

Clinical Committee Meeting
Date: 2025-09-23
Time: 14:00 – 15:00 pm ET
Chair(s): Stan Huff, Ted Klein



ATTENDEES

Committee Members:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Stan Huff (Chair) | 9. Lynn Perrine |
| 2. Ted Klein (Chair) | a. Marla Throckmorton |
| 3. Anil Patel | b. Zabrina Gonzaga |
| 4. Dan Vreeman | 10. Rob McClure |
| 5. Greg Melitski | 11. Clem McDonald |
| 6. June Bronnert | 12. Lisa Wolf |
| 7. Susan Matney | 13. John Snyder |
| 8. Jessie Wright | a. Liz Amos |
| | 14. Rachael Seeley |

Regenstrief Staff:

Ross Barrieta, Eza Hafeza, April Lackey, Elizabeth Lumakovska, Geoffrey Ratemo, Steven Wagers

Guests:

Committee Members = 14 | # Attending = 7 | Quorum = YES

MEETING SUMMARY

The Clinical Committee Meeting focused on highlights of the LOINC 2.81 release, particularly lab order-only concepts and their integration with SNOMED, and discussions on transitioning to monthly LOINC releases starting August 2026. The committee also addressed the development of an updated survey concept model to better represent questionnaire data uniquely and consistently and clearly defining what is out of scope for LOINC survey modeling. Members agreed to collaborate on defining other domain-specific concept models, with radiology serving as a leading example.

KEY DISCUSSIONS

UPDATES ON ONGOING ACTIVITIES

Discussion

- LOINC 2.81 Release
- 2025 LOINC Conference

LAB ORDER ONLY CONCEPTS

Discussion

- Lab order only concepts were introduced in LOINC 2.81, released in August.
- The concepts are designed to:
 - Create grouper codes to improve hierarchical structure of the LOINC ontology under the "orderable concept" class.
 - Support the practical needs of labs ordering tests by combining components such as analyte, specimen, and a new generalized property "measurement."
- Example usages include ordering fasting glucose in serum/plasma and identification of pathogens like Neisseria gonorrhea antibodies in different specimen types.
- There remains room for improvement in hierarchical classification, especially to ensure proper parent-child relationships between general and specific observable entities (e.g., different specimen types for antibody measurement).
- Collaboration with SNOMED CT is ongoing to refine ontology structure and enhance subsumption and inheritance of concepts.
- It is appropriate to use these new measurement-level LOINC codes in data normalization and mapping projects depending on use case requirements, such as inventory management or methodological distinctions.

Decisions

- None

New Open Items

- None

TRANSITION TO MONTHLY LOINC RELEASES

Discussion

- Plans were announced to shift to monthly LOINC releases starting August 2026.
- The full release planned for February 2026 will proceed as scheduled, and will be the final semi-annual release.
- Internal teams have begun planning to modify processes, workflows, and operations to support this release cadence.
- No further comments or questions were raised.

Decisions

- None

New Open Items

- None

DEVELOPING THE UPDATED SURVEY CONCEPT MODEL

Discussion

- Many survey instruments are fully modeled in LOINC including non-question elements (e.g., section headers, instructions) and features like skip logic, which are considered outside LOINC's scope.
- Plans are in progress to develop a unique data model specifically for survey concepts that will capture unique identifiers for exact question wording to better differentiate similarly worded questions.
- Regenstrief legal counsel and compliance officer confirmed that questions themselves are generally not copyrightable, but questionnaires as a whole may be.
- There was emphasis on enabling reusability of questions across instruments and ensuring data collected can be shared freely in patient care and research without licensing barriers.
- Design work for the new model will take time; meanwhile, current question and questionnaire handling will continue unchanged.
- Discussions are ongoing to distinguish discrete questions from other questionnaire elements such as section headers, with intent to refine in future iterations.

Decisions

- None

New Open Items

- None

OTHER DOMAIN CONCEPT MODEL DEVELOPMENT

Discussion

- Objective: Consider redefining domain-specific attribute sets ("concept models") to support intuitive LOINC code creation and characterization across committees (lab, nursing, radiology, etc.).
- The radiology committee has a considerable need and has progressed this discussion significantly, having identified attributes needed to describe procedures and reports.
- Nursing and clinical domains require models reflecting direct patient measurements such as vital signs and body metrics. There may be less need in these domains.

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- It was proposed that the Regenstrief terminology staff initiate analysis and draft preliminary attribute sets based on cross-domain overlaps, particularly between nursing and clinical, to help committees start from an informed baseline rather than from scratch.
- This initiative aims to enhance pre- and post-coordination and better integrate LOINC with external terminologies.
- Participants expressed strong support for this collaborative and analytical approach.

Decisions

- None

New Open Items

- Begin reviewing attributes across clinical and nursing domains to develop a preliminary assessment of gaps and overlaps.

Open Items

- Connect with SHIELD and LIDR for input on making Method a post-coordinated attribute. // Marjorie Rallins, Eza Hafeza, Stan Huff // Next available meeting
- Research existing groupings for potential duplication of new lab orders groupers. // Stan Huff // 2025-09-23

REFERENCE MATERIALS

1. [Clinical Committee Meeting Summary 2025-07-22 FINAL.docx](#)
2. [Copy of Survey domain model draft mcr + smh v2.pptx](#)
3. [Observable entity concepts added to SNOMED CT Starting January 2023](#)

2025 MEETING DATES

- January 28 - canceled
- February 25
- March 25
- April 22 - canceled
- May 27
- June 24
- July 22
- August 26 - TBD
- September 23
- October 28
- November 25 - canceled, will add an off-cycle call in early December

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- December 23 - canceled, will add an off-cycle call in early December

PARKED TOPICS

1. Property definition discrepancies – John Snyder
2. Synoptic reporting concepts – Eza Hafeza, Rob McClure
 - a. [Synoptic reports by SCT and History in LOINC .zip](#)
 - b. [Cancer Reporting Update 2018-12-06.pptx](#)
3. Approach to modeling “Risk of” results
4. Calibration and normalization of raw measurements, e.g. continuous glucose monitors
5. Consider the binding strength between value sets and LOINC codes for better clarity in consideration for LOINC Ontology V3 // John Snyder
6. Investigate the status of the CAP synoptic checklist items and their relevance to current work. // Ted Klein, Stan Huff // On hold