

Press release: SAS deploys SAS Viya in the central PIONEER Big Data Platform for Prostate Cancer

PIONEER: The International Network of Excellence for Big Data in Prostate Cancer announces that consortium partner SAS has deployed their latest advanced analytics capabilities in the central PIONEER Big Data Platform for Prostate Cancer.

In partnership with the Center for Advanced Systems Understanding ([CASUS](#)), analytics leader SAS has deployed the latest version of its [SAS Viya](#) software in the PIONEER platform, expanding the analytic capabilities of the platform and supporting PIONEER researchers to accelerate clinical research into prostate cancer.

SAS Viya is an AI, analytic and data management open platform that runs on a modern, scalable architecture. It is cloud-native software, designed to be delivered and updated continuously and bring the power of analytics to everyone, everywhere.

The platform gives a broad community of researchers and clinicians access to SAS' latest capabilities, from visualisation and exploration to data mining and machine learning, embracing and extending the existing open source OHDSI toolbox on the [central PIONEER research environment](#). Data Scientists can even leverage the power of SAS from within their R or Python code.

In addition to deploying SAS Viya, SAS will also provide education and guidance on application of its software ensuring that PIONEER researchers maximise the research potential provided by SAS analytics. SAS will support all PIONEER researchers from data scientists with mainly [open source coding skills](#) to clinicians who are less tech-savvy and want to use visual interfaces to drive novel clinical pathway insights to the benefit of all prostate cancer stakeholders.

Big data research in prostate cancer has already shown to advance clinical research and lead to a better understanding of the impact of various clinical and therapeutic pathways for patients. At SAS, we are proud to make our most advanced analytical and epidemiological technology available together with the Center for Advanced Systems Understanding to help deepen the understanding of this terrible disease that affects 1 in 8 men during their lifetime.

[Sherrine Eid](#), Global Lead Real-World Evidence and Epidemiology at SAS

Leveraging big data to support cancer research

Prostate cancer accounts for 9% of all cancer deaths in men. In the coming years, the ageing population is predicted to increase the socioeconomic burden associated with the disease. The IMI PIONEER consortium leverages big data to get a better understanding of prostate cancer and how we can treat it.

The hosting of the central platform by PIONEER partner CASUS has enabled PIONEER to build a secure cloud-based infrastructure for data hosting and analytics. By combining complex systems research with cutting-edge digital methods from data and computational science, PIONEER aims to play a pivotal role in Europe's research landscape. SAS members will continue to invest their epidemiological and data science expertise, in partnership with the wider PIONEER consortium, to address the knowledge gaps in prostate cancer research.

PIONEER's ultimate goal is to not only improve prostate-cancer related outcomes but also to increase healthcare system efficiency and the overall quality of health and social care of prostate cancer patients and their families.

For more information on the PIONEER project visit our website www.prostate-pioneer.eu or follow us on Twitter @ProstatePioneer.

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SAS founded in 1976 is a global leader in analytics. Through innovative software and services, SAS empowers and inspires customers around the world to transform data into intelligence. SAS envisions a world where everyone can make better decisions, grounded in trusted data and assisted by the power and scale of SAS® Analytics. Besides involvement in PIONEER, SAS is also a founding member on the [CEO Roundtable on Cancer](#), it supports [Project Data Sphere](#) with SAS analytical capabilities to improve outcomes for cancer patients and is involved in other cancer projects as part of [SAS' data-for-good](#) initiatives.

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