

Ovid®

How a global company that develops treatments for rare diseases maximizes its research productivity with Ovid®

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This study examines the case of a global American biopharmaceutical company that specializes in discovering the undiscovered; that is, treatments for serious rare and ultrarare diseases. In its quest to provide solutions where none currently exist, the company relies on its 1,300 employees across 10 countries on three continents for innovative, time- and cost-efficient drug development.

## The challenge

In pharma and biotech industries, many teams rely on obtaining the latest, most comprehensive clinical information for doing their jobs. Those teams include the Regulatory, Clinical Writing, Medical Affairs, Pharmacovigilance, Health Economics & Outcomes Research, and Publications teams. In the rare disease space, low patient numbers, lack of traditional clinical trial data, incomplete information on disease progression, and limited biomarkers pose additional challenges to finding and utilizing the best information sources to support their work.

Whether it's utilizing hard-to-find data to generate study designs or substantiating their findings for regulatory agencies, leveraging the latest information regarding rare diseases — and doing it with speed and accuracy — is crucial to the success of the company's research and development. The Director of Health Sciences explains that the company interfaces with many regulatory agencies globally. Each has different requirements and strict timelines for responding to questions, often including requests for additional justification or support for their findings. The company's Regulatory and Clinical Writing departments may only have ten days to provide answers to keep their programs moving through the next steps toward regulatory approval.

The company has two approved medicines and seven in their pipeline, each targeting a different rare disease. As their sole medical librarian, The Director must ensure everyone gets the documentation to satisfy all regulatory requirements and other inquiries.



*“Ovid® understands our needs and is a true partner with us.”*

- **Director of Health Sciences at a global American biopharmaceutical company (involved in the research and development of novel products for treatment of rare and ultra-rare genetic diseases)**

## The solution

Before the Director's arrival, the company was still performing manual, time-consuming medical database searches but wanted a comprehensive database solution that could meet cross-departmental requests quickly.

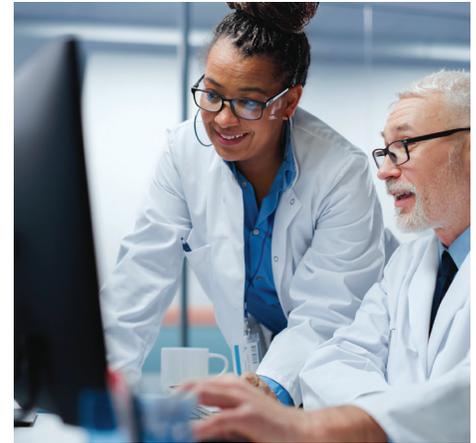
After exploring the benefits, the company selected Ovid® as their medical research platform. The Director soon learned how well Ovid's precision and speed could maximize her search productivity and enhance the company's workflow. Ovid's customizable search and alert tools enable their teams to automate searches that improve team efficiency so they can focus on utilizing the high-quality, credible information obtained. The Ovid search platform also helps reduce administrative overhead, enabling team members to spend more time on stakeholder engagement and regulatory requirements.

The company accesses MEDLINE®, Embase®, and Evidence-Based Medicine Reviews (EBMR) on Ovid. The Director notes the three databases enable her to find conference abstracts, regulatory filings, pharmacovigilance data, and a variety of European data that can't be found through free, publicly available sources. This offers many advantages in the rare-disease space, often relying on real-world data sources and model-based data analyses.

### **The company utilizes Ovid's search, content, result management, and alert tools to:**

- Perform precision searches across multiple databases simultaneously
- Customize, save, and automate searches
- Store, organize, and manage searches, research documents, and findings
- Monitor and report access and company-wide use of resources
- Create AutoAlerts via email or RSS to ensure widespread access to the latest clinical information that actually understands their needs.

Underpinning its research and reporting capabilities is Ovid's commitment to the company's success. The Director states, "I want to underscore how important it is to me to have a company that actually understands our needs. That is absolutely huge." Ovid's expert training teams, 24/7 customer service, and online tools provide wraparound support.



*"I've been here four years now, and I still get emails from people saying they appreciate having my current awareness searches pushed out to them right away."*

## The results

The company utilizes Ovid® across multiple departments. While clinical writing has its own workflows and search strategies, the Director assists other departments with their search requests to varying degrees. Diverse teams, from Medical Affairs to Business and Finance, tap the Director's Ovid expertise for their needs. In addition, the Director provides their staff with a monthly newsletter that summarizes the current research available across all its programs. To create the newsletter, The Director developed and saved an Ovid search strategy to simultaneously search Embase® and MEDLINE® once a week, automatically de-duplicate entries, and alert her of the results. This efficiency ensures everyone is informed of the latest information and increases collaboration across departments.

With much of the company utilizing Ovid, the Director monitors usage statistics in Ovid's result management tools. She notes that, in 2023, each licensed employee created approximately 20 searches, resulting in a cost-effective cost per use while achieving professional results and alleviating administrative burdens and manual processes. The Director says the investment in Ovid is well worth the price. She notes their \$15 cost per use is low — but “if a \$15 search helps lead to an approval, that's priceless.”

## About Ovid®

Ovid offers access to over 23 million bibliographic citations and author abstracts from more than 5,600 biomedicine and life sciences journals in nearly 40 languages. As the world's most trusted medical research platform, Ovid has provided worldwide clinical, medical, pharmaceutical, and medical device research and support for over 30 years.

*“Ovid's customer service is HUGE. Every time you ask, you can get training quickly on whatever you need.”*



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