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# Use of Electronic Health Records and Health Information Exchanges to Streamline Registry Processes

Mary Charlton, PhD  
Professor, Epidemiology  
Director, Iowa Cancer Registry  
University of Iowa College of Public Health

# Electronic Health Records (EHR) and Health Information Exchanges (HIE)

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- Collaboration with HIEs and use of EHR data is
  - Highly variable across central cancer registries
  - Generally in early stages
- Most registries predominantly rely on manual processes to complete data abstraction
- Number of variables that registries are expected to collect is continually increasing while funding/resources are decreasing

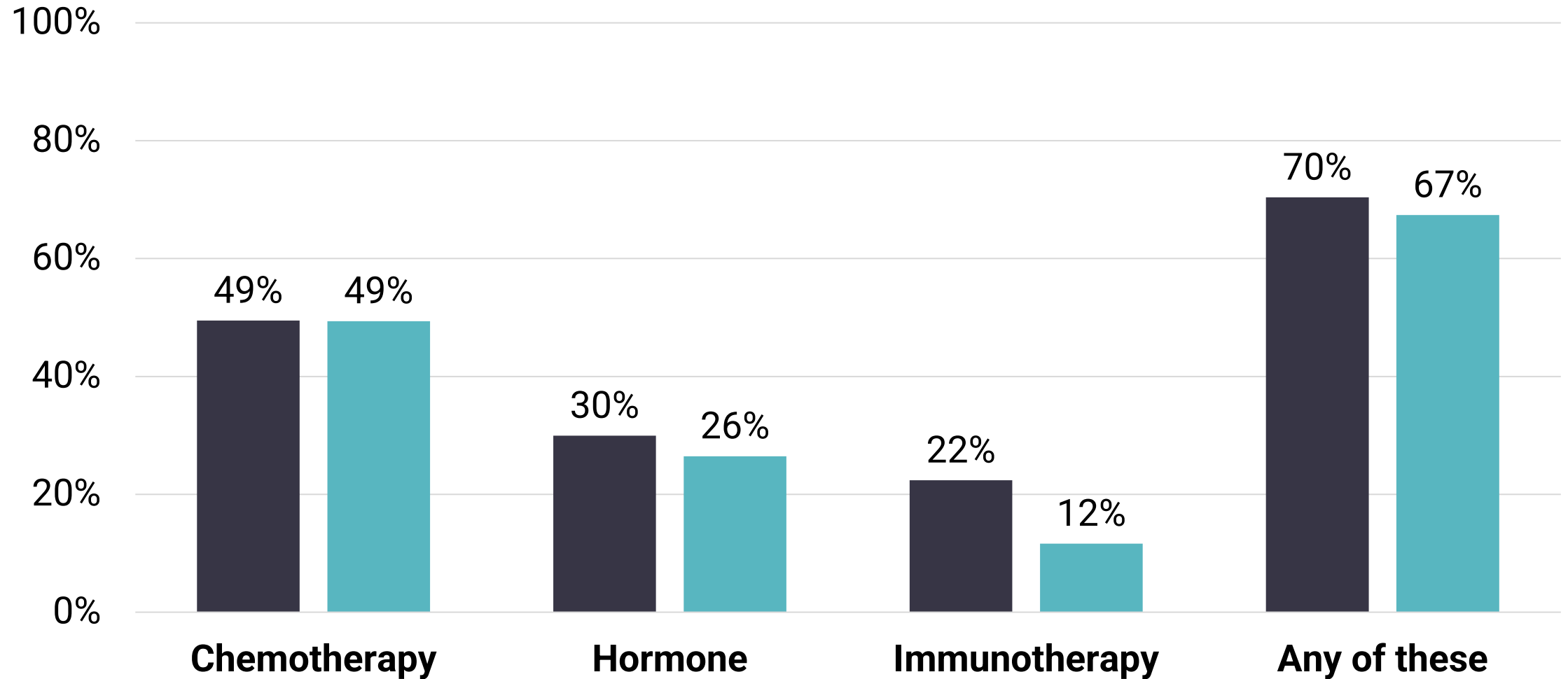
# Lessons Learned from EHR data

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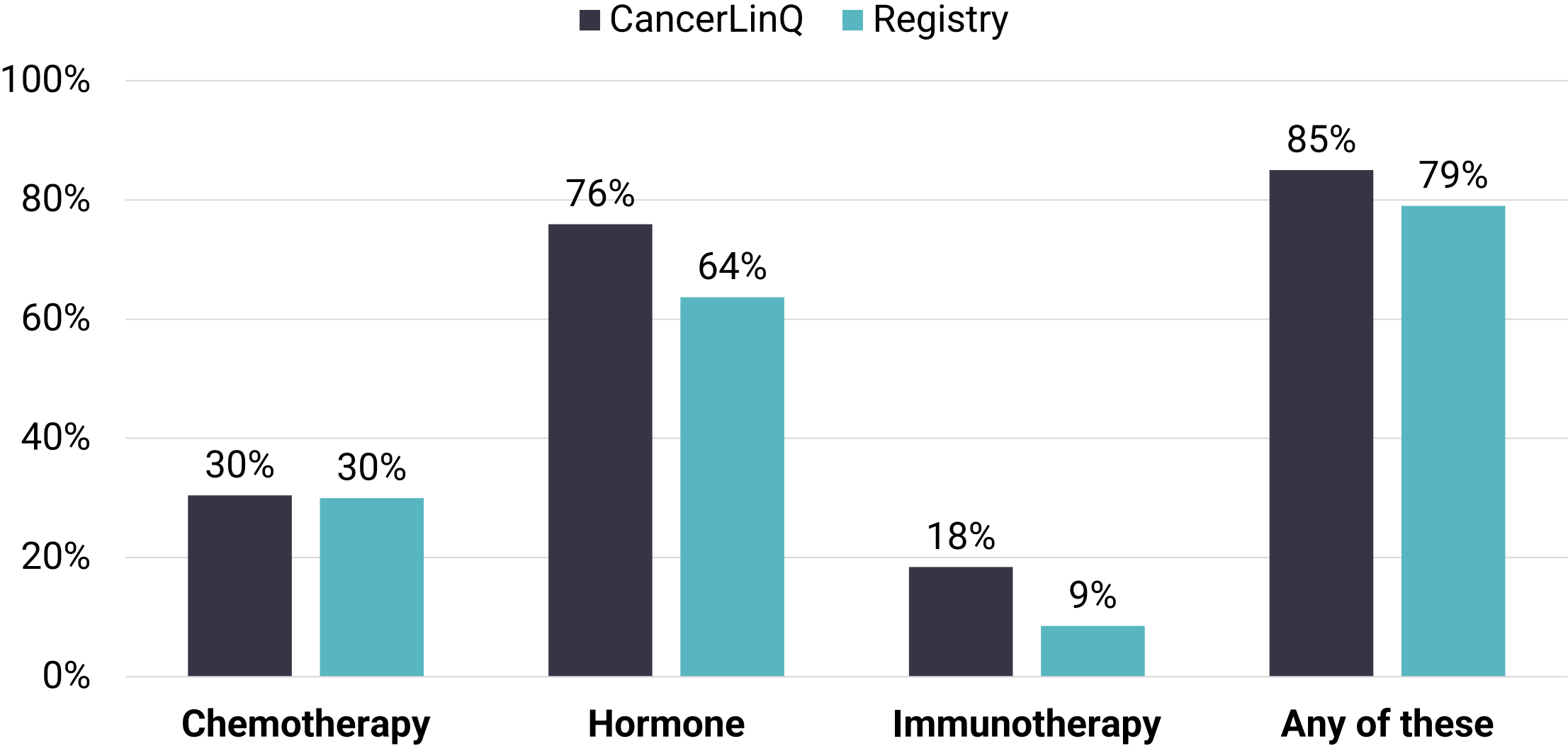
- Conducted a linkage between the Iowa Cancer Registry and EHR data within ASCO CancerLinQ to compare completeness
- Linkages with EHRs are messy without good variables on which to link!
  - Need SSN, full name (including at least a middle initial), DOB, gender for a good linkage, and additional variable such as race and address would be helpful
- Extremely difficult to link EHR data of patients with multiple cancers
  - No definitive diagnosis date, histology or consistent TNM stage in the EHR
- Linkage demonstrated opportunities to capture better treatment data from EHRs – especially hormone and immunotherapy

## Receipt of therapy within 12 months of diagnosis for patients diagnosed with first cancer, 2013-2017

■ CancerLinQ ■ Registry



**Receipt of therapies within 12 months of diagnosis  
for first breast cancers, 2013-2017**



# Example of Automated Extraction of EHR Data

## ExtractEHR

- R software package
- Developed by the Children's Oncology Group to automate laboratory adverse event ascertainment and grading

## References

- Miller TP, 2017, British Journal of Haematology
- Miller TP, 2022, Lancet Haematology
- Miller TP, 2023, JCO Clinical Cancer Informatics

## Capability to automatically extract a variety of variables from the following:

- Visit information
- Clinic notes
- Lab results
- Genomics reports
- Medication orders and administration
- Procedures
- Radiology reports

# Leveraging HIEs Beyond EHR Data

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**Casefinding** can be a tedious and resource intensive process for hospitals, as well as for registries

- HL7 ADTs (Admission, Discharge, Transfer notifications) are a promising avenue for streamlining and centralizing the case-finding function
- Collaboration between registries and HIEs provide opportunities to leverage info in ADTs since they (theoretically) contain good linkage variables
- Can be used by registries as a case-finding audit tool to provide feedback to hospitals/reporting facilities to improve completeness of case ascertainment

# Leveraging HIEs Beyond EHR Data

- CyncHealth is the HIE in Iowa
  - 108 out of Iowa's 118 hospitals are fully sharing data with CyncHealth with the others underway
- Already meeting ONC standards for V3 (target date 2026)
  - Working towards standards for V4 (target date 2028) which will allow for richer data to be exchanged for cancer cases
- CyncHealth and Iowa Cancer Registry are partnering to use ADTs for statewide cancer case finding

[https://www.healthit.gov/sites/default/files/page/2023-07/Standards\\_Bulletin\\_2023-2.pdf](https://www.healthit.gov/sites/default/files/page/2023-07/Standards_Bulletin_2023-2.pdf)





# Leveraging HIEs Beyond EHR Data

- Death Certificate Only (DCO) cases are a significant problem for registries:
  - Require intensive efforts to find information
  - Cases are typically excluded from research due to insufficient data
- Maryland Cancer Registry/Myriddian partnered with their HIE (CRISP)
  - CRISP was able to provide information including:
    - Date of First Visit for a cancer diagnosis, Facility, Cancer Diagnosis, Diagnosis Description, Race, and Ethnicity
  - Enriched dataset allowed for efficient follow up with healthcare facilities to get needed information to decrease DCO cases



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# Thank you

Mary Charlton  
[mary-Charlton@uiowa.edu](mailto:mary-Charlton@uiowa.edu)

→ <https://shri.public-health.uiowa.edu/>