

### General Description

i2b2 is a self-service tool that allows you to determine if there is a cohort of patients in our clinical data repository that meets your criteria of interest. The i2b2 web client provides a "drag-and-drop" interface for selecting query criteria.

### Search Criteria

Search criteria at the U of M include patient demographics, diagnoses (ICD9 codes), procedures (ICD9 and CPT codes), and dates and locations of clinical visits. In response to a query, i2b2 returns the approximate number of patients matching the criteria you have entered. The dataset searched by i2b2 is the data in the AHC IE clinical data repository.

No patient identifiers or identifiable health information are provided and, so, no IRB approval is required to use the tool.

### i2b2's Origins

The University of Minnesota's instance of i2b2 is a customization of an open-source tool developed by Partners HealthCare System in Boston, MA with NIH funding.

i2b2 at the U was implemented and is supported by a joint effort between the office of Academic Health Center Information Systems (AHC IS) and the office of Biomedical Health Informatics. Funds for i2b2 are provided by the Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI) at the UMN, which is funded by the NIH [Clinical and Translational Science Award \(CTSA\) program](#) through grant UL1TR000114.

### i2b2 as a National Resource

i2b2 is rapidly becoming the de-facto standard for cohort identification and hypothesis generation at research centers across the US and abroad. i2b2 is a widely adopted tool among Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) sites and other Academic Medical Centers, and has also found increasing use at other organizations for research and clinical performance improvement initiatives.

There is an active i2b2 Academic User's Group composed of representatives from several dozen institutions. More information can be found [here](#).