



Hands-on Experience Developing a Reference Set for Optometrists

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Audience

Both healthcare professionals who are going to create and maintain a reference set as well as members of a NRC who will support those healthcare professionals.

Objectives

The presenters would like to share their experience with the development, implementation and support of these reference sets: which aspects made it easy and which aspects were more difficult. What can be learned from this Dutch experience? Both from healthcare professional perspective as NRC perspective.

Abstract

The Dutch Optometric Association consulted NICTIZ, the HIT institute and SNOMED CT NRC in the Netherlands. The paper presented will describe the journey of the Dutch Optometric Association in achieving their ambitions and the support given by the Dutch NRC (Nictiz).

Since 2012 the Dutch Optometric Association is working on the standardization of registration of optometric care in electronic patient records with a triple purpose:

1. Improve the quality of medical documentation and exchange of information with other professionals (semantic interoperability)
2. Extract data from patient records for policy and quality analysis.
3. Enable the possibility to use the same data for multiple purposes (e.g. the data in a patient record is directly used for insurance claims).

These goals can only be achieved when data is registered in a standardized way with standardized medical terminology. Therefore the Dutch Optometric Association decided to create reference sets with optometric terminology which was extracted from SNOMED CT. After the selection, the terms were translated into Dutch. They started with terminology for optometric diagnoses (completed in 2013), followed by optic tests (almost completed), and visit reasons (just started). By April 2014 the three major software developers have incorporated the reference set in their software. The optometric diagnoses reference set is in operational mode now.

By October 2014 it will be possible to show the first results of the analysis for diagnoses recorded by the optometrists.

Being the first reference set for the NRC in the Netherlands a key element of the project was the development of the reference set software tooling. This multi-user online tool is based on the SNOMED CT browser of ART-DECOR.

The presenters would like to share their experience with the development, implementation and support of these reference sets: which aspects made it easy and which aspects were more difficult. What can be learned from this Dutch experience? Both from healthcare professional perspective as NRC perspective.

References

1. Actual live environment with the reference set tooling: <http://terminologie.nictiz.nl/art-decor/refsets?id=41000146103>