

SEER*DMS Change Control Board (CCB) Users Group
Teleconference Summary
October 13, 2016
3:00 p.m. EDT

Representatives from NCI, IMS, SCG, and 13 SEER registries participated in the SEER *DMS Users Group conference call on October 13, 2016. Participants included:

Registries:

Alaska
Cherokee Nation
Connecticut
Detroit
Georgia
Hawaii
Iowa
Kentucky
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
Seattle
Utah

NCI: Peggy Adamo, Carol Kosary, Serban Negoita

IMS: Linda Coyle

SCG: Mary Beth Saffo, rapporteur

Action Items

- Linda agreed to speak with Kevin Ward about to schedule a presentation on the claims workflow.

Final SEER*DMS Updates Prior to Submissions

IMS will update the registry systems one week earlier than usual, on October 14, 2016. The main update is the NAACCR algorithm for the Census Tract Poverty Code. Some changes also were made to SEER Edits, including:

- Removal of two inter-record edits.
- Addition of a valid code to a TNM (cancer stage value) and the removal of some invalid codes from another edit.

Registries should be able to see these updates by October 17, 2016. The updates should not change the registries' edit count. IMS also was planning to implement the same changes to the SEER Edits stand-alone software.

This year the DQP (Data Quality Profile) for SEER is using an estimate excluding prostate cancer data. This estimate already has appeared in the surveillance report, but now will be included in the DQP as well.

New Feature to Turn the AGGIE Geocoder On/Off

IMS has created a field on the CTC (Cancer/Tumor/Case) page that will allow users to turn the auto geocode off. The geocoder on/off feature occurs specifically at the case (CTC) level, not the system level. Thus far, this feature has been activated only for the New York registry, but the feature is available to other registries upon request. In general, the auto geocoder has been a reliable tool. New York found some problems, however, with incorrect geocode calculations for addresses adjacent to New York City

with different Zip codes. The ability to turn off the geocoder has allowed New York registry staff to run their data without unwanted recalculations of geocode values.

Registry managers should ask their staff to alert them about any geocoding issues, and transmit that information to Linda. If a significant number of registries have difficulties with the auto geocoder, it may be appropriate to have a community discussion or to create a geocoding subgroup.

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Linkages

Linda asked which registries were performing CMS linkages this year, and which registries might need help from IMS and NCI in completing the linkage process. The Georgia registry no longer is performing CMS linkages. The Seattle and Utah registries perform the CMS linkage, but this linkage is delayed because it takes about a year to receive from the Social Security Administration (SSA) the Social Security numbers necessary to perform the linkage. Utah also reported that the SSA response time substantially increased over the years. Connecticut chose not to submit data to the SSA for linkage this year.

Additional delays in SSA response time are likely to occur at the beginning of the fiscal year (October 1). NCI is working to decrease response time by transferring funds to SSA as soon as the required paperwork is processed. Once SSA completes the required paperwork, NCI can work with registries to perform the linkage, or (if registries prefer) wait to start the linkage at a time of the registry's choosing.

Status of the Claims Workflow

IMS has been working with Kevin Ward (Georgia) to develop the claims workflow. In about a month, version 1 of the claims workflow will be released to all registries. IMS plans to install the workflow on the hosted dev server for each registry.

The workflow will allow users to view the insurance claims data (including chemotherapy data) in DMS with a high level of detail. Once the workflow is in place, CCB members might want to discuss potential uses for claims data.

Status report from the MU2 workgroup

The MU2 (Meaningful Use) workgroup meets once a month to discuss MU data. During its last meeting, the workgroup observed a demonstration of the Emark system. Several MU2 members expressed interest in investigating the system further. IMS is looking for a way to load MU2 data in a manner similar to the process for loading insurance claims data. MU2 workgroup activities will be discussed in more detail during the next CCB meeting.

Other Topics

- Between the November SEER submission and the end of 2016, users will be able to update registry systems in a more automated and customized way. Chuck has been working to improve the process for deployment of new versions.
- Jennifer (Seattle) asked about the possibility of a presentation on the claims workflow. Kevin is scheduled to give presentations on the claims workflow at the SEER workshop and the January 2017 Managers and QI (Quality Improvement) teleconference. He could deliver a similar presentation to the CCB.

- Peggy Adamo (NCI) estimated that the 2017 NAACCR Standards (version 17 of *NAACR Standards for Cancer Registries, Volume II, Data Standards and Data Dictionary*) will be complete by the end of October.
- The 8th edition of the *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual* was just published. It is available through the publisher (Springer) or Amazon.

Announcements

The next CCB meeting is scheduled for November 10, 2016, 3:00-4:00 p.m. EDT.