

Consolidated Health Informatics Initiative Final Recommendation Information Sheet¹

Domain Title(s) & Team Lead:

Non-laboratory Interventions & Procedures: Dr. Jorge Ferrer, CMS

Scope:

The standard will be used to describe specific non-laboratory interventions and procedures performed/delivered. Interventions represent the purposeful activities performed in the provision of health care; organized by site, method, intent, focus, device and other characteristics. Procedures are concepts that represent the purposeful activities performed in the provision of health care.

Domain/Sub-domain	In-Scope (Y/N)
Procedure by site (on body system, on body part, on organ)	Y
Procedure by method	Y
Procedure by intent (therapeutic, preventive, palliative, diagnostic, monitoring, surveillance, screening)	Y
Procedure by focus	Y
Regime / Therapy	Y
Procedure by device	Y
Dental	N
Alternative Medicine	N
Laboratory Procedures (addressed in Part B report)	N
Administrative / Management procedure	N

Alternatives Identified:

1. SNOMED CT
2. MEDCIN
3. ICD-10-PCS
4. CPT-IV
5. HCPCS

Final Recommendation:

The non-laboratory interventions and procedures workgroup recommends the adoption of Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine-Clinical Terms (SNOMED CT).

¹ Information Sheet designed specifically to facilitate communication between CHI and NCVHS Subcommittee on Standards and Security resulting from May 20, 2003 testimony. CHI may seek assistance to help further define scope, alternatives to be considered and/or issues to be included in evaluation process.

Terminology found in SNOMED CT extends beyond the domain of interventions and procedures. Therefore, the entirety of SNOMED CT is not being recommended, only the content that pertains to interventions and procedures, found within specific hierarchies in the **procedure axis** of SNOMED CT, **excluding** the hierarchies of:

1. Procedures by method: Evaluation procedure: subtype hierarchy: **Laboratory test**
 - Covered by the Laboratory Domain
2. Administrative procedures
 - Covered by HIPAA and the Billing Domain
3. Laboratory Procedures
 - Covered by the Laboratory Domain

Content Coverage:

Of the 344,549 concepts and 913,696 terms in SNOMED-CT-- the January 2003 release of SNOMED CT procedure hierarchy consists of 50,139 concepts and 178,814 descriptions.

Acquisition:

Beginning January 2004, SNOMED-CT will be available without additional fees through the UMLS to US registered users.

Conditions:

This is not a conditional recommendation. The standard is ready for use with identified gaps:

- The timeliness by which emerging procedures are incorporated in the updating of SNOMED CT needs to be improved.
- The workgroup recognizes the importance of mappings to be validated and maintained between SNOMED CT, CPT, HCPCS, ICD-9-CM Volume 3, and ICD-10-PCS via the UMLS.

<u>Criteria</u>	SNOMED CT	MEDCIN (terminology component)	CPT	ICD-10-PCS
Concept Orientation	1	1	0	0
Concept Permanence	1	1	0	?
Non-Ambiguity	1	1	0	0
Explicit Version Ids	1	1	1	1

<u>Criteria</u>	SNOMED CT	MEDCIN (terminology component)	CPT	ICD-10-PCS
Content Coverage	The January 2003 release of SNOMED CT procedure hierarchy consists of 50,139 concepts and 178,814 descriptions.	MEDCIN contains the entire content of Current Procedural Terminology-IV (CPT) and CPT modifiers. Less than 20% of HCPCS are included.	4,000	197,000
Settings (inpatient, outpatient, etc.)	All Settings	All Settings	Outpatient claims and physician inpatient bills	Developed for use in inpatient setting
Scope	Includes content for multiple disciplines involved in health care	MEDCIN's content applies to physician documentation and appears to contain little content for nurses and allied health care providers, therapists, social workers, dieticians, etc.	Physician based coding system	Hospital based coding system
Ownership	College of American Pathologists, Multi-disciplinary Editorial Board	Proprietary, Internal Editorial Board, Physicians Only	Proprietary, AMA Review Board CMS assigns codes for Level II HCPC	CMS
Availability Cost	No additional cost (beyond funds expended by Govt) to US users. Available through UMLS in January 2004	Small cost for reference terminology, interface application costly	Available from AMA with charges to users (VA pays approx. \$12,000/yr)	Available free from CMS

<u>Criteria</u>	SNOMED CT	MEDCIN (terminology component)	CPT	ICD-10-PCS
Use	Limited current usage	Limited Deployment DoD uses interface application	Widely deployed for billing (required for HIPAA)	Not being used but has been tested
Mapping	Mapped to ICD-9-CM and ICD-10: Needs work if map to be used for billing. Older map to CPT-4 available in UMLS. NLM negotiating with AMA to update.	MEDCIN does not include mappings to ICD-10, HCPCS level I or II codes, SNOMED procedures, the various dental procedure terminologies, or ABC codes.	Maps being developed by AMA to SNOMED (Unknown if procedures will be included) Prototype scheduled to be available November 2003	More comprehensive system than ICD-9-CM Volume III for billing purpose
Considerations	Missing some newer therapies. Needs interface to enhance use in clinical setting. UK developing hierarchies.	Lack of formal terminology structures other than the is-a relationships in its poly-hierarchies means that aggregation of like procedure terms will probably be unreliable or difficult.	Billing purposes only	Billing purposes