Charting Our APAC Journey:
Lessons from the Past, Visions for the Future

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Our APAC Journey

2019
- First face-to-face with OHDSI Japan collaborators

- Formation of OHDSI Australia and OHDSI Japan Chapters
- Formation of OHDSI APAC

2020
- Initiation of first APAC study (LEGEND-HTN)
- Formation of OHDSI Singapore and OHDSI Taiwan Chapters
- First virtual APAC symposium in 4 languages (ENG, CN, KR, JP)

2021
- Initiation of APAC Community Calls
- First APAC ETL training/tutorial
- Second virtual APAC symposium

- 4 APAC Studies selected for 2022

2022
- First APAC study published

- Initiation of APAC Newsletters
- Formation of OHDSI India Chapter
- First in-person APAC symposium in Taiwan

2023
- SOS Challenge Study led by Korea and Australia
- Initiation of APAC Scientific Forums
- Second in-person APAC symposium in Australia

- 2 Titan Award Winners from APAC

Community Collaboration

12
Community Calls

Monthly gathering of entire APAC community, focused on updates within the region as well as dissemination of news from the global OHDSI community

2024 Keyword: Global   50%

13
Scientific Forums

Monthly avenue for APAC's research community, focused on hosting sessions on community-driven topics

2024 Keyword: ETL   85%

4
Newsletters

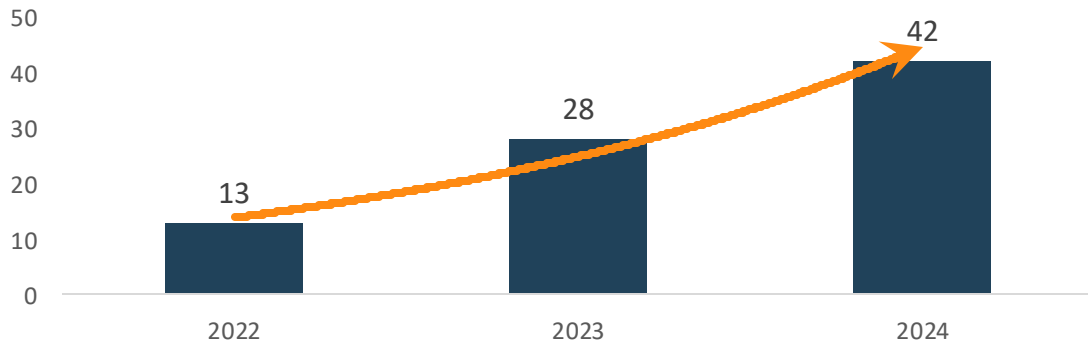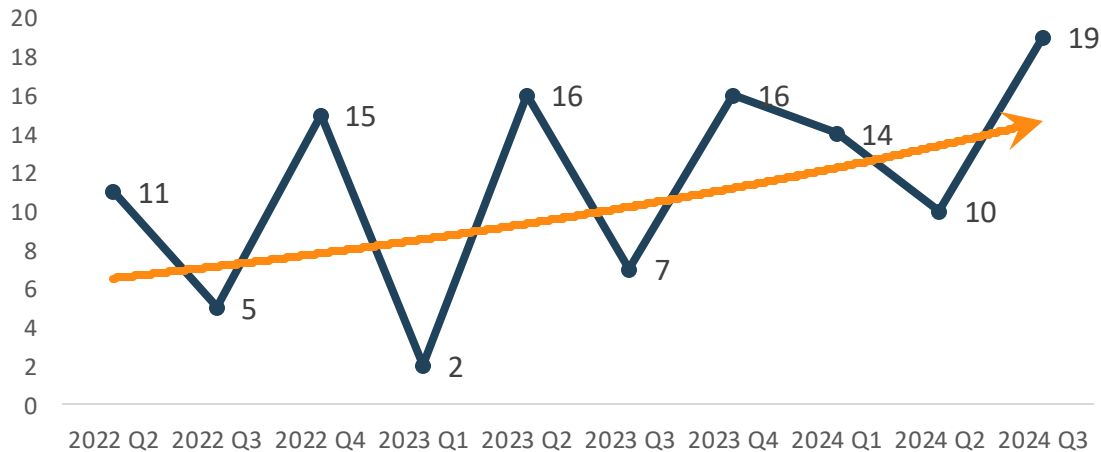Quarterly write-ups on news and developments from the region, including monitoring of APAC publications

2024 Keyword: Events   100%

APAC Studies

Increasing trend of publications and abstract submissions from APAC

Hao Luo*, Yi Chai*, Sijia Li, Wallis C Y Lau, Carmen Olga Torre, Joseph Hayes, Ivan C H Lam, Xiaoyu Lin, Can Yin, Stephen Fortin, Dave M Kern, Dong Yun Lee, Rae Woong Park, Jae-Won Jang, Celine S L Chui, Jing Li, Sarah Seager, Kenneth K C Man, Ian C K Wong

Summary

Background People with mental health conditions were potentially more vulnerable than others to the neuropsychiatric effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and the global efforts taken to contain it. The aim of this multinational study was to examine the changes in psychotropic drug prescribing during the pandemic among people with depressive and anxiety disorders.

Methods This study included electronic medical records and claims data from nine databases in six countries (France, Germany, Italy, the UK, South Korea, and the USA) of patients with a diagnosis of depressive or anxiety disorders between 2016 and 2021. The outcomes were monthly prevalence rates of antidepressant, antipsychotic, and anxiolytic drug prescribing. The associations between the pandemic and psychotropic drug prescribing were examined with interrupted time series analyses for the total sample and stratified by sex and age group. People with lived experience were not involved in the research and writing process.

Findings Between Jan 1, 2016 and Dec 31, 2020, an average of 16 567 914 patients with depressive disorders (10 820 956 females [65·31%] and 5 746 958 males [34·69%]) and 15 988 451 patients with anxiety disorders (10 688 788 females [66·85%] and 5 299 663 males [33·15%]) were identified annually. Most patients with depressive disorders and anxiety disorders were aged 45–64 years. Ethnicity data were not available. Two distinct trends in prescribing rates were identified. The first pattern shows an initial surge at the start of the pandemic (eg, antipsychotics among patients with depressive disorders in MDCD_US (rate ratio [RR] 1·077, 95% CI 1·055–1·100), followed by a gradual decline towards the counterfactual level (RR 0·990, 95% CI 0·988–0·992). The second pattern, observed in four databases for anxiolytics among patients with depressive disorders and two for antipsychotics among patients with anxiety disorders, shows an immediate increase (eg, antipsychotics among patients with anxiety disorders in IQVIA_UK: RR 1·467, 95% CI 1·282–1·675) without a subsequent change in slope (RR 0·985, 95% CI 0·969–1·003). In MDCD_US and IQVIA_US, the anxiolytic prescribing rate continued to increase among patients younger than 25 years for both disorders.

43 publications so far in 2024, including

1 high-impact publication in *The Lancet Psychiatry*

2024 APAC ETL Project

1st ETL Project

First community-wide ETL initiated by the APAC community

4 Teams

Consisting of 5 functions needed for a typical OMOP conversion (data analysis, ETL, vocabulary mapping, quality assurance and project management)

3 Months

From project kickoff in August to completion in November, adopting Agile methodology

136 Participants

Signing up to either contribute as volunteers or learn as observers

1 Database

Perioperative and Anesthesia Subject Area Registry (PASAR) established by Singapore General Hospital (SGH)

9 Regular Meetings

To review sprints amongst the project team and provide updates to the general community

APAC Community-wide ETL Project Kick-off Meeting

August 1, 2024

APAC Events in 2024

April APAC

- ✓ Three in-person events hosted in Japan, Thailand and Taiwan
- ✓ Targeted to familiarize new collaborators in the region with OHDSI/OMOP and understand local perspectives/considerations

OHDSI India Symposium

- ✓ First symposium hosted by the OHDSI India Chapter
- ✓ Brought together more than 20 community leaders in the field of health data research for a day of sharing, learning and networking

OHDSI APAC Symposium

- ✓ 5-day in-person event hosted in Singapore consisting of lectures, tutorials and a datathon
- ✓ Co-hosted with Singapore Healthcare AI Datathon & Expo (IMAGINE AI)

2024 — **April** — **October** — **December**

APAC Titan Award Winners

Jack Janetzski

Jung Ho Kim

Natthawut "Max" Adulyannukosol

Titan Award for Clinical Application
for their contributions to the 2023 SOS Challenge

Titan Award for Community Collaboration
for his contributions to the 2024 APAC ETL Project and Thailand leadership

Our Challenge to You

See you in China at the 2025 APAC Symposium!