

Pharmacy Utilization Meeting

July 7, 2023

Attendees

Linda Coyle (IMS)
Jennifer Stevens (IMS) – absent
David Angelaszek (IMS)
Emily Carver (IMS)
Kevin Ward (Georgia)
Randi Rycroft (Idaho)
Serban Negoita (NCI)
Peggy Adamo (NCI)
Marina Matatova (NCI)
Jennifer Hafterson (Seattle)
Tiffany Janes (Seattle)
Kaitlin Akif (NCI)
Kathy Cronin (NCI)
Yoon Hong (NCI)
Valentina Petkov (NCI)

- Several of the pharmacy fields the work group developed have been added to SEER*DMS. A polisher was developed to populate the data using the logic documented in the workgroup document. David demonstrated this using synthetic data.
- The pharmacy fields were added on a new Pharmacy tab on the CTC Summary Page. The tab is only visible to users with appropriate permissions.
- Only first course of treatment (FCOT) fields and the Augmented Pharmacy fields are shown on the tab. The rest of the fields could be computed as part of extract logic. This would reduce clutter from fields that aren't needed for queries in SEER*DMS but are useful for external analyses.
- We reviewed the fields not shown on the Pharmacy Tab. Randi commented that including the number of days between initial first course of treatment and CTC date of diagnosis would be useful. Kevin agreed.
- Linda commented that the screen label for the section with the Augmented Pharmacy fields should say Augmented Pharmacy. Otherwise, it might lead users to think they are the same as the corresponding CTC fields.
- Kevin commented that it would be helpful to have a comparison of the differences between the CTC Summary fields and the Augmented Pharmacy fields. Something akin to the Compare TXs tab in SEER*DMS.
- Serban asked if other types like Optum/UHC pharmacy claims could be incorporated into the polisher. David said yes and noted that the polisher already captures Kaiser pharmacy data in Seattle along with CVS and Walgreens.

- Valentina asked about Unlimited Claims. Serban pointed out that registries are already updating the CTC data with information from Unlimited Claims. This is done via the Add Tx option on the Rx-Tx tab.
- Kevin suggested that Unlimited Claims could be incorporated into something similar as pharmacy data. He mentioned it might be best to keep it on a separate tab. The Pharmacy tab could capture oral agents dispensed by pharmacies and the other tab would capture other sources like Unlimited Claims and Optum Medical Claims.
- Valentina and Kathy Cronin questioned whether the data needed to be separated. If a researcher needed to distinguish the treatment linkage source in an analysis they would do that with an external data set. The registry would summarize all the data together.
- Kevin agreed with this approach. Summarizing all the data together is more in line with the mission of population based cancer registries – capture treatment data regardless of source. Also, it would help to meet requirements that individual sources not be identifiable in data products.
- **Action:** David and Linda to meet to discuss next steps in SEER*DMS
- **Action:** David to send out copy of pharmacy document to attendees that may not have a copy.