DQLABS

The High Cost of Data Preparation in **Healthcare**

A case for improvement, faster time to market, and precision insights.

The Growing Data in Healthcare

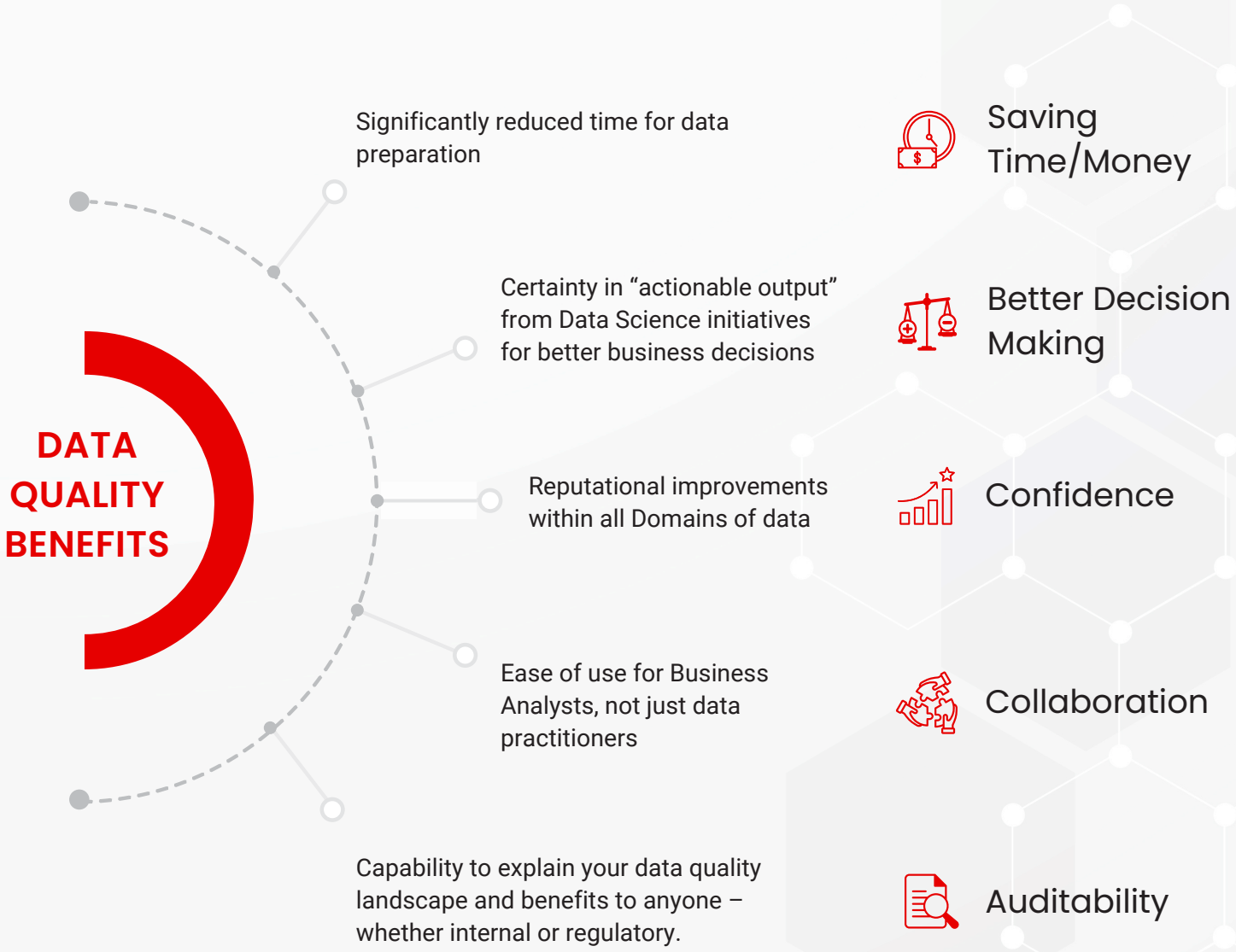
Healthcare has seen explosive growth in data science, actuarial science and AI over the past decade, but may see a point of diminishing returns if these practices were not built on a solid foundation. In recent years, Healthcare companies are finding the need to not only improve their data quality, but to reduce the time it takes to prepare data for meaningful use such as modeling for insights and predictive analytics. Data leaders and practitioners are no strangers to the term 'garbage in equals garbage out'. With greater demands for quality data and AI from the business, bad data is on display and felt in every corner of an organization.

Healthcare companies are especially vulnerable to poor data quality because they are highly regulated, need precise margin insights, and must accurately classify and group members into risk pools for business decisions. Poor data quality not only hampers their technical work but also complicates data preparation, leading to delays, costly manual work, and outdated insights. With so much at stake, healthcare data leaders can't just "hope" data is accurate—they need certainty and faster "time to know.

Data quality has evolved from a manual, stand-alone process with static scripts for tasks like data profiling to a critical need for maintaining a healthy data foundation across diverse data sources. Today we have Modern Data Quality platforms that are purpose-built and can not only profile data at a cursory level like legacy tools, but also at a level of much greater depth and complexity. Add to that the ability to visualize via dashboards, perform discovery, enable remediation, and manage observability in near-real-time, and you have a means to know your data like never before.

Even with the availability of today's comprehensive modern data quality tools, healthcare data leaders must still compel their peers, leaders and teams to "buy-in" to the need for improvement and support and fund projects. In an era of many data tools and competing priorities, the benefits of improving data quality and risks of not doing so cannot be overstated enough.

Here are some ways healthcare leaders are driving tangible, proven results with data quality initiatives



If the data is "garbage," then the "actionable insights" will be too. As a result, your data team may spend an excessive amount of time preparing data and fixing issues. Gartner once reported that data teams spend up to 80% of their time on this—an expensive use of resources.

With DQLabs, these highly skilled and well-paid resources can spend their time doing the work they were hired for, and getting further and faster with data at their fingertips that is profiled, scored, tagged and even sorted by domains. Reusable profiling routines, observability and machine learning for things like thresholds and anomaly detection, and detailed scoring make the data quality improvement lifecycle fast and reliable.

Data Quality Improvement has become a high-stakes proposition, and with so much riding on the quality of data, it is easy to see why Data Quality is no longer an “IT side dish”, it is a “Business Drivers main course”.

Thinking of what's most important in this approach to Data Quality, some things to consider

- Are we ready? Everyone can crawl before walking and running, just start. The flexibility and collaborative nature of the DQLabs Platform allows teams to work together across a broad range of sources to gain a deep understanding very quickly – with benefits for all roles and personas.

- What about PII and PHI, too risky? No – DQLabs can connect with and do the work directly in source systems – data is not stored anywhere but where it belongs, and metadata is leveraged to tell the story. Additionally, the platform can be leveraged to group and categorize data into Domains with Terms and Tags, making things that much more visible, useful and standardized across the enterprise.

- Can efficacy be proven? Yes, vital metrics for measuring the effectiveness of data quality initiatives are Data Issue Detection Time (DIDT) and Data Issue Resolution Time (DIRT). Observability can reduce detection time to near-real-time, regardless of architecture. DQLabs Observability leverages a client's data sources and its AI/ML functions to observe, establish and calibrate baselines that allow for quick anomaly detection. Because the DQLabs Platform also tells you precisely where the problem occurs and connects directly to your workflow systems like JIRA, ServiceNow or other tools, a ticket can be created with all the details in the hands of the data practitioners with a mouse click, and the fix can begin.

- Is it affordable? How does one convince the Decision Makers? The DQLabs Platform will allow you to minimize downtime, and Data Prep time that in most cases will far outweigh the cost.

    - As an example, say an average Data Scientist or Actuary makes $150,000 Annually, $12K per month – so 80% of his or her time doing data prep is a cost of roughly 10K per month or 120K per year, per resource. Most Healthcare companies don't have an Actuary or a couple of Actuaries, they have an Actuarial Department which means tremendous savings just in that discipline alone.

What is holding you back? Too busy to start? Waiting for the next project? DQLabs can be implemented in a matter of just a few weeks and can begin yielding insights almost immediately on projects new and old.

About

DQLabs is a Modern Data Quality Platform that enables organizations to observe, measure, discover, and remediate the data that matters. With an automation-first approach and self-learning capabilities, the DQLabs platform harnesses the combined power of Data Observability, Data Quality, and Data Discovery to enable data producers, consumers, and leaders to turn data into action faster, easier, and more collaboratively.

Observe - Measure - Discover - Remediate with DQLabs

Let one of our experts show you the combined power of **Data Observability, Data Quality,** and **Data Discovery** to get you AI ready.

Request a Demo

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