

Supporting a Strong Start for CA Kids

A Proposal to Augment, Connect, Support, and Collect Population-Based Data about Young Children

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Children's Data Network



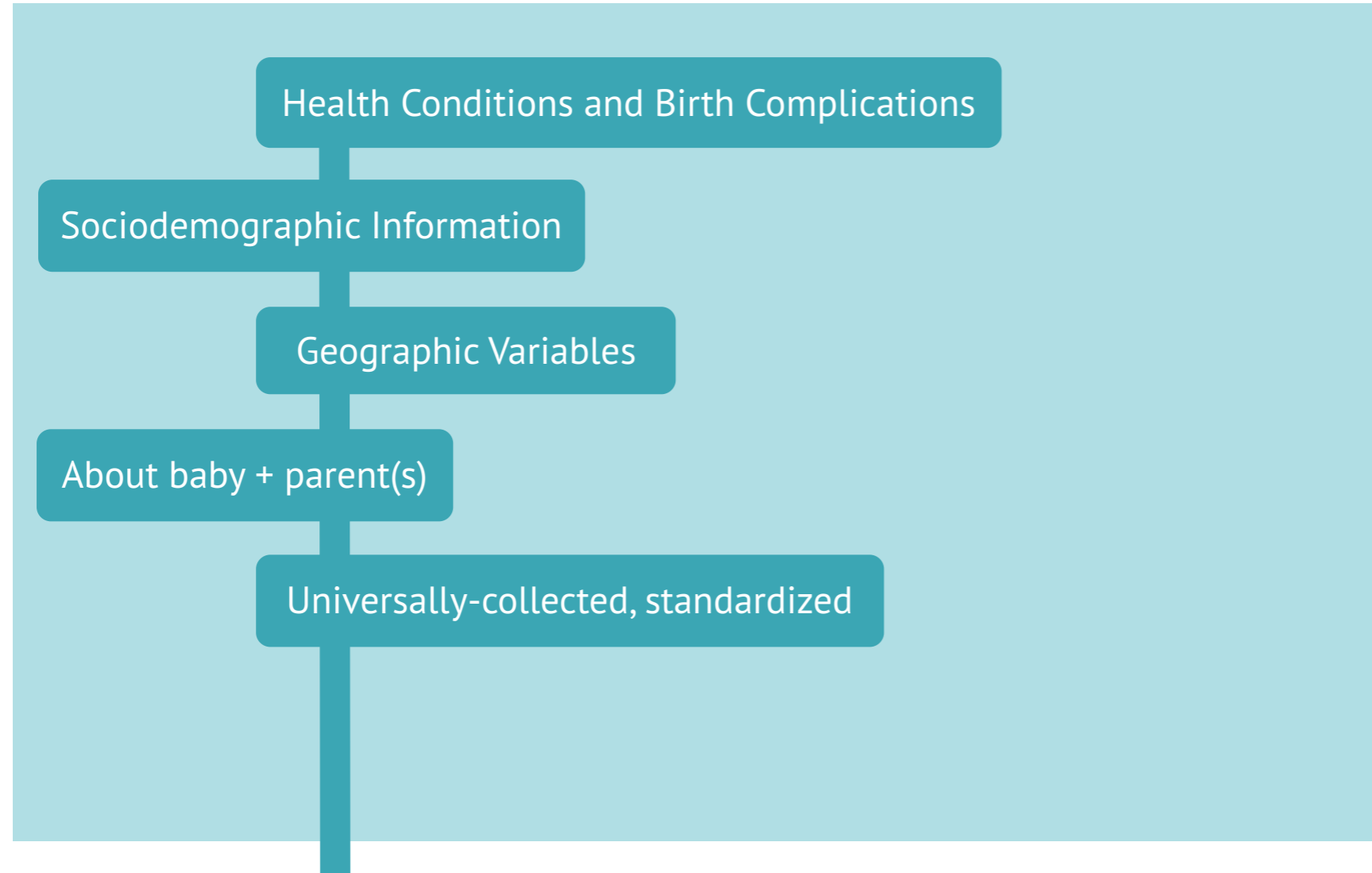
Overview

Each year, more than 400,000 babies are born in California

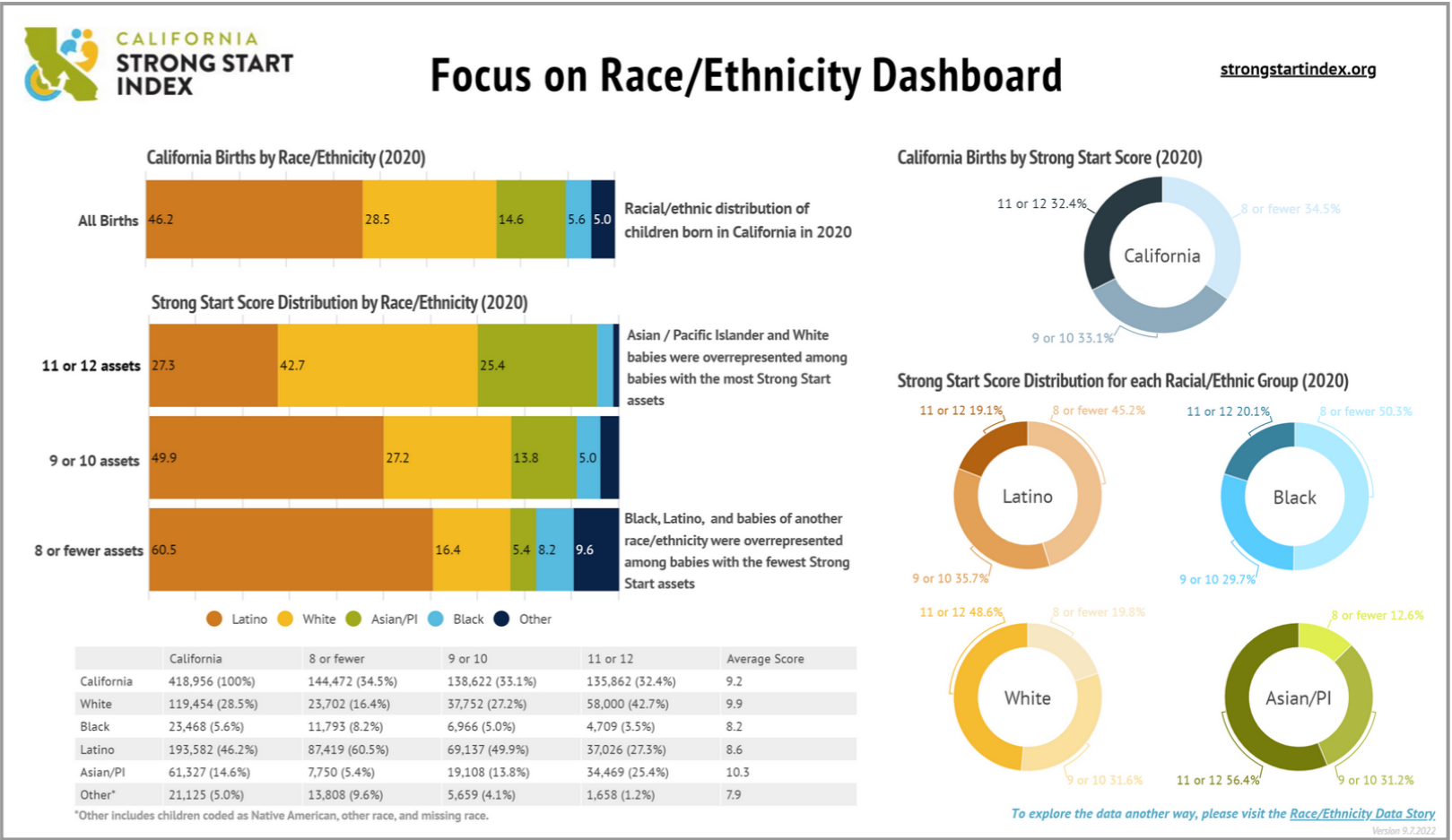
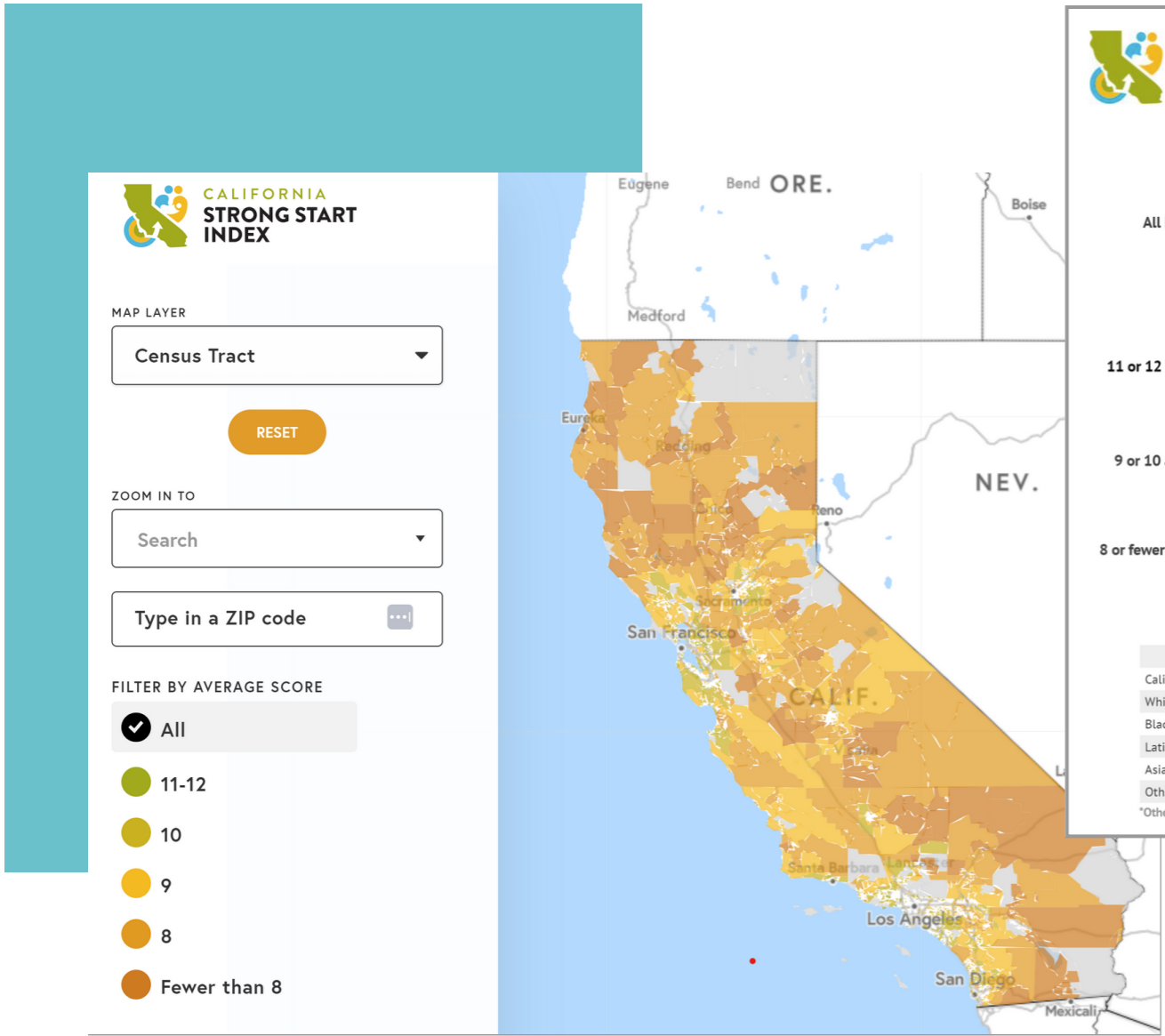


For each newborn, a birth record is generated





Birth records are a rich, population-based source of information, containing the constellation of resources available to each newborn and their family at birth



Information on birth records is visualized, furthering our understanding of the distribution of resources among California communities, highlighting disparities, and facilitating more equitable investment



CalHHS Record Reconciliation Dashboard Data: 2015-2020

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Organization

 CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES

Dataset Topics Activity Stream Showcases

CalHHS Record Reconciliation Dashboard Data: 2015-2020

CalHHS single and multi-program participation counts with demographics by year and geography (Annual and July Data and Resources

- CalHHS Dashboard 2015-2020: Annual Data File**
Annual 2015-2020 CalHHS single and multi-program participation counts with...
- CalHHS Dashboard 2015-2020: Annual Masking Key**
CalHHS Dashboard 2015-2020 - Annual File identification key for masked cells.
- CalHHS Dashboard 2015-2020: July Data File**
July 2015-2020 CalHHS single and multi-program participation counts with...
- CalHHS Dashboard 2015-2020: July Masking Key**
CalHHS Dashboard 2015-2020 - July File identification key for masked cells.
- Data Dictionary: Annual File**
- Methodology: Annual File**

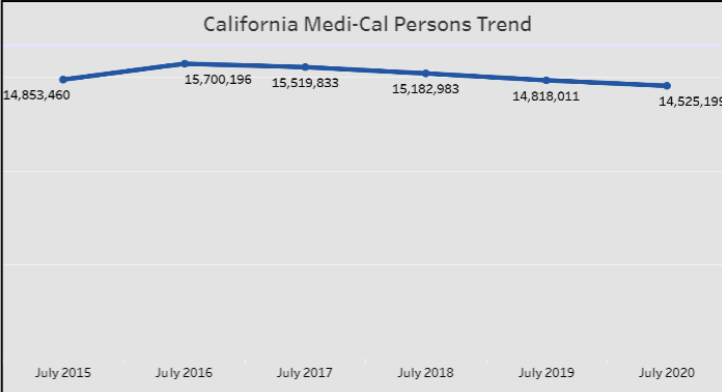
California Health & Human Services Agency
 Program Dashboard
 County/District Program Profile

Year: July 2020 | Geography: County | District/County: California | Program: Medi-Cal

California 14,525,199 of Medi-Cal CA Total

California 100.0% of Medi-Cal CA Total

California Medi-Cal Persons Trend



California Number of Persons by Program: July 2020

Medi-Cal	14,525,199
CalFresh	5,893,902
WIC	1,438,090
CalWORKs	1,120,738
FPACT	1,040,366
IHSS	691,732
Dev. Svcs.	366,352
CWS	304,114
Foster Care	85,851

Medi-Cal Race/Ethnicity

- % Hispanic: 48.6%
- % White: 18.0%
- % Asian or Pacific Islander
- % Black

Medi-Cal Age Group

- % 18 - 64: 55.7%
- % Under 18: 34.6%

Medi-Cal Sex

- % Female: 53.5%

July 2020 California Medi-Cal Persons Co-Enrolled In:

Base Program Only	7,574,409
2 Programs	4,731,102
3 Programs	1,857,759
4 Programs	332,688
5+ Programs	29,241

They are linked with other CalHHS program records to generate information about service involvement at a client and population level



CDSS

CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF
SOCIAL SERVICES

State of California
C2C
Cradle-to-Career
System



In the future,
Early Care and
Education records will
also be integrated to
inform programs and
policies for young
children



Sounds great! So why are we here?



Children's Data Network

Harnessing the scientific potential of linked, administrative data to inform children's programs and policies.



From our perspective...

- Much can be said about the health, safety, and public service interactions of young children involved with public benefit and service systems in California
- Currently, less can be said about their experiences and engagement in early care and education and other family support services
- The existing integrated administrative data tell us that, despite the resources available in California, a substantial proportion of young children are at risk for poor outcomes
- Administrative data, however, will always be limited in its ability to signal how to help

← ... but more can be done to *augment* what's available to better characterize young children, specifically

← ... but *connecting* the dots on the data landscape and *supporting* ongoing efforts through TA would be key

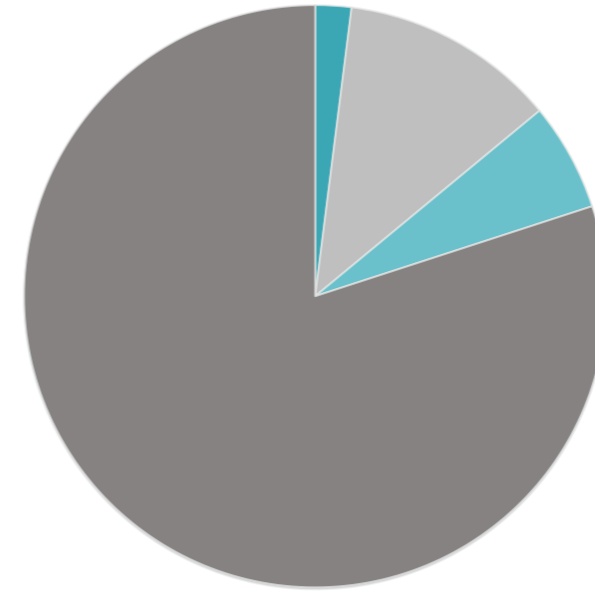
← ... we also found that, at times, programs designed to support young children are not reaching intended recipients

← ... it can't tell us what services were offered, barriers, benefits, and challenges, or who we're missing, and why



**What we're missing will never
be found in admin data**

Service Engagement



Home Visiting ● Early Care and Education ● Other Community-based Supports
● Families who are not engaged in services



What are the needs and experiences of families *who are not engaged, but at are at high risk of poor outcomes?*



Answering this question requires a different approach

Proposal



Augment our Understanding of Young Children using Available Integrated Data



Connect ongoing Data Initiatives through a Data-Focused Landscape Analysis



Support through Targeted TA around Record Linkage and Analysis



Collect information about Service Needs and Experiences Directly from Families

Approach

Stream 1. Augment



Stream 2. Connect



Stream 3. Support



Stream 4. Collect



Year 1

Year 2

Year 3



Why You?

Mission and Vision

Leadership

Relationships

Insight

Why Us?

Mission

Research, Development,
and Partnership

Experience

Relationships

Perspective

Why Now?

Family Voice

Critical Period for child-
focused data systems... and
for the children of CA!

We look forward to working with
you to

***Support a
Strong Start for
CA Kids***

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Appendix



Augment

our Understanding of Young Children using Available Integrated Data (Y1)

Planned Activities:

- Updating Strong Start Index website to include 2022 records and additional actionable geography (birthing hospital)
- Working in collaboration with First 5 Commission to explore enhanced/equity-targeted Strong Start Visualizations



Augment

our Understanding of Young Children using Available Integrated Data (Y1)

Potential Deliverables: *(Categorized by audience type)*

- Updated Strong Start Index website with additional geographies and reconceptualized equity-targeted dashboard (External)
- Memo describing new findings, features, and use cases (Internal)
- Updated Technical Documentation (Technical)



Connect

Connecting Ongoing Data Initiatives through a Data-Focused Landscape Analysis (Y1)

Planned Activities:

- Initiating early childhood data-focused landscape analysis

Potential Deliverables: *(Categorized by audience type)*

- Infographic of Key Findings related to the Landscape of State-Level Early Childhood Data (External)
- Report on the Landscape of State-Level Early Childhood Data (Internal)
- Detailed Appendix with program information (Technical)



Support

through Targeted Technical Assistance around Record Linkage and Analysis (Y1)

Planned Activities:

- Conducting CalHHS RR to integrate 2022 records
- Exploring ways to highlight young children in data visualizations
- Providing targeted TA to, among others, California Health and Human Services Center for Data Insights and Innovation (CDII) to take on the responsibility of annual record reconciliation and analysis of cross-program records and to build and maintain the Agency Data Hub; C2C Data Governing Board (via Data and Tools Advisory Board); Brilliant Beginnings; and emerging early-childhood related data initiatives



Support

through Targeted Technical Assistance around Record Linkage and Analysis (Y1)

Potential Deliverables: *(Categorized by audience type)*

- Cross-Program Dashboard posted in CalHHS Open Data Portal (External)
- Early Childhood Data Dashboard submitted to CalHHS and First 5 CA for review (Internal)
- Technical Documentation (Technical)

Collect

information about Service Needs and Experiences Directly from Families (Y1)

Planned Activities:

- Developing a population-based sample based on the Strong Start Index
- Seeking data approvals
- Engaging subawardees to facilitate analysis
- Partnering with First 5 CA and Commissions to promote data collection effort

Collect

information about Service Needs and Experiences Directly from Families (Y1)

Potential Deliverables: *(Categorized by audience type)*

- Study communication materials (External)
- Project update memo (Internal)
- Human Subjects Protocol (Technical)