Pharmacy Utilization Meeting

January 5, 2024

Attendees

Linda Coyle (IMS)
Jennifer Stevens (IMS)
David Angelaszek (IMS)
Emily Carver (IMS)
Kevin Ward (Georgia)
Randi Rycroft (Idaho)
Serban Negoita (NCI) – absent
Peggy Adamo (NCI) – absent
Marina Matatova (NCI) – absent
Jennifer Hafterson (Seattle)
Tiffany Janes (Seattle)
Kaitlin Akif (NCI)
Kathy Cronin (NCI)
Nadia Howlader (NCI) – absent
Steve Scoppa (IMS)
Gretchen Flynn (IMS)

- The purpose of this meeting was to discuss the use of the new pharmacy data items that were included in the November 2023 SEER submission in SEER*Stat datasets.
- Serban, Marina, Peggy Adamo and Nadia were not able to attend.
- David started the meeting by showing the pharmacy fields that were added to SEER*DMS and subsequently included in the November 2023 SEER Submission.
- David gave a description of how they are computed. He emphasized that the Pharmacy Fill Data are only computed for transactions within 1 year of diagnosis.
- Kevin expressed concern about limiting to 1 year post DX. He noted that it would be more useful to have an indicator for when data is within 1 year but to have variables populated with transaction data past 1 year.
- Kevin's rationale for this is that a lot of pharmacy data (specifically for hormone) doesn't have an initial transaction until more than a year after first diagnosis. He still considers many of these instances first course hormone.
- Kevin recommended having fields that capture pharmacy data beyond 1 year post diagnosis and allowing researcher to make the call about first course.
- Kathy Cronin expressed concerns about researchers using fields properly but did agree that expanding past 1 year would be interesting.
- David and Linda commented that updating SEER*DMS for this would not be difficult.
- Proposed fields that would be useful for each modality to include:

    o First Transaction Date regardless of timing after diagnosis

- o Last Transaction Date regardless of timing after diagnosis
  - o Number of months post DX date for first transaction (this field might not be persisted - it may just be computed for submission)
  - o Number of months post DX date for last transaction (this field might not be persisted - it may just be computed for submission)
- An alternative proposal was that current fields for first dispense date, final dispense date, NDC list and number of months between first and last dispenses could be expanded to capture data beyond the 12 month time post dx window.
- There was some discussion about full dates being available in SEER*Stat datasets. In general, storing the number of months post DX date is the preferred way to capture timing. Steve asked how the number of months between dispense dates was computed. David mentioned that 01-01-2023 to 01-30-2023 is 0 months but 01-01-2023 to 02-02-2023 is 1 month.
- Steve also asked about what kind of SEER*Stat dataset will contain the new pharmacy data items. Kathy Cronin mentioned it should be a specialized data set.
- David will follow up with Serban to see when he is available for a future meeting so we can discuss the changes to the pharmacy data items with him. Steve, Gretchen and Kathy Cronin will be included on that meeting.