



CancerLinQ™ Strategic Technology Collaboration with SAP

Introduction

In January 2015, the American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO) announced a strategic technology collaboration between CancerLinQ LLC and SAP America to build CancerLinQ™. CancerLinQ is a groundbreaking health information technology platform that aims to rapidly improve the quality of cancer care. It assembles vast amounts of usable, searchable, real-world cancer information into a powerful database to help doctors improve and personalize care for people with cancer. The data collected by CancerLinQ will be used to provide reports, services, and other tools designed to support providers' quality assessment and improvement, care coordination, case management, and other health care operations activities.

Background

The American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO), a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, is the world's leading organization representing physicians who care for people with cancer. ASCO believes that the ability to learn from every patient will accelerate progress against cancer and will provide patients and physicians with more comprehensive information to make decisions about cancer treatment. ASCO is committed to the appropriate, secure, and ethical use of information regarding cancer patients. CancerLinQ LLC is a wholly owned non-profit subsidiary of ASCO established for the development and operation of CancerLinQ.

SAP is the world's largest provider of enterprise application software. SAP has a proven track record of success partnering with the healthcare sector. For example, SAP teamed with the National Center for Tumor Diseases in Heidelberg, Germany to accelerate cancer research and improve clinical trial matching by using real-time data analytics. In Japan, SAP teamed with Mitsui Knowledge Industry to reduce patient-specific genomic analysis for cancer diagnoses from 30 days to 20 minutes.

The CancerLinQ-SAP Collaboration

CancerLinQ is being developed using the SAP® Foundation for Health featuring SAP HANA®, a flexible, multi-purpose in-memory data management and application platform. SAP HANA is a highly suitable platform for building and deploying next-generation, real-time applications and analytics. With advanced capabilities, such as complex predictive analytics, spatial processing, machine learning, continuous improvement of natural language processing capabilities and data virtualization on the same architecture, CancerLinQ LLC and SAP are able to efficiently develop versatile applications across big-data sources and structures.

Each party brings a unique set of strengths to this unique co-innovation relationship. CancerLinQ LLC provides the overall vision and oncology knowledge, with broad input from physicians, patients, and experts on quality improvement, health outcomes, epidemiology, and health informatics. SAP brings world class engineering talent, versatile development tools, and customized technologies.



CancerLinQ LLC and SAP are excited to continue enhancing CancerLinQ and developing new applications for ASCO members. In announcing the collaboration in January 2015, ASCO’s past president, Dr. Peter Paul Yu, MD, said: “We found an ideal company with state-of-the-art technology, a commitment to invest major new resources, and a clear dedication to our patient care mission. With our cancer expertise complemented by SAP’s software and technical insights, CancerLinQ is in a position to make a huge leap toward becoming the platform of choice for oncologists.”