

# Pharmacovigilance Methods

## The Spectrum of PV



# PV Methods: which one?



# What is your objective?

- To establish a functional reporting system to monitor the safety of all medicines
- To learn more about the safety profile of new medicines in the early post-marketing phase
- To learn more about the ADR profile of a specific medicine(s) in your population
- To estimate the incidence of a known ADR to a specific medicine in your population
- To gather more information on the safety profile of a new chemical entity in early post-marketing phase
- To make use of existing electronic health records and registries to support pharmacovigilance activities

# PV Methods Spectrum



# Spontaneous Reporting

Objective: a functional ADR reporting system to monitor the safety of all medicines

- Voluntary submission of ICSRs by health professionals, pharmaceutical manufacturers (and patients) to the national pharmacovigilance centre
- Requires two initial steps:
  - A patient or health professional
  - 1. **suspects** that an undesirable medical event may have been caused by exposure to a medicine
  - 2. **reports** the suspicion to the national pharmacovigilance centre

# Spontaneous Reporting: what to report?

## Developing Pharmacovigilance System

- All suspected ADRs
  - Encourage a culture of ADR reporting
  - Build PV capacity
  - Develop a profile of ADRs experienced with locally used medicines
  
- If in doubt, report!

# Spontaneous Reporting: what to report?

## Established Pharmacovigilance System

- May wish to restrict what is reported
  - e.g. MHRA and EMA countries limit reporting to:
    - All suspected ADRs for **new** medicines
    - All suspected ADRs occurring in **children**, even if a medicine has been used off-label
    - All **serious**\* suspected ADRs for established vaccines and medicines, including unlicensed medicines, herbal remedies and medicines used off-label.

\* fatal, life-threatening, causing permanent disability, prolonging hospitalisation or medically significant

- **If in doubt, report!**

# Spontaneous Reporting

Pros	Cons
Covers the whole population	Inherent under-reporting
Includes all medicines	Captures only suspected ADRs
Continual monitoring throughout life-cycle of a medicine	Reporting bias <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>e.g. Seriousness, severity</li><li>New medicine</li><li>Advertising of product</li><li>Publicity of specific ADR</li></ul>
Detects signals of new, rare or serious ADRs	Denominator unknown
Most commonly used method	Difficult to detect <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– delayed ADRs &amp;</li><li>– ADRs with high background incidence</li></ul>
Easiest method to establish	
Relatively inexpensive	
Least labour intensive	



# Intensified ADR Reporting

Objective: to enhance ADR reporting of specific medicines in early post-marketing phase

- Extension of Spontaneous Reporting Programme

## Black Triangle Scheme

▼ This medicinal product is subject to additional monitoring

- System in place in UK for many years; to be introduced in EU from Autumn 2013.
- List of medicines 'under additional reporting' reviewed monthly

<http://www.mhra.gov.uk>

<http://www.ema.europa.eu>

# Intensified ADR Reporting

- Medicines 'under additional monitoring' include:
  - Medicines containing a new active substance
  - Biological medicines
  - Medicines given conditional approval or approved under exceptional circumstances
  - Medicines that require additional studies (e.g. More data on long term use or on a rare side effect seen in clinical trials)

# Targeted Spontaneous Reporting

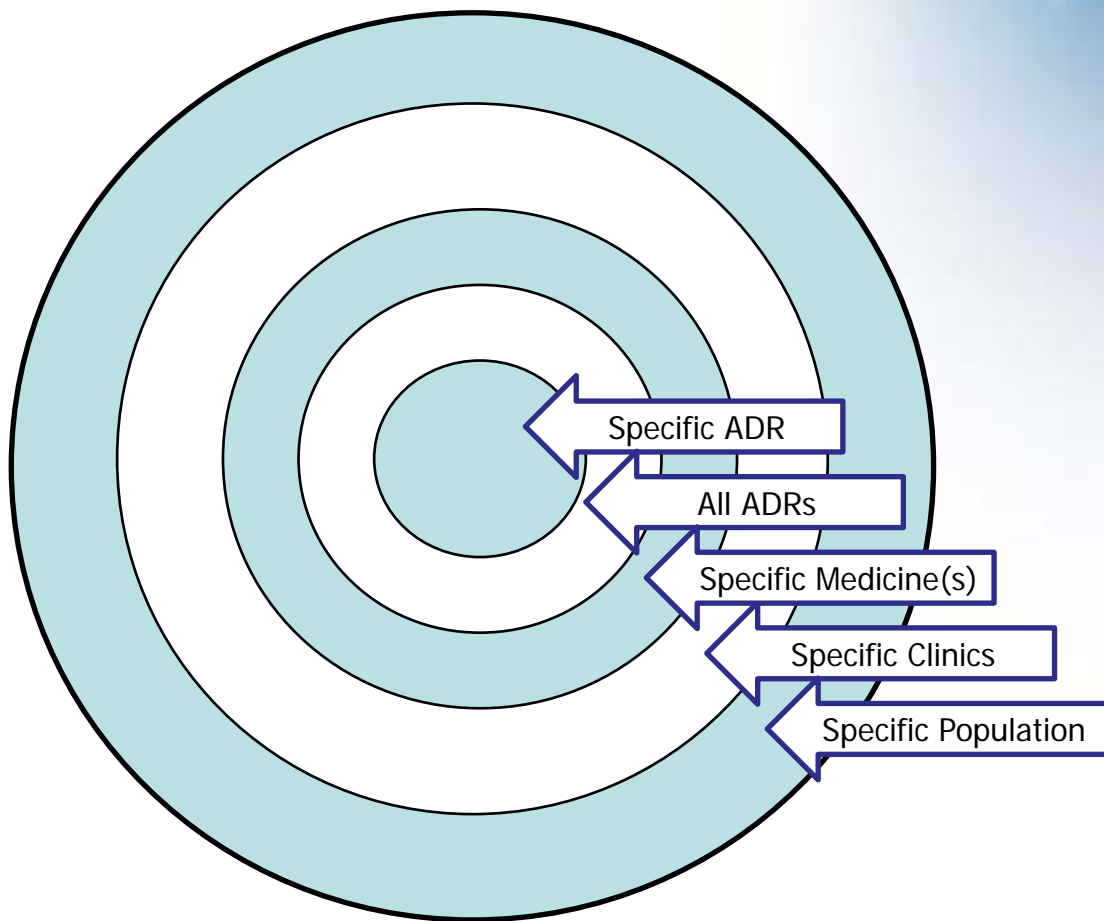
## Objective:

- To learn more about the ADR profile of a specific medicine(s) in your population

or

- To estimate the incidence of a known ADR to a specific medicine in your population

# Targeted Reporting



# Targeted Reporting

## TSR of suspected ADRs to ARVs, AMPATH, Eldoret, Kenya

- AMPATH (Academic Model Providing Access to Healthcare)
  - Partnership between Moi University School of Medicine, Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital and a consortium of US medical schools led by Indiana University.
  - Treats over 125,000 HIV-positive patients at 53 sites in and around Eldoret, Western Kenya.
- Focusing on treatment-threatening ADRs (change or discontinuation of treatment)
- Investigating different methods of collecting ADR data, including:
  - Spontaneous reporting of suspected ADR by clinician
  - Spontaneous reporting of suspected ADR by pharmacist
  - Interview by pharmacist of random sample of patients
  - Interview by peer of random sample of patients
  - Pharmacy dispensing data (to assess under-reporting)

# Targeted Reporting

## TSR pilot project in Uganda:

- Monitoring Medicines Project
- Collaboration between National Pharmacovigilance Centre and AIDS Control Programme
- Objectives include:
  - To monitor renal toxicities related to use of Tenofovir (TDF)-based regimens in adults
  - To monitor ADRs related to use of Zidovudine (AZT) for PMTCT
  - To enhance pharmacovigilance in AIDS control programme
- Screening for renal toxicity follows routine practice
- ADRs are reported 'spontaneously' if observed

# Cohort Event Monitoring (CEM)

Objective: To gather more information on the safety profile of a new chemical entity in early post-marketing phase

- New class of medicine
- Medicine related to class of medicine that has previously caused problems
- Potentially significant adverse event observed during pre- or post-marketing surveillance (SR)

# Decision to monitor influenced by:

- A need for more safety data (in general or in relation to a particular clinical use)
- Expected long-term use
- Expected widespread use
- Where increase in risk/benefit ratio would be unacceptable (e.g. 'life-style drugs')
- One of several treatment options for a disease, where other treatment options are considered safe and effective.



# Cohort Event Monitoring (CEM)

A prospective, longitudinal, observational, cohort study of adverse events associated with one or more monitored medicines

# Cohort Event Monitoring

Prospective	'Real-time' monitoring
Longitudinal	Over a period of time
(Inceptional)	From start of treatment
Observational	Does not interfere with patient management
Cohort	Defined group of patients
Adverse events	<i>'Any new clinical experience (favourable or unfavourable) that is worthy of a record in the patient's file, regardless of its severity and without judgement on its causality'</i>
Monitored medicine	Specific medicine(s)

# Cohort Event Monitoring

- Records **ALL CLINICAL EVENTS** not just suspected adverse reactions
- A **time-limited** programme to **complement** other PV activities; not intended to replace spontaneous reporting

# Cohort Event Monitoring



Hospitals & Clinics



Pharmacovigilance Centre

Patient

Health Care Provider

Event Recording



Data Entry Staff

Data Entry

Medical Assessor

Event Causality Assessment

**CemFlow**

CEM ID no.	patient initials	status
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	all
first name	last name	rows to display
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	50
<input type="button" value="refine"/>		<input type="button" value="add new patient"/>

Data Collation

Signal?

Expert Advisory Committee

Signal Evaluation

Communication



Uppsala Monitoring Centre

Stakeholders



# CEM enables us to:

- Characterise **known reactions**
- Detect **signals** of unrecognised reactions
- Identify **interactions** with other medicines and TCAMs
- Detect **inefficacy** of medicine
- Assess safety in **pregnancy & lactation**
- Measure **risk** (including comparative risk)
- Identify **risk factors** for ADRs

# CEM Programmes (CemFlow)

HIV	Belarus	RCETH	CEM for ARV medicines in Republic of Belarus
Malaria	Ghana	FDA (Ghana)	CEM Malaria (WHO)
			CEM Malaria (AMFm)
		INESS	INESS International CEM Ghana
	Kenya	PPB	CEM-AL Kenya
	Nigeria	NAFDAC	CEM for Malaria (Pilot)
			CEM for Malaria (Scale-up)
	Tanzania	TFDA	TANCEM (ALu)
			TANCEM – DHA/PPQ
		INESS	INESS International CEM Tanzania
	Zimbabwe	Medicines Control Authority of Zimbabwe	ZimCemFlow ACT

# Monitored Antimalarial Medicines

Ghana	CEM Malaria (WHO)	All antimalarials
	CEM Malaria (AMFm)	AL, AsAq
	INESS International CEM Ghana	AqAr
Kenya	CEM-AL Kenya	AL
Nigeria	CEM for Malaria (Pilot)	AL, AsAq
	CEM for Malaria (Scale-up)	AL, AsAq
Tanzania	TANCEM (ALu)	AL
	TANCEM –DHA/PPQ	DP
	INESS International CEM Tanzania	AL
Zimbabwe	ZimCemFlow ACT	AL

**AL** artemether+lumefantrin  
**AsAq** artesunate+amodiaquine

**AqAm** amodiaquine+artemether  
**DP** dihydroartemisinin+piperazine

# Cohort Event Monitoring

Pros	Cons
Early detection of signals of unsuspected ADRs	More labour intensive than SR or TSR
Denominator information allows incidence rates of ADRs to be calculated	More costly
Near complete profile of AEs/ADRs for medicine of interest	Much data collected most of which represents 'background noise'
Assessment of risk; identification of risk factors; between drug comparisons	New to health professionals and PV Centres
Pregnancy outcomes	Training required
Deaths recorded	LTFU may be substantial and needs to be actively managed



# Workload considerations

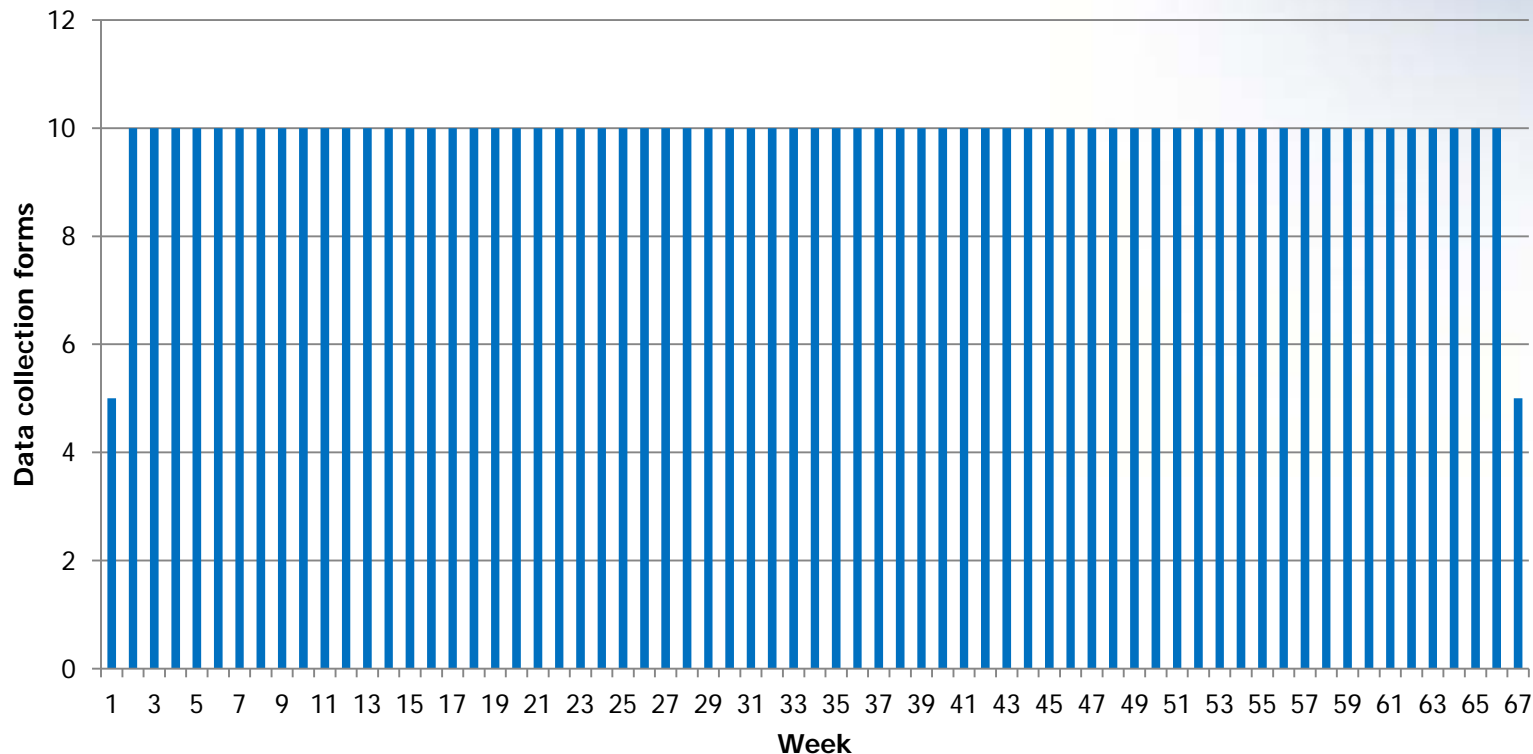
## Example: Antimalarial Monitoring

Target size of cohort: 3000 patients (3300 patients to allow for 10% LTFU); 10 sites (330 patients per site)

5 patients per week, 2 visits over 1 week

660 data collection forms (DCFs) from 1 monitoring site

6600 DCFs in total



# Workload considerations

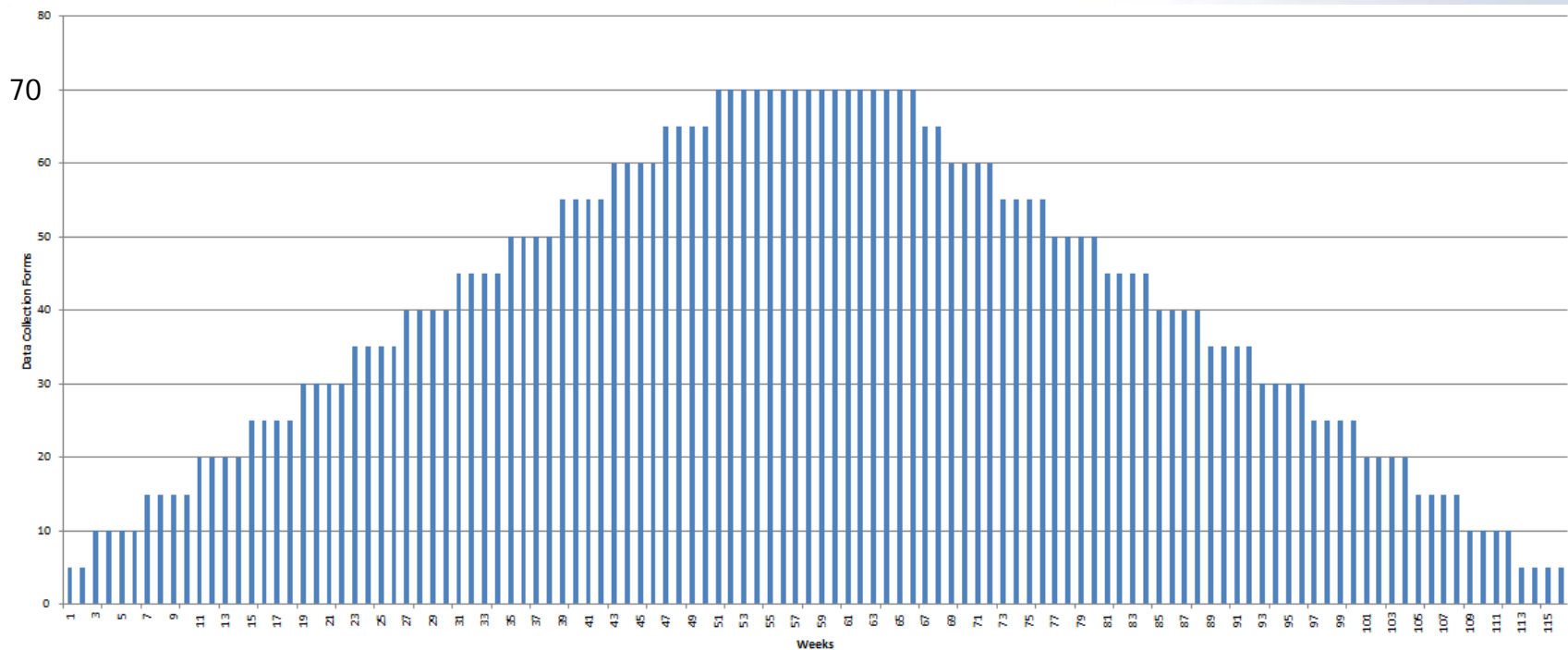
## Example: ARV Monitoring

Target size of cohort: 3000 patients (3300 patients to allow for 10% LTFU); 10 sites (330 patients per site)

5 patients per week, 14 visits over 12 months (wk 0, 2, 6, 10... (monthly)...50)

4620 reports from 1 monitoring site

46200 reports in total

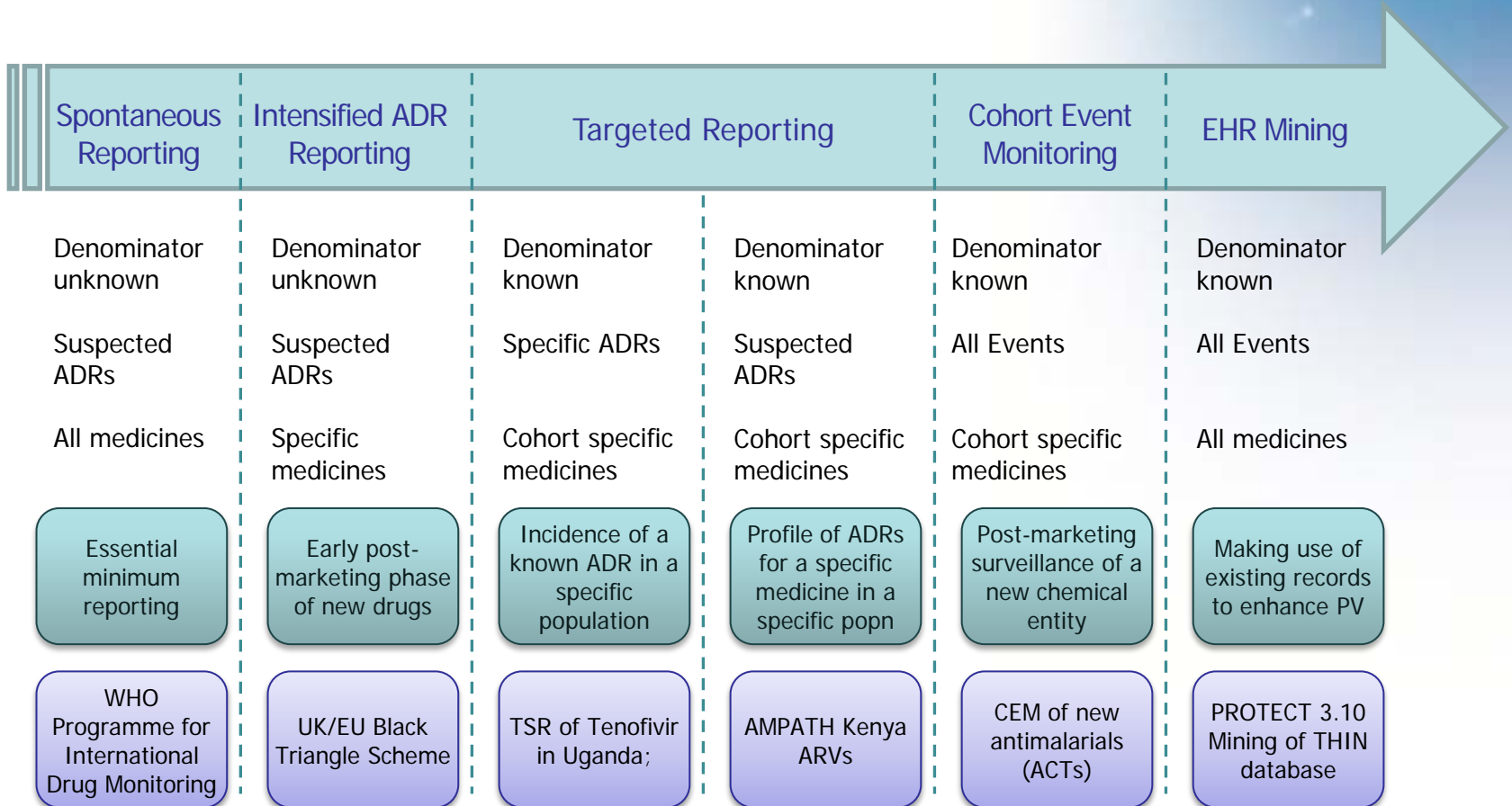


# Electronic Health Record Mining

Objective: make use of existing health records to supplement pharmacovigilance activities

- Electronic Health Records - a potentially rich source of ADR data
- Mining of the THIN data-base is currently being evaluated
- More to come on this later...!

# PV Methods Spectrum



# Comparing the methods

Method	Medicines	Population	Reports
Spontaneous Reporting	All medicines, life-cycle of product	All exposed individuals but denominator unknown	All ADRs
Intensified ADR Reporting	Specific medicines	All exposed individuals but denominator unknown	All ADRs
Targeted Reporting	Specific medicines	Defined cohort	Specific ADRs
			All ADRs
Cohort Event Monitoring	Specific medicines	Defined cohort	All Events
EHR Mining	All medicines	Defined cohort	All Events

Tack så mycket



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