

Center for Human Phenomic Science

Informatics Core Facilities

Core Description

The mission of the Center for Human Phenomic Science (CHPS) Informatics Core is to facilitate the scientific productivity of Clinical and Translational Science Award investigators by meeting their data management needs. Available core services include case report form (CRF) design, design and creation of data entry screens and database structures, resolution of coding issues, selection and application of appropriate data entry and quality assurance procedures to insure data integrity and accuracy, system maintenance, and implementation of data security protections. The Informatics Core manager is responsible for ensuring that research data is appropriately monitored, securely stored, and rendered accessible for analysis and reporting, and is HIPAA compliant. Core Manager Emma Escobar, MBA, has more than 25 years of experience with database design and development on both large-platform and desktop computers.

Description of Data Security for Investigator Use

The CRFs and database will be designed and developed by the CHPS Informatics Core at CHOP. Original data will be recorded directly onto CRFs by the study coordinator or a study investigator. All CRFs will be stored in locked cabinets.

All research data will be stored in a database and password protected. Examples of database applications used are REDCap (Research Electronic Data Capture) and Microsoft Access. If Microsoft Access is used, the databases are stored on a secure server maintained by the CHOP IT Department and administered by the CHPS Informatics Core. Redcap is a secure, web-based application administered by the Department of Biomedical and Health Informatics. All data are backed up nightly and archived at regular intervals.

Study data are linked through key variables and data sets or files can be easily created for any purpose from the database. No patient-identifying information is ever stored in any study database. Patients are identified only using unique study IDs.



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