

# Translating research to inform policy decisions - the OncoSim experience

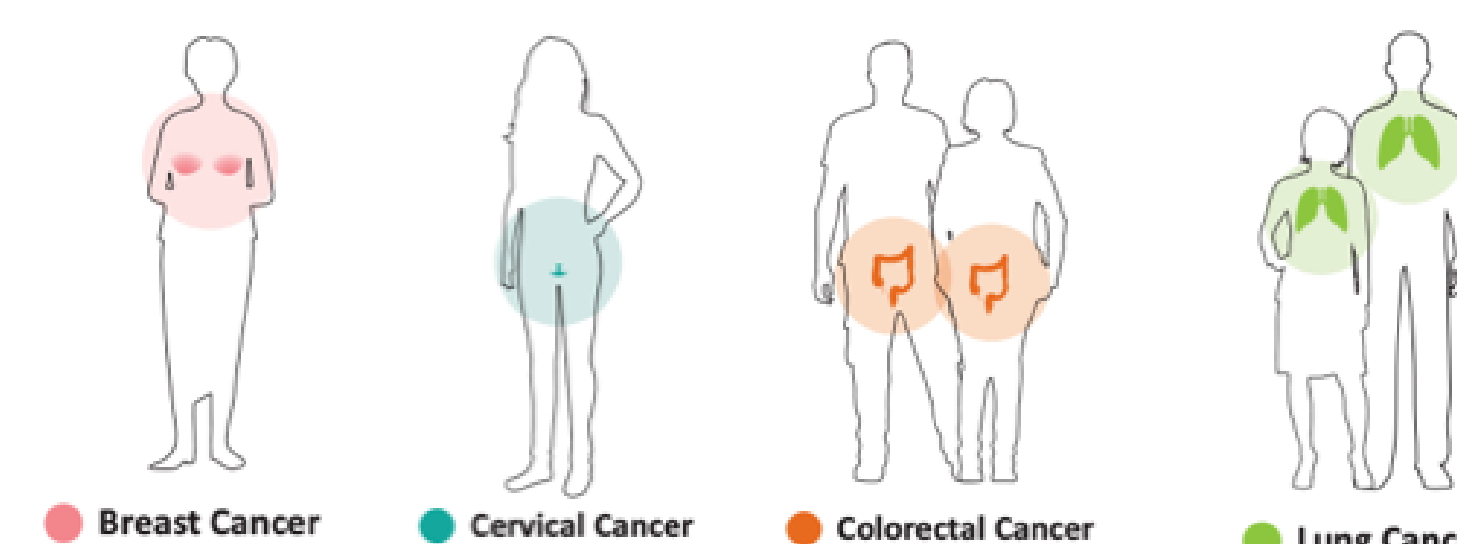
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## Background

- Simulation models can help inform policy decisions.
- But, they are resource-intensive to develop and their results may not be timely to inform decisions.
- How about a model that can be re-used to answer different policy questions?

OncoSim is the most widely used model across Canada to support cancer policy decisions.

- Projects and attributes cancer burden for **32 cancers** to different risk factors
  - In-depth projections for **4 cancers** and screening



## More than just a model...

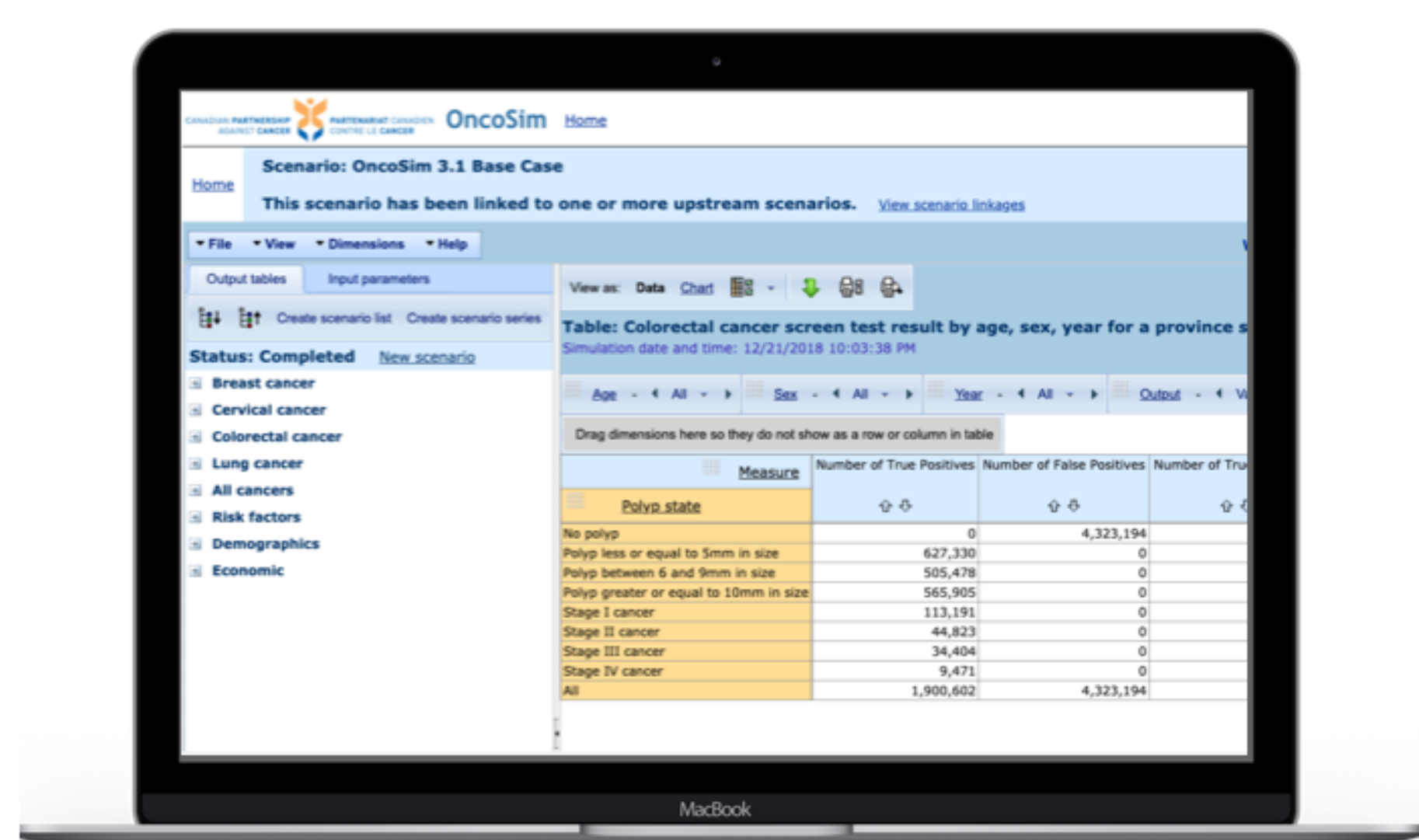
OncoSim is a tool that policy makers can use to answer complex questions.



**Inputs**  
Modifiable



**Projections**  
Population level, by year, sex, age, province, etc.



**Scenarios**  
Create and compare



**User support**

- Detailed documentations
- Training & technical support
- Conduct analyses for jurisdictions with limited resources

## Building and supporting a policy tool



## Partners for every step

### 1 DEVELOPMENT

- Technical working groups meet regularly to advise on model.
- Statistics Canada leads the model development and analyzes data to populate model.
- A web platform is maintained to support online use.

### 2 END USERS ENGAGEMENT

- Regular engagement with policy partners
- Help prioritize model development/revisions and knowledge dissemination efforts

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Individuals made OncoSim possible

### OPERATION

The Partnership supports users, with help from Statistics Canada, and maintains the web servers.

### ANALYSIS

The Partnership conducts analysis using OncoSim, with advice from the technical working groups, for some policy partners.

## Challenges

- Integrate rapidly emerging evidence into the models
- Meet demand for analytical/ technical support

## Opportunities

- Collaborate with academic groups
- Host models developed by other partners

## About OncoSim

OncoSim is a free, web-based cancer simulation tool combining data from the real world, expert opinion, and the published literature. Its projections have been used by decision makers across Canada to support cancer control decisions. OncoSim is led and supported by the Canadian Partnership Against Cancer, with model development by Statistics Canada, and is made possible through funding by Health Canada.