

08-21-20: COKA Weekly Progress Report

Key Project-level Updates:

- TBD
- 15 people (AS, BA, KS, IK, JD, JJ, JO, KR, RA, RM, MA, MG, MT, TN-R, VS) participated in up to 12 active working group meetings this week.

Classifying Content Process Development Work Group

- Focused on the StudyType value set and made great advances showing how precise coding can help support many uses and deeper understanding.
- Alper joined the **HL7 Unified Terminology Guidance Project** meeting. This group is working out different technical pathways for maintaining code systems and value sets in FHIR and we will consider joining a pilot for testing this model, perhaps with the Quality/Certainty Rating Process Development Work Group and the risk of bias assessment codes, perhaps with the study type codes developed thus far.
- Next step:
 - If you would like to join this group, we meet Tuesdays at 2-3 pm Eastern.*

Statistical Content Process Development Work Group

- Reviewed the [StatisticModelCode value set](#) within the Vocabulary Map for Evidence-Related Resources. We searched through STATO to determine if codes could be found for this value set and (with some effort) found codes for 8 of the 13 items.
- We also reviewed multiple other potential ontologies but did not find a quickly obvious source to replace our need to develop a code system -- [Model Description Language \(MDL\)](#), [MDL User Guide and Reference Manual](#), [Standard Output \(SO\)](#), [The Standard Output: A Tool-Agnostic Modeling Storage Format](#), [ProbOnto 2.5 Ontology](#), OHDSI Package 'EvidenceSynthesis', and [MultiSCED User Guide](#)
- Next steps:
 - Continue modeling the reporting of statistical models.
 - If you speak FHIR and you speak statistics, and all the items above make sense to you, please comment if you think other modifications are needed.
 - If you would like to join this group, we meet on Wednesdays at 9-10 am Eastern. *

Quality/Certainty Rating Process Development Work Group

- TBD
- Next steps:
 - If you would like to join this group, we meet on Fridays at 9-10 am Eastern. *

Summarization Process Development Work Group

- Updated the [EBMonFHIR Confluence page](#) with links to each of these 10 Progress Notes documents to support ongoing meeting minutes documentation.
- Discussed considerations for what is involved in taking our current COKA efforts and recognizing it as either an HL7 FHIR Accelerator project and/or an HL7 EBM Work Group, though we are not seeing a problem with our current approach working through the HL7 CDS Work Group.
- Updated the [Vocabulary Map for Evidence-Related Resources](#) to adjust the EvidenceVariableHandling value set to match the changes en route to the FHIR build as discussed through the Statistical Content PDWG and Standard Development WG and further modified in actual demands to create a functional FHIR build update. This process is getting accelerated to become committed to the FHIR build (pre-applied) before the CDS WG vote (with understanding of CDS Co-Chair and Grahame Grieve) so we can get it in before the FHIR snapshot to support the next FHIR server being able to handle these evidence-related resources.
- Next step:
 - If you would like to join this group, we meet on Mondays at 4-5 pm Eastern. *

Standards Development Work Group

- Made multiple changes to the FHIR standard and applied them as follows.
 - Removal of EvidenceVariable.type and addition of EvidenceVariable.handling and EvidenceVariable.category elements to the [EvidenceVariable Resource](#).
 - Addition of Statistic.modelCharacteristic.variable element to the [Statistic Resource](#)
 - Codes added/deleted to the [EvidenceVariableHandling value set](#)
 - Codes added to the [StatisticModelCode value set](#)
- Reviewed the summary of meeting with HL7 CDS Work Group which suggested an interest in harmonization of code systems used for ‘Statistic Type’ and ‘Evidence Variable Handling’ among the Evidence-related resources and ‘Measure Scoring’ and ‘Aggregate Method’ among the Measure-related resources. A key justification for harmonization efforts would be if the concept could be meaningfully used to search across resources where the concept is used.
- Include more info as needed
- Next steps:
 - If you would like to join this group, we meet on Mondays and Thursdays at 7-8 am Eastern. *

Content Citation and Classification Tools Development Work Group

- Continued the FHIR Citation Sort mapping deep-detail effort in the [MEDLINE XML element to FHIR Citation element mapping](#). We mapped out numerous pathways to

complete Citation.identifier, Citation.relatedIdentifier, and Citation-variantCitation elements. These efforts will support automated maintenance of a Citation Repository.

- Next steps:
 - If you would like to join this group, we meet on Thursdays at 9-10 am Eastern. *

Evidence Evaluation and Reporting Tools Development Work Group

- Reviewed the initial prototype of an [Outcome Definition Viewer](#). It is exciting to start to see the first tangible representation of one group sending data and another group displaying the data using the FHIR standard, even if we are starting with a very small concept.
- Next steps:
 - Continue developing/improving the outcome definition viewer
 - We will define data requirements and modifications to AHRQ Systematic Review Data Repository (SRDR) data extraction forms if needed
- If you would like to join this group, we meet on Tuesdays at 10-11 am Eastern. *

The Recommendations/CDS Liaison Work Group

- Discussed the recent identification of [The LIVING Project](#) (working on a living systematic review with network meta-analysis including individual patient data for interventions for treatment of COVID-19). This project sounds ideal for our project-level goal of “Demonstrate expression and maintenance of living systematic reviews using FHIR resources.” for all the obvious reasons and also to match our interoperability standards and code sets for covering details ranging from individual study results through individual patient data meta-analysis.
- The group also discussed the ACTS [COVID-19 Guidance to Action Collaborative](#) and requests to suggest how our Evidence Evaluation and Reporting Work Group efforts with SRDR+ could be coordinated with the ACTS efforts.

* You may join any group or contact us if unable to attend at that time so you can join us in the foundational establishment of these efforts.