



FAQ – Referral

How to indicate a problem/diagnosis has been resolved when the date of resolution is unknown?

9 July 2018 v2.0

Approved for external use

Document ID: DH-2726:2018

Background

The Service Referral SCS includes a “Date of Resolution/Remission” field which is defined in the DCM as “the date or estimated date that the problem/diagnosis resolved or went into remission.”

In the CDA implementation guide, this is mapped to an observation with code “103.15510” in the code system “1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101”, with an observation value that is a date time, as shown below:

```
<entryRelationship typeCode="SUBJ">
  <observation classCode="OBS" moodCode="EVN">
    <code code="103.15510"
      codeSystem="1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101"
      displayName="Date of Resolution/Remission" />
    <value value="27042011" xsi:type="TS" />
  </observation>
</entryRelationship>
```

In practice, many existing clinical systems do not record the date of resolution/remission, but only a flag that indicates that the problem has been resolved.

Clinical safety note

It is important to note that the meaning of the “resolved” flag is ambiguous: it may mean that the problem has been resolved, or only that it is in remission, or not currently an active concern. The nature of the resolution depends on the type of condition. For example, most problems/diagnoses such as gastric ulcer, duodenal ulcer, angina pectoris, etc. are episodic in nature and have long term or lifelong implications for continuing management of the patient.

Implementers should be aware of this ambiguity, since there are obvious clinical safety issues. For instance, if the problem list is presented to the treating clinician in a clinical dashboard as two separate lists – a “past medical history” list and a “current medical history” list – the clinician may not realise the ambiguities

involved. In addition, a decision support engine might ignore problems or diagnoses marked with obvious clinical safety implications.

This FAQ does not resolve such ambiguities; it only describes how to represent the flag for the problem diagnosis being resolved.

Representation

The representation of the problem resolved flag is similar to that for “Date of Resolution/Remission”, as shown below:

```
<entryRelationship typeCode="SUBJ">
  <observation classCode="OBS" moodCode="EVN">
    <code code="103.15517"
      codeSystem="1.2.36.1.2001.1001.101"
      displayName="Active Status" />
    <value value="true" xsi:type="BL" />
  </observation>
</entryRelationship>
```

This fragment goes in the CDA document in exactly the same space as the first fragment on the previous page.

The CDA path (from the CDA Implementation guide) is:

ClinicalDocument/component/structuredBody/component

[med_hist]/section/entry[prob]/observation/

Note that:

- The entryRelationship is attached to the observation that represents the problem or diagnosis.
- The active status flag takes the place of the date of resolution/remission; a date observation (code 103.15510) and a status observation (code 103.15517) are not to be provided together.
- The meaning of the status flag and the date are tied together.
 - If there is a date of resolution, the “active status” is implied to be false.
 - If neither a date nor a flag are provided, the “active status” is unknown, and it must be understood that the problem may not be resolved or be in remission.

Publication date: 9 July 2018

Australian Digital Health Agency ABN 84 425 496 912, Level 25, 56 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW 2000 www.digitalhealth.gov.au
Telephone 1300 901 001 or email help@digitalhealth.gov.au

Disclaimer

The Australian Digital Health Agency (“the Agency”) makes the information and other material (“Information”) in this document available in good faith but without any representation or warranty as to its accuracy or completeness. The Agency cannot accept any responsibility for the consequences of any use of the Information. As the Information is of a general nature only, it is up to any person using or relying on the Information to ensure that it is accurate, complete and suitable for the circumstances of its use.

Document control

This document is maintained in electronic form and is uncontrolled in printed form. It is the responsibility of the user to verify that this copy is the latest revision.

Copyright © 2018 Australian Digital Health Agency

This document contains information which is protected by copyright. All Rights Reserved. No part of this work may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means – graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, or information storage and retrieval systems – without the permission of the Australian Digital Health Agency. All copies of this document must include the copyright and other information contained on this page.

OFFICIAL

Acknowledgements

Council of Australian Governments

The Australian Digital Health Agency is jointly funded by the Australian Government and all state and territory governments.