# A national federated platform connecting primary and secondary care data for health services research

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| Synopsis | In Australia there are many complexities to connecting health and medical data for collaborative research. In particular, there are significant barriers to conducting health services research across the continuum of primary and secondary care. |
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| | Through utilising a highly flexible, non-prescriptive approach to data ingestion as well as data analysis and statistical methods, the platform allows for the broadest of research applications. |
| | BioGrid Australia, a not-for-profit organisation owned by the research sector, with a unique legal, ethical and data governance framework to support enduring data connectivity, is being leveraged by the Victorian Comprehensive Cancer Centre (VCCC) to connect primary care data to hospital emergency and admissions data across its seven tertiary hospitals. |
| | One of the key barriers to connecting primary care data to secondary care data is the unavailability of personally identifying information to support patient record matching across datasets. |
| | In this showcase an overview will be provided of the BioGrid platform and the various technologies used to overcome the barriers to connecting these data and matching patients across datasets for collaborative research. |
| | In addition, considerations on the guidance and support that will be required to provide researchers as they interrogate a new data source of linked primary and secondary care data will be discussed. |
| **Format of demonstration** | Live Demonstration, Slide Show |
| **Target research community** | Medical Research |
| **Statement of Research Impact** | Health services research will now be possible with access to the connected primary and secondary care data. Being able to track a patient's journey throughout their interactions with the health care system will provide data insights, otherwise hidden, to inform evidence based improved patient care. |