**Q&A Sessions for 2018 Implementation Timeline**

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Q. How long will we be collecting CS SSF for pre-2018 cases?

A. CS Site Specific Factors will be collected for all cases diagnosed prior to 2018. I am not aware of any plans to drop these requirements after a certain length of time.

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Q. Based on Lori's presentation, the latest date seemed to be the IG 3/1/2018. Do we have an estimated time where everything needed for software will be available? Also has anyone (Reg+, SEER\*DMS) given any estimates when software will be ready and registrars will be able to begin abstracting?

A. We do not have an estimate on the time it will take the software vendors to prepare their software once they have all of the specifications.

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Q. MP/H Rules release will be 11/1/2017. Will this be just paper or will the SEER Web Service be ready?

A. A correction has been sent to the implementation group concerning MPH.  The rules will not be available in any form Nov 2017.  They likely will not be released until early 2018 after beta testing is completed. Once they are released it will be electronic only.  The Solid Tumor DB will not be released until late 2018.

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Q. Have any reliability tests be done assessing the ability to find the 160 data items for 8th Edition?

A. No reliability tests have been done to assess the availability of the SSDI’s. However, the majority of data items are similar to SSF data items collected in CS.

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Q. On today's UDS call, there was discussion regarding a communication piece being released by all standard setting agencies regarding the probable delay of 2018 software. Many registrars want to begin abstracting 2018 cases early or concurrently.

A. All of the standard setters are aware that delays in implementation of the 2018 software will cause problems for registries that are abstracting concurrently. Every effort is being made to complete work on changes and to get the changes to the software vendors as quickly as possible.

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Q. When will education be available and who will give the training?

A. AJCC has been developing training materials for 8th edition and has already made some of those materials available on their website. Efforts are currently underway to develop training materials regarding other 2018 implementation issues. Links to training will be provided on the NAACCR website.

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Q. Is CoC was releasing a new standards manual in 2018?

A. CoC is planning on releasing the STORE manual in 2018. The STORE manual will replace the FORDS manual.

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Q. Any idea when the new software for 2018 will be available?

A. Not at this time.

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Q. If all the stars align Vendors should be getting their implementation plan in lets’ say March... which is already 3 months past when the registrars want it. There’s probably a good 6 months of programming that we are going to have to cram in as soon as possible, so is there some kind of paper tool you can offer clients or instructions on what to tell clients to collect in the mean time until the software can be updated?

A. There are currently no plans to develop a paper tool at this time; however, we will pass along this suggestion.

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Q. Is there a definitive deadline at which time a proposed new data item will not make it for 2018 implementation?

A. Unfortunately, the deadline for new data items had to be extended this year. The great majority of new data items anticipated for 2018 have been approved by UDS and only a few additional data items have been proposed in August, so we believe we are nearing the end of this process.

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Q. For CoC accredited programs, what is the CoC's input on the delay of abstracting, specific to RQRS?

A. You will have to contact the CoC for information concerning delays in abstracting. However, I can say that CoC is very involved in the 2018 implementation issues and is aware there may be delays in abstracting.

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Q. With the possible delay by hospital registries abstracting and submitting 2018 cases, will the standard setters be modifying the Call for Data deadline?

A. The 2018 implementation issues will not impact this year’s call for data deadlines for central registries. It is too early to determine if they may impact next year’s call for data.

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Q. With a delay in abstracting, how do you see the Survivorship Care Plan available to patients?

A. That is an excellent question. It will need to be addressed by CoC.

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Q. What does the acronym STORE stand for?

A. I believe STORE stands for Standards for Oncology Registry Entry \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q. Was there consideration to include someone from NCRA on the SSDI group?

A. I don’t recall, but there are several representatives on the group with hospital registry experience.

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Q. What does SSDI refer to, we know it as Social Security Death Index and we don't think that is what it means?

A. The acronym refers to Site Specific Data Items. This has been pointed out before and we are considering a name change.

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Q. For TNM staging, post-neoadjuvant yc stage are you going to have a whole new set of fields to record those in or how are they going to be implemented?

A. There are no plans for collecting yC stage at this time.

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Q. So we are collecting yc size but not yc stage? or did i misread the earlier slide?

A. We are collecting Tumor Size Clinical, Tumor Size Pathological and Tumor Size Summary. We are not collecting a yC tumor size.

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Q. With histologic type changes continuing to accumulate and the CS dll frozen, has there been any thought about developing a dll that will feed the appropriate histologic type to older cases?

A. The dll for cases diagnosed 1/1/2018 will be updated with the histology changes. The histology changes will not be used for cases prior to 1/1/2018.

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Q. Pathology reports- will these grades broke down in CAP?

A. The new grade data items were developed with input from both CAP and AJCC. If the pathology report follows the CAP guidelines, then the information for the grade data items should be available.

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Q. For the ICD-0-3 revisions, will all of the previous errata updates be included in the new version of the manual?

A. I am not aware of any plans to include previous errata in the updates from the ICD O 3 implementation TF. However, I will forward this suggestion to the ICD O 3 Implementation TF.

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Q. Is the expectation that the site specific fields will truly be site specific as they are with SSFs? Will this be a .dll? Or is the expectation that we will have all of these SSDIs showing up in each abstract and we figure out ourselves which ones we use?

A. There will be a .dll or some similar mechanism in place to point the computer to the appropriate SSDI’s for the site histology combination.

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Q. Will there be new Summary Stage and ICD 0 books published. If so, how do we acquire them?

A. A new Summary Stage manual will be available. It will only be available on line. There will not be a new ICD O 3 manual for 2018 implementation.

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Q. Can you propose a solution for registries that abstract concurrently, should there be delays in the NAACCR format v18?

A. Every effort is being made to complete work on the v18 layout as quickly as possible. I am not aware of any discussions on delaying implementation of v18. As mentioned previously, we anticipate that there will be more information and guidance for registries that abstract concurrently later this year.

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Q. Are there any plans to release an updated ICD-O-3 manual?

A. Not at this time.

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Q. Most people on this call are in central registries. Have new data items (treatment/SSDI/staging) been field tested? And, how much time will it take to abstract a case is a question I am getting over and over from registrars hearing magnitude of changes.

A. As noted before, most of the SSDI’s are currently being collected. They will be in a new format, but overall should not have a significant impact on the time it takes to abstract a case.

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Q. In your opinions, what impact will these changes have on resources and productivity?

A. We believe these changes and the delays in readiness for 2018 Implementation will strain resources and affect productivity during 2018. The standard setters are aware of these challenges and NAACCR will continue to work with surveillance partners to facilitate these transitions. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Q. I have seen Gleason group 3 & 4 only.

A. Gleason Group will be collected in the new grade data item. It is required for staging prostate cases using AJCC 8th edition.

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Q. We have non-hospital reporters that use Web Plus instead of their own registry software. These physicians’ offices/radiation/surgery centers tend to be more current with their abstracting (ex. some abstracting July 2017 cases right now).

Would it be recommended for them to hold off on their abstracting until we have updated 2018 abstract/collection forms?

A. We are not familiar with the process for converting cases started in Web Plus and converted to another layout. However, I do know that changes to v18 will be significant, and as stated before, we anticipate that there will be more information and guidance for registries that abstract concurrently later this year.

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Q. Did you say whether or not there will be a forward conversion for those SSFs that have corresponding SSDIs?

A. SEER will be working on this in 2018 to incorporate into SEER\*Stat. This project will not be started until mid to late 2018 and should be completed by the time that 2018 cases are received at SEER.

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Q. Just saw an MD with clinical stage uT3 N1. What is the u stand for?

A. We are not aware of what the u represents. I do know that it is not in our list of valid values from AJCC.

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Q. Will a new version of 8th edition be published incorporating all these changes?

A. This is a question for AJCC. They have posted errata to their [website.](https://cancerstaging.org/Pages/default.aspx)

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Q. I know of one company with central registry software that is going to drop out of the market/no longer support their product. Are you aware of others?

A. We are not.

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Q. What I heard earlier is that you will assess the data in 2019 from the prior year's collection to see if it's worth collecting. Isn't this backwards regarding all the training and time it will take to train registrars? Isn't this a bit backwards?

A. We think this may be a generalization of a comment that was made about a specific data item, or possibly a misunderstanding. Most of the “new” data items for 2018 were previously collected as SSF’s and those that are truly new have been carefully vetted for their importance. Various NAACR working groups have reviewed these data items and are working to ensure that codes and coding instructions are as clear as possible. Moreover, individual standard setters will determine their data collection requirements.

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Q. would love to hear from the CoC on the question of concurrent abstracting as they have been pushing hospitals to do this for so long--we are now concurrently abstracting and it seems like we will have to abstract our cases twice now.

A. We know that COC is aware of these concerns and will address them as soon as possible.

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Q. With the need for edit adjustments in the beginning; will most edit packages be set up appropriately before states will start case submission? Will NCDB submission be a bear for 2018? By NCDB 2018 I mean 2018 cases/ NCDB 2019 submission.

A. We know that COC is aware of these issues and will address them as soon as possible

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Q. Have you thought about delaying SS2018 just to maintain some consistency at least with summary stage rather than having both of the major staging manuals brand new at the exact same time?

A. SS2018 was updated to reflect changes to AJCC 8th edition. Many of the changes occurring for 2018 cases are inter-related (8th edition, summary stage, ICD O 3 updates, EOD, etc). It would not make sense to implement one without the other.

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