

Alphabet's Verily scores a \$1B cash infusion—here's where we think it's headed next

Article

The news: Verily announced a whopping \$1 billion investment (led by parent company Alphabet) to support Verily's business expansion focused on precision health, according to

the company.

Healthcare remix: Verily reshuffled its leadership to focus on healthcare—namely plans to hire a new healthcare-focused CFO.

Alongside the investment announcement, Verily also announced its CFO, **Deepak Ahuja**, will step down as the company searches for a new CFO “with a deep healthcare background for the next phase of [its] growth,” [per](#) Insider.

- This isn't the only time Verily restructured its C-suite to skew toward healthcare.
- Last year, it onboarded a new president for its clinical trial research business, **Dr. Amy Abernathy, M.D., Ph.D.** Abernathy previously served as the principal deputy commissioner of food and drugs at the FDA for two years.

The first signal: Last year, Verily acquired clinical trial management platform **SignalPath**—marking its first major acquisition and signaling a stronger healthcare focus.

- SignalPath's clinical trial software, TrialPath, digitizes research protocols, and virtually tracks every step of clinical trials (from budgeting to site management).
- Plus, SignalPath's platform neatly complements Verily's end-to-end digital clinical research solution, Project Baseline (a community of over 500,000 individuals and pharma partners).

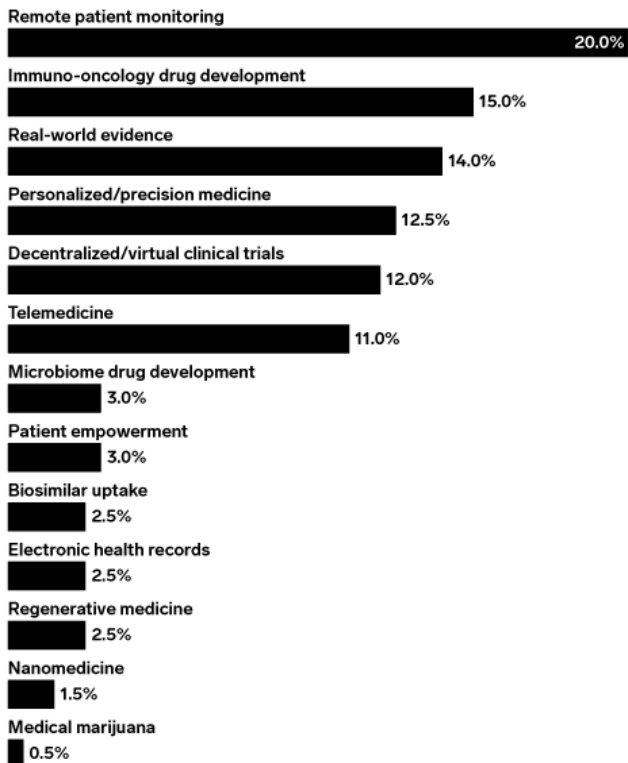
What's next? We could see Verily integrate its freshly funded precision medicine initiatives with its clinical trial business.

Integrating the two businesses could help with a major limitation of clinical trials: a lack of diverse participants.

- Clinical trial participation is often limited by who researchers are able to recruit, and as a result, there's far more white than non-white patients [enrolled](#) in trials.
- This challenges the generalizability of clinical trial results across patient populations, and could stymie Verily's broader research efforts.

Industry Trends that Are Expected to Have the Greatest Impact on the Biopharmaceutical Industry in 2021 According to Pharmaceutical Executives Worldwide, Dec 2020

% of respondents



Source: GlobalData, "The State of the Biopharmaceutical Industry - 2021" as cited in company blog, Aug 17, 2021

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