Clinical Vocabulary Mapping Methods
Institute

Use Case Specification

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AHIMA
What is a Use Case?

• A frequently over-utilized vague term often used in software engineering development or business planning

• May be written or modeled in UML (Unified Modeling Language)
Use Case Factors for Terminology
Maps

Mapping may be viewed as” Disruptive Technology”

• Mapping projects typically have less than optimal performance out of the gate, but improve with use (user feedback critical)
• Represent a new product architecture
• Bring a new and different value proposition to work process in health care
Use Case Factors for Terminology Maps

Disruptive Technology

- Example: Samuel Morse presented the prototype of the telegraph to Congress in 1836 and a “use case” along with creation of an infrastructure to support it
  - Reliable connections and predictable rates to use them
  - Shared language, common standard and a high degree of inter-operability

- Any Mapping Use Case must fit with organization and health care culture and...

- Business need must be demonstrated to justify maps – end result to achieve a specific business goal
Create a Vision Document

The Vision document provides an overview of the problem being solved and answers two key questions:

- Are we solving the right problem?
- Are we solving the same problem?

When beginning a new development effort, a key risk is misunderstanding the scope of the system under development. The vision document mitigates that risk by establishing a shared understanding of the business problem that the system should solve.

The vision document need not be long to be effective. You may choose to include the following items in your document:

- A terse problem statement
- The business opportunity
- Product positioning
- The stakeholders and users of the system
- High level goals or features

Click here or on the "create vision document" topic to create or view your project's vision document.
Use Case Specification

- What terminology maps may or may not accomplish must be understood before constructing a use case.

- Use case definitions and desired outcomes determine selection of the map schema.
Use Case Specification

• Actors (intended users) must be clearly defined in all use cases

• Multiple use cases are possible between the same two terminologies (SNOMED-CT® and ICD for example)

• Context of the use case is important!
Use Case Specification

Three principles must be considered in developing a mapping use case:

• Employ data collected for one purpose and use it for another (or many) purposes
• Retain the value of the data when migrating to newer database formats and schemas
• Avoid entering data multiple times due to risk of errors and increased cost
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