



November 2016 Roundtable: Improving CDA Quality with Tooling and Testing

Panelist Question and Answer Session

Below is a list of responses to questions the panelists received at the conclusion of their presentation. To view the entire recording of the presentation, please visit the [Health Story Project Roundtable Archives](#).

Q: There have been excellent improvements since NIST validation, but using real protected health information (PHI) often leads to issues after test data passes. Is there a way to use this tool with production data (real PHI)?

A: All four of the tools reviewed at the webinar can be installed behind firewalls within an organization thus allowing for PHI and real production data review to be performed. Licensing may differ and Sequoia Project will require that the tooling chosen to support the new enhanced content testing program in 2017 will allow for this and include instructions and support options for Sequoia members.

Q: What is the purpose of the "Gold Samples for Practice" option in the site validator?

A: The Gold Samples are to help vendors get ready for certification. It is like a practice test that is provided to vendors to understand how to encode structured data using the C-CDA R2.1 IG. The Site Validator provides the test data in PDF and then the XML that shows how to code the data provided. This will help vendors adopt best practices early in the life cycle.

Q: Are the samples available to download in bulk?

A: Yes, samples can be [found here](#). Those interested can download a zip of all files available.

Q: In the Diameter Health demo, Didi gave an example of a discrepancy in medication regimen and another example of an error in BMI. Is there a point in which you can insert a human Quality Assurance step to assess documents that have failed?

A: Yes, it is expected that human Quality Assurance will support the enhanced content testing for both test cases as appropriate.

Q: What's the best source of test data?

A: For certification and other ONC program-related data the best source can be found at [this link](#). The Sequoia Project's enhanced [Content Testing](#) for the eHealth Exchange will include test data appropriate to the test cases as prescribed. The [HL7 CDA Example Task Force](#) is another good source for potential test data.



Q: Is there a limit to the number of documents that can be submitted at once? I receive large batches of CCDs at once.

A: For the IHE Gazelle Tooling and the Diameter Health Tooling, there is support for batches of document samples to be submitted. Currently the ONC Scorecard performs validation and scoring of a single file. A new feature, which adds the ability to process in batch, is being developed and will be released by December 18, 2016.

Q: Are there any instructions/definitions for which options to choose when using the validation tool?

A: There are user guides available for the IHE Gazelle and Diameter Health Tooling. Dragon welcomed the idea posed by this question. These instructions will be added to the SITE C-CDA validator page.

Q: Are there plans to improve content standards? For instance- are there plans to implement a flag that will specify which diagnosis are visit related? i.e. the reason for an episodic visit?

A: The Sequoia Project plans to continue working with HL7 to provide better guidance for improvements to the content standards based on real world implementer's feedback. The Testing Workgroup for the eHealth Exchange initiative is open to all where this work is currently ongoing. For more information on how to join, please visit [this link](#).

Q: Do the clinical validation programs run against both the Human Readable and Machine Readable xml, or is it one or the other?

A: The Sequoia Project validation program will include review of Human Readable and Machine Readable coverage. The test cases define the expectation of human review as required. The ONC Scorecard is primarily running against the Machine Readable XML portions currently. There are a few plans to add some rules to be run against the Narrative Text (Human Readable portion) also.

Q: I am currently trying to find examples of valid CDA document types to test. Is there a repository of CDA xml files available?

A: The HL7 CDA Example Task Force has an approved repository of CDA XML files available [here](#). ONC 2015 Certification C-CDA test data can be found [here](#). The Receiver samples are valid samples without any errors.