

FY20 ONC Project US@ Meeting Minutes		Date: 01/21/2021 Time: 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time	
Facilitator	Carmen Smiley	Note taker(s)	Lindsey Hoggle
Attendee	Name	Affiliation	Email Address
X	Steve Posnack	ONC	
X	Avinash Shanbhag	ONC	
X	Lindsey Hoggle	HL7	
X	Wayne Kubick	HL7	
X	Carmen Smiley	ONC	
X	Wanda Govan-Jenkins	ONC	
X	Norman Adams	Surescripts	
X	Brett Andriesen	ONC	
X	Amanda Benedict	AAMI	
X	Jamie Bland	Nebraska Health Information Initiative	
X	Kevin Borcher	PMIX	
X	Stephanie Collins	unknown	
X	Didi Davis	Sequoia Project	
X	Lorraine Doo	CMS	
X	Casey Fitzgerald	EPIC	
X	Roland Gamache	AHRQ	
X	Michael Glickman	Computer Network Architects, Inc.	
X	Shaun Grannis	Regenstrief	
X	Recinda Guest	unknown	
X	Jean Hall	PMIX	
X	Brian Handspicker	NIEM, Project Unity	
X	Eric Heflin	Texas Health Services Authority	
X	Alex Kontur	ONC	
X	Stephen Konya	ONC	
X	Mark Jacobs	Delaware Health Information Network	
X	Chuck Jaffe	HL7	
X	Tina Joros	Allscripts	
X	John Klimek	NCPDP	
X	Alex Kontur	ONC	
X	Mary Beth Kurilo	AIRA	
X	Greg Lutz	IAIABC	
X	Michelle Maas-Deane	ANSI	
X	Mary Kay McDaniel	Cognosante	
X	Alexandra Mugge	CMS	
X	Chris Muir	ONC – Dir of Standards	
X	Molly Murray	Pew Trusts	
X	Elizabeth Myers	ONC	
X	Jean Narcisi	American Dental Association (ADA)	
X	Tom Ohlendorf	CMS	
X	Cory Plowden	HHS	

X	Pradeep Podila	CDC	
X	Suzy Postal	IHS	
X	Laura Prietula	VA	
X	David Pyke	Ready Computing Inc. /HL7 TSC, Sequoia	
X	Matt Rahn	ONC	
X	Naresh Sundar Rajan	NEHI	
X	Lyubov Remennik	NIH	
X	Laura Riplinger	AHIMA	
X	Tricia Rolle	ONC	
X	Sharon K. Stanford	ADA	
X	Cathy Sheppard	X12	
X	Lee Ann Stember	NCPDP -CEO	
X	Sandy Stuart	KP	
X	Merri Lee Stine	Aetna	
X	Sandy Stuart	KP	
X	Jeffery Tackes	USPS	
X	Albert Taylor	ONC	
X	Sara Temnitz	VA	
X	Andrew Tomlinson	CHIME	
X	Drew Torres	Cerner	
X	Amit Trivedi	HIMSS	
X	Peter Van Reusel	CDISC	
X	Daniel Vreeman	RTI	
X	Margaret Weiker	NCPDP	
X	Gregory Zeller	University of Kentucky College of Dentistry	

### Agenda Topics

**Wanda Govan-Jenkins, Project Co-Lead, ONC** began the Project USA call by reviewing the Agenda and planned discussions. She reviewed Administrative Reminders and referenced the Antitrust Notice.

**Steve Posnack, Deputy National Coordinator, Office of the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology** provided Opening Remarks by thanking the SDOs for their commitment to the project and expressed gratitude for all participants for joining the call. He provided comments on Project US@ and its critical importance in the proper matching of patient records and why accurate patient matching is so important. He discussed the key challenges to patient matching and shared that Project US@ is to focus on how we represent patient addresses in a consistent way across health care. The scope is intended to solve a discrete mission of patient addresses as a heavy weight is placed on this data element used in patient matching records. This intent is for this work to be completed in 2021 so it can have a meaningful impact across healthcare.

**Carmen Smiley, Project Co-Lead, ONC** welcomed the many organizations - 62 participants on the call—and introduced the Project Leads. She provided the background of this project and shared the Project Overview with all. She explained that this group would meet monthly for updates while a smaller Technical WG would meet to work on the actual specification details. She asked all Project Partners to inform the leads on this project of those willing to work on the technical Work Group. She then introduced Avinash Shanbhag, Acting Director, Office of Technology, ONC.

**Avinash Shanbhag, Acting Director of Technology, ONC** discussed “What does Success Look Like” and provided insight for the scope of this project, again referencing the difficulties with patient matching and how this

standardization may provide a significant benefit. He shared that the project is to address patient addresses only at present and that subsequent work might lead to additional value, however the scope is narrow for this project. The deliverable of this project is creation of a unified, cross-standards healthcare industry-wide specification for representing patient address. The expectation is that this specification should be used across the industry. He thanked the SDOs and the Health Standards Collaborative for embarking on this path to resolve patient addresses.

**Carmen Smiley** then described the needs for the Technical Workgroup and asked that participants send Technical Workgroup nominations to Project staff. The Confluence site is now accessible to the public and will be managed by Project staff. The first assignment for the Technical Workgroup will be to review USPS Publication 28 and submit additional resources to the Project Staff. Carmen then opened the floor for questions.

**Norman Adams, Surescripts** shared that while it may be beyond scope, the biggest issue appears to be based upon what type of address are you dealing with. For example, while there may be an exact match on an address, the address may not indicate that it is an apartment building and may create false information. He also has found that personal addresses may occur in an address field, but it is for an office building, which may have thousands of people. The same is true for retirement homes who may have similar names and information. Other participants shared that there were different instances creating false positives and false negatives.

**Wayne Kubick, Chief Technology Officer, HL7** suggested setting up a place on the Confluence page for posting ideas. He also inquired about what the process might be in publishing an address specification for the participating SDOs. Balloting is not possible due to the timeline. What is the mechanism for getting it out in the public? Wayne suggested that a small group of SDO participants may want to meet to discuss it.

The suggestion was made that perhaps IHE USA could be a place to house the standard. Avinash shared that the intent is to produce one specification agreed upon by all SDOs while utilizing each SDOs community to circulate and implement. It may be helpful to review how each SDO handle decisions similar to those decided via balloting.

**Eric Heflin, Texas Health Services Authority** shared that he has been involved with Carequality work from about four years ago that discussed address specification. There is also a market survey of other solutions, which Carequality did address in their exchange – about 4 years ago. He created a spec for Matching – org not patient for them. He will share additional resources with this group. Clarification on if this project includes international addresses. He related that Carequality, in the not-too-distant future will exchange data with Canada, Mexico, and Bahamas; Some of these countries do not have an address specification.

Carmen requested that participants begin by looking at USPS Publication 28 and share constraints. Additional questions were concerning scope- such as military addresses. The VA is a Participant that can share their experience. While comments were made that provider or organizational addresses could also be within scope, the project will remain laser focused on patient addresses.

Peter, CDISC stated that since addresses are not included in clinical studies, there are other related techniques that can be used. Avinash reiterated that patient addresses will satisfy the 80/20 rule and that all work will need to be leveraged to support this. Project US@ is a small project and once it is determined what patient address looks like, other addresses can be reviewed, with patient address specification serving as a baseline.

### **Supporting Documents**

Project documents (including Agenda and Minutes) will be housed on the ONC Project US@ Confluence site: <https://oncprojecttracking.healthit.gov/wiki/pages/viewpage.action?pageId=180486153>

### **Minutes/Conclusions Reached:**

- Plan as stated in the Agenda for this call will be used.
- There will be both a Project Partner Team, who meet monthly and a Technical Workgroup Team, who will meet weekly to develop the deliverable.

### **Actions [include Owner, Action item and due date]**

- All participants are asked to review the Project US@ Confluence site for accuracy.
- All Project Partners should respond to the Doodle poll for Monthly Project Partner meetings and continue to stay engaged through these meetings.
- Nominations for the Technical Workgroup are needed ASAP as the calls will begin in February. This workgroup will meet weekly.

**Next Meeting / Preliminary Agenda Items**

- Next meetings for both the Project Partners Team and the Technical Workgroup will be determined by Doodle poll.
- Agendas for next meetings will be sent in advance of the meetings.
- Gather a small group of SDOs to meet for discussion of SDO processes and how to engage through these communities.