

Analyses Requiring Hours in the Past Reduced to Minutes

Medivir sees a fast return on its investment—time savings and enhanced informativeness of data activities

Background

The discovery arm of Medivir, a mid-size, Swedish pharmaceutical company, sought an updated informatics infrastructure to improve the efficiency and flexibility of its data analysis and reporting. The group's existing in-house tools could only create reports in a few fixed formats. Team members manipulated the data manually in spreadsheet software before performing analyses; they then built reports, by hand, in presentation software.

The team aimed to reduce the time burden and error risk of manual data manipulations, while making it easier to manage data, access updates, and maintain project data tables. In addition, the scientists requested greater choice in analysis and reporting workflows.

Challenge

The new informatics solution would have to be flexible enough to support a heterogeneous user group including biologists and computational, analytical, and medicinal chemists. It should support their existing data sources and analysis and reporting tools, and allow for future additions. Any enterprise informatics solutions would need to be deployed quickly to minimize the disruption to the Medivir scientists' work.

A committee of scientists and IT staff compared commercially available systems. A discovery team member had heard of Certara's D360 Drug Development Platform, and suggested it as a flexible solution that could provide users with direct access to multiple data sources and also support an open-ended variety of scientist workflows in a user-friendly interface.

Solution

After extensive competitive product demonstrations, evaluations, and scientific user input, the company selected D360 as its new discovery data environment. In addition to supporting the discovery team's existing data sources and analysis tools, D360 provided a user-friendly interface for fast queries, analyses and 1-click reporting based on the latest data—across data sources. The scientists would have direct access to the data.

Challenge

To improve data workflow efficiency and enable flexible data exploration, analysis and reporting for Medivir discovery scientists while supporting multiple data sources and third party analysis tools.

Solution

Medivir selected Certara's D360 as its new discovery data environment.

Benefit

D360's on-demand data views and queries save the Medivir team considerable time, open new avenues of scientific exploration, and facilitate collaboration with colleagues.

In addition, Medivir scientists now were empowered to perform analyses with much less effort than was possible before adopting D360. For example, D360 has built in chemistry intelligence for better understanding structure-activity relationships (SAR) by combining chemical and biological *in vitro* data alongside tools that allow for better understanding of how chemistry affects the biological phenotypes. Within an extremely short time frame of about six weeks, Certara deployment specialists had installed, configured and trained the discovery team on the use of the new system. D360 was first deployed to ten enthusiasts—super users most willing to push the limits of the data handling and use cases—then extended to all. The system connected team members across disciplines to all appropriate databases and enabled seamless data delivery to their preferred analysis tools without the need for manual manipulations.

Benefit

On-demand access to current, analysis- and report-ready data views in D360 saved the scientific team considerable time previously spent on data manipulation, while opening new avenues of scientific exploration. The easy-to-use environment streamlined the scientists' daily workflow, seamlessly connecting data queries, analysis and reporting.

Team members could now explore new ideas as they occurred, following a trail of evidence through multiple data sources concurrently. Results became easy to share with colleagues through saved views in the D360 interface. Adopting D360 enabled better decision-making as users could now bring together biological assay data and drug metabolism and pharmacokinetics data to have a holistic view of a compound and easily combine their data to make first-in-man dosing predictions.

Impact

The company saw a fast return on its investment in terms of time savings for scientific and IT staff, and enhanced informativeness of data activities. Analyses that had required hours became possible in minutes. A saved result could be updated with new data almost instantly. The turnkey solution freed IT resources from development and maintenance of in-house tools. Direct scientist access to the latest data ensured that research decisions could be informed by the most recent and complete information.

The team plans to expand its use of D360 to include additional data sources, computational services, and more.

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We selected D360 because it was more user-friendly and intuitive than competitive solutions while being less burdensome for IT after deployment.

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– a member of the selection committee

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Data fields are available now that we couldn't see or touch before! Presentations and reporting are 1-click away instead of building a table from scratch in [Microsoft®] PowerPoint®. Plotting is available with 1-click access—no more export and manipulation to get this!

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– a member of the selection committee

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Since users aren't limited to a list of predefined queries, D360 is open to anything the scientist can think of.

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– scientific team member

About Certara

Certara is a leading provider of decision support technology and consulting services for optimizing drug development and improving health outcomes. Certara's solutions, which span the drug development and patient care lifecycle, help increase the probability of regulatory and commercial success by using the most scientifically advanced modeling and simulation technologies and regulatory strategies. Its clients include hundreds of global biopharmaceutical companies, leading academic institutions and key regulatory agencies.

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