Celebrate International Love Data Week 2026

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International Love Data Week 2026

This week, across the globe, a special kind of love is in the air—a love for data! As we celebrate Love Data Week, we are reminded that at the heart of ODS works lies an extraordinary opportunity: changing the culture to empower cancer research data!

In our quest to conquer cancer, every discovery, every trial, and every single data point is a puzzle piece holding a clue. When pieces gather, large or small, together, the picture of a cure comes into focus with breathtaking speed. Think of the patient waiting, the family hoping, the life that could be transformed. Sharing our data is one of the most profound acts of service we can offer them, turning collective knowledge into a powerful engine of healing and discovery.

This spirit of collaboration is already lighting up our field. Initiatives like the Childhood Cancer Data Initiative have shown what's possible when we replace silos with bridges and competition with compassion. Projects like the NCI Data Jamboree bring data generators, data platforms, and data users together to openly share our experiences and findings (see the Events section below to learn more about both initiatives). We honor the trust placed in us by patients and the public, creating a transparent and robust foundation for the breakthroughs of tomorrow.

So, this Love Data Week, let's choose to connect, collaborate, and continue to build this research data landscape. Together, let's share our data, and in doing so, share a boundless wave of hope across the world.

Announcements

Basic Experimental Studies in Humans (BESH) Will No Longer Be Considered Clinical Trials by the NIH. NOT-OD-26-032.

Effective for applications submitted to due dates on or after May 25, 2026, the NIH will no longer characterize BESH as clinical trials. In the context of the definition of clinical trials, the NIH now considers a health-related biomedical or behavioral outcome as having the potential for direct advancement of health. Although BESH research, which produces fundamental information about biology or behavior, might eventually inform advances in health, it is not conducted with the express intent of changing clinical practice or health but rather aims to understand fundamental aspects of phenomena without immediate clinical applications. Therefore, BESH will no longer be subject to the requirements under the NIH Clinical Trial Definition.

Request for Information: Diagnostic Imaging Interoperability Standards and Certification. RIN 0955-AA11.

ASTP/ONC published a request for information (RFI) seeks input from the public regarding the potential adoption of diagnostic imaging technical standards and certification criteria for health information technology (IT) under the ONC Health IT Certification Program (Certification Program) to better enable the access, exchange, and use of diagnostic images by health care providers and patients. Responses to this RFI due by **March 16, 2026**.

Guiding Principles of Good AI Practice in Drug Development

FDA CDER and CBER have collaborated with the European Medicines Agency (EMA) to develop 10 guiding principles that industry and product developers can consider when using artificial intelligence (AI) to advance drug and biological product development. The 10 principles are tailored to the drug development cycle and emphasize the importance of:

- Human-centric by design
- Risk-based approach
- Adherence to standards
- Clear context of use
- Multidisciplinary expertise
- Data governance and documentation
- Model design and development practices
- Risk-based performance assessment
- Life cycle management
- Clear, essential information

Events

Data Sharing and Reuse Seminar: Imaging Data Commons and Cancer Image Sharing in Today's AI Era

Registration.

Date and Time: Friday, February 13, 2026, from 12:00 - 1:00 PM ET

Speaker: Andrey Fedorov, Ph.D M.P.H., Harvard Medical School

In this talk, Dr. Fedorov will discuss NCI's Imaging Data Commons (IDC), and the role it can play in both enabling breakthroughs in cancer imaging AI and leveraging the latest AI advances to empower its users.

CCDI Webinar: Measuring Quality and Experience of Advanced Childhood Cancer Care

Registration.

Date and Time: Thursday, February 19, 2026, from 1:00 - 2:00 PM ET

Speaker: Prasanna Ananth, M.D., M.P.H., Yale School of Medicine

Join the Childhood Cancer Data Initiative (CCDI) for an exciting talk on how patient-report outcomes (PROs) data can drive change across child, adolescent, and young adult (AYA) cancer care.

Office of Data Sharing Webinar Series: The National Cancer Institute (NCI)'s Office of Data Sharing (ODS) will continue a monthly webinar series for jamboree project teams to share their findings, lessons learned, and future directions in February and March.

Registration.

NCI ODS Data Jamboree Seminar Series – February

Date and Time: February 24, 2026, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM ET

Moderator: Emily Boja, NCI ODS

Speakers: Mamie Lih, Johns Hopkins University. Brian Furner, University of Chicago. Eric Durbin, University of Kentucky. Gregory Wheeler, University of Galway, and Rakesh Khanna, National Cancer Institute.

NCI ODS Data Jamboree Seminar Series – March

Date and Time: March 17, 2026, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM ET

Moderator: Mousumi Ghosh, NCI ODS

Speakers: Nicholas Ilosa, Johns Hopkins University. Yin Lu, ICF. Rawan Shraim, Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. Jaime Estill, University of Michigan.

The NIAID Data Science Webinar Series: Introduction to Identifiers

Registration.

Date and Time: Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 12:00 PM ET/9:00 AM PT

Have you wished for an easier way to showcase your repository's capabilities? Wondered how repositories can better leverage submitted data, cross-reference datasets and metadata terms or more precisely cite organizations, grants, and contributors? This session addresses these challenges by exploring the role of **persistent identifiers (PIDs).**

NIAID's Office of Data Science and Emerging Technologies (ODSET) and GO FAIR US (GFU), who co-developed the NIAID Blueprint, present an **introduction to PIDs and how they make research data easier to find, share, cite, and reuse.** This webinar will introduce key identifier types, best practices, and their integration into the NIAID Blueprint framework. Participants will gain a clearer understanding of how PIDs support the FAIR principles and able impact analysis.

The webinar is open to all and will include time for questions and discussion. A recording and slides will be available after the session. Contact datascience@niaid.nih.gov with any questions.

Presenters: Chris Erdmann (GFU | San Diego Supercomputing Center (SDSC), Reed Shabman (ODSET/NIAID), Christine Kirkpatrick (GFU | SDSC)