SAFETY-VAC: Phenotype proposal and rates of immunocompromised populations in real-world data sources.

First published: 24/02/2025

Last updated: 23/10/2025





Administrative details

EU PAS number	
EUPAS1000000288	
Study ID	
100000288	
DARWIN EU® study	
No	
Study countries Denmark	
DenmarkFinland	
Denmark	

Norway		
Spain		
United Kingdom		

Study description

This SAFETY-VAC project aims to provide a consolidated approach to identify and characterise immunocompromised populations in real-world data sources and to produce incidence and prevalence rates for these populations using electronic healthcare records databases.

Study status

Planned

Research institutions and networks

Institutions

Aarhus University & Aarhus University Hospital DEPARTMENT OF CLINICAL EPIDEMIOLOGY
☐ Denmark
First published: 20/07/2021
Last updated: 02/04/2024
Institution

University Medical Center Utrecht (UMCU)

☐ Netherlands
First published: 24/11/2021
Last updated: 22/02/2024
Institution Educational Institution Hospital/Clinic/Other health care facility
ENCePP partner





Instituto Aragonés de Ciencias de la Salud (IACS) Spain First published: 01/02/2024 Last updated: 02/04/2024 Institution Educational Institution
Agenzia regionale di sanità della Toscana (ARS) Italy First published: 01/02/2024 Last updated: 12/03/2024 Institution EU Institution/Body/Agency ENCePP partner
The Foundation for the Promotion of Health and Biomedical Research of Valencia Region (FISABIO) Spain First published: 01/02/2024 Last updated: 31/10/2025 Institution

Agencia Española de Medicamentos y Productos Sanitarios (Spanish Agency for Medicines and Medical Devices, AEMPS)
Spain
First published: 01/02/2024
Last updated: 04/09/2024
Institution
ENCePP partner

University of Oslo

First published: 01/02/2024

Last updated: 01/02/2024

Institution

Teamit Institute Spain First published: 12/03/2024 Last updated: 12/03/2024 Institution Other ENCePP partner

Utretch University (UU), University of Eastern Finland (UEF)

Networks

Vaccine monitoring Collaboration for Europe
(VAC4EU)
Belgium
Denmark
Finland
France
Germany
Italy
Netherlands
Norway
Spain
United Kingdom
First published: 22/09/2020
Last updated: 22/09/2020
Network Outdated ENCePP partner

EU Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacovigilance (PE&PV) Research Network

☐ Netherlands
First published: 01/02/2024
Last updated: 24/09/2025
Network
Pedianet network (So.Se.Te)
Italy
First published: 23/10/2025

Last updated: 23/10/2025

Network

Contact details

Study institution contact

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Study contact

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Primary lead investigator

Carlos Durán Salinas

Primary lead investigator

Study timelines

Date when funding contract was signed

Planned: 15/01/2024 Actual: 06/02/2024

Study start date

Planned: 15/05/2024

Date of final study report

Planned: 16/09/2024

Sources of funding

EMA

Regulatory

Was the study required by a regulatory body?

Yes

Is the study required by a Risk Management Plan (RMP)?

Not applicable

Methodological aspects

Study type

Study type list

Study topic:

Disease /health condition

Study type:

Non-interventional study

Scope of the study:

Disease epidemiology

Method development or testing

Data collection methods:

Secondary use of data

Study design:

- Scoping review aimed at describing and identifying immunocompromised populations in epidemiological studies using EHRs.
- Retrospective cohort study from January 1, 2017, to the last available data aimed at identifying and characterizing these populations using RWD.

Main study objective:

- To describe what operational definitions are used to identify immunocompromised populations when conducting epidemiological research in EHR databases and propose a phenotype to identify immunocompromised individuals in database studies correctly.
- To estimate the incidence and one-year prevalence rates of immunocompromised status based on the agreed phenotype and different durations of episodes.
- To assess the contribution of different provenances of data and durations to the prevalence of the immunocompromised status.

Study Design

Non-interventional study design

Cohort

Population studied

Short description of the study population

Electronic health records of people from 10 data sources in 7 countries in Europe from January 1st, 2017, until the last data availability were selected. Persons were included in the study population when they had:

- Information on age and gender available,
- At least one day of follow in the study period (1/1/2017- latest availability). Follow-up started at the latest date of any of the following dates: day that one year of lookback is available during the study period, or at 1/1/2017 when the person is born in the data base.

Follow-up finished at the earliest of the following dates: death, disenrollment, end of study period, or recommended end date.

Age groups

- Paediatric Population (< 18 years)
- Adult and elderly population (≥18 years)

Study design details

Setting

The study will use data from 10 secondary electronic health record databases that are population-based in 7 countries in Europe (UK, Spain, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Italy and France).

The study will be conducted during the period from January 1st, 2017, to the last data availability, specific for each data source.

The source population comprises all persons in the data sources who can be potentially included in the study.

Documents

Study report

SAFETY-VAC Immunocompromised population D4 Report.pdf (1009.31 KB)

Data management

ENCePP Seal

The use of the ENCePP Seal has been discontinued since February 2025.

The ENCePP Seal fields are retained in the display mode for transparency but are no longer maintained.

Data sources

Data source(s)

Pedianet

Norwegian Health Registers

The Valencia Health System Integrated Database

EpiChron Cohort

Danish Health Data Registries

Système National des Données de Santé (French national health system main database)

BIFAP - Base de Datos para la Investigación Farmacoepidemiológica en el Ámbito Público (Pharmacoepidemiological Research Database for Public Health Systems)

Clinical Practice Research Datalink (CPRD) GOLD

The Information System for Research in Primary Care (SIDIAP)

Data source(s), other

Finnish national data registers

Use of a Common Data Model (CDM)

CDM mapping

Yes

Data quality specifications

Check conformance

Yes

Check completeness

Yes

Check stability

Yes

Check logical consistency

Yes

Data characterisation

Data characterisation conducted

Yes