EHDEN Academy

EUROPEAN HEALTH DATA & EVIDENCE NETWORK

OHDSI

EHDEN Academy - a global training collaboration with OHDSI

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BACKGROUND

As OHDSI and EHDEN are at the front line of developing new methodologies, analytical tools and use cases for observational research, there is a strong need to train and educate colleagues. Ensuring **standardised education** for epidemiologists, data scientists, informaticians, and others involved in research utilising observational data is also key to facilitating research quality in OHDSI.

The European Health Data & Evidence Network (EHDEN) project, an Innovative Medicines Initiative, commenced a training programme for SMEs who had been selected via open call to work with the project on mapping Data Partner data to the OMOP CDM. An ETL certification programme was created, which was the progenitor for the development of an online training platform, the Academy.

The EHDEN Academy was launched on 23rd April 2020 to the world as a **free, online training platform** based on the open source Moodle course management system. We are expanding the learning pathways, inclusive of specific modules on methods, tools, and skills within the OHDSI framework, and broadening content and reach from experts to the lay public/patient organisations. The initial 47 SME participants had been the core audience initially, with an additional 20 being added in 2022, but this is expanding to the multi-disciplinary research community worldwide.

Key to success will be the **engagement** of the OHDSI community, not just for participation, but also in generating new content for a wider audience. Linkage with the OHDSI Education Working Group strategic educational development within the global community as a training resource is being refined.
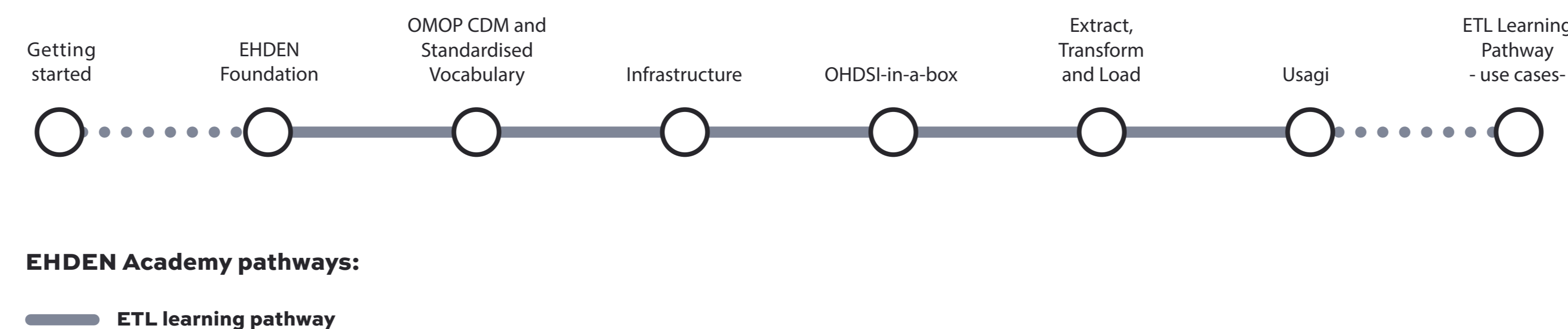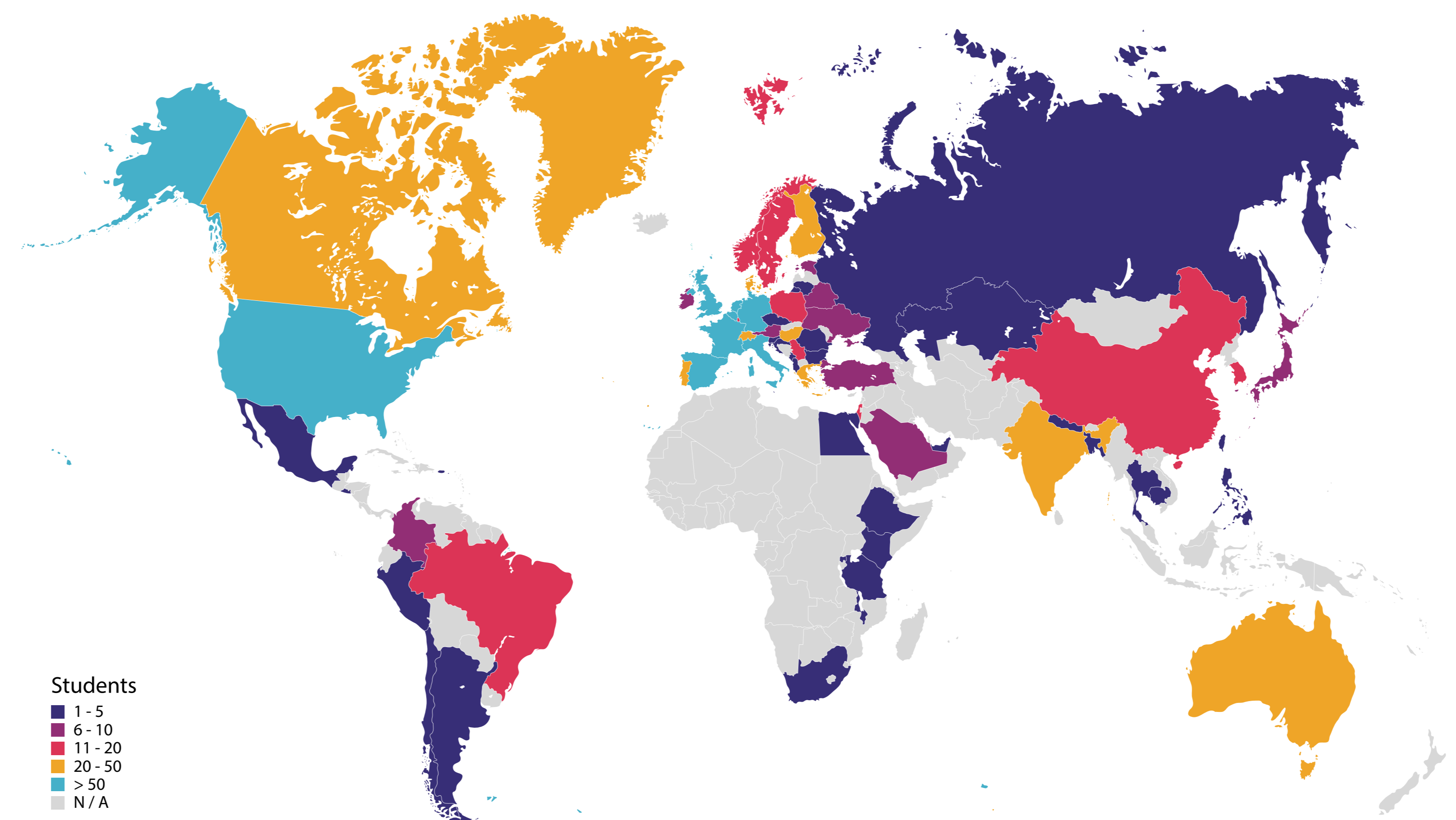
The EHDEN ACADEMY

The ETL learning pathways for SMEs, et al, will be complemented with pathways for bioinformaticians, epidemiologists, and regulators, and further content is currently being developed beyond the current **15 courses**
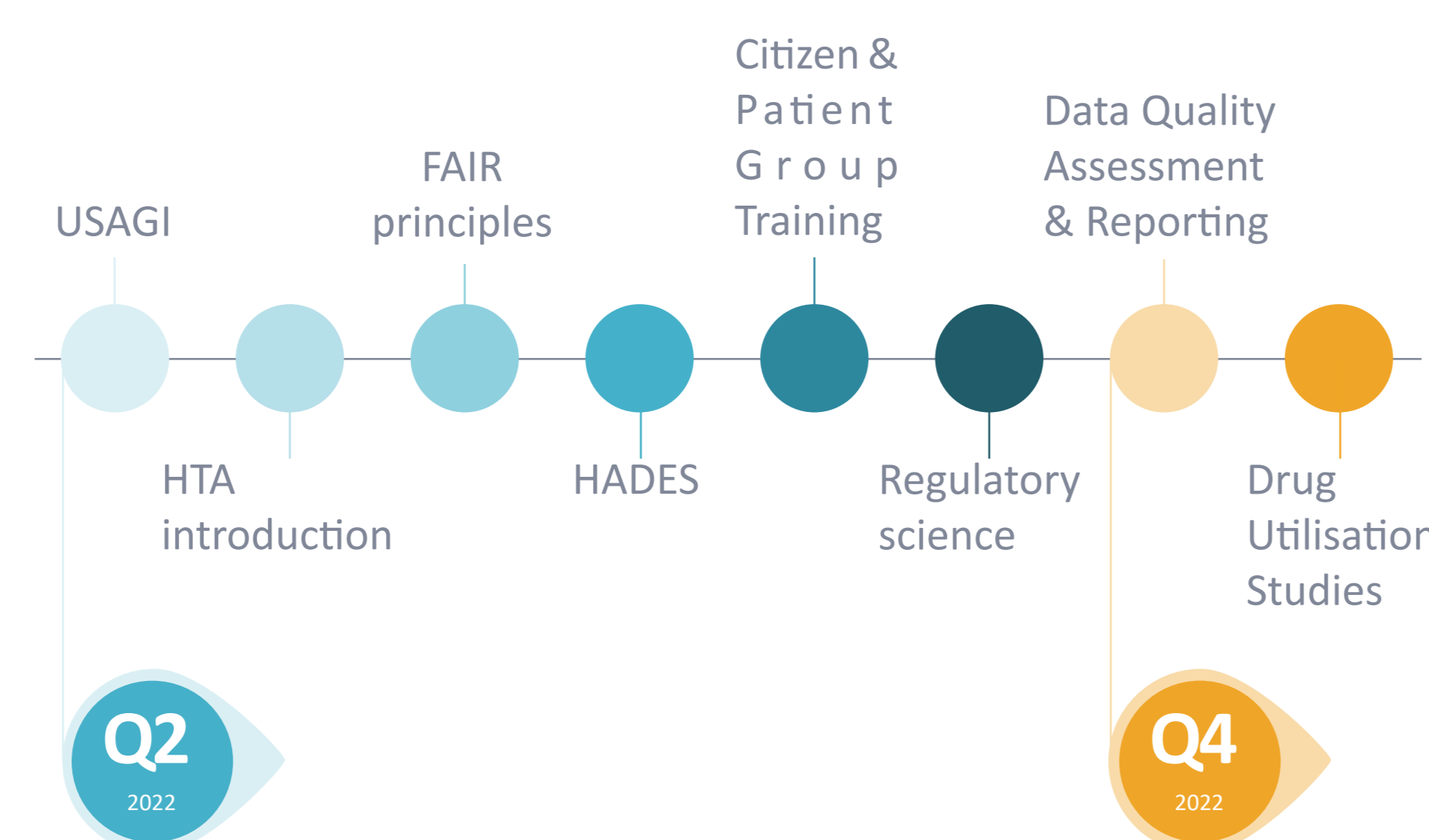

Each module utilises video and text format to provide training content, as well as linkage to relevant content in the most current version of the Book of OHDSI in GitHub. Additional material, such as podcasts and webinars are being incorporated to assist with the platform's attraction. Adult learning principles, also incorporating knowledge-checkers, exercises, forums and and/or email support are provided to support participants in self-learning.

Current courses focus on introductory modules on the Academy and the EHDEN project, ETL-related content around the OMOP CDM, tools and the OHDSI in a Box virtual machine, kindly supported by Amazon Web Services as part of their wider support of OHDSI, and on tools, skills and methods in utilising OMOP-mapped datasets.

As of 14th June 2022, there have been **2065 enrolled participants** since launch, with a major concentration in the US, UK, and Spain, but also in countries from across the globe.

Students
- 1 - 5
- 6 - 10
- 11 - 20
- 20 - 50
- > 50
- N / A

For the 15 courses, between 63 to 485 participants have enrolled, with **2,255 courses completed** across the enrolees. Of the current 15 courses, the most popular by participation has been the OMOP CDM course in the last five months. Participants have been **multi-disciplinary** in role, though with a bias to SME personnel due to the ongoing EHDEN priority.

The trained and certified SMEs are working on mapping more than **500 million** anonymous health records in Europe to the OMOP CDM to date, based on their consistent training via the ETL learning pathway.

The Academy is provided as a free resource, and is not an educational institution providing any qualifications, though this will be evaluated in a longer-term sustainability plan. The whole initiative is based on voluntary input with some minimal resourcing via the EHDEN programme, but longer term sustainability as part of EHDEN is being worked on.

WHAT IS NEXT

Educational metrics are being developed to provide more granular insights into the efficacy alongside other OHDSI training and education resources on YouTube, GitHub and PubMed, as well as to finetune our training development on the Academy.

EHDEN also co-promotes the Academy with the Academies of Health Data Research UK (UK), the GetReal Institute and the Institute for Innovation through Health Data (i~HD), with discussions ongoing on common international curricula.

CONCLUSION

The EHDEN Academy is a unique training resource for the OHDSI community globally and will see expanded content to support those engaged with the OHDSI research framework, standardised analytical tools, and methods.

It has seen appreciable uptake to date, and there is an opportunity for the OHDSI community to participate, but also create new content, further establishing the Academy as a global resource for upskilling anyone working with observational research.

We have a demonstrable example of providing training support at scale to industrialise key activities within OHDSI, from mapping to the OMOP CDM, to conducting research using relevant tools, skills and methods.

93% of Academy enrollees surveyed rated their experience as **good to excellent!**

Reference
EHDEN Project. EHDEN Academy Goes Live as Free Resource in Real-World Health Research. https://bit.ly/3fBOLtq. Accessed 13th July 2020

SCAN QR for more information about EHDEN Academy: www.academy.ehden.eu

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