

SEER*DMS Change Control Board (CCB) Users Group
Teleconference Summary
March 10, 2016
3:00 p.m.–4:00 p.m. EDT

Representatives from NCI, IMS, SCG, and 12 SEER registries participated in the SEER*DMS Users Group conference call on March 10, 2016. Participants included:

Registries:

Alaska
Connecticut
Detroit
Georgia
Hawaii
Iowa
Louisiana
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
Seattle
Utah

NCI: Peggy Adamo, Lois Dickie, Carol Kosary
IMS: Linda Coyle
SCG: Kathy Brown-Huamani, rapporteur

Action Items

- Linda agreed to update and post the Consolidate task information for SEER*DMS version 17 (v17).
- Registries should contact Linda to schedule deployment of SEER*DMS v17. All registries should be using v17 in production by May 15, 2016.
- Registry staff interested in participating in any workgroups (WGs), especially the proposed Auto-consolidation and Documentation WGs, should contact Linda.
- Registry participants who are experiencing problems with the PSA review should send Linda examples of records that triggered a review when there was no problem.
- Linda agreed to discuss updates to routing scripts with Nancy in Detroit.
- Brent in Louisiana and Kathy in Hawaii should find out what driver versions staff are using at their registries and report this information to Linda.

1. SEER*DMS Version 17 Deployment Schedule

- a. Seattle and Utah – v17 is in production. Some problems were encountered in deployment and were resolved at these registries.
- b. Connecticut, Detroit, Georgia, Hawaii, Louisiana, New Jersey – SEER*DMS v17 is available for review on the “registry Dev” server. This server is in each registry’s computer environment in the IMS data center.
- c. Alaska – v17 is being deployed on the new Alaska Native Tumor Registry (ANTR) server. IMS will work with ANTR staff and establish a schedule after next week’s meetings in New Mexico. ANTR staff will review SEER*DMS v17 and prepare for the transition to the hosted server.
- d. New York – v17 already is deployed on this registry’s server.
- e. Cherokee Nation Cancer Programs, Iowa, New Mexico – v17 will be deployed to their hosted servers as soon as all agreements are in place. IMS needs to work with these registries to plan the transition.

2. Major Changes in SEER*DMS v17

- a. Direct coding of TNM and other adjustments to cancer staging.
- b. Changes to the SEER*DMS workflow. IMS is changing filters to make it easier to find tasks using information on the record. The most significant change is that the Match-Consolidate task

was split into two tasks. There is a manual Match task that has a new look and feel; and there is a separate Consolidate task. The Consolidate task is patient based.

- i. A new draft version of Chapter 10: Matching, which will be distributed via Squish. The chapter will need to be reviewed for 508 compliance before it can be posted to the SEER website.
- ii. Updates to the Consolidate chapter, which will be posted this week. Changes to the look of the Consolidate task are minimal, but coders are expected to confirm the consolidation for each record as they exit the task.

Discussion

IMS can do a webcast of v17 changes for interested registries. The webcast might help registries decide when they want to deploy v17.

IMS can modify routing scripts if needed, to allow a registry to test the SEER*DMS v17 workflow. Registries should not attempt to modify those scripts themselves.

3. Identifying CCB Workgroups for 2016 Efforts

The TNM and workflow efforts took center stage in 2015 and consumed most of IMS staff time and energy. In 2016, IMS would like to focus on other initiatives. To this end, IMS proposes a WG approach.

- a. National Death Index (NDI) WG. This WG was created in 2015 and made some progress, but WG members needed to redirect their attention to submission deadlines and v17 development. Lyn Almon agreed to coordinate the efforts of this group. Lyn and Linda will schedule a WG meeting in early April. The WG likely will focus initially on algorithms for the NDI linkage.
- b. Proposed Auto-consolidation in SEER*DMS WG. The v17 workflow changes were designed to allow tumor level auto-consolidation in a future version of SEER*DMS. In addition, the NAACCR consolidation WGs have made progress and IMS has auto-consolidation documentation from Florida, California, and some of the SEER*DMS registries. This proposed WG would define standard tumor level auto-consolidation rules. Bobbi, who participated in the NAACCR WG, agreed to lead the proposed Auto-consolidation WG. The Kentucky Cancer Registry also will be asked to join this WG and the CCB. Volunteers from other registries are needed for this WG.
- c. Proposed Documentation WG. A large number of CTRs are experienced SEER*DMS users (some for as long as 11 years), so IMS proposed involving registry staff in the review and development of documentation. Volunteers from registries are needed for this WG.

4. SEER*DMS Road Map and Changes to Release Schedules

- a. Linda will present the current SEER*DMS road map at the SEER Manager's meeting on March 15, 2016. During the session she will discuss how priorities are set and plans for coming releases. The presentation will take place from 4 to 5 pm (note: the online agenda did not include this session, but it is happening!).
- b. IMS staff are changing the development workflow. The new development workflow will allow SEER*DMS changes to be released in a timelier manner and will reduce the impact of any one release on registry operations. Releases/updates will be smaller and more frequent (every 1 to 2 months). Some of these releases will only include fixes, others will include new features and other more substantial changes. More information will be presented at the SEER Principal Investigator meeting. Presentations and release information also will be sent to the full CCB via email to ensure that all members receive this information.

5. PSA Review – New Cases

- a. The PSA data quality project requires review of a large number of prostate cases. The project is being done in three phases. All 2012 prostate cases were reviewed in phase one. In phase two, a subset of 2010, 2011, and 2013 cases were identified for review and results of this review will

be submitted this week. Phase three will involve the review of a subset of cases diagnosed from 2004 to 2009. This review is scheduled for summer 2016. 2014 cases also will be reviewed at a later date.

- b. By summer 2016, SEER*DMS will include a mechanism to identify cases for review when the CTC is created. A patient set edit will fail based on the codes and text in the linked records. Coders will be able to indicate that they reviewed PSA so that the edit will clear. Linda asked participants to provide input on whether the review flag should be reset every time a record is linked to the CTC and that record requires review based on discrepancies between the PSA value and text.

Discussion

IMS planned to use the same algorithm for phase three that was used for the phase two review. Participants noted problems during the phase two review with multiple values in the text that actually were a range that included the coded value. A range should not be considered a second value that triggers a review. Linda asked participants to send examples of values (record IDs) that trigger a review when they should not. She can adjust the algorithm to prevent reviews from being triggered in those instances.

IMS wants to reconsider the PSA review algorithms before creating new tasks for registries. CCB members should consider how the PSA review mechanism affects visual editing and consolidation and ways to make this kind of mechanism more efficient. IMS plans to develop similar mechanisms to trigger reviews of other tumor types such as melanoma.

6. Announcements

- Detroit has identified a problem with using SAS to access SEER*DMS since the conversion to Postgres 9.4. When the registry attempts to extract data from the SEER*DMS data warehouse, excessively long string variables are created resulting in data sets more than 100 times as large as they should be. Detroit has not been able to identify the source of this problem to date. A Tech Support Squish issue has been created for this problem that other registries should review. Louisiana and Hawaii also use SAS to access SEER*DMS but staff at those registries have not reported any problems. Linda asked Brent in Louisiana and Kathy in Hawaii to find out what driver versions staff are using at their registries.
- Next Meeting – April 14, 2016.