

**Standardized nomenclatures,
vocabularies, and formats.**

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Definition of Terms

- Classification and nomenclature - often interchangeable. Categorizes and aggregates a subject field.
- Vocabulary standards – established definitions for medical terms, concepts and relationships that provide a common reference point for comparisons and aggregation about the healthcare process.

More Terms

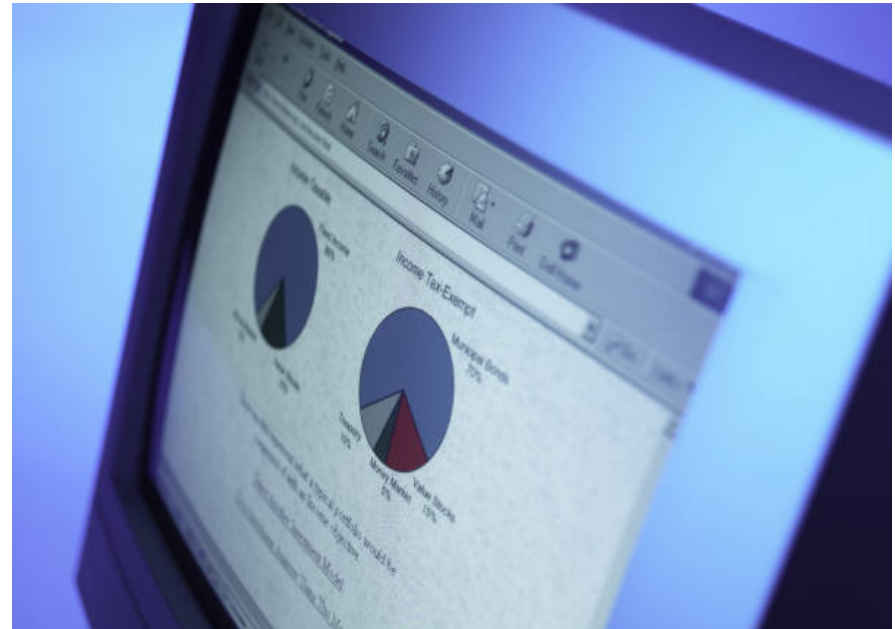
- Nomenclature – a coding system using names (terminology), such as SNOMED that includes multiple levels of granularity. It provides a common language that enables a consistent way of indexing, storing, retrieving and aggregating clinical data across specialties and sites of care.

Last Term

- Classification System – groups similar things together in a numeric or alpha-numeric representation. Commonly used to group diseases and procedures under a single code for retrieval and/or for reimbursement. ICD-9-CM is the current system used in the U.S.

Clinical Data is stored as coded values.

- These coded values must have a consistent meaning, no matter where they were collected.
- These coded values make it easier for a computer to recognize conditions or test results.



If Standardized Terminologies were not used and instead...



We would not be able to automate the sharing of information between our clinical data systems.

- each facility used their own vocabularies.
- each facility used unstructured text to capture clinical data.
- each facility used its own classification system for clinical data.

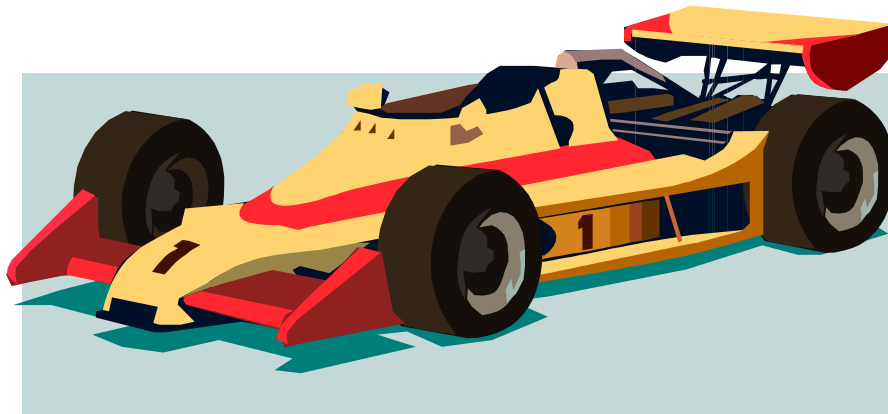
With the use of Standardized Terminologies and Structured Text

- information can be easily used for data sharing, thus leveraging great improvements in healthcare quality and outcomes from knowledge-based medicine and tapping enormous research potentials from the electronic patient data.



Without using these Standards

- It would be like using a fancy powerful sports car to drive only 20 mph.
- The potential is there but it would be totally wasted!



This is why...


- HHS signed a \$34 million agreement to license SNOMED for distribution to the U.S., making it free of charge.
- It provides a common medical language and will serve as a cornerstone in building a unified electronic health system through standardized codified terminology.

Interesting Facts

- CPT (physicians' coding system) contains about 7,000 procedure codes. SNOMED includes more than 48,000.
- ICD-9 codes cover about 30,000 diagnoses. SNOMED has more than 70,000.

The pinnacle of interoperability

- is not that machines will “talk to each other” but that codified data can be usefully exchanged so that systems can interpret that data and perform automatic functions from it.



	+2.688
0	+5.000
1	+1.500
0	+1.125
0	+1.062

ASTM E2184: Standard Specification for Healthcare Document Formats

- Facilitates the identification and retrieval of relevant health information within a report that will enhance the quality and efficiency of health services, patient safety, and patient privacy.
- Enables greater information sharing within and among enterprises.
- Provides more efficient access to health information for reimbursement, legal, statistical collection, and research.

Standardized Formats will also

- Promote great efficiencies in medical transcription and in other forms of data capture.

An example of this includes using XML designed templates (and phrases) that can turn free-text transcribed reports and SRT-generated reports into easily retrievable data that can be collected in an efficient and effective manner.

Summary

- *Healthcare organizations have traditionally kept their focus within their own enterprise, and health information has been a point of completion. This has to change in order to gain the full benefits of improved patient safety, better quality patient care, and greater cost efficiencies that could be achieved from the use of codified data generated from the electronic health record and our clinical data systems.*

Thank you!



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