The Data Integration Partnership for Australia (DIPA) is a three-year $130.8 million investment to maximise the use and value of the Government’s data assets. Through data integration and analysis, the DIPA creates new insights into important and complex policy questions.

The DIPA will:
- improve technical data infrastructure and data integration capabilities
- strictly comply to preserve the privacy of individuals and ensure the security of sensitive data
- improve data assets in important areas such as health, education and social welfare
- maximise the use of these assets through data integration and analysis

The Social, Health and Welfare Analytical Unit (SHWAU) is one of five data analytical units funded under DIPA to undertake research to inform policy and service provision. Members include the Department of Education and Training; Department of Health; and Department of Social Services.

Big data and new analytics methods have the potential to further enhance the Government’s robust system for monitoring the safety of medicines in Australia.

Through DIPA, SHWAU supported the Department of Health to run a pilot project exploring analysis of Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) data to identify adverse events associated with medicines.

PBS Data

Analysed 684 Medicines

Looking for an association with heart failure as an adverse event

Successfully Identified 122 Medicines already known to be associated with heart failure as an adverse event

Reminding doctors and consumers that medicines can be associated with serious adverse events, as detailed in the ‘Product Information and Consumer Medicines Information’ for prescription medicines

Identified 5 new medicines potentially associated with heart failure. Further investigation has led to regulatory action for 1 of these medicines.

PI & CMI

www.tga.gov.au/medsearch-app

Australian Government

DATA INTEGRATION PARTNERSHIP FOR AUSTRALIA

SHWAU Social, Health and Welfare Analytical Unit