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CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (CAP eCC)

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The College of American Pathologists (CAP) Cancer Checklists (included in the CAP Cancer Protocols) are recognized as a “gold standard” in cancer case summary reporting worldwide. The CAP Cancer Committee develops these guidelines in collaboration with cancer experts, such as oncologists, radiologists, surgeons, cancer registrars, and other health care professionals, to aid pathologists in cancer reporting. The synoptic, or standardized, checklist format provides consistent and meaningful information that enables health care professionals to manage and study clinical data necessary in improving patient care.

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The amount of information pathologists provide in their reports on cancer specimens has increased in recent years, due to the expansion of scientific knowledge about cancer and continued advances in health care, such as molecular diagnostics and personalized medicine.

The CAP eCC, the electronic version of the more than 70 CAP Cancer Checklists in XML (Extensible Markup Language) format, helps health care professionals manage information, as it offers a standardized way to report cancer data electronically.

The CAP eCC advances the management and interoperability of health information through its XML format that can be integrated easily into existing pathology and cancer registry systems and also supports ever-evolving health IT platforms. They are, in part, coded with SNOMED Clinical Terms® (SNOMED CT®) that fosters multiple interdisciplinary providers to accurately communicate and share patient information within an electronic health record (EHR) system. Data can also be transmitted in real time, improving the timeliness, accuracy, and completeness of cancer reporting.

In addition, the CAP eCC, focusing directly on real-world medical content standards from physician-experts on the CAP's Cancer Committee, illustrates how technology directly supports meaningful use of patient data in the cancer-care setting.

The CAP eCC is developed in collaboration with many other organizations, including Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), American Joint Committee on Cancer (AJCC), Collaborative Staging (CS) initiative, Cancer Care Ontario (CCO), and the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR). In July 2009, the Canadian Association of Pathologists endorsed the use of the CAP Cancer Checklists, which support compliance with CCO's reporting requirements.

Expert Advice.
Expert Implementation.
Expert Education.

CAP STS (SNOMED Terminology Solutions™), a division of the College of American Pathologists (CAP), is a professional services provider with a diversified service offering related to health IT strategy and planning, clinical health information management, and health care standards. CAP STS is committed to improving patient care through the advancement of interoperable EHRs and works with provider organizations, hospitals, health IT vendors, health information exchange initiatives, universities, research centers, and government agencies throughout the world.

The CAP's DIHIT (Diagnostic Intelligence and Health Information Technology) team advances health IT standards, practices, and tools, such as the CAP Diagnostic Work Station initiative, and standardized electronic reporting, including the CAP electronic Cancer Checklists (CAP eCC).

cap.org/DIHIT

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Features

- XML format broadly adopted by health information technology (HIT) and endorsed by international standards organizations such as HL7, IHE, IHTSDO, etc
- Content includes elements from *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 7th Edition*
- Regularly scheduled content releases and updates
- Mappings encoded with SNOMED CT, LOINC® (CS v2 capable)
- Easy integration into existing pathology and cancer registry systems
- Individual laboratory practices customization

Uses

Goals

- Support and aid the pathologist in the diagnostic process
- Standardize the collection of pathology data to improve cancer reporting and research initiatives
- Advance the pathologist's role as chief diagnostician
- Improve information sharing and support interoperability and data exchange to foster a more efficient cancer reporting process
- Promote worldwide adoption and utilization of structured pathology reporting

Usability

- Cancer research
- Cancer surveillance
- Clinical practice
- Data mining
- Epidemiological reporting
- Public health
- Quality improvement
- Reimbursement
- Tissue banking

Content Update

The CAP eCC releases contain elements from the *AJCC Cancer Staging Manual 7th Edition*. The CAP Cancer Committee updates the content found within the CAP Cancer Protocols online at cap.org/cancerprotocols. The CAP eCC releases are distributed to licensees with the addition of new or updated content, technical features, or mappings.

Licensing

The CAP eCC downloadable file set is available with a CAP eCC license. Vendor integration licensing options are also available. For more information, contact us at 847-832-7700 or capecc@cap.org.

Implementation

The CAP offers a wide spectrum of technical, consultative, and education services for the optimal implementation, customization, and integration of the CAP eCC into your workflow. Our consultants can also provide guidance on how standardized reporting and XML technology can be used for other health care applications such as cardiology, public health surveillance, quality improvement, radiology, research, and tissue banking. For a demonstration of the CAP eCC, contact us at 847-832-7700 or capecc@cap.org.

The College of American Pathologists is a medical society serving more than 17,000 physician members and the laboratory community throughout the world. It is the world's largest association composed exclusively of board-certified pathologists and is widely considered the leader in laboratory quality assurance. The College is an advocate for high-quality and cost-effective patient care. For more information, visit capsts.org or write to snomedolutions@cap.org.

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