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# Characterization of Comorbidities in Patients with a Dual Diagnosis of Down Syndrome and Autism Spectrum Disorder

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# **Disclosures**

None

# Background

- Up to 15% of patients with Down syndrome (DS) will be diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder (ASD)<sup>1</sup>
- Limited information on comorbidities in patients with this dual diagnosis
- Comorbidities affect the cognitive and behavioral profile<sup>2-4</sup>
- Medical databases provide the opportunity to isolate relatively large sample sizes for rare diagnoses

# Aim of the Study

- To characterize the medical and psychological comorbidities from an organ system-based perspective in patients with a dual diagnosis
- To compare the prevalence of these comorbidities to patients with ASD or DS alone
- Utilize Cerner Health Facts, a large medical data warehouse, to facilitate this comparison

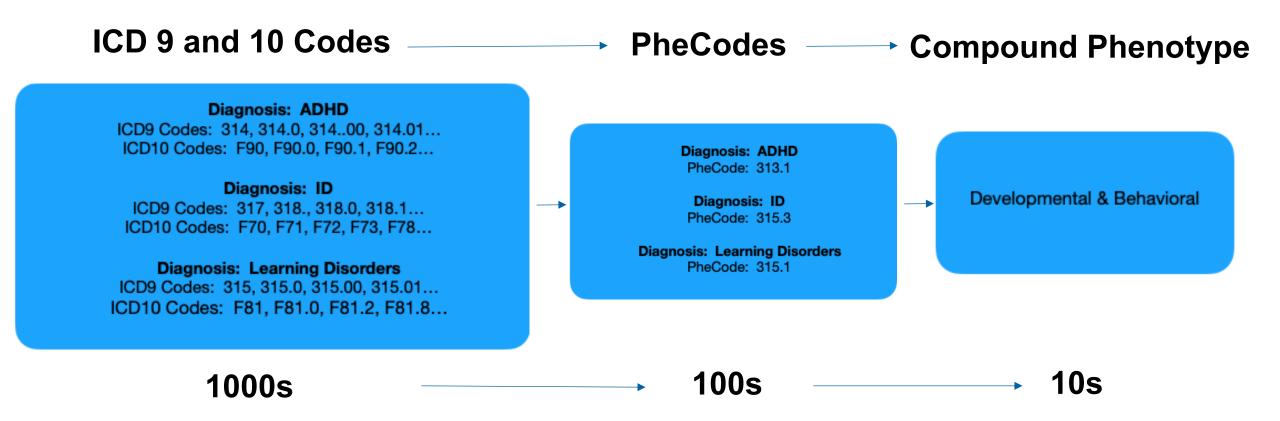
# **Methods: Cerner Health Facts**

- Medical Data Warehouse<sup>5</sup>
  - Over 68 million de-identified patients
  - Over 500 million encounters
  - 100 Health Systems
  - Over 600 medical facilities
- Composed of ICD9/ICD10 diagnoses

#### **Methods**

- Inclusion criteria
  - Birth to <19 years
  - Diagnosis of DS, ASD, or dual diagnosis
  - All ICD-9/10 diagnostic codes for those with diagnoses above were extracted
- ICD-9/10 codes for ASD and DS were removed for comparisons<sup>6-8</sup>

# Methods<sup>6-8</sup>





# Statistical Comparison

- Prevalence and prevalence ratios for 32 compound phenotypes for DS, ASD, and dual diagnosis
- Effect sizes and p-values calculated comparing all three cohorts
- P-values, and odds ratios for each comparison (Dual vs DS, Dual vs ASD, DS vs ASD)
  - Logistic regression models adjusted for several factors (age, duration in months across encounters, sex, race, urban/rural setting, census region, and teaching facility)
- Focus on moderate (0.5) or greater effect sizes given large sample size and multiple comparisons



# Results: Demographics

Population (%)	Dual Diagnosis (N=1,075)	DS (N=21,187)	ASD (N=97,181)
Sex			
Male	65.3	53.4	77.8
Female	34.7	46.5	22.1
Race/Ethnicity			
Caucasian	54.3	52.2	60.7
African American	11.4	12.5	14.9
Hispanic	3.2	3.9	2.4
Other	31.1	31.4	21.9

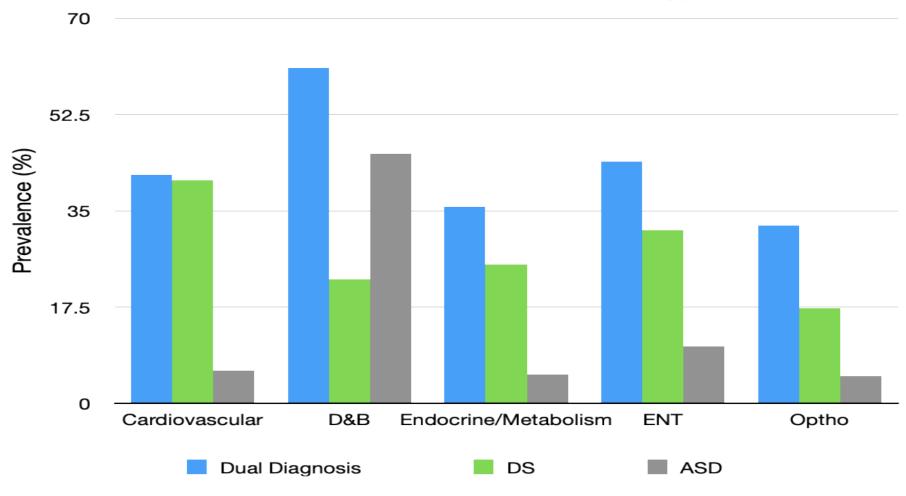


# Results: Prevalence and Effect Size

Compound Phenotype	Dual Diagnosis Prevalence (%)	DS Prevalence (%)	ASD Prevalence (%)	Effect Size
Cardiovascular	41.5	40.6	6	0.61
Developmental/Behavior	61	22.6	45.4	0.553
Endocrine and Metabolism	35.8	25.3	5.2	0.544
ENT	43.9	31.5	10.4	0.535
Ophthalmologic	32.4	17.3	5	0.502
Pulmonology and Sleep	41.8	35.4	11.7	0.479
Psychiatric	21.2	4.8	27.8	0.437
GI	43.7	28.5	15.3	0.434
Neurologic and Musculoskeletal	50.6	21.1	28	0.427
Dental	24.8	7.4	5.4	0.379

# Results: Prevalence

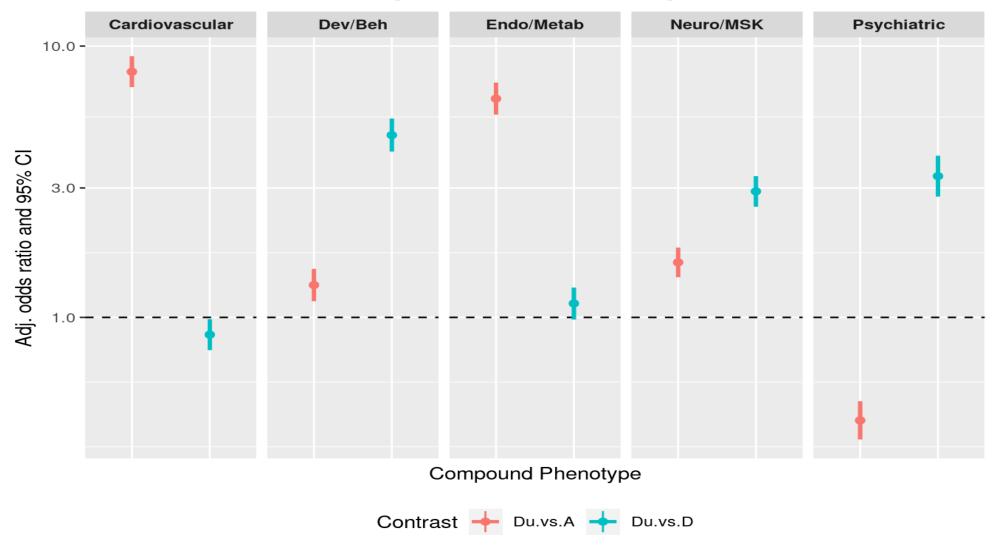
Prevalence of Compound Phenotypes



Compound Phenotype Grouping



# Results: Logistic Regression





- For all compound phenotypes
  - Dual diagnosis > DS
  - Dual diagnosis > ASD\*
    - \*Except psychiatric diagnoses
- Five compound phenotypes showed significant relationships with the three populations
  - Cardiovascular, D&B, Endo and Metabolism, ENT, and Ophthalmologic

- For dual diagnosis compared to DS
  - Increased prevalence of Neuro/MSK, Developmental/Behavioral, and Psychiatric compound phenotypes
- For dual diagnosis compared to ASD
  - Multiple compound phenotypes showed significantly increased prevalence
    - Not psychiatric compound phenotype
  - Developmental/Behavioral OR 1.15

- These direct comparisons between three of the populations allows for contextual comorbidity comparison
  - Dual diagnosis medical comorbidity appears roughly equivalent to DS alone, but much more complex compared to ASD alone
  - Dual diagnosis psychiatric comorbidity appears to be much more compared to DS alone, but less complex than ASD alone

- Limitations (and advantages) of Cerner Health Facts approach
  - Sample size
  - Low precision (no context about how patient received diagnoses)
- Pressing research questions
  - Why does the ASD diagnosis confer an increased risk of neurologic disorders?

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