The Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Data Management System (SEER*DMS)
Claims Work Group
Teleconference Summary
April 20, 2020
12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. EDT

Representatives from the NCI, IMS, The Scientific Consulting Group, Inc. (SCG), 10 SEER registries participated in the SEER*DMS Claims Work Group (WG) teleconference on April 20, 2020. Participants included:

REGISTRIES

Detroit
Georgia (Kevin Ward, WG chair)
Idaho
Iowa
Louisiana
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
Seattle
Utah

NCI: Peggy Adamo, Marina Matatova

IMS: Suzanne Adams, David Angelaszek, Linda Coyle, Chuck May, Jennifer Stevens

SCG: Carolyn Fisher, rapporteur

Action Items

- Peggy Adamo agreed to contact Donna Rivera, NCI, for an update on the radiation treatment codes.
- IMS will create a Squish issue to capture feedback on the claims data utilization in the registry community as well input on the goals.
- The New York registry will review its incoming Unlimited data and notify the WG if excisional biopsy data are included.

IMS Updates   **Linda Coyle**

IMS has been working on modifying the Patient Set Editor interface and defining the specifications to indicate when the pre-records have been reviewed. Work related to the server, application, and database (e.g., backend) are in progress, but the user interface efforts are delayed because of the SEER*DMS usability (UX) project. Registry staff should review Unlimited claims data for first course therapies. Users have noted to IMS that they have seen pre-record data that match a patient set but are not linked to that patient set. IMS will consider enabling an override for these data.

Future Direction of the Claims WG   **Kevin Ward**

Kevin Ward pointed out that the claims data, including MU2 and Unlimited data, are in production in most of the SEER systems. IMS expects to add pharmacy transaction data to the system soon, at least from Walgreens and CVS. Kevin asked about the priorities for registries using the claims data and ways that the WG could assist in the management of these data. He also asked for input on potential agenda items for future WG meetings

Discussion

Radiation therapy information is included in some of the claims data. The WG has requested updates on the comprehensive list of radiation therapy codes from the NCI with the goal of integrating these codes into SEER*DMS to align with the Cancer Medications Enquiry Database (CanMED) formulary. Donna Rivera and other NCI staff are reviewing that list. Peggy Adamo agreed will follow-up with the NCI regarding the status of that review.

The New York registry receives Unlimited data from a large-scale practice and these data may include excisional biopsy information. The New York registry should communicate to the WG any issues with processing these data.

Unlike pharmacy transaction data, the Unlimited data has diagnosis codes. Pharmacy transaction data also are more challenging to capture but include hormone therapy data. The Georgia registry is effectively capturing these pharmacy transaction data.

An NCI group is discussing the future use of registry claims data by researchers at the program level. IMS developed SQL queries that individual registries can run internally to build data sets. Efforts are ongoing to include these data sets in the report registries submit to the NCI so that the data can be made available to the cancer research community. A new version of SEER*Stat also has been released.

Claims data sources are not population-based but offer researchers additional detail on dates and dosing schedules. Chemotherapy and radiation claims data should be incorporated into SEER*DMS.

Kevin asked WG members about their interest in an automation plan for claims data. A SQL code already is available to identify transactions concerning first course therapy.

Claims WG Meeting Schedule

Kevin recommended conducting the WG meetings less frequently than once a month. WG updates also can be delivered through other SEER forums such as the annual SEER Managers and PI Meetings.

Bobbi Matt (Iowa registry) would be interested in continuing the WG meeting calls if the aim is to develop a process for handling claims records that would be implemented across all registries. The Iowa registry received its first claims data in April 2019 and has not had the opportunity to assess utilization.

Marina Matatova (NCI) suggested creating a Squish issue to capture feedback on the claims data utilization at registries as well input on goals for making these data available to the research community. Two ways the claims data currently are used in registries include: (1) visual edits of cases in SEER*DMS (manual process); and (2) retrospective identification of patients receiving chemotherapy, immunotherapy, or other treatment. The WG will need to decide whether to recommend full automation guided by the rules process or less automation with edits.

Linda suggested meeting quarterly and Kevin agreed.

Next Steps and Claims Work Group Call

The next monthly Claims WG call will be postponed to allow the Iowa registry time to evaluate claims data utilization efforts and the IMS time to complete any outstanding related work. The next Claims WG call is scheduled for June 2020 and will follow a quarterly schedule.