The October 2021 C-CDA Implementation-A-Thon (C-CDA IAT) was held as a two-day virtual event on Wednesday, October 27 and Thursday, October 28, 2021 from 10am to 6pm ET. This was the sixteenth running of the C-CDA Implementation-A-Thon and our 5th virtual event.

This IAT was well attended with nearly 40 participants including program facilitators and topic presenters. Five EHR vendors sent representative: Allscripts, EMRlogic, Cerner, Epic, and eCW. Several representatives from the Gravity Project attended for discussion on SDOH data in C-CDA. Representatives from the Sequoia Project, Carequality, CommonWell, and IHE communities attended. Representatives from the US Government participated from ONC and Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization (FEHRM). Optum participated from the payer community. Two DirectTrust HISPs along with many integrators and innovators who utilize C-CDA in information exchange solutions also attended. We were especially excited to have Sr. IT Specialist and Acting Interoperability Workstream Director Kim Heermann-Do from the Federal Electronic Health Record Modernization (FEHRM) Program speak with the group about the value and importance of maintaining the C-CDA standard citing 22,000+ Commonwell Providers, 65% of all US Hospitals, 241 eHealth Exchange Partners and 37,600+ Provider Sites, 10,767,254 enrolled Commonwell patients, 5,042,500 VA JLV patients, and 494,475 DOD/USCG patients, all relying on interoperability via C-CDA document exchange. The Joint HIE current shares about 4.5 million inbound documents per month and about 37 million outbound documents per month.

The Commonwell/Carequality community presented updated guidance on Encounter Summary documents as well as for the more commonly shared Patient Summary documents. The presentation highlighted the important of HL7 standards like the C-CDA Companion Guide absorbing and elevating best practice guidance developed within implementer communities like the joint Commonwell/Carequality community.

Representatives from the C-CDA to and from US Core FHIR mapping project explained the methodology the group is using to establish mapping guidance, create reference results that demonstrate transformation if C-CDA artifacts to US Core conformant FHIR resources and US Core conformant FHIR Resources transformed to C-CDA artifacts. They demonstrated the work being done currently to develop mappings for the allergy-intolerance domain.

The ONC presented progress on USCDI prioritization criteria which will continue for v3:

- Represent important data needs not included in USCDI v2
- Require only modest standards or implementation guide developmental burden
- Require only modest developmental burden on health IT modules
- Create only modest implementation burden on providers and health systems
- Result in only modest aggregate lift for all new data elements combined

The ONC also explained priorities for new USCDI v3 data elements:

- Further mitigate health and healthcare inequities and disparities
- Address the needs of underserved stakeholders
• Address public health reporting, investigation, and emergency response

Implementers were reminded of two important upcoming deadlines:

• Standards Version Advancement Process (SVAP) Extended comment period to May 2, 2022
• USCDI+ and Real-World Testing plans need to be posted by December 15th, 2021

In following up on prior C-CDA IAT open action items, the CDA Management group shared requirements for a Value Set comparison tool. Implementers provided input on current best practice guidance for the use of the new Provenance Author Participation template to assert the author provenance of data where than level of accuracy is known.

On day-two, the authors of the new C-CDA Companion Guide worked with implementers and representatives from the Gravity Project to collaboratively iron out template designs for new USCDI V2 SDOH data elements. The group also reviewed preliminary designs for other data elements and implementers were able to voice their preferences and influence the direction of future versions of existing C-CDA templates.

Dave Hamill reminded everyone how important and valuable the post-event survey feedback is to improving future IATs noting that each IAT has undergone changes based on feedback from the prior event.

It was announced that the next C-CDA IAT will take place as a virtual event in March 2022. Participants were encouraged to work on advancing the available guidance for implementers by contributing to the ongoing work of the C-CDA Examples Task Force which meets on Thursdays from noon – 1:00pm ET. Conference calls for the group are announced on the HL7.org Conference Call Center. The Zulip chat C-CDA Stream will be used to continue discussion on the topics introduced during the event. (https://chat.fhir.org/#narrow/stream/179311-C-CDA)

The topic sign-up grid for the March 2022 C-CDA IATs is already available on Confluence. Topics need to be identified before January 15th, 2022. C-CDA IAT facilitators are available to help implementers prepare topic presentations if needed. Participants were encouraged to keep these conversations going via the C-CDA and CDA streams on Chat.fhir.org.

C-CDA IAT facilitators Jean Duteau, Joginder Madra and Lisa Nelson closed the session by thanking the ONC for their continued sponsorship of the event.