

FINDAT business

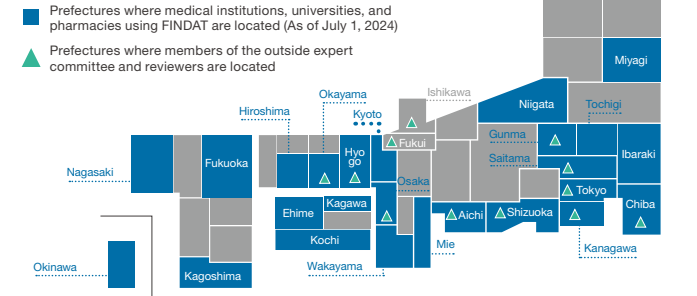
Business Overview

Accelerating Digital Transformation of Healthcare with the Web-Based FINDAT Platform

FINDAT is a drug information web platform for medical professionals. FINDAT gathers drug information from an extensive range of data sources in Japan and overseas, such as original articles, drug databases, and regulatory guidelines, processes these data to enhance use at clinical sites, and provides them online. FINDAT can respond to a wide range of social needs, and it is gaining a solid reputation, making inroads among a growing number of pharmacies that carry out advanced healthcare and at-home care as well as pharmacology educational institutions. In addition, the Japanese government's 4th Healthcare Cost Optimization Plan (2024-2029) clearly calls for the use of formularies to promote the use of generic drugs. We anticipate reductions in drug costs by means of prescription analysis using the formularies of prefectures and insurers.



FINDAT Spreads Nationwide Since 2020 Service Launch



Demand from Society

Hospital administrators

Cost reductions, medical safety, strengthening regional collaboration, working style reform for doctors, and other management issues

Healthcare professionals

Improving efficiency in collecting and evaluating vast amounts of drug information, standardizing work for the shift to task sharing

Pharmacies

Comprehensive, accurate drug information for advanced healthcare, refill prescriptions and advanced pharmacy management

Educational institutions

Cultivating the next generation of medical professionals

Prefectures, insurers

Visualization of generic drug use and reduction of drug costs through formulary-based prescription analysis

Value Provided by FINDAT

● Managing drugs that have been adopted and creating formularies

Formularies are recommended lists of homologous drugs prepared and offered by FINDAT. They can be created efficiently by processing data according to the situation of each medical institution or region.

● Comparing efficacy, safety, and cost-effectiveness of homologous drugs

Comparisons of similar drugs with similar efficacy provided by FINDAT are created using data on the efficacy, safety, and cost-effectiveness of the drugs gathered from a wide range of sources including package inserts, interview forms, original articles, secondary information databases, and various regulatory guidelines. FINDAT compiles these data into a table or other formats to compare and evaluate individual drugs.

● More efficient data gathering when adopting new drugs

We gather and evaluate information on newly approved drugs that place a burden on medical institutions, and compile the information into materials that are easy to use in clinical settings.

● Optimization of drug purchasing costs

Utilizing the abovementioned materials on drug evaluation in terms of efficacy, safety, and cost-effectiveness provided by FINDAT, customers can narrow down the range of drugs to use and decide whether to adopt a new drug. In this way, FINDAT contributes to the optimization of drug purchasing costs.

● Objective data reviewed and peer-reviewed by outside experts

Standardized formularies are published after being reviewed and approved by the Formulary Expert Review Committee. New drug evaluations and additional indications are published after being peer-reviewed by outside pharmacists who are active in clinical practice. This ensures the fairness and appropriateness of information.

● Promoting proper medication use and enhancing medical safety

By providing information on proper medication use as well as the latest drug safety information, FINDAT promotes the proper use of drugs, contributing to enhanced medical safety.

Strategies

1 Improving user satisfaction

- To improve user satisfaction, we will create content tailored to customer needs, provide individualized approaches, and hold user seminars.

2 Developing new channels

- We aim to capture new customers by co-hosting academic workshops and through academic exhibitions, web seminars, and our corporate website.

3 Developing new markets

- **Pharmacies, at-home medical treatment**
We will roll out FINDAT to all Nihon Chouzai pharmacies and then target other pharmacies by leveraging its use in our pharmacies and in at-home medical treatment.
- **Prefectures, insurers**
Working with Japan Medical Research Institute, we will help promote the use of generic drugs by prefectures and insurers by visualizing such use and reducing drug costs through formulary-based prescription analysis.

Case Study Interview

Cancer Institute Hospital of JFCR

Boosting Efficiency by Tapping into the Distinctive Drug Information Services of a Specialized Hospital, Carefully Selecting Drugs of Choice

The Cancer Institute Hospital of the Japanese Foundation for Cancer Research decided to introduce FINDAT to be able to create formularies while carrying out highly busy daily hospital operations. Patients often visit this hospital from far away. FINDAT is proving to be a reliable source of information for the hospital's distinctive drug information services as well as for preparing materials for its pharmaceutical council. We spoke with Dr. Masakazu Yamaguchi, director of the hospital's Pharmacy Department, and Dr. Yasuhiro Nakano about how the hospital, which specializes in oncology, is making use of FINDAT.

Introducing FINDAT has made it possible to move forward with creating formularies

Q Please tell us how you came to introduce FINDAT at the hospital and what your impressions were at the time.

Dr. Yamaguchi I'd heard reports from other hospitals that had adopted FINDAT, so in July 2021 I received an explanation about the platform together with a staff member from the Drug Information Office.

After a trial use, we officially rolled out the platform in May 2022.

Dr. Nakano One of my annual goals every year was to create a formulary. But all of our staff members have multiple responsibilities and are very busy, so in practice it was difficult for me to create a formulary on my own. But after hearing the explanation about FINDAT, I thought, "If standard formularies have been developed to this extent, maybe we can finally create our own in-house formularies."

Q What was the reaction from other departments when you decided to introduce FINDAT?

Dr. Yamaguchi Our hospital has a committee in which the various departments give explanations and make budget requests for equipment maintenance and new system purchases for the coming fiscal year, and I included the FINDAT platform on the list for the Pharmacy Department. When I did, the doctors on the committee said, "As a hospital, don't we actually need this kind of system?" The response to FINDAT was much more positive than I'd expected, so the rollout went ahead smoothly.

Q Who uses FINDAT at your hospital and how do they use it?

Dr. Nakano Both pharmacists like me who work in the Pharmacy Department in charge of drug information services and pharmacists who work in the wards use FINDAT on a daily basis. As a hospital that specializes in oncology, our patients don't just come from the greater Tokyo metropolitan area—many travel from quite far away, and they bring a wide array of medications with them. If we simply purchased ad hoc all the drugs patients bring with them, we would quickly build up a huge volume of obsolete stock. So, we often suggest alternative drugs. That's where FINDAT comes in handy.

Q What areas do you frequently propose alternative drugs for, and in what ways do you use the platform?

Dr. Nakano Most often, we use the platform when we want to switch out drugs prescribed for patients' existing illnesses to the drugs we use at the hospital. Patients have often taken certain medications over a long period of time, and many want to continue taking the medications even after being admitted to our hospital.

But in many cases, the drugs patients bring with them are not what we use here. So, our pharmacists have to explain to doctors and their patients that the alternative drugs can be used without any problems. The information we get from FINDAT serves to back up such explanations, helping pharmacists make their case. The platform contains a compilation of evidence that has been carefully screened, and I feel this helps pharmacists have confidence and be more persuasive when giving explanations.



Dr. Masakazu Yamaguchi
Director of Pharmacy Department

Dr. Yasuhiro Nakano
Pharmacy Department

Creating in-house formularies by therapeutic class to support standardized treatments

Q What kind of progress are you making regarding the creation of formularies, which was an initial challenge?

Dr. Nakano Using FINDAT, we have created formularies for insulin preparations and HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors*, and have publicized these throughout the hospital by posting them in the electronic medical records.

Dr. Yamaguchi We're a hospital that specializes in oncology treatment. So, we are taking advantage of the formularies to standardize treatment in other areas. If this results in a reduction in the amount of discarded drugs, I believe this will also satisfy the original purpose of the formularies.

Hope for FINDAT to play a greater role as a trusted third party

Q Are there any situations in which FINDAT can be useful in the oncology field?

Dr. Nakano New research results are constantly emerging in oncology and information is updated rapidly. So, it might be difficult for FINDAT to handle information beyond what is publicly available.

However, I think most FINDAT users access the platform because they want to know the clinical status of drugs.

For example, with FINDAT, we were able to confirm how much data was available about the usefulness of a newly developed anticancer drug and, conversely, what kind of data was not available. In terms of a drug's efficacy, being able to confirm when there is no data available is also very important in providing evidence-based treatment.

Q Finally, please tell us what you expect from FINDAT going forward.

Dr. Nakano I think if pharmacists can hone their ability to check drugs by using objective, neutral opinions and knowledge provided by a third-party organization like FINDAT, independent of regulatory authorities, this could help raise the quality of drugs in general.

*HMG-CoA reductase inhibitors: Drugs that suppress cholesterol synthesis in the liver, primarily lowering the amount of LDL cholesterol in the blood and preventing arteriosclerosis.

Full text of the interview (Japanese only)

<https://info.findat.jp/case/>