

## All of Us Research Workbench Open for User Feedback

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The National Institutes of Health recently [opened its data platform](#) for user feedback of its “*All of Us Researcher Workbench*.” Researchers are now able to use the initial datasets obtained from nearly 350,000 participants in the *All of Us* research program and the tools in the *All of Us* studies.

Initially branded as the “Precision Medicine Initiative®” Cohort Program, “*All of Us*” will be the largest volunteer health and medical research program on precision medicine in the United States. As part of this health initiative, “*All of Us* is building a diverse database that can inform thousands of studies on a variety of health conditions.” [The \*All of Us\* program](#) is working towards:

- Identifying risk factors for certain diseases;
- Determining which treatments work best for people of different backgrounds;
- Connecting people with the right clinical studies; and
- Learning how technologies can assist health and [wellness](#)

The NIH also announced that they have adopted a “data passport” model to make the data accessible. After several preliminary steps (registration, agreeing to certain rules, and program training) users will have access to use the *All of Us* data for a wide range of studies.

The current program suffers from certain limitations. As explained by the NIH, “[b]ecause participants take part in the program at different paces and we are still enrolling, we don’t have variables for all participants; in particular, survey completion rates vary, and the collection and harmonization of electronic health record data remain a work in progress. We have done some preliminary testing on biological plausibility of the data; other curation efforts are still underway.” In addition, some of the data has been “blurred” to protect patient privacy and users must analyze data within the secure cloud-based *All of Us* platform.

Despite its limitations, this is a promising next step in realizing the goal of studying and analyzing data from one million or more people living in the United States to the end of better health for *all of us*.

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