

**SEER\*DMS Change Control Advisory Board (CCAB) Users Group  
Teleconference Summary  
January 24, 2022  
3:00 to 4:30 p.m. EST**

Representatives from the NCI, IMS, the Scientific Consulting Group, Inc. (SCG), and 23 cancer registries participated in the SEER\*DMS Users Group conference call on January 24, 2022. Participants included:

**REGISTRIES:**

Alaska  
Central California  
Cherokee Nation  
Connecticut  
Detroit  
Georgia  
Greater Bay Area  
Greater California  
Hawaii  
Idaho  
Illinois  
Iowa  
Kentucky  
Los Angeles  
Louisiana  
Minnesota  
New Jersey  
New Mexico  
New York  
Seattle  
Texas  
Utah  
Wisconsin

**NCI:** Peggy Adamo, Serban Negoita, Marina Matatova

**IMS:** Suzanne Adams, David Angelaszek, Linda Coyle, Chuck May

**SCG:** Kathy Brown-Huamani, rapporteur

**Action Items**

- IMS will create a Squish for input on topics for webinars.
- IMS will poll registries for webinar dates and send calendar invites.

## **SEER\*DMS CCAB Workgroup (WG) Updates**

### ***MU2 Workgroup***

***Brent Mumphrey***

The MU2 WG met in November 2021 and agreed to convene quarterly thereafter. Members not receiving meeting notifications should contact Brent. The group has been working in two areas: (1) specifications for importing records into SEER\*DMS and (2) Clinical Document Architecture (CDA) evaluation for usefulness and applicable Use Cases.

Two Use Cases have been identified: Case Finding and Supplemental Treatment Data. The group has been evaluating the functionality needed in SEER\*DMS to enable working with these records effectively and productively. IMS is generating AFLs for new cases and those that require investigation and developing a review flag to track CDA records that registry staff have reviewed and updated. Without these changes, registries will continue to rely on queries and external lists.

IMS has developed the CDA review flag that can be implemented for any registry with advance notification. The review flag is generated on new CDAs imported into SEER\*DMS or old CDAs that link to a new Patient Set. In addition, IMS can run a task to force the review flag on older CTC-linked CDAs. The MU2 WG will be evaluating the necessary parameters. IMS also has implemented new AFLs in SEER\*DMS, but technical issues remain to be resolved. This WG evaluate how best to implement the AFLs across the SEER\*DMS workflow.

The next MU2 WG meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2022.

### ***Discussion***

Linda clarified that the new AFL will support casefinding using MU2 data. She cautioned against creating excessive AFL reviews.

### ***Auto-Consolidation and Validation Workgroup***

***Linda Cole and Bobbi Matt***

Linda provided an overview on setting consolidated data values for SEER\*DMS. SEER\*DMS data values can be:

- Automatically set by SEER\*DMS, for example, IDs assigned when a new Patient Set or CTC is created.
- Calculated in SEER\*DMS, including geocoded fields, derived fields, and calculated fields.
- Historical fields are not actively collected but are submitted for earlier years. These fields are not being addressed by this WG.
- Set by registry staff, but not auto consolidated, such as override flags, linkage results.
- Treatment fields, which are “auto-consolidated” in a separate summarization module

All other fields besides the above require auto-consolidation and are the focus of the SEER\*DMS auto-consolidation workgroup.

IMS plans to work on new treatment fields, adding summarization rules for treatment fields beginning with the 2018 year of diagnosis.

Bobbi reviewed the Auto-consolidation WG 2020–2021 goals and objectives. The main goals were to identify tumor-related fields that can be auto-consolidated and to create and test algorithms or rules for implementation in SEER\*DMS.

The group created the following process for reviewing the new logic:

- Identify all instructions applicable for a specific data item. Refer to the *SEER\*DMS Coding Manual* and other instructions, such as NAACCR, Commission on Cancer, and American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC).
- Identify all data coding fields used during a manual consolidation process.
- Develop and test the proposed logic (across registries) against data previously consolidated manually and review the results.
- Deploy the new rules in SEER\*DMS.

Regarding 2021 accomplishments, this WG:

- Defined and developed auto-consolidation rules for the 21 SEER National Cancer Database (NCDB) COVID-19 fields.
- Added options for the Date of Diagnosis (DX) rule to prompt a manual review, which has been deployed across registries.
- Deployed rules for Type and Date of First Recurrence.
- Reviewed and updated the list of paired sites for the Laterality fields documented in the *SEER Manual*. Added a flag to SEER\*DMS look-up table to identify a paired versus nonpaired sites.
- Added rules for the six Metastasis (Met) DX fields.
- Began the process to develop rules for the Staging and Site-Specific (SSDI) fields.

In 2022, the group will finalize the rules for Tumor Size, Clinical and Pathologic, and AJCC Tumor, Nodes, Metastasis (TNM) fields and continue efforts on the SSDI PSA Laboratory Value and Extent of Disease (EOD) Liver Schema fields. They also will define rules for Sentinel Lymph Nodes Positive and Examined Pairs as well as the Radiation Modality fields. In addition, the group will continue discussions on ways to use record validation in SEER\*DMS auto-consolidation.

The Auto-consolidation and Validation WG meets quarterly on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month. The next meeting is scheduled for April 5, 2022. Registry staff interested in joining this WG can update their SEER\*DMS user account or contact Suzanne.

### **Building CTCs from Pathology Reports**

**Linda Coyle**

IMS is addressing consolidation in the SEER\*DMS workflow, in general. A review of Year of Diagnosis cases from the 2017 to 2019 among the SEER\*DMS registries showed that 87 percent of CTCs were created from abstracts, 10 percent from pathology reports, and 3 percent from other sources. Interest has increased among SEER registries in building a CTC from a pathology report, but SEER\*DMS has been abstract-centric since inception. To improve the process for building CTCs from pathology reports, IMS first implemented known over unknown rules for fields not having an auto-consolidation rule. These rules were first deployed at the Louisiana registry to inform updates for the remaining registries. The registry-specific fields will be addressed next. In a longer-term effort, the Georgia and Louisiana registries will focus on building CTCs from pathology reports on their test servers.

### **SEER\*DMS Workshops in 2022**

**Linda Coyle and Marina Matatova**

A SEER\*DMS face-to-face meeting was last held in September 2018, but the 2-year frequency was disrupted because of COVID-19. Webinars and workshops, 2 hours in duration, are being considered for 2022. The first webinar is being planned for March 21, 2022, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. A proposed topic is a discussion of requirements to consider a CTC submission-ready.

### ***Discussion***

Participants suggested the following other topics for webinars:

- Enhanced productivity and data quality reports
- Follow-back procedures
- Remote working arrangements and productivity
- Use of specialized managers
- Approaches to setting up rules and permissions
- A best practices discussion during a lunch and learn session
- Handling new data sources
- Creating AFLs and treatment pages
- Review and documentation of different registry workflow processes (SEER and non-SEER)
- SEER\*DMS documentation updates to a more user-friendly format.

The Utah registry representative expressed interest in dashboard functionality for submissions to the National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR). IMS can incorporate this feature but will need metrics and additional details from the NPCR-reporting registries.

When asked about the best ways to explore numerous and related saved data searches, Linda noted current efforts to update the SEER\*DMS interface with Struts2 that will need to be completed prior to any changes to the data search feature. This upgrade will improve search capabilities.

### **Announcements Related to the February 2022 Submission**

IMS is working on data management reports and Linda anticipates that they will be made available to the registries soon. Registries needing help with their annual report can contact IMS for help.