

Exception of Signed inform consent and IRB approval.

Dear reviewer,

Our cohort's data were obtained using a validated, multicentered and daily-updated database called Explorys (Explorys Inc, Cleveland, OH, United States) developed by IBM Corporation, Watson Health [IBM corporation]. Explorys consists of electronic health records of 26 different healthcare systems with a total of about 360 hospitals and more than 70 million patients across the United States. Explorys utilizes Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine-Clinical Terms (SNOMED-CT) for the definition of the diseases and pools large outpatient as well as inpatient deidentified data that can be formulated into numerous cohorts according to the clinical element being studied. . Use of this database has been validated in multiple fields including cardiology, hematology and gastroenterology. **Explorys does not record individual patient data such as name, laboratory or imaging results. Patient's informed consent and approval of Institutional Review Board are not required since Explorys is a Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)-compliant platform.**