

Preparing for a Scalable Data Science Platform to Accelerate Target Discovery

This client is a well-known pharmaceutical company with a broad portfolio of therapies that include oncologic, cardiometabolic, immunologic, neurologic, and pain management areas. The client had begun leveraging human genetic and proteomic data to identify and validate targets related to disease areas of interest.

The client sought to more effectively use their internal and external datasets in a single platform to enable computational researchers to deliver target insights. Though some tools were deployed, they were isolated to therapeutic areas, leading to redundant effort and lack of knowledge management.

The Clarkston team performed stakeholder interviews with key computational biology leaders across multiple therapeutic areas to uncover key challenges faced by the organization. Following facilitation of a client workshop, the team developed a vision and strategy for a hyper-scale computational biology platform to aid in target discovery.

Life Sciences Case Study

PROJECT OVERVIEW

INDUSTRY



Life Sciences

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES



Pharmaceuticals

PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

- Conduct stakeholder interviews to identify challenges impacting research organization
- Develop vision for data storage and computational platform, incorporating existing tools
- Identify key data sources for use in the final tool
- Develop and manage working groups to achieve final vision

RESOLUTION

- Interviewed key stakeholders to evaluate challenges related to data availability and knowledge management
- Assess the current tools and data available for their utility in the new platform
- Facilitated workshop with cross-functional team to align on key challenges and future vision
- Established and managed working groups to develop implementation roadmap

KEY BENEFITS

- Create development plan for target identification and validation resource
- Expand available data resources for use in early target discovery
- Enable earlier partnership of computational biologists with research biologists in drug discovery
- Facilitate collaborative research across therapeutic areas, using shared infrastructure and data sources



KPIs

- Interviewed 15 key leaders across 7 departments, resulting in current state assessment
- Uncovered 27 challenges in 6 major themes impacting the organization's ability to conduct efficient research
- Developed and managed working groups focused on developing proper data access procedures and preparing analytical pipelines

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