# Impact of Adverse Event Definitions on Real-World Detection of Oncology Immune-Related Adverse Events

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## **OBJECTIVES**

- Immune checkpoint blockade (ICB), now widespread, represent a major advance in cancer care, but have also introduced novel toxicities, denoted immune-related AEs (irAEs)
- Accurate irAEs identification in real-world data (RWD) is vital for assessing the long-term safety profile of ICB
- A barrier to this identification is a lack of consensus in the definitions of AEs
- Here, we apply three different peer-reviewed irAE definitions in a RWD cohort of non-small cell lung cancer (NSCLC) patients

## **SUMMARY**

- Identification of oncology-associated irAEs in RWD varies significantly based on the classification approach
- Using three peer-reviewed definitions applied to the same cohort, we identified irAEs in 79.7%, 41.0%, and 5.5% of patients
- Researchers working with RWD should clearly communicate irAE definitions to support reproducible identification of these events in post-marketing surveillance

## **METHODS**

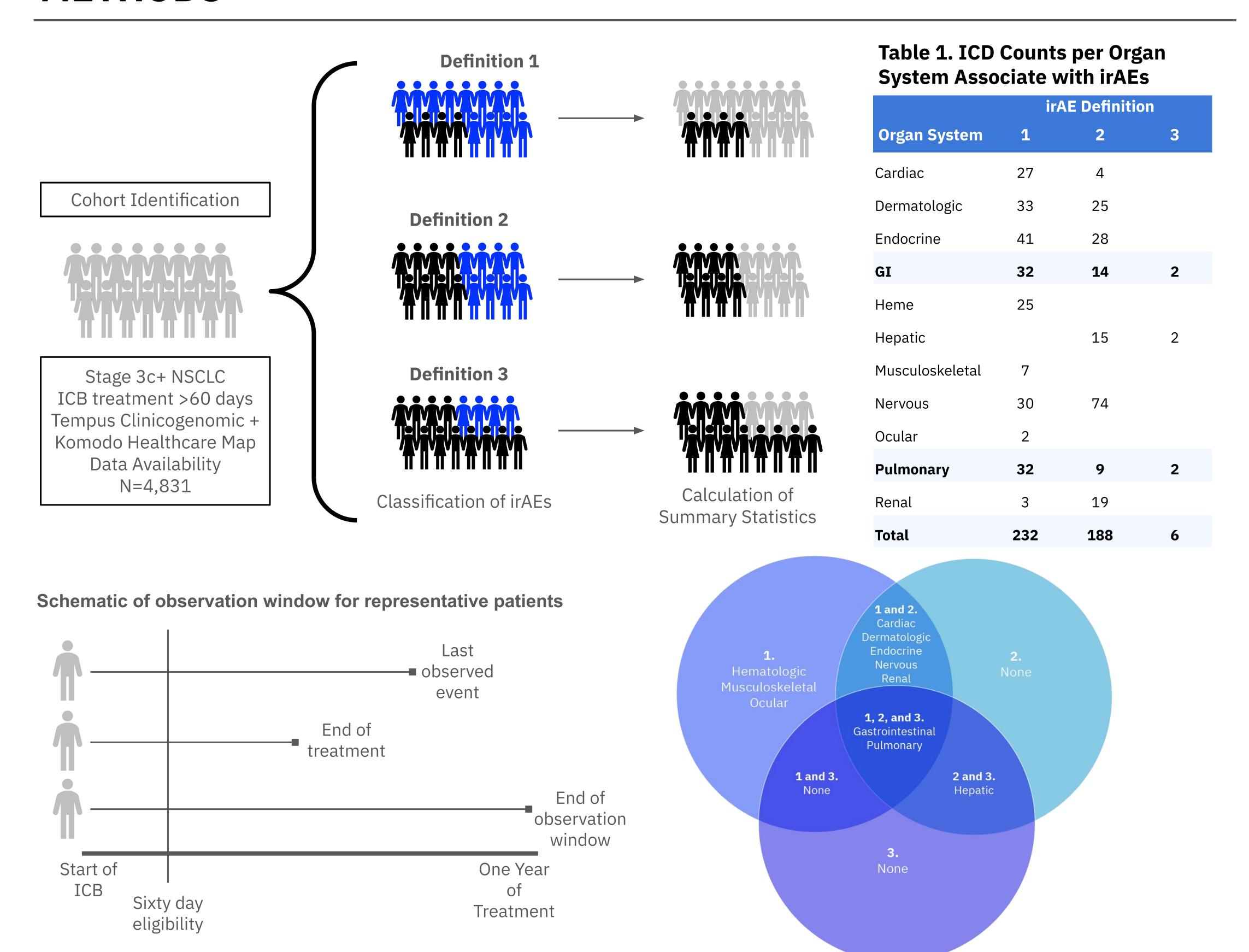


Figure 1. We evaluated RWD from Tempus clinicogenomic data linked to Komodo Health's claims. Patients were included if they had a diagnosis of stage 3C+ NSCLC, and were treated with ICB therapy for ≥ 60 days. We assessed irAEs for up to one-year of ICB treatment or the last clinical record or claim if one-year follow-up was not available. We applied three definitions of irAEs to this cohort which varied in the irAEs included, the ICD-10 codes used to define them, and the length of pre-treatment washout period to exclude prevalent diagnoses. **Table 1** shows the count of ICD-10 codes per organ system identified under each definition. GI and Pulmonary are highlighted as organ systems represented across all three definitions, and explored in downstream results

#### RESULTS

**Table 2. Study Cohort** 

Clinical Characteristic	Value	Number of patients	10 Only (N %)	IO Combinatio (N, %)
	Atezolizumab	194	52, 26.8%	142, 73.2%
	Avelumab	5	3,60%	2, 40%
	Cemiplimab	74	23, 31.1%	51, 68.9%
IO The areas (	Durvalumab	622	590, 94.9%	32, 5.1%
IO Therapy	Ipilimumab	217	147, 67.7%	70, 32.3%
	Nivolumab	555	451, 81.3%	104, 18.7%
	Pembrolizumab	3387	1027, 30.3%	2360, 69.7%
	Tremelimumab	6	2, 33.3%	4, 66.7%
	No	4615	1994, 43.2%	2621, 56.8%
CTLA-4 Treatment	Yes	216	147, 68.1%	69, 31.9%
	≤2016	797	540,67.8%	257, 32.2%
	2018	561	276, 49.2%	285, 50.8%
	2019	804	326, 40.5%	478, 59.5%
Year of Primary Diagnosis	2020	892	360, 40.4%	532, 59.6%
	2021	861	329, 38.2%	532, 61.8%
	2022	604	223, 36.9%	381, 63.1%
	2023	312	87, 27.9%	225, 72.1%
	≤2016	518	401, 77.4%	117, 22.6%
	2018	540	286, 53%	254, 47%
	2019	801	319, 39.8%	482, 60.2%
Year of Stage 3B+ Diagnosis	2020	954	393, 41.2%	561, 58.8%
real of Stage 3D+ Diagnosis	2021	914	358, 39.2%	556, 60.8%
	2022	721	263, 36.5%	458, 63.5%
	2023	382	120, 31.4%	262, 68.6%
	2024	1	1, 100%	0,0%
	≤2016	269	207, 77%	62, 23%
	2018	426	253, 59.4%	173, 40.6%
	2019	741	302, 40.8%	439, 59.2%
Year of ICB Start	2020	935	396, 42.4%	539, 57.6%
rear or top start	2021	971	385, 39.6%	586, 60.4%
	2022	854	339, 39.7%	515, 60.3%
	2023	612	244, 39.9%	368, 60.1%
	2024	23	15, 65.2%	8, 34.8%

Table 3. Adverse Event Detection varies by Definition and Treatment Type

Treatment	Any irAE	Definition 1	Definition 2	Definition 3
Any, N = 4831	Yes	79.7 %	41 %	5.5 %
Any, N = 4831	No	20.3 %	59 %	94.5 %
IO Combination, N = 2690	Yes	81.6 %	43.8 %	6 %
IO Combination, N = 2690	No	18.4 %	56.2 %	94 %
IO Only, N = 2141	Yes	77.2 %	37.5 %	4.8 %
IO Only, N = 2141	No	22.8 %	62.5 %	95.2 %

b.	Treatment	Any irAE	Definition 1	Definition 2	Definition 3
	Any, N = 4831	Yes	29.3 %	5.2 %	3.7 %
	Any, N = 4831	No	70.7 %	94.8 %	96.3 %
	IO Combination, N = 2690	Yes	32.4 %	5.9 %	4.2 %
	IO Combination, N = 2690	No	67.6 %	94.1 %	95.8 %
	IO Only, N = 2141	Yes	25.4 %	4.3 %	3.1 %
	IO Only, N = 2141	No	74.6 %	95.7 %	96.9 %

c.	Treatment	Any irAE	Definition 1	Definition 2	Definition 3
	Any, N = 4831	Yes	31.3 %	3.1 %	1.4 %
	Any, N = 4831	No	68.7 %	96.9 %	98.6 %
	IO Combination, N = 2690	Yes	29.7 %	2.9 %	1.4 %
	IO Combination, N = 2690	No	70.3 %	97.1 %	98.6 %
	IO Only, N = 2141	Yes	33.4 %	3.4 %	1.5 %
	IO Only, N = 2141	No	66.6 %	96.6 %	98.5 %

**Table 3.** Adverse event counts and rates by treatment type and definition. Subtable A includes all adverse events, while Subtable B includes gastrointestinal irAEs, and Subtable C includes Pulmonary irAEs, the two adverse events that were common across all three definitions.