



# Open Payments Analysis

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# About me



... a **Data Scientist**  
AI evangelist and  
data storyteller



... a **Professor** of  
Intelligent Automation  
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... a **Consultant** with 20+  
years in Continuous  
Improvement exp.



... an **Innovation Coach**  
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global leader.



... an **Analytics Researcher**  
at NYU Center for  
Sustainable Business

# Outline

- **Background**
- **Approach**
- **Python Model**
- **Analysis**
- **Next Steps**

# Background

## Open Payments:

- Disclosure program managed by the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (*CMS*).
- Promotes transparency and accountability.
- Helps consumers understand the financial relationships between pharmaceutical and medical device industries, and physicians and teaching hospitals.
- Financial relationships may include consulting fees, research grants, travel reimbursements, and payments made from the industry to medical practitioners.
- Data was taken from CMS site (2017): <https://www.cms.gov/OpenPayments/Explore-the-Data/Dataset-Downloads.html>

# Background

## Data Set:

- Annual data collection (2017). ~7Gb

- 4 Files:

1. General Payments (OP\_DTL\_GNRL\_PGYR2017\_P06282019.csv): Payments or other transfers of value made that are not in connection with a research agreement or research protocol.
2. Research Payments (OP\_DTL\_RSRCH\_PGYR2017\_P06282019.csv): Payments or other transfers of value made in connection with a research agreement or research protocol.
3. Physician Ownership or Investment Interest Information (OP\_DTL\_OWNRSH\_PGYR2017\_P06282019.csv): Information about physicians who hold an ownership or investment interest in an applicable manufacturer or applicable GPO or who have an immediate family member holding such interest.
4. Removed/Deleted records (OP\_REMOVED\_DELETED\_PGYR2017\_P06282019.csv): Payments removed from previous analysis.

- Stakeholders:



Patients and Consumers



Physicians and Entities



Companies and GPOs\*



Researchers

# Approach



Tools

alteryx

Exploratory data analysis

+



python™

Modeling

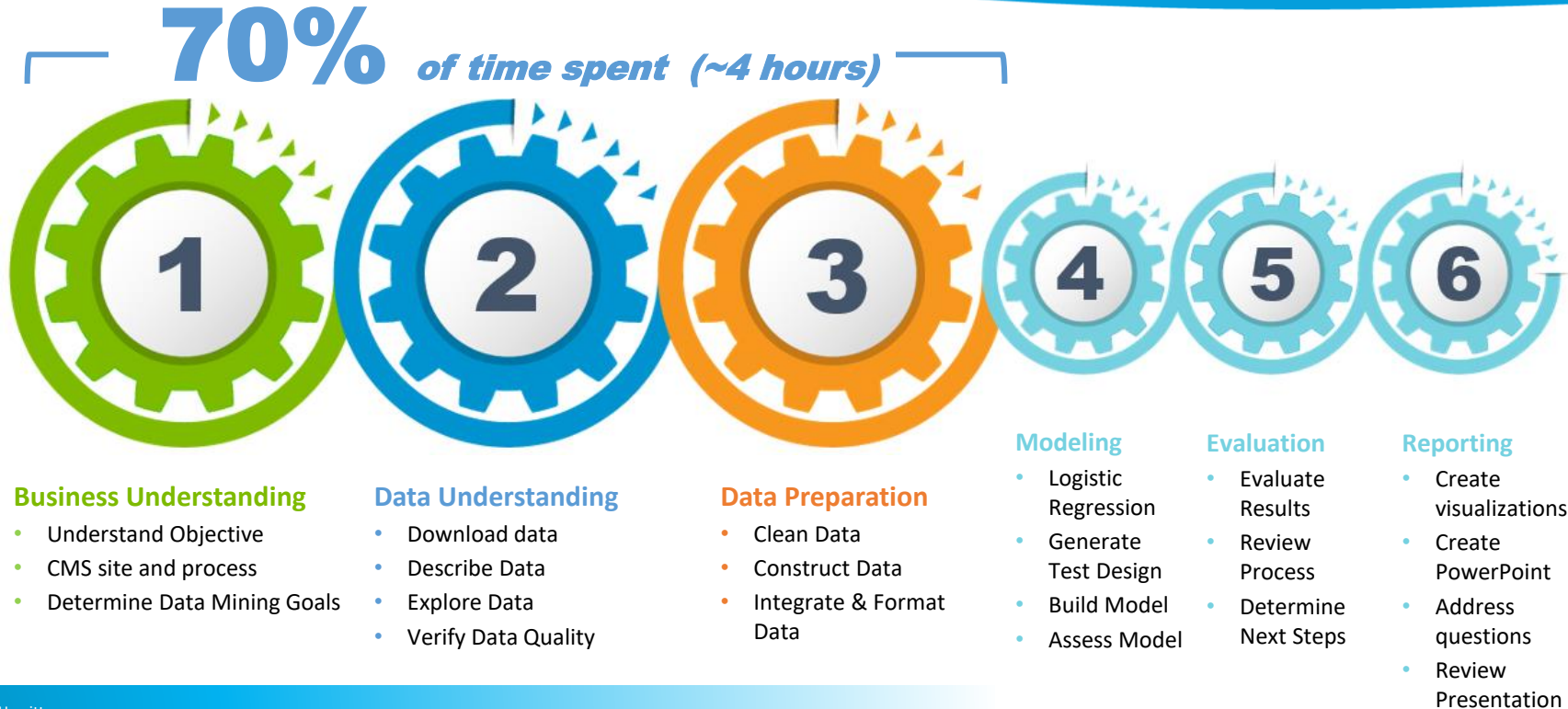
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Data Visualizations

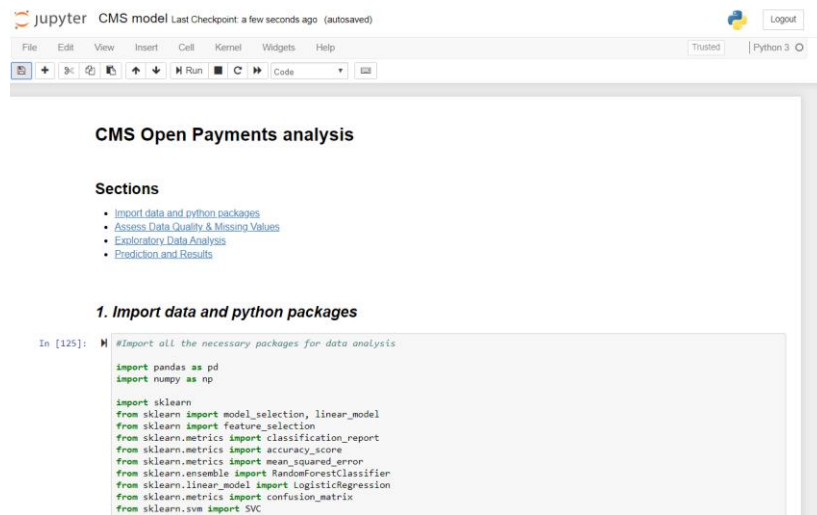
# Approach



# Python Model

1. Import Data and Python packages
2. Assess Data Quality & Missing Values
3. Exploratory Data Analysis
4. Prediction and Results

<https://github.com/sergiomastro/CMS/blob/master/CMS%20model.ipynb>



```
jupyter CMS model Last Checkpoint: a few seconds ago (autosaved)
File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Widgets Help Trusted Python 3
+ - - - - - Run - - - - - Code

CMS Open Payments analysis

Sections
• Import data and python packages
• Assess Data Quality & Missing Values
• Exploratory Data Analysis
• Prediction and Results

1. Import data and python packages

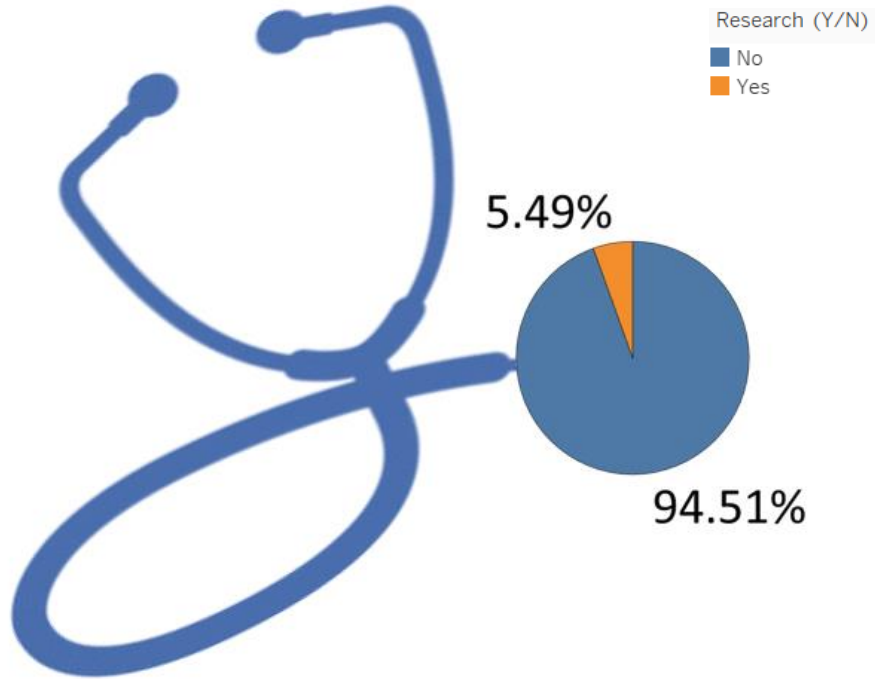
In [125]: # Import all the necessary packages for data analysis
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np

import sklearn
from sklearn import model_selection, linear_model
from sklearn import feature_selection
from sklearn.metrics import classification_report
from sklearn.metrics import accuracy_score
from sklearn.metrics import mean_squared_error
from sklearn.ensemble import RandomForestClassifier
from sklearn.linear_model import LogisticRegression
from sklearn.metrics import confusion_matrix
from sklearn.svm import SVC
```



# Analysis

## Exploratory data analysis

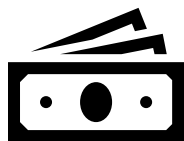


Research projects represent:

- 5.49% of the payments
- 653,488 payments made in 2017
- \$5.10 Billion

# Analysis

## Exploratory data analysis



Total Dollar Value  
**\$8.9 Billion**

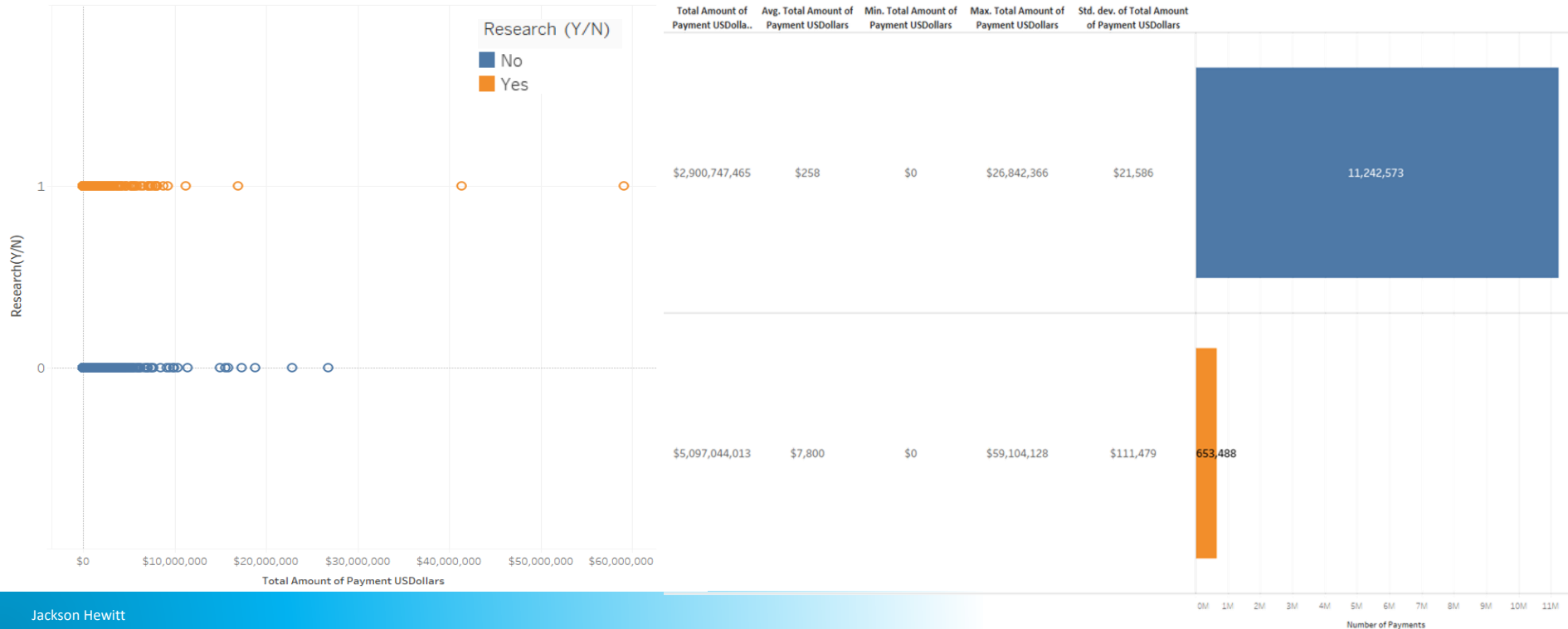


Total Records Published  
**11.89 Million\***

|  |                                   |                                   |
|--|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
|  General Payments   | Amount<br><b>\$2.90 Billion</b>   | Payments*<br><b>11.24 Million</b> |
|  Research Payments  | Amount<br><b>\$5.10 Billion</b>   | Payments*<br><b>653,488</b>       |
|  Value of Ownership | Amount<br><b>\$976.93 Million</b> | Payments*<br><b>2,840</b>         |

# Analysis

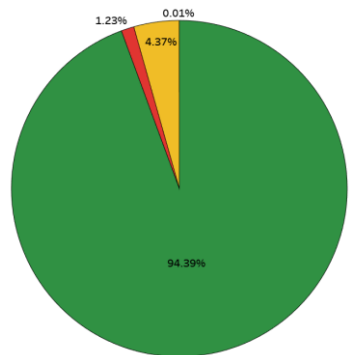
## Exploratory data analysis



# Analysis

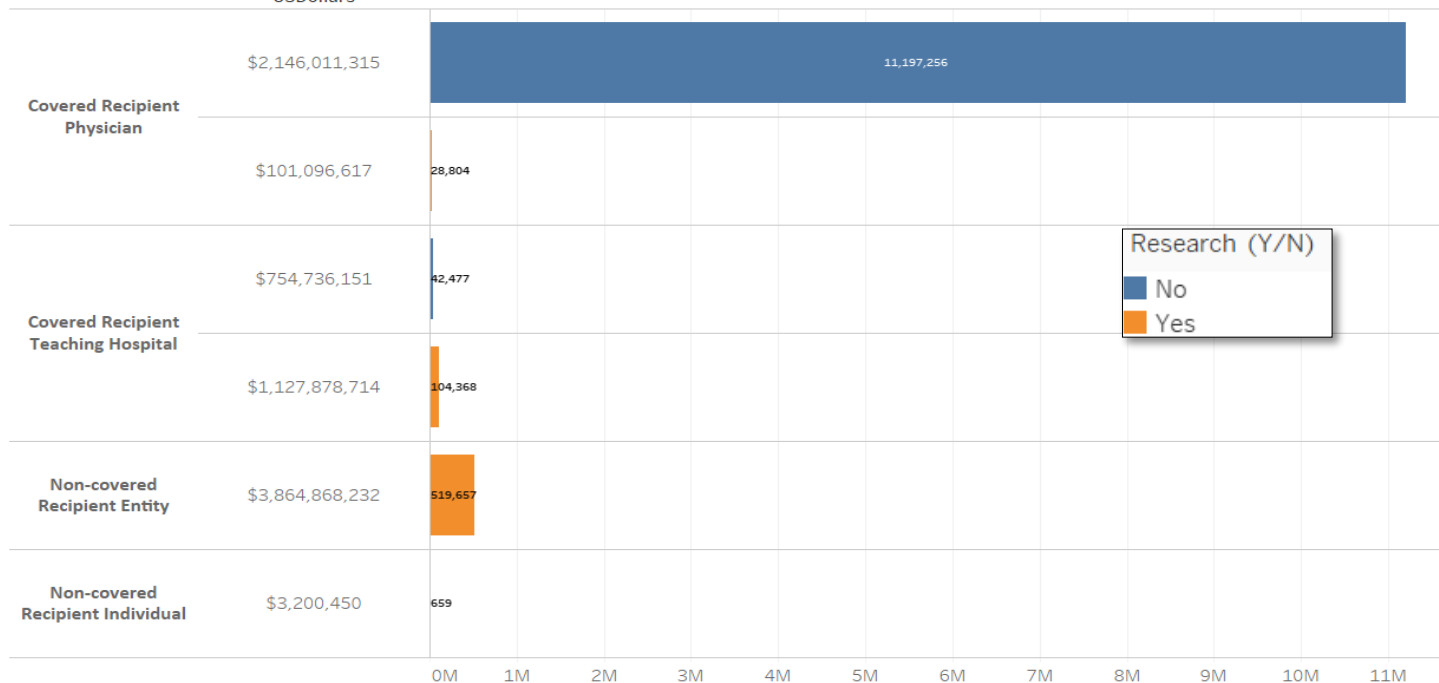
## Exploratory data analysis

Type of payments:



■ Covered Recipient Physician  
■ Covered Recipient Teaching Hospital  
■ Non-covered Recipient Entity  
■ Non-covered Recipient Individual

Total Amount of Payment  
USDollars



Research (Y/N)

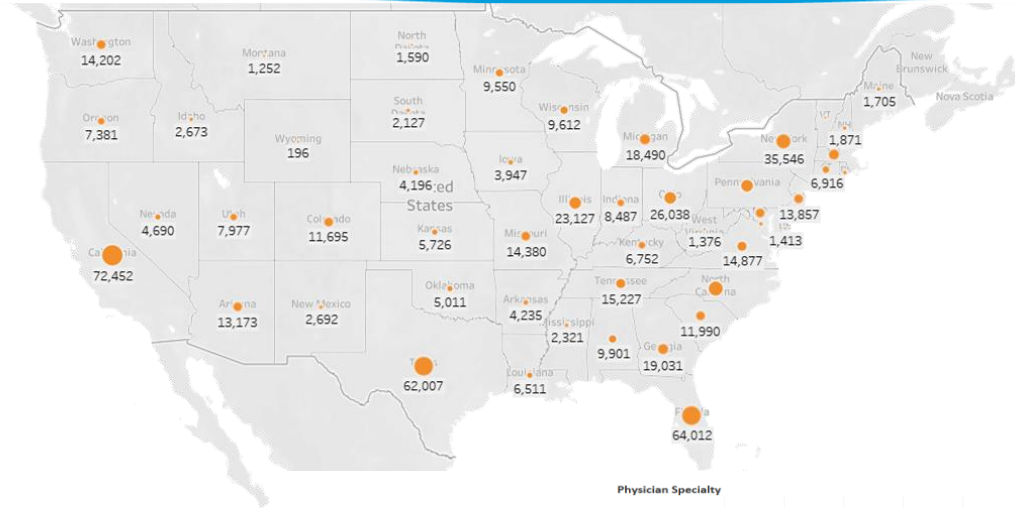
■ No  
■ Yes

Number of Payments

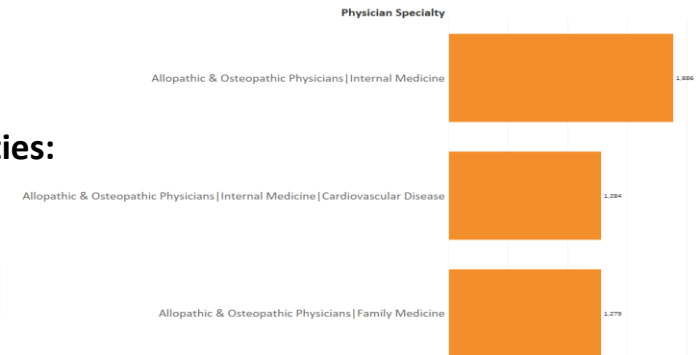
# Analysis

## Research Projects:

| Recipient Country                    | Number of Records | Total Amount of Payment USDollars | Avg. Total Amount of Payment USDollars | Min. Total Amount of Payment USDollars | Max. Total Amount of Payment USDollars | Std. dev. of Total Amount of Payment USDollars |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| United States                        | 652,268           | \$5,090,301,970                   | \$7,804                                | \$0                                    | \$59,104,128                           | \$111,579                                      |
| Null                                 | 659               | \$3,200,450                       | \$4,857                                | \$15                                   | \$337,500                              | \$15,238                                       |
| Canada                               | 96                | \$3,026,142                       | \$31,522                               | \$20                                   | \$195,750                              | \$54,826                                       |
| Great Britain (UK)                   | 441               | \$249,236                         | \$565                                  | \$10                                   | \$30,483                               | \$2,314  |
| Belgium                              | 16                | \$245,809                         | \$15,363                               | \$6                                    | \$45,003                               | \$13,052                                       |
| Germany                              | 1                 | \$6,909                           | \$6,909                                | \$6,909                                | \$6,909                                |  |
| United States Minor Outlying Islands | 3                 | \$5,437                           | \$1,812                                | \$279                                  | \$4,020                                | \$1,959  |
| Australia                            | 1                 | \$4,336                           | \$4,336                                | \$4,336                                | \$4,336                                |  |
| Poland                               | 1                 | \$3,113                           | \$3,113                                | \$3,113                                | \$3,113                                |  |
| Denmark                              | 1                 | \$563                             | \$563                                  | \$563                                  | \$563                                  |  |
| Japan                                | 1                 | \$48                              | \$48                                   | \$48                                   | \$48                                   |  |



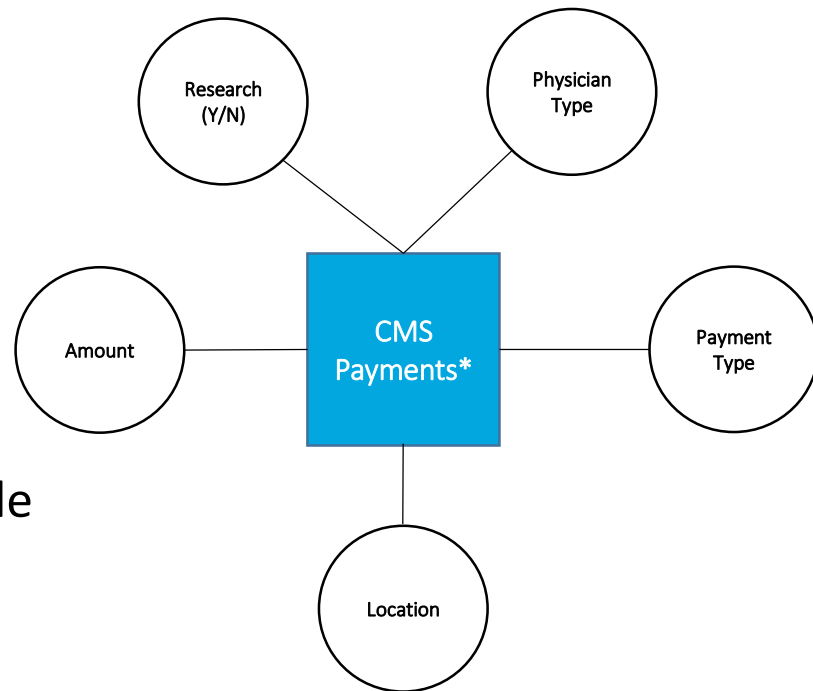
## Top 3 Specialties:



# Analysis

## Data Prep & Sampling:

- Remove Deleted & Ownership records
- Remove nulls and correlated records
- Remove extra spaces
- Remove useless, redundant and noisy features (columns)
- Label *Research* records & join datasets
- Sampling:
  - Select a statistically significant sample
  - Confidence level: 95%, CI: .1
  - Sample size: **883,282**



# Analysis

## Model:

- Unsupervised learning
  - Logistic Regression
  - Decision Tree
  - Random Forest
- Used observation to sample the relevant features from the dataset.
- Imbalanced dataset (number of observations for research payments are significant less than others).
- Didn't use Receiver Operating Characteristic(ROC) to find out the true positive rate over the false positive rate.

# Next Steps

- Establish a baseline to which compare results later.
- Explore the frequency of the payments (weekly).
- Include regularization (lasso regularization) to reduce weights for features that are not significant to zero.
- Use a fully connected neural network: we have an important amount of data that would make Neural Networks work best.
- Lastly, do PCA to reduce the dimensionality of the data.



# Lessons for future data collection

- Find a better technique for data sampling.
- Use the experimental study rather than observation study.
- Collection of unbiased datasets with a lesser class imbalances.
- Look for the causation rather than correlation of independent and dependent variables.

# Data set attributes:

- Analyse common features across files.
- Review the data dictionary to understand the relationships.
- Remove correlated fields (e.g. address/city, name/last name, etc.).
- ID and name variables that must be discarded to ensure best accuracy and efficient computation of the algorithms used.
- Distinguish factors for payments:
  - Location
  - Type of Payment
  - Type of Physician
  - Total amount USD

# Pitfalls

- Class imbalance: accuracy considered to be the best matrix to evaluate the results performance of the algorithm.

An algorithm which always predicts 0 (payment not for research purpose), the model would still give 99% accuracy because the 99% of the data is the one having the class 0.

We know that this is the worst algorithm which always predicts 0 no matter what, therefore we use and rely on Precision/Recall rather than ROC or Accuracy. Therefore, the f1-score, which is the arithmetic mean of precision and recall will cater this situation and give the correct output.

- Assumptions: Multicollinearity, Heteroscedasticity, normality.
- Outliers and overfitting.

|        |          | Prediction        |                   |
|--------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|
|        |          | Positive          | Negative          |
| Actual | Positive | True<br>Positive  | False<br>Negative |
|        | Negative | False<br>Positive | True<br>Negative  |

# Thank you

