Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program

Support Contractor

How to Correct Common Schema Validation Errors for Hospitals QRDA Category I Submissions and Other Guidance

Presentation Transcript

Moderator

Artrina Sturges, EdD, MS
Project Lead, Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR)-Electronic Health Record (EHR) Incentive Program Alignment
Hospital Inpatient Value, Incentives, and Quality Reporting (VIQR)
Outreach and Education Support Contractor (SC)

Speaker(s)

Shanna Hartman, MS, RN
Nurse Consultant
Division of Electronic and Clinician Quality
Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS)

Michael Holck
Director of Software Engineering
Enterprise Science and Computing (ESAC), Inc.

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Artrina Sturges: Thank you Matt, and good afternoon everyone. My name is Artrina Sturges and I'm your host for today's event. We have a few announcements for you. This presentation is being recorded. The transcript of the presentation, along with the questions and answers will be posted to the inpatient web site which is the qualityreportingcenter.com web site and also posted to *QualityNet*. If you've registered for the event a reminder email, as well as, the link to the slides was distributed yesterday. If you did not receive the email the slides are available for download on our inpatient website, again qualityreportingcenter.com.

I'd like to introduce our speakers for today Shanna Hartman is a Nurse Consultant for the Division of Electronic and Clinician Quality for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and Michael Holck is the Director of Software Engineering for the Enterprise Science and Computing Company. I will now turn the webinar over to Shanna to introduce the purpose, objectives and topics for today.

Shanna Hartman: Hello. And thanks for joining us today. This presentation is intended to help data submitters successfully submit Quality Reporting Document Architecture (QRDA) Category I documents. This information is applicable to the following programs: The Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting (IQR) Program, and the Medicare Electronic Health Record Incentive Program for eligible hospitals and critical access hospitals.

Participants will be able to perform the following:

- Identify and correct common schema validation errors during the file submission process
- Understand the technical instructions regarding the Act Wrapper guidance and
- Learn about valid reporting of custodian IDs in the QRDA Category I file.

The topics for today's presentation are the:

- Common Clinical Document Architecture, or CDA, schema validation errors and the process for successfully testing, validating and submitting QRDA Category I documents
- The Act Wrapper guidance, as well as
- Technical guidance for valid reporting of custodian ID using CMS certification numbers, (CCNs) and QRDA Category I files for hospital quality reporting programs

And at this time, I will turn the presentation over to Michael Holck.

Michael Holck: Thank you Shanna. I am Michael Holck and I'm going to be covering the next few topics. The first topic we're going to go over is how to correct some common schema validation errors when submitting QRDA Category I files to HQR.

So, we've received several JIRA tickets due to schema validation issues. And the error message that you get back is this: "CONF: CMS_0072 the document does not conform to QRDA document format accepted by CMS." Now that error in and of itself is not a lot of help, but what it means is that your XML structure has some sort of a problem in it and it's not following the schema validation that needs to happen for a QRDA document. So, we're going to talk a little bit about what that means. We're going to talk about how you can check that yourself if you want to. And then we're also going to talk about some of the very common schema validation issues that come up and how to correct them.

So first off, a little explanation for why this even matters. So, the QRDA standard is an implementation of the CDA standard. Which means that a QRDA document that's being submitted to CMS must also be a valid CDA document, and that's the Clinical Document Architecture is what CDA stands for, and they're both standards from HL7. And so CDA has defined a schema, this CDA standard data type schema, and you must comply with that schema rules when you submit a QRDA document. Now

when you download the QRDA standard from HL7, you go to HL7 and get the QRDA Category I document that includes the implementation guide, the schematron, the sample files and it includes this schema that we're talking about here. And this link at the bottom of the slide actually takes you to the HL7 site where you can download the base standard for QRDA I. So, when you download that base standard, you also get the CDA schema that comes with the standard. It does not get distributed with the CMS version of the implementation guide, only with HL7 base implementation guide.

When you download that schema, it is a zip file. And when you extract that out, there are several excess e-files, eight of them to be exact, zipped up in that file and it has a very well-defined directory structure. So, you can take that zip file and extract it out wherever you would like on your computer. But once you've done that, don't move the individual XSD files around because they reference each other. And they reference each other in this relative directory structure so you have to leave them all in the same directory. Where you put it is up to you but just don't move the individual files after you extract it out. And on this slide I've got a screenshot just showing kind of the structure. So, schema and there's CDA, there's an infrastructure and a process for directory and then there's CDA and of course, schema after that. So that is how it should look when you extract it out, if you want to use the schema for validation. So, the main schema file that you actually really care about is the CDA_SDTC.xsd that's the primary file. It references the other XSD that are included within it, but the one that you want to actually use when you do validation, is that CDA_SDTC.xsd. And on this slide again the same screenshot from before but it is highlighting that file.

So, what I'm going to show next is if you have that schema and you have an XML editing tool, you can actually do your own schema validation in your QRDA files. And I'm going to show you how to do that with one XML tool called OxygenXML. And that just happens to be the XML tool that we use when we do any kind of XML editing or schema validation. But most XML editing tools have the ability to do schema validation for

you. And if you don't have an XML tool, there are several out there available. Most of them are commercial products. You can get a trial of them if you're only going to use it for a short period of time. But they do cost a little bit of money. So, in some cases if you don't have the tools and you're not willing to go get them, then you can submit tickets through the ONC JIRA, which I we'll talk about a little bit later and will do the same kind of validation for you. But, if you wanted to do your own schema validation, with an XML tool, that's what we're going to cover next. So, the first step is to open your XML file that you're trying to validate in the tool.

And so, this next slide is just a screenshot. It shows OxygenXML running on a Mac, in this case, with a QRDA document open in the tool. And you can see the QRDA document right there.

So, with that document open, to do the validation, you would go to the menu. Select Document>Validate>Validate With. And I'll show this on the next slide as well. And then that will pop up a window and ask you, "What do you want to validate this document with?" The field that you're going to fill out is called the URL field. And you're going to browse to that CDA_SDTC.xsd file that we showed earlier, that you downloaded from HL7 site to extract the data to. And then the schema type is XML schema. It should default to that, but if it doesn't you'll want to select schema type of XML schema and then you hit the Ok button. Now the next slide is showing that process. We'll go through a couple of slides to show that process.

Again, we have the document opened in Oxygen. We go to the menu we hit Document>Validate>Validate With.

And then that brings us to "Validate With" dialogue to ask you what you want to validate this document with. And the highlighted field there is the URL field. And that's where you will browse to where that CDA_SDTC.xsd file is on your computer. And then schema type right below it is XML schema. Then you hit Ok.

What this will do, it will actually validate your XML document against that schema. And so, it'll go find any errors. If it does not find anything, it will just report "Successful Validation." But if it does find errors, then at the bottom of the page, there will be a list of the errors in the file. In this screenshot that I'm showing here, you can see this has Info Description- eight items. That means there was eight errors in this particular file, and we can see the first four there listed. And if you're in the editor, you can click on any of those errors and it will actually take you to that line in the XML document where that's happened. That can be very helpful if you're trying to fix an XML document that doesn't comply, not only seeing here, but being able to click on that line and go directly to that line in your file to see what's going out there, can be helpful. The errors you get back will tell you some of the information about what's wrong with that particular file, but, you know, you may need more context than that. And again, if you can't figure out how to fix it from that, you're always welcome to open a ticket through the ONC JIRA. But we're going to talk about some of the more common ones that we've seen, coming up here shortly, and how to fix them.

So, the three most common errors that we've seen, and we've had several JIRA tickets on each one of these particular errors, are:

1. Value elements with no xsi:type. (And I'll explain on the next slide exactly, some more details on what that means exactly.)

2. The value elements with invalid attributes and

3. Then duplicated ID elements.

Those are the three most common errors we see and so I'm going to go through and kind of show what those look like as an error, and how to fix them.

So, the first one is value elements with no xsi:type. So, in the CDA schema, <value> is defined as an abstract data type because when you provide a value in a QRDA document, or a CDA document, you can provide values that are integer values, they could be real values, they

could stream values, in some cases you might use a PQ value, which is a physical quantity where you're saying a value end unit, or you may use a coded data type. So, value is declared as abstract. So that means when you use it in an actual QRDA document, you have to tell it what type of value you're passing, what is the type of that value you're going to pass? So, on the first bullet there usually when the value is done as a number, people seem to do that correctly. They'll put the value as two and they'll know to put the xsi:type as an integer, in this case. It seems when it's a number value people seem to do it fairly well. The thing that most frequently we see, as being incorrect, is when the value, they don't have a value, so they're going to pass a nullFlavor for that value. It's an N/A or not available, we don't have a value for that particular element. But again, since value is an abstract data type, if you just pass "no value" like is shown on the left here under the incorrect, it will not validate because it doesn't know what kind of a value you're passing. You have to give it xsi:type designation to all values. So, on the right-hand side is the corrected version of that document where we gave it an xsi:type of ST, which stands for "strength." Now for null value it actually doesn't matter what type you put in, you just have to have something there, but since the NA is a stream, we recommend you use xsi:type ST for "strength." So, if you get this error, this CMS_0072 invalid document error, one thing you can go look at is, do you have values that don't have xsi:type? Particularly if you're using nullFlavor for a value. That seems to be a very common error.

The second error we see a lot is when people are using again, the same element value and they've given it a specified xsi:type but they use the wrong attributes with it. So, when you specify xsi:type on a value the type you specify will determine what attributes that element can have. If you put an "int" as the xsi:type the only thing you can have as a value then is a number. If you put real same thing you can only have a value that is a number but it has to be a real number. When you use some of the types like PQ, I mentioned that earlier is physical quantity. So, if you're passing something, perhaps you're doing a value for a medication that was administered, and so you want to say the value, the number of milliliters

perhaps, and then the units would be milliliters, so physical quantity has two attributes value and unit. There are other types that have different attributes like coded data type a (CD) has a code system, and a code and a display name. So, you have to be careful with when you put the right xsi:type to know what attributes can go on that field. Sometimes we see people do that where they put the wrong attributes. So we'll show an example on the next slide.

So, on the left-hand side where it's incorrect, we do have a value being provided, that has an xsi:type of PQ, which is physical quantity, which means it can have a value and a unit and we do see that we see a value and we see a unit, but what we also see is an additional attribute. There's a code system and a code system name, a display name, and those are not valid attributes for a xsi:type of PQ. So, when we see this error all you have to do is go remove the extra attributes and then you'll validate correctly. So again, if you get that error you might look at your values and see are you putting in the correct attributes for the type of value that you had. Below is a screenshot from if you were in Oxygen, for example, as I showed earlier and you did schema validation against that file, this is the list of errors you would get at the bottom of the page. This just tells you that code system, code system name, code, and display name, and SUTC value set that are not valid attributes for that particular element when it's in xsi:type of PQ. So, remove the extra attributes and it will validate just fine.

Okay the third issue we see quite a bit is duplicated ID elements. So, the ID which, is at the top here on both the incorrect and the correct, is a root value with a unique code to it. And an ID is usually required for almost every one of the templates within QRDA. And some templates do allow multiple IDs, but they must be in the correct location. That means it's usually right at the very front of the template the first element in there is the ID. What we see a lot is for some reason, there seems to be a duplication happening. It's probably a bug in one of the EHR systems that's generating the QRDA that's doing that, but it'll put the ID again later down in the template. So, if you look on the one on the left-hand side

we've got ID at the top and then you've got status code, effective time and then after effective time we see ID repeated again. It's the exact same value, the same root and everything, nothing has changed it's just repeated. But because it's in an invalid location it will give an error in the schema validation. So, to correct that, just remove the duplicated ID. So that's another one, if you do get that CMS_0072 error one thing you might want to go check through your documents is, do you see duplicated IDs happening within a single template within QRDA and if so you just remove the duplicate and that'll fix it.

Okay so that is the whole review of the schema validation. Schema validation if you want to do it yourself you can get XML tools to do it. And those are the three most common schema validation errors we see and how to fix them. The next topic I'm going to cover is the Act Wrapper guidance that we gave earlier this year for how to use the proper Act Wrappers in QRDA submissions.

So, a little background on this. CMS did issue technical guidance for QRDA Category I submissions for eCQM reporting, for Hospital Inpatient Quality Reporting and Medicare EHR Incentive Programs for both EHs and CAHs and that guidance is only for 2017 QRDA Category I.

The issue here is that for implementers to have their eCQMs calculated correctly, they have to use the proper QRDA templates for the QDM data types, and the Quality Data Model is what QDM stands for. And unfortunately, in 2017 there was no validation check to make sure that you put the template in the correct wrapper so there are a certain set of templates that I'm going to talk about shortly, that must be wrapped with another type of template. And I'll explain the reason why we do that as well. But if you don't do that, you don't get an error, because nothing is checking that that happened so you'll submit your QRDA, it'll look like it validated fine. But there may be elements, including encounters, that don't get counted because they're not being found by the calculation, the measure calculation. So to make sure that your measure calculation engine finds all your elements properly they must be in the correct format. The issue applies to any QRDAs that are using the following QDM data types.

So that is diagnosis, device order, encounter order, encounter performed, transfer from and transfer to. So, the reason this all came about is because there are times where you want to explicitly negate one of these things. So, we got encounter performed. If the encounter was performed you use an encounter element and you put the rest of the information in there and everything is fine, it works. But there were times in certain measures where you want to specifically state that an encounter was not performed. And to do that typically you would add a negation indicator to the element to say this encounter was negated, not performed, you'd put a negation indicator attribute of two. And that would indicate that there was an encounter that was not performed. However, in the CDA schema which we've talked about earlier, QRDA is an implementation of CDA, so we have to follow the CDA rules. In the CDA schema they don't all allow negation indicator attribute on the elements for diagnosis, device order, encounter order and encounter performed and the transfer from and transfer to. So, there was no way to provide that negation, there was no way to specifically say the encounter was not performed. So, what we ended up doing was coming up with a wrapper.

So, in HL7 QRDA Category I, STU 3.1, we used an Act class to essentially wrap those data elements because the Act class does allow that negation indicator wrapper, indicator attribute, to wrap the elements. So it's an Act Wrapper that just wraps the element. And I'll show you on the next slide an example of an encounter without it and an encounter with it. But submitters are advised to actively ensure that they are using the correct Act Wrappers for those QDM datatypes. If you submit an encounter without the encounter performed Act Wrapper around it, it will not see that encounter performed in the measure calculation, whether it's negated or not. So, you do need to make sure you wrap them with the Act Wrappers.

So, on this slide I show, on the left-hand side, we see an encounter performed example without the Act Wrapper. So there's an encounter element, template ID, IDs, all of the data that would go with that encounter. And if you submitted this you would not get any kind of an

error. There would be nothing to tell you that this is not going to get calculated in the calculation. But for it to properly get found by the measure calculation engine, you must have the Act Wrapper around the encounter. So, on the right-hand side, we see with the Act Wrapper, so at the top here where it's highlighted with the red box there's the new Act class. It's got a template ID, an ID and then a code that specifically says this Act is a wrapper of an encounter. And then the entry relationship and then the encounter element is the exact same data that existed before, it's just wrapped by this little Act Wrapper template. And then if we wanted to say this was an encounter that was not performed you could put the negation indicator attribute on that act element at the very top and that would indicate it will not performed. And that was the reason the Act Wrappers were done was so that we had the ability to negate things like this. If you put an indication indicator on the encounter element itself it will fail validation.

Okay, so that's the Act Wrapper guidance. Additional guidance that was given for 2017 reporting of QRDA I, is the use of CCNs from the custodian of QRDA document. So, I'm going to talk about that next.

So, CMS did issue technical guidance for vendors and submitters that if you're going to submit QRDA I documents you must use custodian ID of CCN, that's the CMS certification. CCN is required for QRDA I files for HQR. And this guidance affects 2017 submissions for QRDA Category I for Hospital IQR Program and Medicare EHR Incentive Program for EHs and CAHs.

The issue is, is that in the header of the QRDA document you have an element that's called custodian it has an assignedCustodian/representedCustodianOrganization/id element. And that ID element has to be the CCN for the organization that is submitting the data for QRDA. And a CCN is required to be six to 10 characters. It cannot be shorter than six and it can't be longer than 10 characters in length. So, there was a check put in to make sure that that ID was between six to 10 characters. The problem we found out is that in the base standard of QRDA, we allow you to put other identifiers for custodian. In addition

to putting the CCN, you could put in a TIN or an NPI or some other identifier for your hospital per the standard that was allowed. The problem is that the check we put in to check CCN, to be six to 10 characters, applies to all of those IDs. And so, if you put in a TIN that was longer than 10 characters it would fail the validation and say your CCN is not valid. Even though your CCN may still be in there and may be valid.

So, the guidance that we provided was to only use the CCN number for the custodian QRDA document. So, this is the full X passive where you would find a custodian/assignedCustodian/representedCustodianOrganization/id. So that ID should only be a CCN. Even though the base standard says you can provide additional identifiers in there, to be safe, only use the CCN. That is the only identifier that the HQR receiving system is looking for, and that's the only validator ID it needs. So only provide the CCN.

And on this slide I've got an example showing on the left-hand side, where we have custodian/assignedCustodian/representedCustodianOrganization/id and then ID is a CCN, 800890, which is actually a test CCN, but it is still within the six to 10 character limit, so that would pass validation. On the right-hand side, we threw in another identifier, a TIN identifier, and it is more than 10 characters, and so if you submitted this, you would get an error saying that your CCN was invalid. Even though the CCN above it is still correct, it's because you have an additional identifier in there that is longer than six characters that's getting marked as invalid. So again, the guidance is to only provide the CCN for the custodian. Don't provide any other identifiers.

Okay, some helpful resources. The eCQI Resource Center has a QRDA Space. If you go there, there's a lot of information about QRDA in general. QRDA is the standard. It has links to the implementation guide, to the specifications, sample files, schematrons, it has links to HL7, where you can get the base standards as well. And it also has detailed guidance and examples for these specific things that we went over. So, the guidance for CCN being the only identifier, the guidance for how to use Act

Wrappers. All of that is available on the eCQI Resource Center as well. So it's a good resource to go to if you have any questions. I had mentioned a couple of times the ONC JIRA tracker. That second resource there is the JIRA tracker. If you get an error back, like the CMS_0072, and you don't have an XML editor to do your own validation, you can always open a ticket through that ONC JIRA, and then we will take that file. If you open a ticket through that, if you can put a sample file of what's getting the error, but without PHI in it, that would be even helpful. That is an open site so we can't have [Protected] Health Information in the file. So, if you can take the PHI out of the file, and attach the file, then we can do the validation for you and tell you exactly what the error is, on what line and how to correct it. Again, if you have other issues coming back with submissions that are failing, you can open tickets through that JIRA tracker as well. In addition, *QualityNet* has their own support group. So, if you're getting something that's more specific to the *QualityNet* data, when you do the submission, you can also open a ticket through *QualityNet*. And if you open one through JIRA and it needs to go to *QualityNet*, we'll forward it on. If you open one on through *QualityNet* that needs to come to us, through JIRA, they'll forward it us. So one way or another, you should be able to get an answer to your question. And that's all I have. Thank you very much.

Artrina Sturges: Well thank you very much Michael. And at this time what we'd like to do is start taking some of the questions that have been entered into the chat box. And for those of you who have had some time to think through some questions during this time please feel free to go ahead and put those questions in for us and we'll just read them as they're received. All right so we'll start with the first question, "What if we are using a vendor to submit our eCQMs? Would they be the ones doing or performing the validation activity?"

Michael Holck: Yes. So yes, typically that's true. Most of the vendors will have gone through some sort of testing when they did their QRDA implementation. There are tools available for vendors and any submitters who are trying to generate QRDA documents before they actually do official submissions.

There's the Cypress tool, which you can use with test files that don't include PHI and it does the same kind of validation against the file and gives you errors back. There's also the PSVA tool through *QualityNet* that you can use for testing that. So hopefully if your vendor is the one that's generating your QRDA files, they have gone through some of those, using those tools to do that validation and to make sure that they're generating good QRDA documents. Although it is not impossible that they could still have an error in there, so that when you submit you would get an error back and then you could contact your vendor and ask them to look into it. If you get that CMS_0072 validation error back you can tell your vendor that, that means they're failing CDA schema and have them go try to investigate why that is. Usually they should have XML tools to do that but if not, again they can open tickets through the ONC JIRA like anybody else.

Artrina Sturges: Thank you Michael. A related question for that, "Are there any free tools to perform the schema validation activity?"

Michael Holck: Yes. So, most of the tools that I've seen that do the good schema validation are commercial tools. There's the OxygenXML that I showed in this presentation. On Windows platform, a common one is XML5. But those are both commercial tools that do that. There are several open sources, free XML tools out there, but many of them don't perform the schema validation for you, you have to do a little bit of coding yourself. So, you can get evaluation versions of Oxygen and XML5. So, if all you need to do is validate a couple of documents for a trial period of 30 days, you can do that and you can get a trial from there to do that and then you don't have to end up buying the tool if you're not going to use it beyond that. But if there are open source ones I'm not aware of the schema validation. If somebody finds one let me know. I'll be happy to investigate it, make sure that it does do the validation correctly, and then I can even update this for future reference and show how to do it in an open source tool. But right now, I'm not aware of any open source tools that properly do schema validation.

Artrina Sturges: Thank you Michael. The next question we have is, "The presentation stresses that this is only for 2017 reporting. So, does that mean that these issues will not exist for 2018 reporting?"

Michael Holck: Yes that is correct. So, the two guidances that we gave for Act Wrapper and CCN, we didn't have checks in the schematron and the validation rules that happened as part of the submission for 2017. But in 2018 we have added rules that check, so if the Act Wrapper guidance, if you don't include the wrapper in 2017 right now, you don't get an error, but you have data that doesn't get recognized. In 2018 if you don't include the wrapper you will actually get an error that will tell you that a specific element needs to be wrapped by an Act Wrapper. So that one has been fixed you will see that, same thing with the CCN. The issue in 2017, was that we are validating all IDs to be six to 10 characters and that's why we recommend only doing the CCN. But for 2018 we did change the rule to check the specific root of that identifier and make sure that it's only checking six to 10 characters for CCNs only, and other IDs it will not do the check against. So that would be fixed as well. You may still get CMS_0072 errors in 2018 because again that's a schema validation error. So, you if you still have something wrong with your file you may still get that error in 2018 and you could do the same process to fix it. But the two guidances that we provided will not be an issue in 2018.

Artrina Sturges: Very good, thank you. An additional question we received in regards to the Bonnie tool, that there's additional information there. The question is, "Has anyone used Bonnie and have you received any feedback about how to use it and how does it stand up against the one that you mention such as Oxygen?"

Michael Holck: So I am familiar with the Bonnie tool but I don't – I'm not sure of the context of the question. Bonnie is really a tool for validating measures so it does generate QRDA files out of it, but it is not an XML validator per se. So, I'm not sure you could use Bonnie to do the XML validation. It's not equivalent to Oxygen or XML5. It is a good resource for measure developers to test their measures. And they can generate QRDA files from it, but it is not something that does schema validation.

Artrina Sturges: Very good, thank you. One additional question it's regarding the Act Wrapper and the CCN. The question is, "Did the changes for quarter four 2017, I believe they're referring to the annual updates, did that solve the rule issues for Act Wrapper and CCN?"

Michael Holck: No, it did not. We did not change the actual validation logic in the schematron for 2017 for Act Wrapper and CCN. That's why we provided that guidance instead. That was to try to make sure to tell people how to do it correctly because there isn't rules that'll check that. So, 2017 still does not have that fix. The new changes in Q4 did not change that validation logic.

Artrina Sturges: Very good, thank you. The next question is, "If we have an issue with a generated QRDA I file and we manually correct it, is that still valid for CMS reporting?"

Michael Holck: I don't know. Shanna, do you want to respond to that?

Shanna Hartman: Hi. This is Shanna. If you manually correct the error and it passes the schematron, I believe that would be acceptable, however I guess I'm not - I would need more information on what you are manually fixing. You would not be able to manually manipulate data that came out of the EHR because that data would have to come from a certified EHR technology to meet program requirements.

Michael Holck: So I guess if you're fixing something that was an error that we told you how to fix, like in this session here or through a JIRA ticket, then if you manually correct it that's probably okay, but yea just other manual edits may not be.

Artrina Sturges: Very good, thank you both. "For the value element, you said it must have an xsi:type and that determines the attribute. Is there somewhere that lists all the valid types and their attributes?"

Michael Holck: Yes. So, as I had stated before, QRDA is an implementation of CDA, the Clinical Document Architecture. And so, on the HL7 site, you can go get the Clinical Document Architecture Implementation Guide. And in that, it

has a document, it has all of the xsi:types that are valid for the value element. It also has all of the elements that are valid in a CDA document, what attributes are allowed on each of those, so all that is documented there. So, you can go to HL7.org to get that, the CDA standard.

Artrina Sturges: Very good, thank you. The next question is, "The resources that have been pushed out or shared with us on errors have been very helpful, but I have multiple warnings that don't appear in any of those resources. Is there a separate resource available anywhere that have the warning conformance goals or CONF codes listed and how to correct them?"

Michael Holck: So yes. The implementation guides, both the CMS one and the base QRDA I, HL7 guidance, all have all of the rules that are being validated. And as it explains in that guide, if it's a conformance statement that says, "Shall/You shall have this," then that is an error. If you do not have it, you'll get an error back that you have to fix that to be able to submit. If a conformance statement is instead a "Should" conformance statement, then that's a warning. "Should" is kind of a best practice. "You should include this data," but if you don't, it won't fail validation and it won't fail submission, you'll just get a warning back. So, in the implementation guide anything that is a conformance statement with a "should" are those warning conformance statements. Although I will say, that you may not be able to get rid of all your warnings because some of the things that it says you should do you may not have data for, or it may not even make sense to put in to your document, so you don't really need to worry so much about the warnings, they're kind of a best practice guidance. But they're not something that's going to prevent submission. So errors are the only thing that prevents submissions and keeps you from submitting. So those are the ones you really need to make sure to fix. The warnings, if you want to go try to fix them that's fine, and they are documented in the implementation guide but it's not required that you pass without any warnings.

Artrina Sturges: Very good, thank you. The next question is, "Where can we obtain an XSD file?"

Michael Holck: Okay. So, I think I mentioned in the early part of the presentation but if you go to get a base standard from HL7, the QRDA I base standard for HL7, and in one of my slides I had the link to that site. You can also go to the Resource Center, as I mentioned, as a resource that had links to all of the documentation including the HL7 right? But when you download the base HL7 QRDA I standard from HL7 it includes the implementation guide, the schematron, a sample file and it also includes that schema as a zip file. So, you'll see a CDASPCC zip file. And that includes that schema file along with all the other schema files that it references, so you can get that from HL7.

Artrina Sturges: Thank you. And the next question is, "Will *QualityNet* evaluate the QRDA I CMS program name so for example HQR_EHR, HQR_IQR or HQR_EHR_IQR to determine if the submission was for IQR, Meaningful Use, or both or does the electronic submission automatically count for both IQR and Meaningful Use regardless of the program name in the QRDA I file?"

Michael Holck: Well I do believe that the submission system does look at the program name to figure out which program you are submitting for, but I don't know if, Shanna if you have any additional context to that?

Shanna Hartman: I believe they do validate but I don't know if anyone on the call is from the receiving system that can verify that. If not, we can get back to you on the answer.

Artrina Sturges: Hey Shanna, this is Artrina, I might be able to give a little light on this one. In terms of the program name for calendar year 2017, it is not being validated, so to speak. So even though it may track where you, you know, want to submit the files, there's no issue of it being if you use something different for it, it'll understand that it's QRDA, it understands that it will still process and then it will still process for IQR. And then any aligned credit for the measures that are available for the 15 of the 16 that you may use, it will still provide, you know, credit for that for Meaningful Use if those files are successfully submitted. What we do recommend though, in terms of a best practice, is get into the habit now of putting those files in

for the proper program name as you intend, so that when they do start to validate against that and if they do perform specific checks for that, then you already have that habit established and you don't have to worry about it later. So hopefully that's helpful to anyone who has that additional thoughts on that. And again, if you need to follow-up with us feel free to do so.

An additional question, one of our customer EHR systems, I'm sorry let me start over. It looks like there was an observation made within their EHR system that the emergency encounter departure date is greater than the inpatient admission date. And they're asking in this scenario it looks like it is possible, but when they're submitting the test file to CMS they're getting errors and if it's not included into the initial population for the ED1 and the ED2 measure and they're asking how this can be resolved?

Shanna Hartman: Hi. So, this is Shanna. And this sounds like something that would need to be resolved with your particular vendor and how they are capturing the data elements for emergency encounter, departure and inpatient admission date. It sounds to me like probably a work flow issue.

Artrina Sturges: Very good. Thank you, Shanna. And at this time that seems to conclude the volume of questions. We'll wait just maybe another 30 seconds or so to see if anyone else has any other questions they'd like to enter into the chat tool. And I haven't seen any additional questions come in so we'll go ahead and we'll continue on with our continuing education information. Thank you.

Deb Price: Thank you. This event has been approved for one continuing education credit. You must report your own credit to your respective boards. Complete your survey and then register for your certificate. Registration is automatic and instantaneous therefore if you do not get a response right away there is a firewall blocking your link. You will need to register as a New User using your personal email and phone number. If you are a New User or have had any problems getting your credit use a New User link. If you have not had any issues getting your credits use the Existing User link. Thank you for joining us today. We hope you learned something. All

questions will be answered and posted on our qualityreportingcenter.com website at a later date. Enjoy the rest of your day. Goodbye.