



## **The Academy Celebrates Awards of Imaging Data Commons to a Consortium of Imaging Investigators**

On August 14, 2019, the [Center for Biomedical Informatics and Information Technology \(CBIIT\)](#) at the National Cancer Institute (NCI) housed within the National Institutes of Health (NIH) awarded the [Imaging Data Commons \(IDC\)](#) to a team of investigators from the Department of Radiology at Brigham & Women's Hospital and Harvard Medical School. This award is funded by the [Cancer MoonshotSM](#) in support of the [National Cancer Data Ecosystem](#). The IDC will house imaging data from a variety of modalities for use by the broader cancer research community.

The Academy congratulates the members and leadership of the IDC consortium:

- [Surgical Planning Laboratory](#) at [Brigham and Women's Hospital Department of Radiology](#) and [Harvard Medical School](#): Ron Kikinis, M.D., and Andriy Fedorov, Ph.D.
- [Institute for Systems Biology](#): William Longabaugh and Ilya Shmulevich, Ph.D.
- [General Dynamics IT](#): Dr. David Pot, Ph.D.
- [Isomics](#): Dr. Steve Pieper, Ph.D.
- [Fraunhofer MEVIS](#): André Homeyer, M.D. and Rasmus Kiehl, M.D.
- [PixelMed Publishing](#): David Clunie, M.D.
- [Computational Imaging and Bioinformatics Laboratory at Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School](#): Hugo Aerts, Ph.D.

The National Cancer Data Ecosystem is similar to what the [Academy's Diagnostic Cockpit Initiative \(DxCP\)](#) is hoping to achieve but exclusively limited to cancer research. The DxCP is a collaborative effort to improve diagnostic accuracy and efficiency. The Academy's initiative will empower precision medicine by bringing together cutting-edge diagnostic technology and advanced artificial intelligence-based computing to better match patients with the best treatments and create the optimal working environment for radiologists and other clinicians. Ultimately, this initiative will lead to the development of new tools and technologies that would leverage advances in artificial intelligence and machine learning to aggregate and synthesize medical data to improve patient care.

The IDC will utilize cloud resources from Google Cloud and the Institute for Systems Biology Cancer Genomics Cloud to develop additional tools which will enable enhanced analysis and collaboration. According to Dr. Andriy Fedorov, from Brigham and Women's Surgical Planning Laboratory, "One of the features we are most excited to incorporate into the IDC is the support of the rich metadata that will accompany both images and image-derived data sets." All products of this project will be available under non-restrictive open source licenses to help ensure future collaboration.

For more information regarding this award please visit the [IDC's announcement on the NIH website](#).

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**About the Academy for Radiology & Biomedical Imaging Research:**

[The Academy](#) has been at the forefront of advocacy and policy on behalf of the medical imaging community for more than 20 years, campaigning tenaciously for federal research funding, pushing for changes in policy issues critical to imaging researchers, and promoting technical advances that can improve diagnostics and patient care. It was also the catalyst behind the creation of the National Institute for Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering research (NIBIB) at the NIH and leads the effort for medical imaging research funding across all government agencies. The Academy represents biomedical imaging researchers from major academic radiology departments across the country and also serves as a bridge to patient advocacy groups and leading imaging manufacturers that share an interest in high-value imaging research.