

# **Northern California Vascular Quality Initiative (VQI) Data Managers Meeting**

**San Francisco Marriott Union Square, 480 Sutter St, San Francisco, CA, 94180**

**10/29/2015**

## **Minutes**

Introductions and welcome to all and new members

Attendees included: Carrie Bosella, Shawna Freeman, Joyce Nacario, Marsha McRorie, Kay Behan, Pat Cefalu, Cindi Matsumoto, Sandi Wong, Scott Kronenberg

Sandi is new and has not yet start enrolling cases. This is also Joyce's first meeting.

Carrie provided the follow information to the group:

- Informed the group that in the resource tab in the registry there is now a link mapping the ICD9 to ICD 10 procedure codes
- Advised to keep a spread sheet of all excluded cases. This will make it easier at the time of annual validation to review and explain why the cases were not included in the registry
- Sites can go to the Epic Community Library and search VQI templates
- VQI has increased staffing support: Administrative support for Carrie is Megan Mathy, there is now Director of Analytics and a Director of Quality

**Current status of the Northern California VSG Data Managers: Leadership and roles:** Much discussion was had about the structure of the group. Thus far the leadership has been an informal combined effort on the part of Stanford and UC Davis, (Kay, Scott and Carlos). Scott can longer support this role. Kay and Cindi will take over leadership in the interim (April 2016) and then the group can reassess, and open it to the group if anyone is interested in taking on this role, or take it to a vote. The expectation is the NCVSG leadership (currently Dr. Dalman) will change in the Spring of 2016 also, and it would be good if the Data Manager (DM) leadership and the NCVSG leadership were at the same site. Going forward we would get a copy of the bylaws from Carrie for the NCVSG and review. The group was in agreement with this plan.

The question of funding for regional groups came up and Carrie said every Vascular Group is independent and is supported by member dues. SVS/PSO said no, at the last strategic meeting to the provision of funds for regional groups. The Data Managers have been invited to the NCVSG meetings.

## **Work flow**

A general discussion was had about workflow at each site. Work flow is variable, with some sites having the physicians use the templates and the data manually abstracted by the analyst staff, at some sites the physicians enter directly into the procedure tab in the registry, others still communicating directly with the physician to get the information, ( especially the imaging information). UCSF uses an excel spreadsheet with the VQI drop down options. The NP or fellows fill out the excel spreadsheet and send it back to Joyce. All sites represented at the Data Managers' meeting use Epic except Marin and they use McKesson.

## **Physician Reports**

Carrie said that 3 physician reports went out in the last 3 months. Each physician at the site can see their individual reports but others providers are de-identified. This is a stipulation of the PSO that there is no publication of data. De-identification can occur only if a waiver is signed by each physician at a particular site and is endorsed by 100% of the physician group. Then the site will get reports with physicians identified. One site in the group has done this.

## **Data Submission Dates**

Carrie reviewed the bi annual submission dates. June 1<sup>st</sup> and Jan 1<sup>st</sup> (for the cases within the last 18-months), sites should know the number of completed and submitted cases. If not all cases for the time period are included, consideration should be given to this when reviewing the reports. Individual institutions can set internal goals to complete cases for a certain time-frame for the data submission cutoffs.

## **Long Term Follow Up (LTFU)**

On Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2015 VQI will pull follow up data for all cases done in 2013 as this will have been the completion of the 9-21 month follow up period.

New required fields will be issue in 2016 for LTFU as currently there are no required fields and data can be submitted without validation. There will be more to follow on this topic. It continues to be a challenge for many sites.

## **Templates and Registry Updates**

The group discussed that promoting the use of templates is challenging because of the number and frequency of additions to the individual registries. New updates to TEVAR and EVAR were being released today. Cindi stated that creating smart texts, with smart lists and then making it a smart phrases can make it less cumbersome to update the templates. The issue with SmartPhrases is that the data still needs to be manually abstracted and entered into the Registry. The data in SmartPhrases are not discrete. Decreasing the number of changes and a different alert would be helpful.

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**MedStream for Varicose Vein Registry (VVR)** Carrie discussed this as a potential option as a direct interface for demographic data for the vein registry. Defer to Carrie for more information here.

## **New Analytic Tool**

Shawna and Carrie demonstrated the new analytics tool which allows for drill down on individual patients. Risk adjusted reports are being developed. Because VQI is a Patient Safety Organization (PSO), can't publish comparative data. The reports will also have the option of being exported with the coded number or the descriptor. Carrie reminded the group that for statistical analysis, the report would need to be exported with numbers. The changes to the reports are projected to go live right before Q1 2016.

## **Website Development for Regional Groups**

M2S is now providing support for website development for each of the regional groups. Nancy Heatley is the contact at M2s. Need to coordinate with the physicians as to how we do this and what to post on the site. Need to review existing sites for other Vascular Study Groups. I have embedded that list here, copied from the VQI website.

## **Regional Quality Group Websites**

**The following Regional Quality Groups currently have websites:**

- [Vascular Study Group of New England](#)
- [Southeastern Vascular Study Group](#)
- [Southern California Vascular Outcomes Improvement Collaborative](#)
- [Mid-America Vascular Study Group](#)
- [Vascular Study Group of Greater New York](#)
- [Midwest Vascular Collaborative](#)
- [Mid-Atlantic Vascular Study Group](#)
- [Virginias Vascular Study Group](#)

## **Structure of the Data Managers group**

Data Managers will report issues and questions to Data Manager Group Leaders (was Scott and Kay and is now Kay and Cindi). The Data Manager Leaders then report the issues/questions to Carrie. Carrie takes the issues to the National calls.

## **Questions discussed:**

Current patency – the definition is changing in January

## **Next National Meeting**

June 8-11, 2016. Would it be better to have the Data Managers' meeting on Wednesday (6/8) or Saturday (6/11)?