Overview
Established in 2019, the University of Florida Center for Drug Evaluation and Safety, or CoDES, aims to improve public health by enhancing and disseminating evidence on the safety and value of medications in real-world populations. CoDES unites a multidisciplinary group of big data researchers in epidemiology, health economics, health services research and decision-sciences who evaluate and project drug outcomes to guide policy and clinical and personal decision-making. In addition to delivering new actionable evidence, CoDES fosters the development of new methods and analytic tools to enhance drug evaluation and regulatory science.

Focus
CoDES develops and integrates resources on the assessment and improvement of drug use locally, nationally and internationally through five distinct research programs:

- Phase IV studies evaluate drug safety and effectiveness in real-world populations to enhance pre-approval evidence.
- Pharmacoeconomic studies assess the value of drugs and related programs to guide investment of personal, payer and societal resources.
- Medication use quality studies evaluate the quality and determinants of medication use to direct the allocation of programmatic resources and policy.
- Pharmaceutical predictive analytics studies develop predictive tools for drug response and adverse events to support clinical care and related policy.
- Pharmaceutical policy studies evaluate policy surrounding medication use to enhance programmatic efforts aimed to improve access and quality of drug therapy.
We translate big data into even bigger, healthier and safer outcomes.

Activities
Activities at CoDES aim to build a foundation for real-world data research.

- Big data infrastructure — CoDES has access to health care records for more than 300+ million lives.
- Big drug data analytical support — CoDES provides expertise in the measurement of drug exposure and outcomes/phenotypes, causal inference and predictive design and analysis.
- Research exchange — CoDES maintains an email listserv, website, Twitter account and seminar series.
- Postdoctoral fellowship program — CoDES has introduced a postdoctoral fellowship program that capitalizes on the interdisciplinary nature of its researchers, with the goal of training the next generation of researchers.

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