

TRANSCRIPT: Module Summary, ECR module

Hello, my name is Julia Doetsch and I would like to congratulate you on having reached the end of this module, developed by the RECAP Preterm Early Career Researchers' Group, that presented the extreme preterm demonstration project and some ideas about collaborative working and the use of the RECAP Preterm Platform.

In this module, we talked to you about a single demonstration project that involved all the participants in the RECAP Preterm collaboration. The project focussed on the question, "Are there survival differences according to sex in European extremely preterm populations?" and the goals were to showcase the use of the RECAP Preterm Platform as well as to investigate a scientific question of interest. In particular, we'd like to remind you that this project is not yet finished, and so the results that were presented are only interim results that are provided as an example of how the platform works, and thus are subject to change. We plan to submit a paper for publication once we have finalised the analyses at the end of summer 2020.

So what did we cover in this module? Well, as you know, the RECAP Preterm Platform brings together over 20 different cohort studies of very preterm birth from across Europe. It also includes data from the Nordic Registers of Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden, which means there is a wealth of data available to answer scientific questions related to the health of children and adults who are affected by very preterm birth. In this module, we showed you the process that we used to carry out a scientific project. First, we decided on a study question that we wanted to answer, before looking at the individual cohort and register studies to identify potential variables to include. We then carried out harmonisation – ensuring that both the variables *and* the populations were harmonised – before conducting analyses. For the cohorts, the analyses were carried out in a federated manner using DataSHIELD, while analysis of the Register data was performed in parallel.

We hope that you will have been able to consolidate some of the learning from the previous modules in this virtual school while learning about this process used for the demonstration project that we have presented. Furthermore, we hope that learning about the demonstration project gave you an understanding of how the ideas and work from across the RECAP Preterm project integrate together to help answer scientific questions. Major learning achievements that you should have got from this particular module is to understand the added value that the RECAP Preterm Platform brings to research in facilitating collaborative working and enabling federated research, as well as allowing for integration between the different sources of data from cohorts and registers that are covered by the platform. Finally, we would like to reiterate the importance of collaborative working: the RECAP Preterm Early Career Research group includes over 35 members from institutions across Europe, and we also work extremely closely with senior members of the RECAP Preterm collaboration. These close relationships have been essential for us to carry out our work, and also mean that we have good support networks if we run into problems.

So, here again we provide with links to the additional resources that we provided at the beginning of this module – the RECAP Preterm Platform, the help notes for the demonstration project, and the main softwares that are utilised in the RECAP Preterm Platform – the OBiBa suite and to DataSHIELD. We also include a link to the Early Career Researchers' Group page on the main RECAP Preterm website, and if you plan to continue working in this field we invite you to make contact and see if you would like to join the group.

We hope you have enjoyed this module and the RECAP Preterm virtual summer school!

RECAP Preterm Platform:

- <https://platform.recap-preterm.eu>

RECAP Preterm “help” notes for the Extreme Preterm Demonstration project:

- <https://gitlab.inesctec.pt/wp4-recap/wp7-demo>

OBiBa software suite – the open source software for epidemiological studies used in the RECAP Preterm Platform:

- <https://www.obiba.org/>

DataSHIELD – the analysis software

- <https://www.datashield.org>

RECAP Preterm Early Career Research Group

- <https://recap-preterm.eu/for-scientists/early-career-researchers-ecr-group/>