

Databases available for pharmacoepidemiology researches in Japan (information obtained from survey answers as of August 2025)

	Insurance-based									Pharmacy-based		
	NDB	LIFE	JMDC	Cross Fact	AHI (ex_JammNet)	MDV	DeSC	IQVIA Claims data	REZULT	Cross Fact	IQVIA NPA data	Nihon-Chouzai
Database administrator	Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare	LIFE Study	JMDC.Inc	INTAGE Real World Inc.	AHI partners	Medical Data Vision Co., Ltd.	DeSC Healthcare, Inc.	IQVIA Solutions Japan	Japan System Techniques Co., Ltd.	INTAGE Real World Inc.	IQVIA Solutions Japan G.K.	Japan Medical Research Institute CO., LTD.
Database name	National Database of Health Insurance Claims	LIFE DB	JMDC Payer database	Cross Fact	AHI partners database	EBM Provider®	DeSC database	IQVIA Claims data	REZULT	Cross Fact	IQVIA NPA data	NIHON CHOUZAI Prescription Database
Contact information		https://life.hcam.med.kyushu-u.ac.jp/contact/	mdbhelp@jmdc.co.jp	irw-info@intage.com	support@ahi-p.jp	ebm_sales@mdv.co.jp	rwe-psales@desc-hc.co.jp	iqvia-rwd-support@iqvia.com	rezult@jast.co.jp	irw-info@intage.com	iqvia-rwd-support@iqvia.com	socket-info@jpmedri.co.jp
Web site URL	https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/kenkou_iryou/iryouhoken/reseputo/index.html	https://life.hcam.med.kyushu-u.ac.jp/	https://www.phm-jmdc.com/	https://www.intage-realworld.co.jp/	https://www.ahip.jp/	https://www.mdv.co.jp/	https://desc-hc.co.jp/archives/publication	www.iqvia.co.jp	https://www.rezult-lp.com/	https://www.intage-realworld.co.jp/	www.iqvia.co.jp	https://www.jpmedri.co.jp/
Published article about the database (DOI)		https://doi.org/10.2188/jea.JE20210513	http://dx.doi.org/10.1002/jgf2.422				10.31662/jmaj.2021-0189					
Database Overview												
General description of the database	Database of health insurance claims and specific health checkups for preparation, implementation, and evaluation of medical cost optimization plan	A database that integrates health, medical, long-term care, and administrative data collected from municipalities nationwide, linked at the individual level. It covers beneficiaries of the National Health Insurance, Later-Stage Elderly Medical Care System (aged 75 and over), public assistance recipients, and enrollees of Employee's Health Insurance (limited to children in some municipalities).	Japan's largest epidemiological database consisting of receipts, health checkup results, and subscriber registers from insurers nationwide. The database has excellent patient traceability (up to 20 years), and its population includes healthy people, making it possible to examine the prevalence and incidence of diseases. It is also linked to the PRO Panel, which enables direct approaches to patients through questionnaires and article distribution.	Database based on health insurance, include of all rezept(include dental rezept),except of Organ transplant patient and comment field for all patients.	An insurance claims database that utilizes the insurance system, as well as limited data on the elderly	Health claims database from inpatient, outpatient, and pharmacy claims consists of 263 health insurance societies in Japan. We can also provide a database of anonymized processed information created from the DeSC database's receipt data, health checkup data, and subscriber ledgers.	A database of anonymized processed information based on receipt data, annual medical checkup data, and enrollment information collected from multiple Employee Health Insurance, National Health Insurance, and Latter-Stage Elderly Healthcare System. Nursing care data , PRO data and life log data can be provided as options.	Claims data consists of 334 health insurance societies in Japan. It can be integrated with DeSC database which is comprised of receipt data, medical checkup data and subscriber ledgers. We can also provide the integrated Claims data as OMOP version which is suitable for international database research.	It consists of data that has been anonymized from receipt data and health checkup data issued when members belonging to an insurance company visit a medical institution.In addition to using it for joint research and product development, the database can also be sold.	Pharmacy claims database contains extramural dispense records	Pharmacy claims database collecting dispense claims from 11,400 pharmacies nationwide. # of prescriptions: 191 million in 2024.	The database is based on outpatient prescriptions from medical institutions, various surveys of patients, DTC (direct to consumer), and other sources. NIHON CHOUZAI is Japan's second largest dispensing group, with a chain of 759 stores in Japan.
Data source												
DPC data (except for DPC claim)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Medical/DPC claim	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Dental claim	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Pharmacy claim	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Electronic medical chart	No	No	No	No	Limited	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Lab test results	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Ordering	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Health checkup	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	No	Limited	Limited	Limited	Limited	No	No	No

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	NDB	LIFE	JMDC	Cross Fact	AHI (ex_JammNet)	MDV	DeSC	IQVIA Claims data	REZULT	Cross Fact	IQVIA NPA data	Nihon-Chouzai
Others	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Others, notes		DPC claims data, Register of Insured Persons, Basic resident register data, Maternal and child health check-up data, Vaccination data, Cancer screening data, Dental check-up data, Osteoporosis screening data, Residential data, Income level data, Original questionnaire data		DPC Receipt		DPC claims and partially available ledger information	Life-log of HL, QOL, WPAI, PSQI, number of steps, blood glucose level, blood pressure, and body weight data can be used in Employee Health Insurance (EHI) and National Health Insurance(NHI).	partially subscriber ledger information				Pharmaceutical delivery quantity, Patient Survey
Data collected from	Othres	Health insurance association	Health insurance association	Health insurance association	Health insurance association	Health insurance association	Health insurance association	Health insurance association	Health insurance association	Pharmacy	Pharmacy	Pharmacy
Others, notes	Insurance claims and special health checkups and specific health guidance data from all health insurance associations	National Health Insurance, Later-Stage Elderly Medical Care System (aged 75 and over), public assistance recipients, and enrollees of Employee's Health Insurance (limited to children in some municipalities)		Health insurance association			We deliver claim data which includes Employee Health Insurance (EHI), National Health Insurance(NHI) and Latter-Stage Elderly Healthcare System (LSEHS).			Pharmacy		
Number of organizations		20	380	281		263		334	254	4433	11479	759
Data period												
Starting year	2008	2014	2005	2010	2008	2012	2014	2012	2010	2015	2015	2001
Latest year	2025	2023	2025	2025	2025	2025	2024	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025
Notes							the maximum data period is 10 years, and its minimum is 1 year.				Part of the data is available from April 2008.	Data up to the previous day can be provided
Laws and regulations related to the data provision to third parties	Othres	Act on the Protection of Personal Information	Act on the Protection of Personal Information	Act on the Protection of Personal Information		Others	Act on the Protection of Personal Information, Ethical Guidelines for Medical Research	Act on the Protection of Personal Information	Others	Act on the Protection of Personal Information	Act on the Protection of Personal Information	
Notes	Act on Assurance of Medical Care for Elderly People					We do not provide or receive special care-required personal information to or from third parties.						
Handling anonymously processed information	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Compliance with the laws and regulations on third-party data provision	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

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Size												
Number of unique identifiers [approx., 10K people]	12000	461	2200	1329.4	230	1060	1685	1857	1070	5722	10498	2400
Notes	Almost equal to total population in Japan			Health insurance membership approx 15.6 million			Person who is enrolled at least once during the data period.	Cumulative number of patients during the data period	1070	Net number of patients since April 2015	The registrants are not fixed because patients who visit pharmacies are targeted.	
Annual number of unique identifiers (latest year) [approx., 10K people]		298	1550	1137		539		822	570	1855	3951	230
The latest year		2023	2024	2024		2024		2024	2024	2024	2024	2024
Notes			April 2024 - March 2025	January 2024 to December 2024 Net number of patients approx 6.0 million		April 2024 - March 2025		Number of patients from April 2023 to March 2024		August 2024 to July 2025	approx. 39,510,000	April 2024 to March 2025
% coverage of target population		National Health Insurance: 5.9% Later-Stage Elderly Medical Care System: 6.3% The denominator is the total number of insured individuals for each health insurance provider.	Approx. 12% of the Japanese population Approx. 40% of health insurance association members	Covers 10.74% of the total population in Japan(total population in 2024)	About 2% of the nation's health insurance associations	About 4.3% of Japan's population	Coverage ratio is EHI ... 2.2% NHI ... 13.4% LSEHS ... 20.9% The denominator is number of members for each insurance. (Reference: January 2023, Ministry of Health, Labor and Welfare, "Basic Data on Medical Insurance," https://www.mhlw.go.jp/content/kiso_r02.pdf)	Approx. 6.6% of the Japanese population		9% of annual prescription (Survey by Japan Pharmaceutical Association)	approx. 22.1% of total extramural dispense claims (based on Survey by Japan Pharmaceutical Association)	Approx. 2.1% of the estimated number of outpatient prescriptions by the Japan Pharmaceutical
Annual N of outpatients (latest year) [approx., 10K people]		283	1325	602.3	200	539		820	540	1855		230
Annual N of inpatients (latest year) [approx., 10K people]		47	91	31.8	3	29		42	30			
Annual N of medicated diabetes patients (latest year) [approx., 10K people]		38	68	19.5	12	18		27	18	101		26
Definition		The total count of patients who have received a diagnosis corresponding to ICD-10 codes E10-E14 (excluding suspected diagnoses) and have also been prescribed a pharmaceutical product under ATC code A10.	Number of patients with ICD-10:E10-E14 disease (excluding suspected) and prescribed ATC:A10 drugs	ICD-10:E10-E14 and EphmraATC : A10	ICD10 : E10-E14 ATC : A10	• Target disease: ICD10: E10-E14 (exclude suspected cases) • Target medication: ATC (EphMRA): A10 • Condition for target patients: Target medication was prescribed in the same month as the diagnosis of the target disease.		• Data period : April 2024 - March 2025 • Dianosis : Diabets (ICD10 : E10-E14) • Prescription : Antidiabetic drug (ATC(EphMRA) : A10)		Patients prescribed diabetes treatment		Patients prescribed diabetic medications
Annual N of influenza diagnosed patients (latest year) [approx., 10K people]		22	141	80.2	7	64		90	65	58		8
Definition		The total count of patients who have received a diagnosis corresponding to ICD-10 codes J09-J11 (excluding suspected diagnoses)	Number of patients assigned ICD-10:J09-J11 disease	ICD-10:J10-J11	ICD : J09,J10,J11	ICD10 : J10, J11		ICD-10 : J09,J10,J11		Patients prescribed anti-influenza drugs		Number of prescriptions for anti-influenza drugs

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Number of patients followed												
≥1 year [approx., 10K people]		374	2301	977.5	210	811	1383	1448	870	1073		167
≥3 year [approx., 10K people]		292	1388	616.2	180	559	906	995	600	623		110
≥5 year [approx., 10K people]		220	958	402	160	395	586	703	430	318		78
Median [approx., year]		4.7	3	2.58	10.4	4.4	3	3.3	3.5	1.6		5
Notes					Up to 17 years	Average	Numbers were rounded to the nearest whole number.			Patients from August 2024 to July 2025		Number of registered patients per year: 2.3 million
Age Distribution												
0-14 years old [approx., %]		8.9	14	18.4	20	20	6.71	16	19	14	14.2	11.1
15-64 years old [approx., %]		31.5	64	77.2	60	76.4	42.46	78	77	53	54.9	55.2
65-74 years old [approx., %]		21.8	5	4.33	20	3.6	18.89	6	4	13	12.4	13.4
75 years old or older [approx., %]		37.8	17	0.07	10	0	31.93	0	0	20	18.5	20.3
Notes		The distribution of the number of patients in the most recent available year.				April 2024 - March 2025	Numbers were rounded to the nearest whole number.				Net patient based	
Prescriptions (data availability)												
Dispensing (in-hospital)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Dispensing (out-of-hospital)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date of prescription	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date of dispensing	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Dosage of prescription	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Days of supply	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Administration	No	No	Limited	Yes	Limited	No	Limited	Limited	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Injection	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	Limited	Yes
Vaccine	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	Limited	No	No	No	No	No
Drug master												
Any available master	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ATC (EphMRA)	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
ATC (WHO)	No	No	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	No	No
YJ code	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
NHI drug price list code	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
HOT code	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes
Reimbursement code	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Hospital-original code	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Others	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	
Others, notes						Titer						
Procedures (data availability)												
Procedure name	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Date of procedure	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Procedure master												
Any available master	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Reimbursement category	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		No	
Reimbursement code	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		No	
Others	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	No	No		No	
Others, notes												
Hospitalization (data availability)												
Date of hospital admission	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	No	No	No
Date of hospital discharge	No	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	Yes	Limited	No	No	No
Medication while hospitalization	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Diagnosis (data availability)												
Diagnosis name	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Suspicious diagnosis or not	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Diagnosis master												
Any available master	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Standard diagnosis code (Reimbursement code)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		No	
ICD10 code (2013)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		No	
ICD10 code (other than 2013)	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No		No	
Others	No	No	No	No		No	No	No	No		No	
Others, notes												

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Laboratory test (data availability)												
Lab test (ordering)	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No		No	No
Lab test results												
Any available test results	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Lab test for sample (e.g., blood, urine, microbe)						No	No				No	
Physiological test (e.g., respiratory function, brain waves, supersonic waves)						No	No				No	
Results of diagnostic imaging (e.g., report of imaging interpretation)						No	No				No	
Genetic test (pathological tissue)						No	No				No	
Others						No	No				No	
Others, notes												
Lab test master												
Any available master	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No		No	No	No
Loinc code	No	No	No	No	No		No				No	
JLAC code	No	No	No	No	No		No				No	
Reimbursement code	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes		No				No	
Hospital-original code	No	No	No	No	No		No					
Others	No	No	No	No	No		No				No	
Others, notes												
Demographic, Vital (data availability)												
Birth year	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Birth month	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes	No	No
Birth date	No	No	No	No		No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Age	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited
Height	No	Limited	Limited	Limited	No	No	Limited	Limited	Limited	No		Limited
Weight	No	Limited	Limited	Limited	No	No	Limited	Limited	Limited	No	No	Limited
Blood pressure	No	Limited	Limited	Limited	No	No	Limited	Limited	Limited	No	No	Limited
Insurers for patients												
National health insurance	Limited	Yes	Yes	No	Limited	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Japan health insurance association	Limited	Limited	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Health insurance society	Limited	Limited	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Mutual society of health insurance	Limited	Limited	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Late-stage medical care system for the elderly	Limited	Yes	Yes	No	Limited	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Data Access, Others												
Access to raw data via web	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Limited	Yes	Yes	Limited	Yes	Limited	Yes
Access to original source data such as medical charts (e.g., outcome validation, additional data collection)	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Timing of data update	Monthly	Annually	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly		Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly	Daily
Others, notes		It may be updated as needed when timely data is required.					The database is updated monthly, but the frequency of data provision from insurers is different, so the frequency of updating is not uniform.					
Latest data			2 months ago	2.5 months ago	3 months ago	3 months ago	7 months ago	3 months ago	3 months ago	1 month ago	1 month ago	Previous day
Publication												
Number of past scientific presentations using database	Many	120	Many	A few	There is more than one	Multiple	258 (as of August 18, 2025)	Multiple	25	Many	Many	Many
Number of publication to peer review journal	Many	65	835	A few	There is more than one	Multiple	117(as of August 18, 2025)	Multiple	7	Many	4 (as of Aug., 2025)	Many