

# Chatting with Clinical Notes: Incorporating LLM-Based Question-and-Answer Capabilities into the EMERSE Search Engine and Text Processing Tool

Presentation for the ITCR Annual Meeting  
Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory  
July 16, 2026

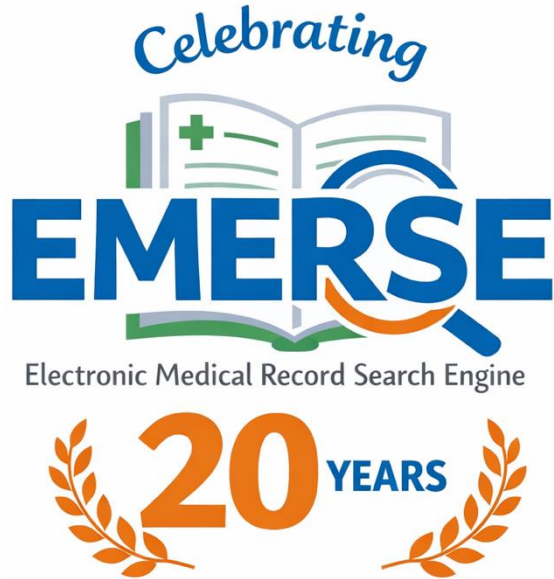


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<http://project-emerse.org/presentations.html>

# Acknowledgements



NCI-ITCR: U24CA269315

NCATS-CTSA: UM1TR004404



# What is EMERSE?

- Free text search and review platform designed to help clinical researchers find and abstract information found within electronic health records efficiently and securely

# What is EMERSE?

- Quickly searches large volumes of unstructured clinical text including notes, radiology & pathology reports, and more
- Supports discovery of cohorts, phenotypes, treatments, outcomes, adverse events, and related clinical details
- Designed for usability, auditability, and privacy-aware access to sensitive clinical data



# Value for Researchers

- Reduces manual chart review burden
- Supports iterative search strategies using query expansion and natural language processing (NLP)
- Facilitates reproducible patient chart reviews for translational and clinical cancer research

# 80% of EHR data are in unstructured free-text



]

structured data

]

unstructured data/free text

# LLMs are changing how we work with text...do we even need search anymore?



Perspective

## Search still matters: information retrieval in the era of generative AI

William Hersh , MD\*

<https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC11339511/pdf/ocae014.pdf>  
2024



<http://project-emerse.org/presentations.html>

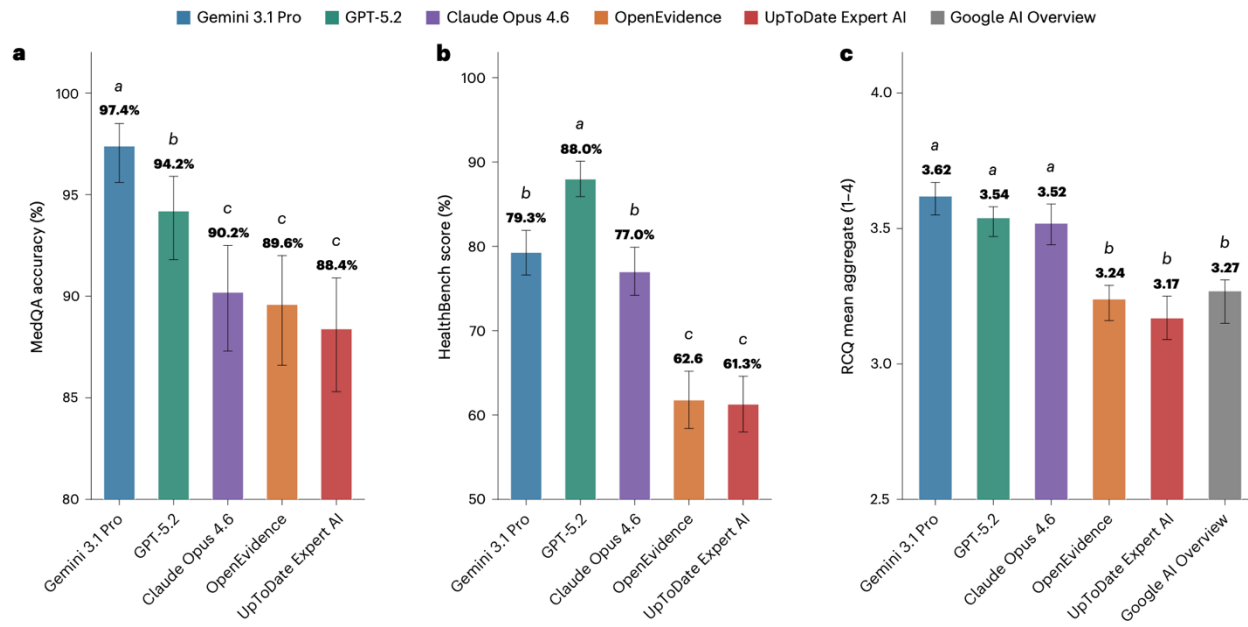
# Current EMERSE efforts

- Leverage the existing platform
  - security model (roles, privileges, auditing)
  - rapid retrieval of clinical notes
  - simple user interface for researchers
- Extend the capabilities with LLMs in various areas of the application
- Supported with ITCR set-aside funds, collab with UCSF

# LLM agnostic

- We are not building our own LLM
- EMERSE should be flexible to connect to any LLM using APIs

# General-purpose large language models outperform specialized clinical AI tools on medical benchmarks



# Initial thoughts: This should be easy

- LLMs are good at reading text
- Clinical notes are text
- Typical LLM paradigm:
  - paste note → ask question → get answer

# The reality: it's not so easy

- Patients have many notes over time
  - Users ask multiple follow-up questions
  - Clinical context matters
  - Answers must be grounded in source documentation
- 
- Need to track costs
  - Need to control costs

# Note Chat

 EMERSE

David Hanauer ^

Patients LLM test patients (5)

Filters

Terms

Results

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MiChart

Careweb

Radiology

Pathology

Other

Name: Murphy, Lisa Laura, MRN: 999999998

CLEAR CONVERSATION

You

did the patient have any central line infections?

Assistant

There is no evidence from structured EMERSE data for any documented central line infections. However, EMERSE clinical notes reveal episodes of concern for possible central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI) and episodes where blood cultures were drawn for suspected infection, but physical examinations repeatedly describe the central line site as clean, dry, and without erythema, swelling, tenderness, or discharge. Only one note definitively documents a prior central line-associated bacteremia with coagulase-negative Staphylococcus that was resolved after antibiotic treatment. Blood cultures during other febrile episodes and episodes of concern for infection remained negative, and the majority of notes state that there were no signs of infection at central line sites.

**Details from Clinical Documentation:**

There was a documented episode of central line-associated bloodstream infection (bacteremia with coagulase-negative Staphylococcus), which resolved after antibiotics.

- "Coagulase-negative Staphylococcus (CoNS) bacteremia (resolved with antibiotics)"
- "Bacteremia (central line associated, treated with IV antibiotics; organism: coagulase-negative Staphylococcus)"

Source: Encounter ID: Date: 2025-02-07 Document ID: output-note-072\_999999998

Source: Encounter ID: Date: 2025-02-07 Document ID: output-note-072\_999999998

Conversation context on: Current Source

Balance on EMERSE: \$11.54

Ask a question about this patient...

Send

user-entered question

Patients LLM test patients (5)

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Name: Murphy, Lisa Laura, MRN: 999999998

CLEAR CONVERSATION

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- "Coagulase-negative Staphylococcus (CoNS) bacteremia (resolved with antibiotics)"

|         |               |            |                           |
|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Source: | Encounter ID: | Date:      | Document ID:              |
| Other   | 980000072     | 2025-02-07 | output-note-072_999999998 |

- "[Bacteremia \(central line associated, treated with IV antibiotics; organism: coagulase-negative Staphylococcus\)](#)"

|         |               |            |                           |
|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Source: | Encounter ID: | Date:      | Document ID:              |
| Other   | 980000026     | 2025-03-06 | output-note-026_999999998 |

In multiple febrile or neutropenic episodes, clinicians considered possible central line-associated infection, drew blood cultures from the line, and initiated empiric antibiotics, but physical exams consistently described the central line site as clean, dry, and without erythema, swelling, tenderness, or discharge.

- "Concern for possible central line-associated bloodstream infection or neutropenic fever"
- "Blood cultures drawn from both lumens of Broviac catheter for evaluation of potential line infection"

|         |               |            |                           |
|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Source: | Encounter ID: | Date:      | Document ID:              |
| Other   | 980000076     | 2025-02-12 | output-note-076_999999998 |



- "Blood cultures obtained from both Broviac lumens to assess for possible central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI)"

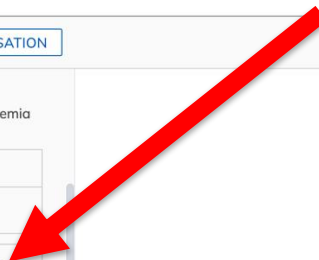
Conversation context on: Current Source

Balance on EMERSE: \$11.54

Ask a question about this patient...

Send

direct quote from note



Patients LLM test patients (5)

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Date: 2025-03-06 Document ID: output-note-026\_999999998

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There was a documented episode of central line-associated bloodstream infection (bacteremia with coagulase-negative Staphylococcus), which resolved after antibiotics.

- "Coagulase-negative Staphylococcus (CoNS) bacteremia (resolved with antibiotics)"

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|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
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| Other   | 980000026     | 2025-03-06 | output-note-026_999999998 |

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|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Source: | Encounter ID: | Date:      | Document ID:              |
| Other   | 980000076     | 2025-02-12 | output-note-076_999999998 |



- "Blood cultures obtained from both Broviac lumens to assess for possible central line-associated bloodstream infection (CLABSI)"

Conversation context on:

Current Source

Balance on EMERSE: \$11.54

Ask a question about this patient...

Send

DATE/TIME: 2025-03-06 09:30

LOCATION: Multidisciplinary Leukemia Conference

TYPE: Treatment Planning Note

PATIENT: 6-year-old female with newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia (AML), cytogenetics t(8;21), KIT mutation positive.

## HISTORY OF PRESENT ILLNESS:

The patient was diagnosed with AML approximately 8 weeks ago following presentation with fever, pallor, and bruising. Initial workup revealed t(8;21) translocation and KIT mutation positivity. She underwent Induction 1 chemotherapy per institutional protocol. Post-Induction 1, minimal residual disease (MRD) was detected by flow cytometry. She subsequently received Induction 2, after which MRD testing was negative.

During her course, she experienced several complications including:

- Bacteremia (central line associated, treated with IV antibiotics; organism: coagulase-negative Staphylococcus)
- Clostridioides difficile colitis (treated with oral vancomycin; resolved)
- Typhilitis (neutropenic colitis; managed with bowel rest, IV fluids, broad-spectrum antibiotics; resolved)

She is currently afebrile, hemodynamically stable, tolerating oral intake, and without evidence of ongoing infection or gastrointestinal symptoms.

## PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:

General: Alert, cooperative, appears well-nourished. No acute distress.  
Vital Signs: T 36.8°C, HR 92 bpm, BP 105/68 mmHg, RR 18/min, SpO2 98% on room air.  
HEENT: Normocephalic, atraumatic. No scleral icterus, oral mucosa moist, no ulcerations.  
Neck: No lymphadenopathy, no thyromegaly.  
Chest: Clear to auscultation bilaterally. No rales, wheezes, or rhonchi.  
Cardiac: Regular rate and rhythm. No murmurs, rubs, or gallops.  
Abdomen: Soft, non-tender, non-distended. Bowel sounds present. No hepatosplenomegaly.  
Extremities: No edema, no petechiae or purpura noted. Central line site clean, no erythema or discharge.  
Skin: No rashes, bruising resolved.  
Neurologic: Alert, oriented. Cranial nerves II-XII intact. No focal deficits.

LABORATORY AND IMAGING REVIEW:

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Other

Name: Murphy, Lisa Laura, MRN: 999999998

CLEAR CONVERSATION

Date: 2025-03-06 Document ID: output-note-026\_999999998

|         |               |            |                           |
|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Source: | Encounter ID: | Date:      | Document ID:              |
| Other   | 980000090     | 2025-02-25 | output-note-090_999999998 |

Regular central line site assessments throughout the patient's care documented the site as clean, dry, and intact, without redness, swelling, tenderness, or drainage, and specifically noted no evidence of line infection on numerous exams.

- "Central venous catheter site clean, dry, and without erythema or discharge"

|         |               |            |                           |
|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Source: | Encounter ID: | Date:      | Document ID:              |
| Other   | 980000036     | 2025-03-26 | output-note-036_999999998 |

- "No signs of infection at central line site; site clean, dry, intact"

|         |               |            |                           |
|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Source: | Encounter ID: | Date:      | Document ID:              |
| Other   | 980000066     | 2025-04-18 | output-note-066_999999998 |

- "Central line site clean, dry, without erythema or discharge"

|         |               |            |                           |
|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Source: | Encounter ID: | Date:      | Document ID:              |
| Other   | 980000113     | 2025-04-02 | output-note-113_999999998 |

- "Central line insertion site clean, dry, without erythema or discharge"

|         |               |            |                           |
|---------|---------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Source: | Encounter ID: | Date:      | Document ID:              |
| Other   | 980000048     | 2025-04-04 | output-note-048_999999998 |

Model: gpt-4.1-2025-04-14 Context Usage: 7.22% Cost Estimate: \$0.17 Scope: Source Query Details

Conversation context on: 

Balance on EMERSE: \$11.54

Ask a question about this patient.

Send

DATE/TIME: 2025-03-06 09:30  
LOCATION: Multidisciplinary Leukemia Conference  
TYPE: Treatment Planning Note

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During her course, she experienced several complications including:

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- Clostridioides difficile colitis (treated with oral vancomycin; resolved)
- Typhilitis (neutropenic colitis; managed with bowel rest, IV fluids, broad-spectrum antibiotics; resolved)

She is currently afebrile, hemodynamically stable, tolerating oral intake, and without evidence of ongoing infection or gastrointestinal symptoms.

#### PHYSICAL EXAMINATION:

General: Alert, cooperative, appears well-nourished. No acute distress. Vital Signs: T 36.8°C, HR 92 bpm, BP 105/68 mmHg, RR 18/min, SpO2 98% on room air.

HEENT: No significant abnormalities. No nasal congestion or sinusitis. No oral ulcers.

Neck: No lymphadenopathy, no thyromegaly.

Chest: Clear to auscultation bilaterally. No rales, wheezes, or rhonchi.

Cardiac: Regular rate and rhythm. No murmurs, rubs, or gallops.

Abdomen: Soft, non-tender, non-distended. Bowel sounds present. No hepatosplenomegaly.

Extremities: No edema, no petechiae or purpura noted. Central line site clean, no erythema or discharge.

Skin: No rashes, bruising resolved.

Neurologic: Alert, oriented. Cranial nerves II-XII intact. No focal deficits.

LABORATORY AND TREATMENT REVIEW:

query details

model

cost

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Other

Name: Murphy, Lisa Laura, MRN: 999999998

Source: Other

Encounter ID: 990000090

Regular central line site assessment clean, dry, and intact, without red no evidence of line infection on nu

\* "Central venous catheter site

Source: Other

Encounter ID: 980000036

\* "No signs of infection at cent

Source: Other

Encounter ID: 980000066

\* "Central line site clean, dry, v

Source: Other

Encounter ID: 980000113

\* "Central line insertion site cle

Source: Other

Encounter ID: 980000048

Model: gpt-4.1-2025-04-14 Context

Conversation context on:

Current Sour

Ask a question about this patient...

|                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Notes Examined: | 90                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| MRN:            | 999999998                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Encounter ID:   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| SOURCE:         | Other                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Start Date:     | 1900-01-01T00:00:00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| End Date:       | 2100-01-01T00:00:00                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Query:          | ("central line infection" OR clabsi OR "line associated bloodstream infection" OR "central line associated bloodstream infection" OR "line infections" OR "picc line infection" OR "catheter infection" OR "central line infections" OR "line associated bacteremia" OR clabsis OR "infected line" OR "catheter site infection" OR "central venous line infection" OR "catheter infections" OR "infected hickman" OR "line bacteremia" OR "line infxn" OR "infection due to central venous catheter" OR "picc line infections" OR "line related bacteremia" OR "central line associated blood stream infection" OR "cvi infection" OR "infected hickman catheter" OR "cvc infection" OR "infection of central venous catheter" OR "infected central line" OR "infected lines" OR "central venous catheter infection" OR "central line associated blood stream infections" OR "infected central venous catheter" OR "central venous catheter infections" OR "blood stream infections" OR "central line sepsis" OR "line associated bloodstream infections" OR "central line associated bloodstream infections" OR clbsi OR "infected central lines" OR clbsi OR "central line associated bsi" OR "catheter related infection" OR cri OR "catheter related" OR "catheter related bloodstream infection" OR crbsi OR "catheter associated infection" OR "catheter related infections" OR "catheter related uti" OR "catheter associated infections" OR "catheter related urinary tract infection" OR "catheter acquired" OR "catheter acquired uti" OR "catheter related bloodstream infections" OR "infection due to catheter" OR "catheter acquired urinary tract infection" OR "catheter related bsi" OR "cr bsi" OR bacteremia OR sepsis OR septicemia OR "blood infection" OR bacteremic OR "positive blood cultures" OR "positive blood culture" OR bacteraemia OR bacteremias OR "anaerobic bacteremia" OR urosepsis OR "septic shock" OR septicemic OR toxemia OR toxemic OR septicemia OR "line sepsis" OR "line infection" OR "cvi infections" OR "infection of central line" OR "central venous line infections" OR "infected cvc" OR "cvc infections" OR "infection of central venous line" OR "infected cvl" OR "infection of cvc" OR "infected central venous line" OR "infection of cvl" OR "infection of central lines" OR cvc OR "central line" OR "central venous catheter" OR "central venous line" OR "central venous catheters" OR "central vascular catheter" OR "central venous lines" OR "central vein catheter" OR cvcs OR "central vein catheters" OR "central vascular catheters" OR "central vein line" OR "central vein lines") |

90 notes examined

query written by LLM

David Hanauer

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2025-03-06 Document ID: output-note-026\_999999998

Leukemia Conference

note

with newly diagnosed acute myeloid leukemia (AML), mutation positive.

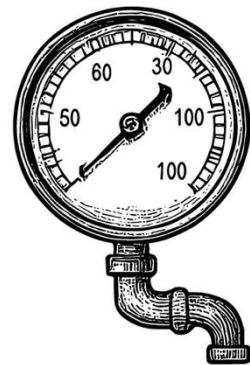
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hemodynamically stable, tolerating oral intake, and g infection or gastrointestinal symptoms.

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# How does it all work?



1. User asks a question
2. LLM evaluates question for specificity
  - If too vague, it will ask for more details

You

You

How is the patient doing?

E

Assistant

Could you be more specific? Are you interested in active medical issues, recent changes, test results, treatment plan, or a particular concern?

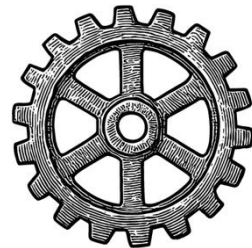
↓

Model: gpt-4.1-2025-04-14   Context Usage: 0.28%   Cost Estimate: < \$0.01   Scope: Source   [Query Details](#)

👍

👎

# How does it all work?



3. LLM decides if reporting database (e.g., Epic Clarity) should be queried for any known details about the patient
  - demographics, diagnoses, medications, etc.
  - usually not enough to answer the question, but will be used to help the LLM focus on the right details.
4. LLM writes an initial free text search query (no RAG/embeddings), using the structured data as a guide, if available

# How does it all work?

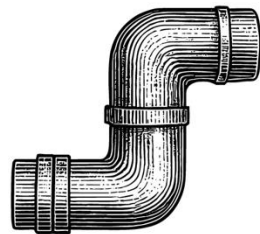


5. LLM will then use available Synonyms to expand the query with additional terms

6. LLM evaluates the expanded query to remove terms likely to be vague, which could lead to excess false positives/noise

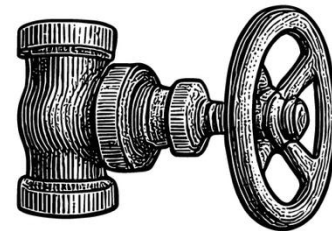
- e.g., 'ca' could be cancer, calcium, catheter-associated, etc

# How does it all work?



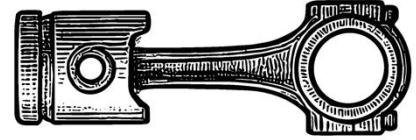
7. LLM queries EMERSE notes (stored in Solr) to retrieve up to 800 notes (controlled by user preferences)
8. Snippets from each note are extracted with 1,000 characters on each end of the search terms

# How does it all work?



9. Snippets, along with note metadata, are sent back to the LLM for synthesis and answering the question
  - LLM is instructed to extract exact quotes from notes as supporting evidence
10. Results are returned in a structured (JSON) format and presented to the user in a consistent manner

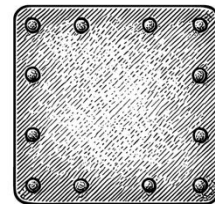
# How does it all work?



11. User can click on supporting quotes to review the text in the original note

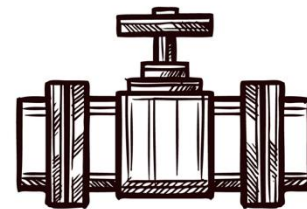
- The quoted text is highlighted with deterministic highlighter
- If text cannot be highlighted deterministically, the LLM may have paraphrased, so text and note is sent to LLM to try to highlight
- If text still cannot be highlighted it could represent a hallucination and user is warned

# Additional details



- Workflow engine ties distinct LLM calls together
- Conversational memory is maintained, but only within a patient, and only per-conversation
- To encourage reproducibility a temperature of 0 is initially used
  - If LLM returns invalid JSON, and it cannot be repaired, the system will retry at higher temperatures to obtain a valid response

# Additional details



- System maintains detailed accounting of input/output tokens, with estimated costs available for each answer and as a running ledger per user

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Token Usage

Start Date

mm/dd/yyyy

End Date

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SEARCH

CLEAR FILTER

Conversation Rounds

1,737

Prompt Tokens

55,201,514

Completion Tokens

1,191,144

Embedding Calls

7,640

Embedding Tokens

1,521,488

Prompt Cost

\$110.33

Completion Cost

\$8.84

Embedding Cost

\$0.15

Total Cost

\$119.31

Conversation Rounds

Embeddings

| Conversation                     | MRN       | Model              | Message                 | Prompt Tokens | Completion Tokens | Prompt Cost | Completion Cost | Total Cost | Tools | Completed At ↓              |
|----------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|------------|-------|-----------------------------|
| ce3f7e6bc41c4f74837d6b90d11dabbd | 999999999 | gpt-4.1-2025-04-14 | does the patient hav... | 32,367        | 2,461             | \$0.06      | \$0.02          | \$0.08     | 3     | 2026-07-03T00:23:01.6175224 |
| ce3f7e6bc41c4f74837d6b90d11dabbd | 999999999 | gpt-4.1-2025-04-14 | does the patient hav... | 4,099         | 79                | < \$0.01    | < \$0.01        | < \$0.01   | 0     | 2026-07-03T00:22:28.9173106 |
| ce3f7e6bc41c4f74837d6b90d11dabbd | 999999999 | gpt-4.1-2025-04-14 | did the patient have... | 50,961        | 2,091             | \$0.10      | \$0.02          | \$0.12     | 4     | 2026-07-03T00:20:59.2780557 |
| ce3f7e6bc41c4f74837d6b90d11dabbd | 999999999 | gpt-4.1-2025-04-14 | did the patient have... | 2,868         | 50                | < \$0.01    | < \$0.01        | < \$0.01   | 0     | 2026-07-03T00:20:32.1259329 |

- AI Options
- API Keys
- Chat History
- Credit Ledger
- Settings
- Token Usage

Account

EMERSE (EMERSE)

Current Balance

\$11.33

From

mm/dd/yyyy

To

mm/dd/yyyy

CLEAR

| Date ↓           | Type | Amount  | Remaining Balance | Reference ID | Created By | Note |
|------------------|------|---------|-------------------|--------------|------------|------|
| 2026-07-03 00:23 | Chat | -\$0.09 | \$11.33           | 15835        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-07-03 00:20 | Chat | -\$0.13 | \$11.42           | 15833        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-07-03 00:07 | Chat | -\$0.17 | \$11.54           | 15830        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-07-02 12:33 | Chat | -\$0.09 | \$11.72           | 15744        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-07-02 12:31 | Chat | -\$0.13 | \$11.81           | 15739        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-07-02 10:04 | Chat | -\$0.01 | \$11.93           | 15726        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-07-02 09:37 | Chat | -\$0.16 | \$11.95           | 15712        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-07-02 09:34 | Chat | -\$0.16 | \$12.10           | 15707        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-07-01 19:53 | Chat | -\$0.01 | \$12.26           | 15705        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-07-01 19:53 | Chat | -\$0.30 | \$12.27           | 15704        | SYSTEM     |      |
| 2026-06-24 22:08 | Chat | -\$0.01 | \$12.57           | 15257        | SYSTEM     |      |
|                  |      |         |                   |              |            |      |
|                  |      |         |                   |              |            |      |

# Query Generation

Patients

LLM test patients (5)

Filters

Terms

Results

VIEW/HIGHLIGHT DOCUMENTS

DOWNLOAD DOCUMENTS

FIND PATIENTS

Temporary Terms

Saved Terms

AI Terms

Synonym Preferences

E

Assistant

I can help you build EMERSE search queries. Describe what you're looking for in plain language and I'll suggest search terms. Always review AI-generated queries before using them — results may be incomplete or inaccurate.

You

You

I am looking for adults who have undergone an allo transplant for multiple myeloma

E

Assistant

Building the query.

Ask a question to build a search query...

Send



Emerse

emerse-ap-ps8a.med.umich.edu/emerse/terms/aiQueryBuild?pl=10018051

☆ 🔍 ⓘ ⋮

EMERSE

David Hanauer

Patients

LLM test patients (5)

Filters

Terms

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Synonym Preferences

You

You

I am looking for adults who have undergone an allo transplant for multiple myeloma

E

Assistant

The clinical intent is to identify adult patients (age  $\geq 18$  years) who have undergone an allogeneic (allo) transplant for multiple myeloma. The queries cover broad recall (all mentions), current/confirmed patient-owned status (highest specificity), and historical procedures (past transplants). This approach ensures you capture all relevant patient populations, allowing you to choose between sensitivity and specificity depending on your research needs.

Largest cohort — broad recall for allogeneic transplant and multiple myeloma, using synonyms and abbreviations, no NLP tags. Captures all notes mentioning both concepts, regardless of context (current, historical, family, uncertain). Will include patients with any mention of allogeneic transplant (including planned, denied, or historical) and any mention of multiple myeloma. Maximizes sensitivity but may include false positives (e.g., family history, past procedures, or uncertain diagnoses).

CREATE TERM BUNDLE

Smaller cohort — semantic precision: restricts to current, patient-owned mentions of allogeneic transplant and multiple myeloma using `-[TG_HISTORY]-[TG_FAMILY]` tags. Excludes historical, family, and uncertain mentions. Captures patients with current, confirmed, patient-owned allogeneic transplant for multiple myeloma. Misses patients where the transplant or diagnosis is only mentioned as history, family, or uncertain. Higher specificity, lower sensitivity.

CREATE TERM BUNDLE

Moderate cohort — restricts to historical mentions of allogeneic transplant for multiple myeloma using `+ [TG_HISTORY]` tags. Captures patients with a past history of allogeneic transplant for multiple myeloma. Useful if interested in patients who previously underwent the procedure, not just current status. Excludes current-only mentions. Population may overlap with broad recall but is distinct from

Ask a question to build a search query...

Send

EMERSE

David Hanauer

Patients

All Local Patients (1,649,157)

Filters

Patient Age (in days)

Terms

allogeneic transplantallogeneic bone marrow transplantallogeneic stem cell transplantallo bmtallosctallogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantatio...allo hscतालlogeneic bmtallogeneic hscतालlo sctallogeneicHIDE

Results

Temporary Te

Search Terms

Terms to Include (99)

allogeneic transplantallogeneic bone marrow transplantallogeneic stem cell transplantallo bmtallosctallogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantatio...allo hscतालlogeneic bmtallogeneic hscतालlo sctallogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantallogeneic stem cell transplantationallohscतालlogeneic transplantationallobmtallogeneic bone marrow transplantationallogeneic sctallohctallogenic transplantationallograft bone marrow transplantallogeneic stem cell transplantsallogeneic transplantsallogeneic bone marrow transplantsallogeneic hematopoietic sctallogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantsallogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantatio...allogeneic haematopoietic stem cell transplanta...allogeneic hscतालlogeneic stem cell transplantationsallo transplantalлотransplantalлотransplantationallo transplantationallo transplantsalлотransplantsallo transplantedallogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantallogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantationallogeneic haematopoietic cell transplantationallogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantsallogeneic bone marrow transplantationsallogeneic sctsallo hctmultiple myelomammmyelomakahlerigg kappa multiple myelomaplasmacell myelomalambdamultiple myelomaplasmacell neoplasmsmoldering myelomasmmsmoldering multiple myelomaga kappa multiple myelomabone marrow cancerigg kappa mmmultiple myelomarelated refractory multiple myelomamultiple myelomamyleomamultiple myelomamult myelomammyhigh risk multiple myelomastage iia igg kappa multiple myelomarrmmasymptomatic multiple myelomamultiple myelomasosteosclerotic myelomamulti myelomamultiple myelomakahler smyelomatosisbiclonaal multiple myeloma

ays review AI-generated queries before using them — results may be

ave undergone an allo transplant for multiple myeloma

fy adult patients (age ≥ 18 years) who have undergone an allogeneic myeloma. The queries cover broad recall (all mentions), vned status (highest specificity), and historical procedures (past ensures you capture all relevant patient populations, allowing you to and specificity depending on your research needs.

all for allogeneic transplant and multiple myeloma, using synonyms and Captures all notes mentioning both concepts, regardless of context (certain). Will include patients with any mention of allogeneic transplant or historical) and any mention of multiple myeloma. Maximizes sensitivity es (e.g., family history, past procedures, or uncertain diagnoses).

recision: restricts to current, patient-owned mentions of allogeneic loma using -[TG\_HISTORY]-[TG\_FAMILY] tags. Excludes historical, family, ptures patients with current, confirmed, patient-owned allogeneic ma. Misses patients where the transplant or diagnosis is only mentioned in. Higher specificity, lower sensitivity.

FIND PATIENTS

to historical mentions of allogeneic transplant for multiple myeloma using rec patients with a past history of allogeneic transplant for multiple

ry... Send

Emerse

emerse-ap-ps8a.med.umich.edu/emerse/results/charts/summaries

☆

EMERSE

David Hanauer

Patients

All Local Patients (1,649,157)

Filters

Patient Age (in days)

Terms

allogeneic transplant

allogeneic bone marrow transplant

allogeneic stem cell transplant

allo bmt

allosct

allogeneic hematopoietic stem cell transplantati...

allo hscst

allogeneic bmt

allogeneic hscst

allo sct

all

SHOW ALL

Results

VIEW/HIGHLIGHT DOCUMENTS

DOWNLOAD DOCUMENTS

FIND PATIENTS

Summaries

Demographics

Trends

503 patients matched the search criteria

MOVE TO TEMPORARY PATIENT LIST

To review these patients in more detail, move to a temporary patient list and then click the Highlight Documents button.

Annotations

Negation

Non-patient subject

Uncertainty

History of

Flowsheet row

Flowsheet comment

Note: Sections that overlap will be underlined in black

Top 100 Matching Documents

Progress Notes (MiChart)

...

...of Michigan Rogel Cancer CenterMultiple Myeloma and Plasma Cell Disorders Clinic...  
...CS.3]CHIEF COMPLAINT: Relapsed multiple myeloma (plasmacytomas), following HSCT[CS.1...  
...to Infectious Disease Adult3.Multiple myeloma in relapse (CMS/HCC)[CS.2] DIAGNOSIS: Relapsed multiple myeloma TREATMENT HISTORY: CURRENT TREATMENT:[CS...  
...28 given neutropenia 6) MUD alloSCT ( ) - Tacrolimus, Post-Cy...  
...CS.2] with relapsed symptomatic multiple myeloma who presents to the University of Michigan Multiple Myeloma and Plasma Cell Disorders Clinic...  
...Patient Active Problem ListDiagnosis•Multiple myeloma in relapse (CMS/HCC)•History...  
...by laboratory studies. Cytogenetics normal. Myeloma FISH negative. He was started...  
...then proceeded to matched unrelated allogeneic SCT under the direction of Dr...  
...the Dara-Rd prior to allo transplant and entered remission. Last bone...  
...thigh, left scalp. Biopsies showed multiple myeloma. Following initial consultation at MM...  
...for consultation regarding his relapsed multiple myeloma. He was initially diagnosed with...  
...and then proceeded to MUD allogeneic SCT ( ). He was doing...  
...if ( ) biopsy showed myeloma. He is here to establish...  
...Given he had a recent allogeneic SCT and is still on tacrolimus...  
...not likely eligible. As the myeloma seems to be rapidly growing...  
...respectively.[CS.3] Plan:# relapsed multiple myeloma s/p alloSCT-[CS.1] continue[CS.3...  
...p HSCT and receiving active myeloma therapy- recommended continued compression, discuss...  
...of skin GVHD given recent allo transplant and weaning of tacrolimus immunosuppression...

Telephone Encounter (MiChart)

...

# Initial Experiences

- LLMs are powerful but multiple challenges remain
  - Cost
  - Speed
  - Completeness
  - Accuracy
    - Invalid JSON
    - Paraphrasing instead of direct quotes
  - Hallucinations – rare

# Context window limitations

- 1 million token limit for context window
- A quick check of our EHR identifies:
  - Patient with 9377 notes, 4.6 million tokens
  - Patient with 8675 notes, 7.5 million tokens
- Need to sample, no guarantee it can be “complete”

# LLM work remains in progress

- We are excited and optimistic about what will be possible
- Users are eager to test the upcoming capabilities



EMERSE-team@umich.edu



Lisa Ferguson  
David Hanauer  
Kellen McClain  
Guan Wang

**THANK  
YOU!**

