ETL-ed) to a common data model?

Yes

**CDM Mappings**

**CDM name (other)**

SQL, SAS

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**Data source ETL status**

Not ETL-ed