Addressing dementia research and care: Can big data help?

From September 14-15, 2014, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), in partnership with the Institute of Health Policy Management and Evaluation (IHPME) and the Ontario Brain Institute (OBI), hosted an event supported by the Alzheimer Society Research Program, exploring the role that big data can play in improving dementia research and care. This event was composed of a workshop which had 60 participants as well as a public talk which had 250 attendees. Big data – tapping into the huge volumes of information that are generated by our increasingly computerized health and care systems – has the potential to accelerate the evaluation of treatments and care models, and generate insights into system performance. The workshop explored how this can be applied to dementia and identified next steps in unlocking the potential and advancing data-driven innovation. The workshop led to a TVO interview of a panel which consisted of:

- CEO of the Alzheimer Society of Canada, Mimi Lowi-Young
- VP of Medical and Scientific Relations of the Alzheimer's Association, Maria Carrillo
- Executive Director, Global CEO Initiative on Alzheimer’s Disease, Drew Holzapfel
- Deputy Director, OECD Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry, Dirk Pilat

The TVO interview can be seen at the following link:
The public event was covered by the Globe and Mail, which can be viewed at the link below:

Using big data to fight dementia and Alzheimer’s

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Published Monday, Sep. 15 2014, 9:28 PM EDT