Content Governance for the CDSC

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Overview

• Why governance became an issue
• Content Governance Committee
• Challenges
• Results to date
• Future plans
Why governance became an issue

Based on Partners experience with shepherding CDSC research content into the LMR, there emerged two concerns about implementing rules at other collaborating institutions.

– How would similar governance challenges at the other sites be handled locally?
– How to promote fair and equitable inter-institutional governance?
Content Governance Committee

• Convened Jan 6, 2009

• Membership: at least one physician (preferably IT-active) from each site (“clinical champions”):
  – PHS – S Maviglia, A Wright, L. Tsurikova, C. Kucera, M. Kim, Z. Turechek, J. Miller
  – Regenstrief – L Simionitis
  – UMDNJ (GE) – F Sonnenberg
  – MidValley IPA (NextGen) – G Fraser
  – Kaiser – M Krall
  – VA Health Administration – M Burton, J Saleem, Nareesa Muhammed
## Challenges Encountered

| Early | 1. Initial skepticism and unfamiliarity with each other  
|       | 2. Defining CGC’s role with respect to the CDSC steering committee  
|       |   • advisory vs policy setting vs policy enforcing |
| Middle| 1. Bottom-up vs. top-down content development  
|       |   • is the portal a "library" or a "certified corpus" of content  
|       |   • how to accommodate local customization? |
|       | 2. Desire for quality ratings, but reluctance to be judges  
|       |   • Formal evaluation vs procedural vs empiric methods  
|       | 3. Protecting intellectual property while promoting sharing and collaboration  
|       | 4. Pushback on identifying “top 200 rules” -- What is the unit of comparison? |
| Late  | 1. Enthusiasm  
|       | 2. Uncertainty about years 3-5 |
Base Year 1-2 Accomplishments

- Ratified a charter which defined mission, roles, and responsibilities, voting procedures, etc.
- Analyzed “similar” rules from each of our institutions (DM, CAD, HTN)
  - Bulk of rules very similar – ex. Promote regular HgbA1c measurements in diabetics
  - Significant variation in details
    - How diabetes is defined
    - Exclusion criteria
    - Threshold to trigger alerts
- Completed vignettes of local CDS governance policies
- Completed survey of local CDS knowledge management processes and tools
- Settled adhoc issues of controversy – ex. metadata value sets, definition and names of the content specification levels, etc.
- Provided Optional Year 3-5 project proposals
Emerging Governance Policy: Development & Submission

• Submission of content is voluntary
• Submitted content may be any level (1-4)
• Content may be co-developed by any subset of the CDSC membership, but all submitted content must be endorsed by at least one CGC representative with voting rights
Policy: Rights and Protections

Other CGC members are licensed to use and make derivatives of content, as long as it...

– Is not-for-profit
– Indemnifies the original submitter
– Acknowledges the source
Policy: Quality Assurance

• **Satisfying a minimal set of quality criteria is the responsibility of the endorsing CGC representative:**
  - Content has been developed in accordance with the site’s typical quality assurance policies
  - Content is active at the host site at time of submission
  - All level 2 (semistructured) and level 3 (structured) documents are valid according to the schemas developed by the Knowledge Translation and Specification (KTS) team of the CDSC, with fully specified required metadata elements
  - Content is reviewed and updated at least every three years, or else noted in metadata that the item is no longer being actively maintained

• **Content that has not been updated in 3 years will be deprecated, but remain on the portal**

• **Quality should be implicitly “recognized” rather than explicitly measured or judged**
  - Utilization metrics
  - User comments on the portal
  - Highlighting rules that have been universally implemented
Policy: Pending Issues

- Rules for versioning content, translating between levels, linking content specs, and submitting derivative works
- Content naming conventions (rules, modules, and guidelines)
Near Future

• Challenges
  – Maintaining momentum
  – Waning enthusiasm

• Strategies
  – Rotating the meeting leader
  – Annual face-to-face retreat