Package 'extractFAERS'

July 22, 2025

Title Extract Data from FAERS Database

Version 0.1.4

Description Provides functions to extract and process data from the FDA Adverse Event Reporting System (FAERS). It facilitates the conversion of raw FAERS data published after 2014Q3 into structured formats for analysis. See Yang et al. (2022) <doi:10.3389/fphar.2021.772768> for related information.

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Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

Imports dplyr (>= 1.1.4), parallel, stringr (>= 1.5.1), utils

NeedsCompilation no

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extract1PSFAERS   *Extract reports with only one drug used from FAERS data*

Description

This function processes the FDA Adverse Event Reporting System (FAERS) data to extract reports where only a single drug was administered. Only data after 2014Q3 can be directly extracted with this package

Usage

```
extract_FAERS_data(
  workingdir = NULL,
  usetempdir = FALSE,
  corenum = NULL,
  startfile = NULL,
  endfile = NULL,
  onlydoextract = FALSE,
  occpextract = NULL
)
```

Arguments

workingdir	Character vector. The directory containing the decompressed FAERS ASCII folders.
usetempdir	Logical. If TRUE, processed files are stored in a temporary directory; otherwise, they are saved in workingdir.
corenum	Numeric. The number of CPU cores to use for parallel processing. Using more cores reduces processing time.
startfile	Numeric. The index of the first file to process in the DRUG and related folders.
endfile	Numeric. The index of the last file to process in the DRUG and related folders.
onlydoextract	Logical. If TRUE, only extracts data without performing additional combination or filtering steps.
occpextract	Character vector. Specifies the occupation categories for data extraction. Defaults to c("MD", "HP", "PH", "OT").

Details

This package includes example data files in extdata:

- faers_ascii_2015q1_example.zip: Example dataset 1.
- faers_ascii_2015q2_example.zip: Example dataset 2.
- faers_ascii_2015q3_example.zip: Example dataset 3.
- faers_ascii_2015q4_example.zip: Example dataset 4.
- Use system.file("extdata",package = "extractFAERS") to access the folder contain example zip files.

Value

A character vector containing the file paths of the processed folders

Examples

```
# Example_1 Perform FAERS data preprocessing in one step and
# generate `F_COREDATA_1PS_PROF_STU.RData` in a temporary folder.
# In practice, it is recommended to set `usetempdir = FALSE` and specify `workingdir`
# to prevent the processed results in the temporary folder from being automatically deleted.
extract_FAERS_data(
  workingdir = system.file("extdata", package = "extractFAERS"),
  usetempdir = TRUE,
  corenum = 2,
  startfile = 1,
  endfile = 4,
  onlydoextract = FALSE,
  occpextract = NULL
)

# Example_2 Stepwise FAERS data preprocessing
# Setting `onlydoextract = TRUE` extracts only single-drug cases and organizes file paths.
# The processed file paths are saved in a temporary directory.
extractfaerspath <- extract_FAERS_data(
  workingdir = system.file("extdata", package = "extractFAERS"),
  usetempdir = TRUE,
  corenum = 2,
  startfile = 1,
  endfile = 4,
  onlydoextract = TRUE,
  occpextract = NULL
)
print(extractfaerspath)

# Filter data based on reporter occupation
# By default, only reports from healthcare professionals
# (e.g., physicians, pharmacists) are retained.
faers1psprofdata <- filter_by_occp_FAERS(
  workingdir = extractfaerspath,
  occpextract = NULL,
  savetoRData = TRUE
)

# Standardize time units to days
# This ensures consistency in the dataset and facilitates analysis of adverse reactions
# based on patient age.
time_to_day_FAERS(
workingdir = extractfaerspath,
usexistRData = TRUE,
filteres = NULL
)
```

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filterbyoccpFAERS   *Filter extracted FAERS data by reporter occupation*

Description

Filter extracted FAERS data by reporter occupation

Usage

```
filter_by_occp_FAERS(
  workingdir = NULL,
  temp_dir = NULL,
  occpextract = NULL,
  savetoRData = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

workingdir   Character vector. The directory containing decompressed FAERS ASCII fold-
                ers.

temp_dir   Internal parameter used only when extract1PSFAERS is called internally. Do
                not modify.

occpextract   Character vector. Specifies the occupation types to extract. Defaults to c("MD",
                "HP", "PH", "OT").

savetoRData   Logical. Determines whether to save F_COREDATA_1PS_PROF.RData in the work-
                ing directory. Must be set to TRUE if filter_by_occu_FAERS is used indepen-
                dently.

Details

This package includes example data files in extdata:

- faers_ascii_2015q1_example.zip: Example dataset 1.

- faers_ascii_2015q2_example.zip: Example dataset 2.

- faers_ascii_2015q3_example.zip: Example dataset 3.

- faers_ascii_2015q4_example.zip: Example dataset 4.

- Use system.file("extdata",package = "extractFAERS") to access the folder contain ex-
  ample zip files.

Value

A list containing six data frames, containing formatted FAERS data after selecting single-drug
cases and filtering reports based on reporter occupation. Can be used by time_to_day_FAERS() to
standardize time units.

Examples

```
# Example_1 Perform FAERS data preprocessing in one step and
# generate `F_COREDATA_1PS_PROF_STU.RData` in a temporary folder.
# In practice, it is recommended to set `usetempdir = FALSE` and specify `workingdir`
# to prevent the processed results in the temporary folder from being automatically deleted.
extract_FAERS_data(
  workingdir = system.file("extdata", package = "extractFAERS"),
  usetempdir = TRUE,
  corenum = 2,
  startfile = 1,
  endfile = 4,
  onlydoextract = FALSE,
  occpextract = NULL
)


# Example_2 Stepwise FAERS data preprocessing
# Setting `onlydoextract = TRUE` extracts only single-drug cases and organizes file paths.
# The processed file paths are saved in a temporary directory.
extractfaerspath <- extract_FAERS_data(
  workingdir = system.file("extdata", package = "extractFAERS"),
  usetempdir = TRUE,
  corenum = 2,
  startfile = 1,
  endfile = 4,
  onlydoextract = TRUE,
  occpextract = NULL
)
print(extractfaerspath)


# Filter data based on reporter occupation
# By default, only reports from healthcare professionals
# (e.g., physicians, pharmacists) are retained.
faers1psprofdata <- filter_by_occp_FAERS(
  workingdir = extractfaerspath,
  occpextract = NULL,
  savetoRData = TRUE
)


# Standardize time units to days
# This ensures consistency in the dataset and facilitates analysis of adverse reactions
# based on patient age.
time_to_day_FAERS(
workingdir = extractfaerspath,
usexistRData = TRUE,
filteres = NULL
)
```

timetodayFAERS   *Change all time units to days in the data filtered by fil-*
                                  ter_by_occu_FAERS(). This function converts age and time units in
                                  the data to days, and processes occupation and reaction data.

Description

Change all time units to days in the data filtered by filter_by_occu_FAERS(). This function converts
age and time units in the data to days, and processes occupation and reaction data.

Usage

```
time_to_day_FAERS(workingdir = NULL, usexistRData = FALSE, filteres = NULL)
```

Arguments

workingdir   Directory containing `F_COREDATA_1PS_PROF.RData`.

usexistRData   Logical. Specifies whether to use `F_COREDATA_1PS_PROF.RData` in the work-
                  ing directory for calculations. Must be set to `TRUE` and `workingdir` must be
                  provided if `time_to_day_FAERS` is used independently.

filteres   Filtered results for changing time units. Used only when `extract1PSFAERS` is
                  called internally. Set to `NULL` if `time_to_day_FAERS` is used separately.

Details

This package includes example data files in `extdata`:

- `faers_ascii_2015q1_example.zip`: Example dataset 1.
- `faers_ascii_2015q2_example.zip`: Example dataset 2.
- `faers_ascii_2015q3_example.zip`: Example dataset 3.
- `faers_ascii_2015q4_example.zip`: Example dataset 4.
- Use `system.file("extdata",package = "extractFAERS")` to access the folder contain ex-
  ample zip files.

Value

A character vector containing the path of the processed file "F_COREDATA_1PS_PROF_STU.RData",
which can be used for further analysis

Examples

```
# Example_1 Perform FAERS data preprocessing in one step and
# generate `F_COREDATA_1PS_PROF_STU.RData` in a temporary folder.
# In practice, it is recommended to set `usetempdir = FALSE` and specify `workingdir`
# to prevent the processed results in the temporary folder from being automatically deleted.
extract_FAERS_data(
  workingdir = system.file("extdata", package = "extractFAERS"),
  usetempdir = TRUE,
```

```
  corenum = 2,
  startfile = 1,
  endfile = 4,
  onlydoextract = FALSE,
  occpextract = NULL
)

# Example_2 Stepwise FAERS data preprocessing
# Setting `onlydoextract = TRUE` extracts only single-drug cases and organizes file paths.
# The processed file paths are saved in a temporary directory.
extractfaerspath <- extract_FAERS_data(
  workingdir = system.file("extdata", package = "extractFAERS"),
  usetempdir = TRUE,
  corenum = 2,
  startfile = 1,
  endfile = 4,
  onlydoextract = TRUE,
  occpextract = NULL
)
print(extractfaerspath)

# Filter data based on reporter occupation
# By default, only reports from healthcare professionals
# (e.g., physicians, pharmacists) are retained.
faers1psprofdata <- filter_by_occp_FAERS(
  workingdir = extractfaerspath,
  occpextract = NULL,
  savetoRData = TRUE
)

# Standardize time units to days
# This ensures consistency in the dataset and facilitates analysis of adverse reactions
# based on patient age.
time_to_day_FAERS(
workingdir = extractfaerspath,
usexistRData = TRUE,
filteres = NULL
)
```

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