The Health Data Platform (HDP) supports research and analysis both within the health sector and in academia, by allowing access to health data from multiple sources to be brought together as required (on-demand), linked, de-identified and analyzed on a single secure platform.

The goal of the HDP is three-fold:

- Provide more timely, secure and consistent access to integrated ‘big’ health data
- Establish a standard and enhanced privacy and security landscape
- Increase process transparency and efficiency for data providers and data consumers

This work is being developed and led by the Ministry of Health with matched funding from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR) strategy for Patient Oriented Research (SPOR) and the Province of BC.

**Launching of the Health Data Platform and COVID-19:**

*The initial focus of the HDP will be supporting public health and scientific research on COVID-19.*

Starting July 20th, 2020, the HDP will be supporting priority data requests from the Ministry, health authorities and researchers in academia.

**Continuing Development of the Health Data Platform:**

Throughout 2020, the HDP solution will continually and iteratively be built to support ongoing health sector analytical needs including COVID-19 and additional health data sets. Data from sources including health authority data and Ministry of health data will all be available for access through their secure environment.
Step 1 - Review for Prioritization: COVID-19 Strategic Research Advisory Committee (SRAC) reviews winners of grants to determine if the project meets the prioritization criteria. *Note: If the grant is awarded from Genome, MSFHR or CIHR, SRAC review is not required.

Step 2 - Application for Data: If your project has been prioritized by SRAC, please contact dataaccess@popdata.bc.ca for support on completing your Data Access Request (DAR) form and your request will be immediately assessed against the 5 Safes.

If your project has not been prioritized by SRAC, please contact dataaccess@popdata.bc.ca for support on completing your DAR form.

Step 3 – 5 Safes & Expedited Reviews: Once prioritized and your request submitted, it is assessed against the 5 Safes. If the request meets all 5 Safes, it is pre-approved and proceeds for expedited review by the Data Stewardship Council, if required. If it is not pre-approved, the request proceeds to expedited review by the Health Data Council and then the Data Stewardship Council, if required.

If your request is following the non-prioritized route, following Health Data Council review, your request then proceeds for review to the Data Stewardship Council, if required.

Step 4 – Approvals: Once final approval has been received, data will be expedited for data retrieval and access.

What is a prioritized request?
The COVID-19 Strategic Research Advisory Committee (SRAC) have developed the following criteria for determining priority research projects:

- COVID-19 data requests funded by Genome, MSFHR and CIHR, will automatically be deemed high priority and follow an expedited approval path including Data Stewardship Committee (DSC), where required

Requests funded by other entities will be reviewed by SRAC.
HDP 5 Safes:

When a request is submitted to the HDP, it undergoes a review against the 5 safes to make informed decisions when protecting data privacy and security and making decisions that benefit the people of BC. The criteria will evolve over time. The 5 safes for the HDP for the July launch are as follows:

1. **Safe People**
   - Principal investigator is from a Canadian Institution OR
   - Analyst from a BC health authority or MoH as approved by the organization’s delegate

2. **Safe Project**
   - Research: High priority research project as determined by Strategic Research Advisory Council (SRAC)
   - Organization: High Priority Organization Project as determined by the requesting organization designate

3. **Safe Data**
   - Core Data set provided by each organization

4. **Safe Environment**
   - HDP secure environment OR
   - PoPData secure research environment

5. **Safe Output**
   - Statistical products

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**COVID-19 Data Sets Available July 20th:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data Sets</th>
<th>Scope</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COVID test lab data</td>
<td>Individuals tested and their result, starting Jan 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Case data</td>
<td>Lab confirmed positives, starting Jan 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All ICU admission</td>
<td>Starting Jan 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COVID acute admissions</td>
<td>Starting Jan 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortality data – Vital Statistics</td>
<td>Back to 2008, including current year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fee for Service (MSP) data</td>
<td>All available years, including open year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chronic Disease Registry</td>
<td>Latest version</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharge Abstract Data (DAD)</td>
<td>All available years, including open year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Ambulatory Care Reporting System (NACRS)</td>
<td>All available years, including open year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health System Matrix</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pharmannet</td>
<td>All available years, including open year</td>
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<tr>
<td>Client Roster</td>
<td>Latest version</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>811</td>
<td>All available years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Please contact the HDP team at: mohanalytics@gov.bc.ca and/or see the HDP Frequently Asked Questions