Truveta Health scores $95M to fix healthcare's AI data diversity woes

Article

The news: Healthcare data analytics startup **Truveta Health** added three health system partners and scored **$95 million** in Series A funding to expand its patient database covering different diagnoses, demographics, and regions.

- Truveta's 17 health system partners reportedly provide more than 15% of all care in the US, including large institutions like **Providence, Henry Ford Health System, Northwell Health**.

How we got here: The pandemic exposed the need for a large, accessible patient database that provides rapid insights into whether treatments are effective.

Last year, there was buzz about hydroxychloroquine's ability to manage COVID-19—but doctors couldn't share data about the drug quickly enough to make a fast call. Since then, drugs like hydroxychloroquine and remdesivir have proven to be ineffective as antiviral treatments against COVID-19 by the World Health Organization. But massive databases being developed by companies like Truveta could have enabled researchers to come to this conclusion more swiftly, potentially saving patients from experiencing unnecessary side effects of drugs like hydroxychloroquine, like heart rhythm disturbance.

Why it could succeed: Deidentified databases like Truveta's could be key to ensuring providers get access to more diverse samples to inform their decisions.

Massive insurers like UnitedHealthcare's Optum have databases of deidentified patient information providers can access, but they exclude uninsured and Medicaid patients. That means providers or researchers accessing anonymized databases from commercial insurers may not be getting a comprehensive picture to inform their care decisions: As of January 2021, 81 million individuals are enrolled in Medicaid across the US.

Platforms like Truveta's are more inclusive of all populations.

- For example, Truveta's health system partners include names like Chicago-based **CommonSpirit Health**, which has about 137 hospitals serving a large and diverse population of Medicare and Medicaid patients.**Komodo Health's** AI-powered analytics tool Healthcare Map also offers providers and pharma companies access to over **325 million** deidentified patient encounters to facilitate research initiatives, for instance.

How Are US Adults Covered by Health Insurance?
% of respondents, Jan 2021

Job	45%
Medicare	17%
Family member	9%
Medicaid	8%
Individual plan	7%
COBRA*	6%
Not covered	5%

Note: numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding; *the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act
Source: Bend Financial survey conducted by OnePoll as cited in press release , Feb 3, 2021

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