



# EMIF Deliverable 14.4: System implementation feedback and evaluation report, iteration 1

## Executive summary

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One of the main motivations in building the EMIF Platform was to allow researchers to find databases that fulfil their particular studies' requirements. In the EMIF Platform, different levels of access to the data were considered, from the fingerprint level up to a patient-level secure environment where research studies may be conducted. At the top level, the main idea was to create a catalogue of database fingerprints accessible in a system called EMIF Catalogue. At a middle level, Jerboa is being reengineered so that aggregated data can be collected in a more automated way. Finally, at the patient-level, tranSMART has been used as a first and fast approach to integrate data from distinct cohorts.

In this kind of large-scale project, the development team must adopt advanced methodologies to better tackle the multiple requirements and essential features. In our case, we accomplish this by adopting an Agile software engineering strategy. With this approach, the engineering team has been continuously improving the system and implementing new features based on users' feedback. This report highlights the iterative work being conducted for the project's use cases. Following the main requirements, features are implemented and subject to testing and evaluation. Once the users provide adequate feedback, the development cycle restarts, translating the feedback to new requirements that will originate new features or the improvement of existing features. Most of the internal development work is managed via Github, a web-based hosting service for software development projects, which offers both paid plans for private repositories, and free accounts for open source projects. In this platform, the user feedback is transformed into structured reports that can be solved by any team member. Although this strategy took some time to kick-off, there are several advantages that only now start to arise.

This document introduces the main Human-Computer Interaction principles that have been followed during the development phases, how the development team handles users' feedback and new requirements, and how this is being translated into the actual EMIF Catalogue.

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